SME Interview

Our original design challenge was focused on investigating a new tool that CoBHS is piloting in order to support documentation of student PLPs. Though we did not end up focusing on Headrush exlusively, our initial interview with Headrush founder, Shane Krukowski, gave us key insights into how documentation might work in a project-based learning environment. Our final synthesis artifact can be seen to the right.

Shane Krukowski

In Spring 2022, Shane began working with City of Bridges High School to first pilot and then implement the **Headrush Learning Platform** over the summer with their team. Shane is able to provide us with resources about **educational technology**'s role in **progressive schooling**. He believes traditional systems insidiously sabotage innovation' and that Headrush will support the innovative approach at the CoBHS.

Bio

Shane is one of the co-founders of Headrush Learning, founded in 2017. The work he does today is a continuation of past endeavors with different innovative educational programs, including Homeboyz Interactive and Project Foundry. While working in and with various schools, he has befriended many innovators and progressive educators. He found that his frustration matched theirs- the realization that learning platforms do not serve learner-centered models nor do they allow for the kind of performance-based assessment tracking needed to service better whole-person outcomes.

Motivations for Headrush

- Take the whole learner into consideration
- Embrace student interests through student-led projects
- Remix and reuse content in a more modular fashion to scaffold and enhance student work
- Provide opportunities for applied learning practices both before and after graduation
- Model and scaffold processes and best practices that embrace iteration and collaboration
- Stay flexible to meet teachers' needs while keeping learners in the equation

Goals for Headrush

- Expand data visualization for better interpretation of the individual
- Increase the ways the platform supports differentiation at scale
- Showcase innovative practices and student work to inspire others to employ similar tactics
- Launch smaller scope solutions for those in larger organizations who aren't able to embrace the entire system due to institutional constraints.

Views on Progressive Education

- Education shouldn't be one-size-fits-all
- Students learn much better by doing than they do by being talked at.
- Learning doesn't have to follow a specific sequence.
- Smaller institutions have an easier time adapting to new methods
- Students should be more in control of their own learning

" Points in school systems and grades don't tell students what they know versus how well they are playing the game. "

" The idea that everybody has to do the same thing in the same sequence over the same period of time ... isn't the most efficient way to learn. Nor does it capture the interest of the learner. "

" There's this idea that everything you learn has to be taught to you... that's bullshit. "

Favorite Perspectives