Launching a “New Way to do School”

In April 2014, Columbus State Community College, the Ohio Board of Regents, Reynoldsburg City Schools, Columbus 2020 and 15 other partners came together to launch Innovation Generation.

The Innovation Generation logo isServe your community by being a leader in innovation and education in the classroom.

The Innovation Generation website went live with information to help students launch into various pathways.

Fab Lab Launch

In September 2014, several school districts rolled out their first Fab Labs into their school sites. The mobile Innovation Generation Fab Labs give students a chance to experience real-world situations in engineering, manufacturing and robotics. Through hands-on experience with the latest grade equipment and sophisticated computer programs, students gain the technical skills and soft skills needed in the workforce.

In the Classroom

More than 4,473 students began participating in the programs in Fall 2014. The pathway interwove career education and exploration to help students be the kind of learner that prepares them for careers in health care, business, advanced manufacturing/robotics and other fields.

The Columbus Dispatch

City Hall: A Former Science Teacher and DJ Launches a Recruitment Campaign in Columbus

In August 2014, Columbus Metropolitan Club hosted champions of the Innovation Generation program in a recruitment event in discussion about how K-12 educators can come together to help students explore the opportunities needed to fill 82 of central Ohio’s fastest-growing jobs and expand the region’s workforce.

City, a former science teacher-turned-DJ and Power 107.5 on-air personality, No. 1 urban contemporary station in Columbus. As a part of the recruitment effort, City, a Korean science teacher-turned-DJ and Power 107.5 on-air personality, enlightened students about the options available to local high school students to earn college credits and prepare for future careers. The campaign included ads at Polaris Mall and movie theaters; banner ads on Pandora; and ads and PSAs on Radio One, the No. 1 urban contemporary station in Columbus. As a part of the recruitment campaign, Innovation Generation, a collaboration of 15 central Ohio school districts, is made possible by a $4.4 million Ohio Straight-A Fund grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

Community Engagement

More than 50 students and educators provided StateHouse Showcase

With the close of the 2014-15 school year, we take a look back to highlight some notable moments in the first year of Innovation Generation. From the initial rollout, to teacher training, to the mobile Fab Labs rollout, it has been an impactful year on the road to helping students explore their passions, take real-world challenges and collaborate skills needed for career and college. Innovation Generation, a collaboration of 15 central Ohio school districts, is made possible by a $4.4 million Ohio Straight-A Fund grant from the Ohio Department of Education.

Innovation Generation Year One Highlights

In the News

Media buzz has always been intense in the programs, from the year-long rollout to the first day of change for many students and educators in today's classrooms. Throughout the course of the year, media has had a keen interest in the programs and pathways that are changing the way students learn and preparing them for careers.

State House Showcase

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