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DESIGN THINKING SHOWCASE
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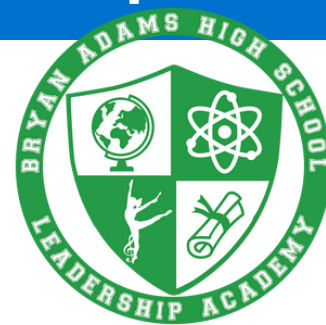
Showcasing the 2020 Cohort
Design Thinking Campus Action Projects

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Progress Monitoring Through Mentorship

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Two years ago, we recognized within our early college program that we were really struggling with progress monitoring students and their college courses. How might we ensure that every early college student is paired with a mentor, and once paired, have a system that allows Progress Monitors easy accessibility to their student's grades, and course information, while also allowing the admin team quick access to student progress to support failing students?

We needed a solution that helped to identify which Progress Monitor was assigned to which student, to establish a user friendly system that also provides Progress Monitors with a quick overview of each student's academic progress, and that also shared important, real-time updates with the admin team.

Our administrative team decided to utilize the design thinking process, keeping the end user in mind, to identify the gap in how Progress Monitors were tracking/monitoring their student's progress over the course of the school year, and to prototype and develop an efficient, easy to use system.

Our first prototype was a functional, but outdated spreadsheet tracker. We introduced this prototype to another early college program in downtown Dallas. They thought it was a great idea and wanted to create one for their own students. We collaboratively hosted a small design challenge with their team and other district officials, and were able to design a more user-friendly system.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Progress Monitors
- Students
- School Admin Team

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

- There is more consistent ownership from the Progress Monitor to track their student's progress.
- Students can keep track of their graduation trajectory and course credit monitoring.
- Significant decrease in the student failure rate.
- Higher retention of students in the P-TECH early college program.
- Increased number of students passing college level courses.

PROJECT IMPACT

- Increased support of students towards college success
- The final iteration of this progress monitoring tracker is used on a district wide level at other early college programs
- Targeted, specific focus on how to support students who are failing a class and quick snapshots allowing administration to take quick action on those who are failing
- Quick snapshots of student progress allows teachers to discuss the needs of those students during their PLC meetings