

## Executive Summary

Stakeholder feedback throughout the Ready Schools Design Thinking process led to five focus areas: Project-Based Learning, STEAM & Hands-On Learning, Entrepreneurship, Career Awareness, and Community & Industry Partnerships. Though each of these focus areas stands alone, there are many opportunities for integration between several focus areas. Strategies in all five focus areas will be implemented with an emphasis on educational equity across all schools and with preK-12 alignment. Highlights for each of the five focus areas are listed below.

| Focus Area                                      | Highlights  |
|---|---|
| <b>1) Project-Based Learning</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STEM Fellows and experienced PBL Teachers from The Academy of Science and Entrepreneurship (ASE) will receive training to be certified PBL trainers</li> <li>• Teachers at all schools will be trained by certified trainers over 5 years</li> <li>• A PBL Model Learning Lab will be formed at ASE where teachers can receive ongoing and advanced PBL training</li> </ul>  |
| <b>2) STEAM &amp; Hands-On Learning</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STEM to Them Mobile Lab is an innovative mobile STEM lab that will travel to all MCCSC elementary schools twice a year, providing robotics and engineering lessons to all students</li> <li>• Makerspaces will be implemented at all three middle schools and ASE</li> <li>• New career pathways including Computer Science (Informatics), Life Science (BioMed/Tech), and Cybersecurity will begin</li> <li>• Continue to have maker and programming challenges, Innovation Day STEM Career Fair, computer science and coding instruction, clubs, etc.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>3) Career Awareness</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By providing more equitable, corporation-wide activities, students at all levels will be exposed to more college and career opportunities</li> <li>• Some new events include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Elementary School: Hoosier Hills Manufacturing Day where 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will experience hands-on activities related to several advanced manufacturing careers, school-based careers days, and more intentionality in connecting classroom content to career awareness</li> <li>○ Middle School: career day and tour of Hoosier Hills Career Center and Tour of Opportunity where students will tour several local businesses and learn about the careers involved with each place</li> <li>○ High School: College and Career Centers at each high school, Lunch &amp; Learn Sessions for teachers and students, Internship Program Alignment, and Adulthood Day where students choose between classes on several life skills such as changing a tire, dressing for interviews, and different types of savings accounts/investments, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <b>4) Entrepreneurship</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INCubatoredu high school course and mxINCedu middle school courses allow students to have real-world experiences as they go through the process of creating a product/business</li> <li>• Elementary school students will have exposure to entrepreneurship through occasional fun and engaging lessons and learning about Lemonade Day</li> </ul>   |
| <b>5) Community &amp; Industry Partnerships</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community and industry partnerships are integral to the other 4 focus areas</li> <li>• New, mutually beneficial and authentic partnerships will be formed</li> <li>• A simplified process for teachers/administrators to identify partners for activities at their school and for partners to identify ways to get involved will be created</li> </ul>   |

- The Academy of Science and Entrepreneurship will also undergo a transformation aligned with the Ready Schools focus areas.
- Based on stakeholder feedback, it was apparent that centralized staff positions were needed to successfully implement these strategies effectively. The staff will support teachers and administrators in the alignment, planning, coordination, and implementation of school and community events related to the five focus areas.