Independence High School is driven to become a Trauma Invested school utilizing a Project Based Learning pedagogy with a "career relevance" emphasis for a hope for a better future. It is proven, once the students know you care (Empathy), they will begin to trust, which is key to lowering their affect and improving their behavior which opens the door for "Engagement". We know engagement through Real World - PBL while incorporating the essential elements of the "4C's: Communication, Critical thinking-problem solving, Collaboration, and Creativity-innovation" is key for success. So in turn, students are engaged, attendance improves, lowered suspension rates and improved graduation rates. Our shared goal is to catch them where they are at and give them hope for the future (Empowerment).
What is Project Based Learning?

- A need to know
- Driving question
- Student voice and choice
- 21st Century Skills
- Inquiry and innovation
- Feedback and revision
- Presented product
- Hands on engagement

Why PBL?
Why PBL?

- Engages students through critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity
- Active participants in the Common Core aligned learning process
- Immerse students in Real World Life Skills
- Supports different learning styles
With the focus on Empathy Engagement Empowerment
The Vision of Independence High School will be to teach thinking, reasoning and how to foster creativity and innovation in all our students.
School Culture

- Student Leadership
- Community Partnerships
- Positive School Culture
- Students collaborate with staff on school development
What is SEL?
- Social-Emotional Learning -

(1) Promote students' self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship, and responsible decision-making skills; and
(2) Improve student attitudes and beliefs about self, others, and school.

These, in turn, provide a foundation for better adjustment and academic performance as reflected in more positive social behaviors and peer relationships, fewer conduct problems, less emotional distress, and improved grades and test scores.
Why trauma INVESTED vs. trauma INFORMED?

We are not just acquiring some knowledge about childhood trauma and are versed in related strategies to incorporate social-emotional practices, we are committed to acting on our knowledge and truly work together to enhance safety for our entire campus which includes whole child learning and support practices aimed at the success of all of our students.
Character Strong curriculum supports teachers in the classroom with activities that help students grow into kind and compassionate adults. At IHS, we are focusing on the whole child and the habits and traits that make them successful in all areas of life. The focus is on "Eight Essential" character traits: Patience, Kindness, Humility, Respect, Selflessness, Forgiveness, Honesty, Commitment.
Includes Social-Emotional Skills building:

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Responsible decision-making
- Relationship skills
IHS has gained an Itenerant SEL Counselor on campus

If there can be a positive out of Covid-19, it would be that our relationship building with students and families has increased substantially.
Mrs. Martinez's Counselor Newsletter

April Newsletter
April 5-9, 2021

Theme of the Month: Mindset
Word of the Week: Strong

This one word has many different meanings, depending on the descriptor:

* Growth Mindset
* Fixed Mindset
* Positive Mindset
* Fear Mindset
* Lazy Mindset
* Dreamer Mindset

Mindset is the way you think about your frame of mind, your collection of thoughts and beliefs that shape your habits. Your habits affect how you think, what you feel, & what you do.

Mrs. Martinez, Counselor Alternative Education
Email: martinez@acved.org
Phone: (209) 275-5153
Office Hours: 8:00am - 3:30pm Monday - Friday
7 Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers
PBL Projects with
Lisa Farrar
Chris Garbarini
Miles Krier
Misty Weaver
Hospitality

Farm to Fork

Leadership with Character Strong

Dave Ramsey's Financial Literacy
Introduction to Stop Motion in Action

- Write a script
- Create a storyboard for animation
- Create a 3-D set with 2 walls
- Create 3-D objects for animation
- Produce animation
- Share animation at End of Qtr Exhibition

Show the 2 stop motion films from the Google Slides
Victim 4:

Who was Catherine Eddows?
- Intelligent
- "fiery temperment"
- "very jolly" "always singing"
- Boyfriend: Thomas Conway; split because of Eddows drinking habits, While Conway was a teetotaler.
- Children: 2 boys (unknown) girl named Annie; Annie spent several years moving around to avoid her moochie mother.
- Adopted surname "Kelly" from man she met "John Kelly"
- Second murder victim in one night.

Where was she found?
- Mitre Square

Who found the body?
- PC Walkins

What time was her body found?
- 1:45am

What were the grizzly details of her murder?
- Of all theripper victims so far, this is the most gruesome
- Throat was slashed from left to right, large vessels severed
- Intestines were also placed over right shoulder, had been nicked releasing fecal matter beyond the space next to her shoulder, couple feet of intestine were detached from the body
- Whereas previous disemboweled victims had clean cuts to the abdomen, while Eddows was jagged and erratic
- First to have her face mutilated; triangular flap skinned from the side of each cheek peeling, corner facing towards the eyes; cuts on her eyelids, 1 and a half in. on left eye
- Left kidney had been removed

Who is Elizabeth "Long Liz" Stride
- Born: November 27, 1843
- Died: September 30, 1888
- Spouse: John Stride - separated: 1878
- Elizabeth claimed in 1878 John and their children were killed in a ship crash (for financial gain) John was found alive and well in 1878, did not die until 1884
- Elizabeth claimed to have given birth to 9 children (no surviving records of children)
- Occupation: Prostitute, made money from sewing (similar to Anne Chapman), borrowed money from "on-again-off-again" lover, Micheal Kidney
- Alcoholic
- Tried to charge/accuse Michael Kidney of assault, didn't show up to court
- She sounds like a mess

Where was she found?
- Dutfield's Yard, Beren St., London

Who found the body?
- William Smith, Israel Schwartz, and James brown all supposedly saw Stride with a man before she was discovered dead
- (can't find much info, maybe a constable found her)

What time was her body found?
- 1am

What were the grizzly details of her murder?
- Cause of death: loss of blood from laceration to the neck
- No mutilations to abdomen
- Cause of death determined to not be asphyxiation
- Throat was sliced like the other ripper victims, left to right
- No signs of blood spatter, killed while standing, looks as if she had been gently laid down
Amador County Field Guide

Photos by students during exploration of their native surroundings
Photo Journalism
The History of Amador County

Dear [Name],

I trust this letter finds you well. I have a story to share with you today. I am very sorry for your loss but I hope you find comfort in the memories we shared. This letter is a way to share the story of our family.

