



Changing the Credit Recovery Game through Experiential Learning; Tying Student Learning to Real Life

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Alternative Learning 9-12**



Saint Paul Public Schools

Enrollment: 33,110 students

29% Asian

24% Black/African American

23% White

15% Hispanic/Latinx

8% Two or more races

1% American Indian/Alaska Native

71% Free/reduced lunch

28% Multilingual students

Over 120 languages - English, Hmong, Karen, Somali, Spanish



Summer Enrollment

2023: 12,719 students

ESY Sites ESCE Transitions:	745
PreK-4 Summer Stars:	2,387
K-4 Power Scholars:	176
K-8 CDF Freedom School:	629
3-8 E-STEM Program:	438
5-8 Summer Quest:	1,084
9-12 Credit Recovery:	6,217
K-12 Charter Schools:	1,043



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9-12 Summer Learning

9-12 Online Credit Recovery

Credit Recovery Network

- Students participate online
- Enrollment and course completion is similar to in-person programs
- Additional partner programs support students through the process

EmpowerU

- Connecting mental health and wellness with online learning and credit recovery

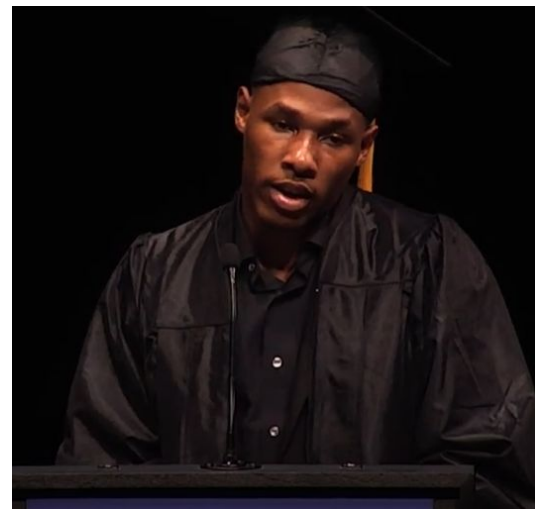
Right Track Credit Recovery

- Interns earned credits in English and Social Studies
- Online courses with in-person support during a paid internship
- Curriculum connects internship experiences with course content

11-12 High School Credit Recovery

Target Audience: Potential graduates and rising seniors

- Focus: Complete any missed learning in order to graduate or enter your senior year “on-track”
- Student schedules included academic support and increased access to school counselors



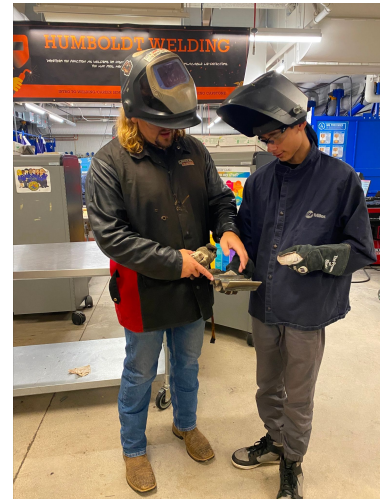
9-10 High School Credit Recovery

Experiential Learning Credit Recovery

- Students connect core content courses with practical, real-world applications
- Focus on support and relationships: administration, support staff and SSLs from multiple SPPS schools hired to bridge relationships
- Mindset shift that Credit Recovery is about content understanding and not seat time

Traditional Credit Recovery Program

- Thematic units with cross-curricular components (e.g. soccer, k-pop, chocolate, climate change)
- Up to six credits per session - three courses a day
- Virtual or in-person (flexibility by student)





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Tying Student Learning to Real Life

Summer Experiential Learning

Summer 2022 - Grades 9, 10, 11

Summer 2023 - Grades 9, 10



SUMMER

LEARNING

PROGRAMS

High School Systems Change - Vision

- Aligned Schedules
- Aligned Grading
- Credit Recovery Overhaul
 - “What students know and can do”
 - “Opportunities to learn from a combination of outside of the school building experiences and classroom-designed projects”



Planning For Year 1: SY 21-22

- Goal: Proof of Concept
 - Logistics
 - Partners
 - Course Design to Meet Students Needs
 - Cross curricular courses
- Communication



Summer 2022 & 2023

2022

- 9-11
- Goal 100 students
- 3 experiences for 6 credits
- 1 session

2023

- 9 & 10
- Goal 500 students
- 4 experiences for 8 credits
- 2 sessions - students could enroll in each



