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DESIGN THINKING SHOWCASE
PIC
LEADERSHIP
COLLABORATION

Showcasing the 2020 Cohort
Design Thinking Campus Action Projects

Friday, May 20, 2022

Equity Through Empowerment

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through empathy interviews and empowering students, staff, and families, we set out to increase our stakeholders' awareness of opportunities available to them to make real change in the community. These interviews revealed to us that students, staff, and families had a limited understanding of how to take an active role in the community.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the murder of George Floyd inspired our learning community to push for more equitable policies in all areas of life. To address this, we created more opportunities for students, staff, and families to develop leadership skills, increase their exposure to community leaders, and take a more active role in the leadership of our school. In addition to adding opportunities for our stakeholders, we knew that we had to create a culture which welcomed their input.

By focusing on anti-racism and support for all students, staff, and families, we established a culture of high expectations for all and opened the door for more dialogue with our stakeholders.

The results of these projects have been an increase in student participation in student groups, an increase in parent involvement, and an increase in staff leadership on campus. For two years, the learning community of North Garland High School has fought to build equity through empowerment and hope to one day serve as the model school for others to follow.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- 100 Student Leaders & Teachers Sponsors
- Parents
- Student Council
- Principal Advisory Council Mentor for Student Committee



MEASURES OF SUCCESS & IMPACT

- Our success was measured by parental involvement, student participation in campus leadership groups, and the number of staff leading leadership groups.
- The number of parent participation in parent meetings increased from an average of 25 in 2019 to 40 in 2021.
- Our student leadership groups were previously reserved for students who were elected to Student Council or nominated for the Principal Advisory Council.
 - The majority of the 15 to 20 students in these groups were from the campus magnet program.
 - This project pushed us to develop a Student Athlete Leadership Team and several student groups focused on leadership and advocacy.
- The total number of students in these groups is near 100. These students are led by over 10 teachers and staff members.
- We have also involved approximately 50 teachers in the development of advisory lessons addressing leadership and SEL.