I was born on [date] in [place]. My parents were [parents' names] and I grew up with my sisters [sisters' names]. We were a close-knit family and we spent many happy years together.

When I was growing up, our family lived in a small house in [neighborhood]. We were not rich but we were happy. My father worked hard to support us and my mother took care of us.

As I grew older, I went to college and then I joined the army. I served in [country] for [years] and I came back to [place] with a lot of stories to tell.

I met my wife [wife's name] when I was [age] and we fell in love. We were married and had [number] children. Our family was happy and we spent many good times together.

Unfortunately, [date] we had a accident and [wife's name] was killed. It was a shock to all of us and we were devastated.

I have been trying to find comfort in my family and I am writing this letter to you to share my story. I hope you find comfort in my words and you know that I love you.

Yours truly,

[Your Name]
Community Partners
Extended Learning

- Teens Teach - 4-H
- Farms of Amador
- Abbondanza Farms

Career Certifications
- Safe Serve
Arts Media and Entertainment

with MRS. FARRAR

- Design, Visual, and Media Arts

- Aligns with Amador and Argonaut programs for students to continue growing their skills.
- Glowforge Laser Printer
- 44" Canon Image ProGraph Graphic Arts Printer
- Video camera & green screen
- 2 new Graphic laptops
- 4 drawing tablets with pens for illustration work
- Art supplies for other media work
HIGHLIGHTS FROM INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL

Panther Roars

More Student Work

School Garden

Field Trips

Art Showcase
SCHOOL GARDEN

TOMATOS
POTATOES
FLOWERS
WAX PEPPERS
JALAPENO PEPPERS
GARLIC
ONIONS
CUCUMBER
ZUCCHINI
Photography at
RICH HOFFMAN GALLERY
in IONE

Claim Jumper
Day at
Columbia College

Walking field trips
ART SHOWCASE

Print making

Jack and Jill Nursery Rhyme in Adobe Illustrator
...more digital art
Inspired by

Ernest Haeckel

The Biologist and Artist
Pointillism

Inspired by Dr. Woo
Tattoo Artist
Product development for the Extraordinary Person
Defeat

William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils,

dancing and dancing in the breeze.

Continuing on the paths that were
And twinkle on the river's way.
They stretched in every winding line
Along the margin of a lake.

Ten thousand at a glance,

Trebling their heads in glee.

The waves beside them danced, but they

Did not expect to be outdone.

A poet could not but be gay
In such a day.

Till that wasUsage

Kalen Henderson
Period 4
English B

Flowers & Pamonoa

On a planet called Oana, an oven baked it's magic on a rock. A couple weeks later it
bloomed and a little girl Everton out. She was gorgeous, blue hair, and a blue jumpers.

Everything on her was blue except for pink skin. She looked around confused on where
was, she who was, she was there for hours crying hopelessly. She was in the middle
trying to get her way. She was in the middle

Wandering the glorious place. She had a long

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"Independence High School is a hidden gem in Amador's Gold Country. Their staff provides spectacular individualized care to meet each student's needs. I've never seen teachers who connect so closely with their students. They truly care and strive to guide their students towards a promising future. My child had extreme challenges within a traditional school setting, but after attending Independence High School, she not only has been doing very well, but has plans for early graduation and multiple career options for her future. The connections and support she has received from her teachers, counselor, and principal are priceless. We are so thankful and proud to be a part of Independence High."

- Parent of Independence High Student Junior
"Since my son started attending Independence his willingness to succeed has improved drastically. We definitely owe this to the amazing teachers and staff at Independence High. They have been nothing but supportive and have given him that extra push he needed. I love that he enjoys spending that one on one time they provide and all their encouragement has definitely been a blessing."

- Parent of Independence High School Senior
What is one preconception that you had about Independence High School that proved to not be true once you got here?

- . . . honestly this is the happiest I've been.

- Before I got to be a part of Independence High a lot of people would kind of talk down on it as if the students were bad. When I got there everyone was absolutely amazing.

- I've heard that a lot of people think that Independence is the "bad" school when I feel like it is a better school for me since I'm more of a less social person the lower amount of students help me with stress too, since there isn't as much drama.

- It's not a bad school after all, all the teachers are loving and caring and want you to graduate.

- One preconception that I had about IHS was that it was hella easy and not a lot of work but that's wrong.

- Personally, I never had many preconceived notions about Independence High, but my grandparents did. Maybe it was different back in the day, but my uncle graduated from Independence so they kind of thought it was just a school for delinquents, which turned out students go there because they need extra support and/or better environment.
What is your favorite thing about being a student at Independence High School?

- The teachers seem like they care more compared to some of my past teachers and the classes seem more beneficial for after you graduate.

- I have my own little family.

- I like how comfortable I am with all my teachers.

- My favorite thing is that I can take my classes at my own pace and get help when needed.

- One of my favorite things about being a student at IHS is that everyone gets along great and we all have our own special bonds.

- My favorite thing about Independence is that I can ask for help and get it almost instantly and the teachers are also much more relaxed and not so forceful (keep doing what your doing!).
What is one thing that other schools could learn and implement from Independence High School?

- I think other schools should build a bond with their students, and make them feel more comfortable.
- They should do more one on one with students and teachers.
- One thing that the other schools should do is to stick to the rules and helping the students like Independence does.
- Try and offer classes that are more interesting and can help with more real life skills.