Curriculum & Program Development

- Co-created curriculum in Schoology
- Created course supply needs
- Planning and organization from DAE district team
- One off-site field trip experience per course
- Co-teaching in pilot year to collaborating in 2023
 - 6 hours of course set-up
 - Tap into curriculum from 2022



Courses & Credits Offered

World History Through Art

- World History
- Field Trip: Minneapolis Institute of Art

Construction

- Geometry or Algebra 2
- Field Trip: St. Paul College - Construction Trades Program

Culinary Arts

- Intermediate Algebra
- Field Trip: All Square Restaurant (tour and experience)



Courses & Credits Offered

Farm to Table

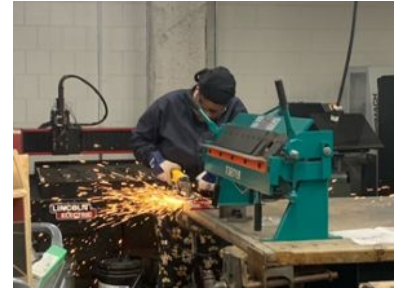
- Biology
- Field Trip: White Pine Berry Farms & UW-River Falls Mann Valley Lab Farm

Welding

- Physical Science
- Field Trip: Valleyfair

Wilderness Inquiry

- ELA 9 or 10, Human Geography
- Field Trips: Wilderness Inquiry (full day offsite), Fort Snelling, Lake Phalen, Crosby Park & Mississippi Canoe Trip



Additional Credits Offered

ELA 9 or 10

- Content Assessments Embedded in all the courses for students who need ELA credit
- ELA teachers “push-in” to Experience/Content classes to and build upon and assess standards.





The Grilled Cheese Challenge

- Designing a Grilled Cheese (group)
 - Design a unique grilled cheese
 - Research the cost of your ingredients
 - Determine a selling cost (realistic to the cost of your ingredients)
 - Come up with a name for your grilled cheese
 - Come up with a way to sell your grilled cheese to the rest of the group
 - Pick one person to be your spokesperson
- “Sell” and describe your group’s unique grilled cheese and price
- Vote on the winning grilled cheese recipe

Weekly Schedule

- 15-Day program
- 2022 (1 session) - 3 classes
 - 8:45 - 3:45
- 2023 (2 sessions) - 4 classes
 - 8:45 - 2:45
 - Students can just take 1 period
 - AM courses had transportation to and from school
 - PM courses had transportation at the end of the day, however they needed their own transportation getting to school
 - Students can exit at the end of 8 days if they only need 2 or 4 credits



2023 Student Schedule

Experience 1 8 days total - Up to 2 courses - Up to 4 core credits	A Day - Content June 26, 28, 30, July 6	B Day - Experience June 27, 29, July 5, 7	Last Day (Day 17) July 20
8:45 - 11:30 am	Course 1 Ex. Welding	Course 1 Ex. Welding	Course Completion Student Support
11:45 - 11:55 am	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:00 - 2:45 pm	Course 2 Ex. Farm to Table	Course 2 Ex. Farm to Table	Course Completion Student Support

Experience 2 8 days total - Up to 2 courses - Up to 4 core credits	A Day - Content July 10, 12, 14, 18	B Day - Experience July 11, 13, 17, 19	Last Day (Day 17) July 20
8:45 - 11:30 am	Course 3 Ex. Construction	Course 3 Ex. Construction	Course Completion Student Support
11:45 - 11:55 am	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:00 - 2:45 pm	Course 4 Ex. Culinary Arts	Course 4 Ex. Culinary Arts	Course Completion Student Support

Summer 2023 Staffing for Projected 500 Students

- 1 Administrator
- 1 Site Leader
- 1 Clerk
- 0.5 Counselor
- 2 ELA Teachers
- 2 Social Studies Teachers
- 2 Math Teachers
- 2 Science Teachers
- 5 Elective Teachers
- 4 Paraprofessionals



