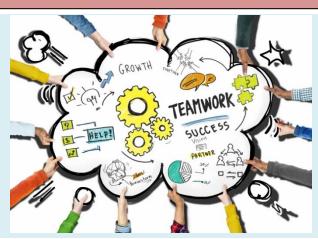


# PBLOWHS

Principal, Dr. Debra Mugge Coordinator, Lisa Gerhardt Acting Editor, Sarah Nelson

Project-Based Learning at Wheaton High School



## DBL SHOWCASE NIGHT

March 9, 2016

6-8pm

- All interested students with a project that demonstrates critical thinking, creativity, revision, and collaboration are invited to present at this event.
- Parents, community members, business partners and staff are invited to this culminating event that will showcase our progress towards becoming a Project-Based Learning school.
- The media center will become a "*maker space*" for students to create their panel and to display their work. Students may come to the media center March 2-9 at lunch, after school and with a pass from a teacher to make their projects.
- Students who present will earn 10 SSL hours.
- All projects need to be registered by March 2 at <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/2gTkpiwcFn">http://goo.gl/forms/2gTkpiwcFn</a>

## GALLERY

Have you seen the impressive artwork hanging in the Gallery? All ESOL students worked with Joanne Miller, an Artist in Residence, last semester to create these amazing photographs related community, nature, and science. Stop by and check it out!

#### **Chromebooks for PBL**

WHS has 2 carts of Chromebooks to be used for PBL lessons. There are a few guidelines that we will follow:

- These computers can only be used by teachers who are doing a PBL lesson.
- There is an Outlook calendar (WHS PBL Cart Calendar) to see when it is available.
- Email Lisa to sign up to use a cart.
- Please use the sign out sheets to identify which students are using which chrome book

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### Purposes of Public Exhibitions of Project Work

- 1. **Promotes a shared instructional vision** "Not only among staff, but also it gets external stakeholders excited. It shows we don't just have a test-prep mentality; parents of high-achieving students concerned about test scores saw the depth of learning."
- 2. *It's a great marketing tool* "When people from the business community and parents came in, it gave them a different perspective on the students and what they're learning."
- 3. Helps inspire teachers and generate ideas "From a teacher's perspective, I don't get to go to a lot of other classrooms. It was great to see what other teachers were doing, what was working for them." "Teachers who had not been not involved in PBL were seeing other teachers ones they respect having success with their students and saying, this makes sense to me."
- 4. Increases student ownership and engagement "All year we've been collecting data on student engagement; it increased so much during the year as they worked on these projects. Walking around classrooms we were amazed at how engaged they were the week and the day before spring break, leading up to exhibitions, it was 100%!"
- 5. **Celebrates student success** "It improved their 21st century skills, like communication, and it was an opportunity to practice those skills with someone besides their teacher." "A lot of students see school as something they just have to do; it was really refreshing for teachers to see students get excited about what they're doing in the classroom."

#### When are you using PBL?

Teachers: As you plan your units, please email Lisa Gerhardt when you will be implementing PBL into your classes. This will help us to document the great experiences our students are having.

### **Project Rooms**

The following Project Rooms are available for teachers to use. Please sign up on the *Project Rooms* calendar on Outlook.

Room	Notes
2018/2019	Large room divided into two smaller sections; seats ~20; 4 white boards
2031/2032	Large room divided into two smaller sections; seats ~20; 4 white boards
2002	12 seats; round tables
2122	Conference style; 14 seats
3118	Conference style; 14 seats

http://bie.org/blog/hangout\_recap\_public\_exhibitions\_of\_student\_project\_work



#### Would you rather...

- Go way back in time and meet your ancestors?
- Go way into the future and meet your great grandchildren?

