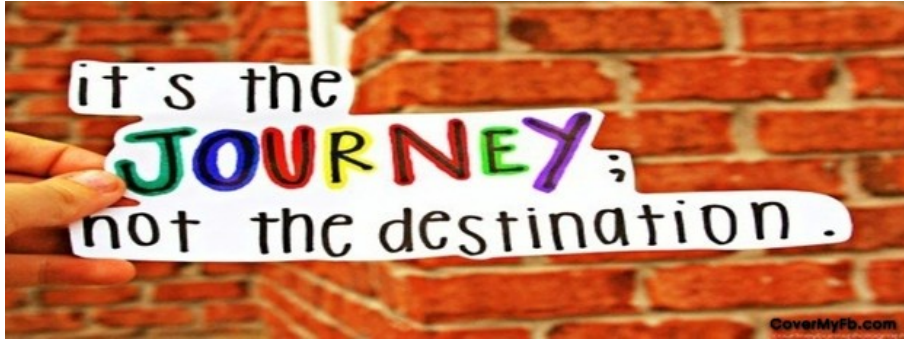


20% Time Project- Introduction



What is 20% Time?

20% time is a business model in which company employees were given 20% of their work time to work on projects that they were passionate about that was not part of their job description. 3M started it in the 1950's with their 15% Project. The result? Post-its and masking tape. Google is credited for making the 20% Project what it is today. Google asks its employees to spend 20% of their time at Google to work on a pet project. As a result of the 20% Project at Google, we now have Gmail, AdSense, Google News, and the Google Teacher Academy. Using 20% Time in the workplace allows innovative ideas and projects to flourish and/or fail without the bureaucracy of committees and budgets.

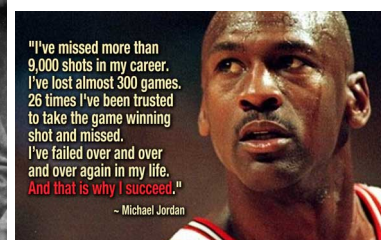
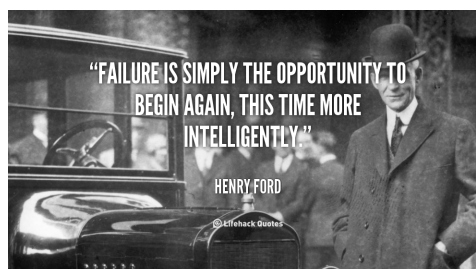
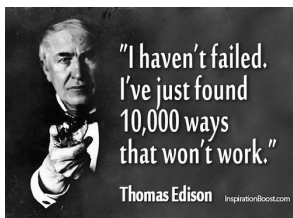
How is 20% Time Used in Education

Using the same concept as the business model, students will be given an allotted time, that is scheduled, to work on a project that they are passionate about and have never really been given time to research and explore. Students will be asked to develop an idea, set goals, pitch their idea, write and reflect about their progress through blogging, and finally present their findings to an audience in a "TED-style" and/or science fair format.

What Does the 20% Time Project Entail?

1. **Brainstorming for Ideas**- Classes will have the opportunity to brainstorm ideas for their 20% Time Project. Students will also take part in deciding what ideas are "good" and what ideas are "bad."
2. **The Pitch**- Students will have to "Pitch" their idea to me and to their class in a brief presentation.
3. **Blogging**- Students will be required to record their journey through blogging at least once a cycle (every 2 weeks).
4. **20% Days**- During scheduled days allotted for their 20% Time Projects, students will be viewing and analyzing TED talk presentations, conferencing with the teacher, collaborating with students, or blogging.
5. **The Presentation**- Students will be presenting their ideas and their journey in a TED talk-style presentation at the end of the year.

Student motivation is most often tied to the grade that they will receive. Grades sometimes undermines the innovation and creativity of projects. For "true" 20% Time Projects, grades should not be the motivation. Instead, the project itself that the student chooses should be the motivation. During this project, students will learn that in order to succeed, we must sometimes fail and that failing is OK as long as we learn from it.



“There are no dreams too large, no innovations unimaginable and no frontiers beyond our reach.”- John S. Herrington

“Creativity is seeing what everyone else has seen, and thinking what no one else has thought.”- Albert Einstein

TASK

You will be given the opportunity to choose a new idea for a project that you are passionate about and would not normally be allowed to do in other academic classes. You will research your idea and share it with others. Innovation, creativity, and imagination are highly encouraged. The project you choose will answer the following essential question:

“How Will You Enhance Your World?”

For your project, you will:

1. Brainstorm ideas that you are passionate about and will want to research.
2. Set goals for your project and develop ways to measure your progress towards your goals.
3. Research and cite a variety of sources you used for your project.
4. Write about your progress, accomplishments and/or setbacks, periodically, along with providing positive and constructive feedback to your peers' projects.
5. Present and share your idea with others in the class, the school, and the community.

There are many different ways to answer the question “How Will You Enhance Your World?” No one way is correct. “Your World” will not be defined for you. Instead, you must define “Your World.” However, for everyone, the general steps to answering the question will be the same. Step 1- Identify a Human Need, Step 2- Create a Solution, Step 3- Test the Solution, and Step 4- Optimize the Solution.

Using rubrics, you will be assessed on your pitch, blogs, usage of time during 20% days, and your final presentation.

This is an opportunity for discovery. This is an opportunity for you to share your ideas that might otherwise not be heard in a traditional setting. Make the most of this opportunity.

Dream big!!