Summer 2023 Results

Program goal 500 students

- Ending enrollment 430
 - 854 credits

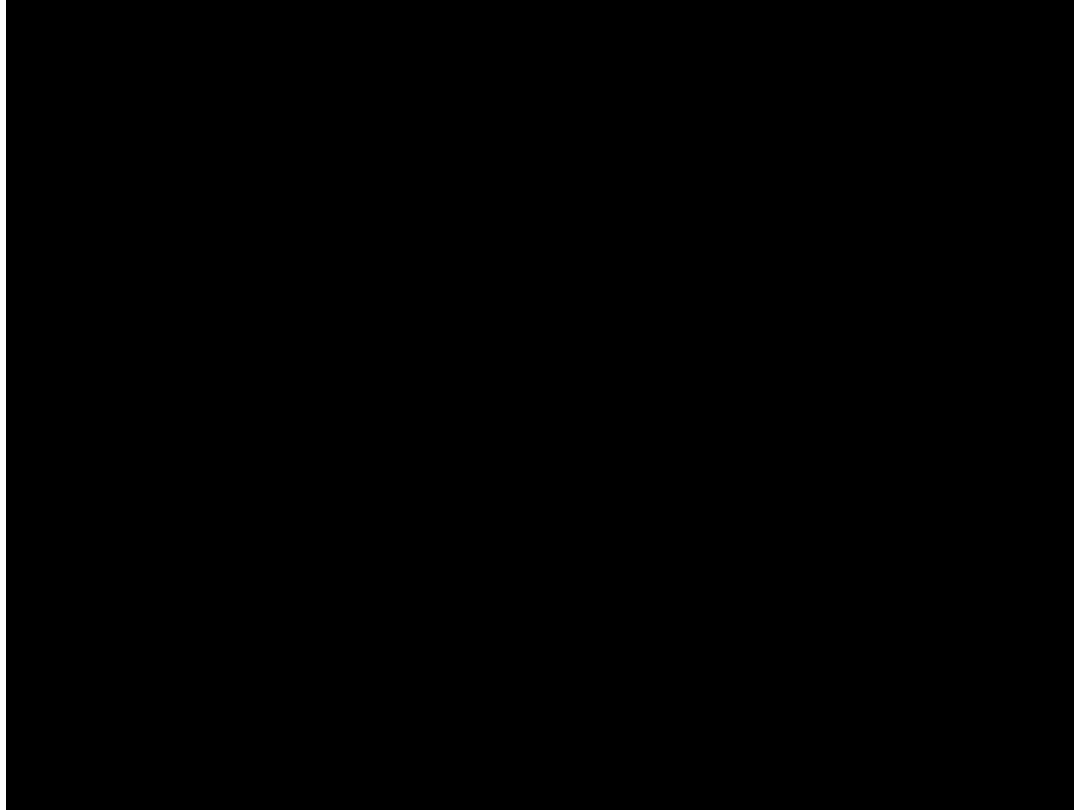
Summer 2022 Results

Program goal 100 students

- Ending enrollment 91
 - 214 credits



Student Feedback



Student Feedback - Summer 2023

- I feel like I have been more focused and in touch with school ever since I came to summer school. The teachers are nice and the work is not too difficult. I feel like this has helped me realize that I need to be more focused and I think I can be more focused for this fall.
- I asked for help from my teacher or classmates. I learned about a job I'm interested in. I earned my credit(s).
- I read something challenging. I learned new math skills. I asked for help from my teacher or classmates. The field trips got me thinking about things I like. I learned about a job I'm interested in. I earned my credit(s). I became more creative.

Teacher Feedback - Summer 2023

- I have learned so much this summer about how to collaborate and problem solve as a team when expectations and processes have not been very clearly defined. Given the circumstances and the lack of communication about attendance, schedules, etc. in advance, I think that the Humboldt summer school team did an amazing job pulling it together and making it happen. The team was nimble, creative, and hardworking!
- The 9th and 10th graders were highly motivated on the hands on part of their learning experiences
- Kids saw connections. The kids that did attend everyday for both sessions got a wonderful lab experience.

Site Leader Reflection

- Students & staff highly engaged.
- Pairs of teachers you would never imagine working so well together.
- Students loved the project-based curriculum relating to life experiences.
- Field trips were a hit.
- The positive results established this as a continued future credit recovery program option.



Moving Forward Summer 2024

- **Schedule** - content and experience on the same day for easier field trip planning
- **Communication** to schools and counselors about unique aspects of programming
 - Application process for student interest
 - Student enrollment - identification of need
- **Marketing** to recruit all SPPS teachers and staff and more students to this type of summer learning experience.



SPPS Alternative Ed Team - High School

- Sierra Burris
- Kara Cisco
- Rachel Carpenter
- Margaret Fiedler
- René Gervais
- Mark Head
- Kris Krinke
- Elizabeth Mercil
- Renee Swanson

SPPS Offices and Departments

This work would not be possible without collaboration and support from across the district

- College and Career Readiness (counseling)
- Communications
- Human Resources
- Facilities
- Family Engagement
- Multilingual Learning
- Nutrition Services
- Research, Evaluation, and Assessment
- School Support
- Specialized Services
- Student Data Systems
- Teaching and Learning
- Transportation



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Questions?

Contact Us

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