Research + Design Center

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY 2018

Beaver Country Day School x Harvard Graduate School of Education
To determine the impact of the Research + Design Center in year one, three graduate students from the Harvard Graduate School of Education spent time interviewing, observing, and surveying students and faculty.
THE R+D CENTER IS A PLACE TO DEVISE, DESIGN, & EXPRESS THROUGH MAKING.

“I think it was built as a space for people to express their ideas through making and present them as a final product. I have definitely felt it is a relaxed space with a lot of options.”
THE R+D CENTER PROVIDES SUPPORT & RESOURCES FOR PROJECTS

“Inspires [students and teachers] to do better work and use the resources we have — outlets, computers, big open spaces, different things that a lot of schools don’t have — and encourage them to use them.”
THE R+D CENTER PROMOTES COLLABORATION

“Open space for everyone to collaborate and do what they like to do. There are so many spaces to work with other people. Beaver wanted us to come together more and come and use those resources.”
95%

helped me understand a topic better.

Selected all that applied

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY STUDENTS' ANSWERS
HOW WOULD YOU ASSESS THE IMPACT OF PROJECTS YOU HAVE EXECUTED IN THE R+D?

- 6% took up too much of my spare time.
- 89% have been interesting and fun.
- 78% have been related to my interests for the future.
- 55% helped me develop skills for the future.

Selected all that applied
WHICH IS A RELEVANT LESSON YOU LEARNED THANKS TO PROJECTS IN THE R+D

REAL WORLD SKILLS

► Bringing ideas to life
► Technical skills
► Real-life application

“I received orientation on how to bring my ideas to life.”

MOTIVATION

► Self-efficacy
► Resilience
► Self-knowledge

“The biggest thing I learned is to not doubt myself and to believe in myself and that I can do things.”

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY STUDENTS’ ANSWERS
F:M RATIO IN CONFIDENCE USING THE R+D STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY STUDENTS' ANSWERS

*Out of 5 // Selected all that applied
CONFIDENCE CORRELATION WITH FAVORITE SUBJECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Confidence Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acting + Theater</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Languages</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Out of 5 // Selected all that applied
TEACHERS’ ANSWERS

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY
PURPOSE OF THE R+D CENTER

To empower and inspire students to make change through innovation by calling on the New Basics.

To provide the mindset and tools to integrate research, design, and technology into project-based learning.

To allow students a place to explore, experiment, and create to enhance their learning.
OVERVIEW OF EMOTIONAL REACTIONS

EXCITING CHALLENGE: 58% (27/47)
PURE EXCITEMENT: 31% (14/47)
INDIFFERENCE: 7% (3/47)
ANXIETY/CONCERN: 4% (2/47)
# OF PROJECTS PURSUED

- 54% 3+ projects
- 31% 1-2 projects
- 15% 0 projects

TEACHER CONFIDENCE LEVEL

- 49% VERY CONFIDENT (4-5)
- 38% CONFIDENT (3)
- 13% NOT CONFIDENT (1-2)

PERCEIVED STUDENT POSITIVE RESPONSE

- 37% 80-100% POSITIVE
- 23% 60-80% POSITIVE
- 17% 0-40% POSITIVE
- 23% N/A
REASONS TO PURSUE PROJECTS

- 58% SKILLS
- 67% UNDERSTANDING
- 65% MOTIVATION
- 63% AGENCY
- 45% INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

*Selected all that applied

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STUDY TEACHERS’ ANSWERS