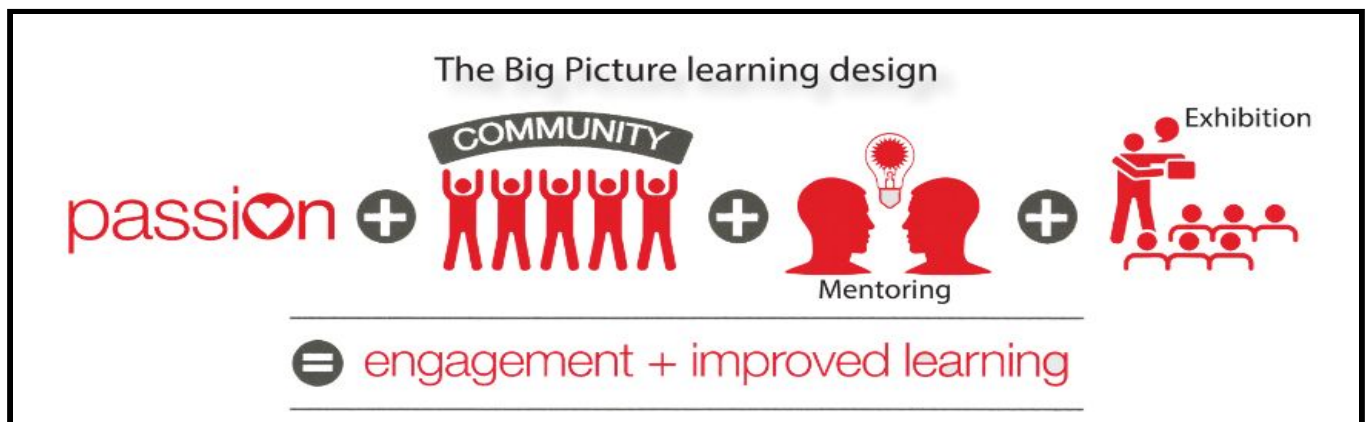




Melrose High School
presents

Big Picture Academy Information Evening

Wed 28 Aug, 5.30 for a 6.00pm start



Please feel free to contact the MHS Big Picture Team for more information.

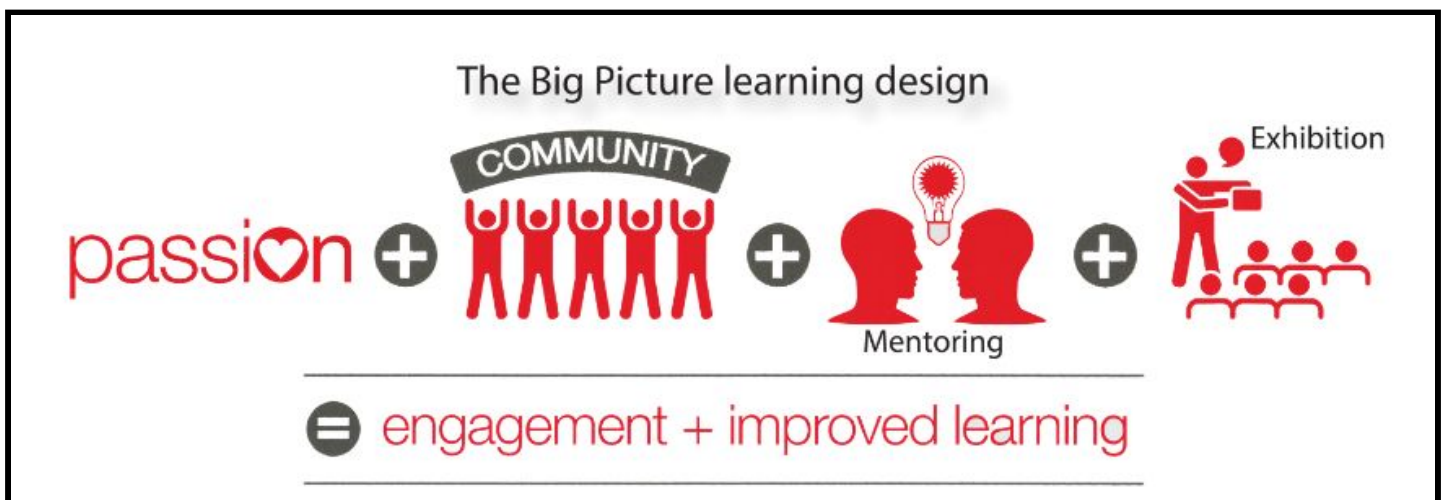
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Big Picture Academy

at

Melrose High School

Big Picture Learning's mission at Melrose High School is the education of each student, one student at a time. Big Picture promotes and create a personalized education that is unique for each student. We believe that the best learning takes place when each student is an active participant in his or her own education, when each student's course of study is personalized by advisors, parents and mentors who know the student well, and when school-based learning is blended with outside experiences that heighten personal interests.



The Big Picture Learning design is a dynamic approach to learning and doing. All of the components of the design are based on three foundational principles: First, that learning must be based on the interests and goals of each student; second, that a student's curriculum must be relevant to people and places that exist in the real world; finally, that a student's abilities must be authentically measured by the quality of her or his work.

"One student at a time" means acknowledging that each student has different strengths, passions, needs and learning styles. Therefore, each student should have an individual Learning Plan that is tailored to fit him or her. All students must know how to reason, problem-solve and be cooperative members of the community. At Big Picture schools, there is no canon of information that all students must know. In a work where information doubles every couple of years, the most important thing a student needs to know is how to learn. With the current focus on national curriculum, it's clear that the dialogue on learning is shifting toward problem-solving and application of skills, which are the same approached emphasised in the Big Picture Learning Goals.



There are five basic Learning Goal areas: Empirical Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, Communication, Social Reasoning and Personal Qualities. Each area focuses on an aspect of reasoning or community behaviour. The way that students meet these Learning Goals is done through a combination of

teacher-directed activities, student independent project, and a variety of other tools and resources that are specific to individual students.

The student is expected to reflect on his or her strengths and gaps and seek new challenges. The student is expected to do significant, deep work around each Learning Goal. At the high school level, the student should expect to keep an updated transcript that gives and overview of the work s/he has done in each area.

The teacher advisor looks at the big picture of each student's work and learning. The advisor makes sure that the student is being challenged to do academically rigorous project work that incorporates the Learning Goals. The advisor helps the student find a balance between working on areas where the student is most passionate and motivates, and areas that may be challenging or frustrating. The advisor makes sure that the projects are authentic, that the student is excited, that the work is challenging, and that the plan is realistic. The advisor helps explain the Learning Goals to students, parents and mentors and helps the Learning Plan team create holistic Learning Plans.

The Big Picture Learning Goals are tools for problem solving. The Learning Goals are a framework for looking at real-world concepts and abilities necessary to be a successful, well-rounded person.

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The Five Learning Goals

Keys for Successful Learners

1. Empirical reasoning (ER)

This goal is related to learning to think like a scientist: to use empirical evidence and a logical process to make decisions and to evaluate hypotheses. It does not reflect specific science content material, but instead incorporates ideas from physics to sociology to art theory.

2. Quantitative reasoning (QR)

This goal is related to thinking like a mathematician: to understand numbers, to analyse uncertainty, to comprehend the properties of shapes, and to study how things change over time. It is not related directly to a mathematics curriculum. But it does relate to students' capacity and disposition to use mathematics in life, learning and work.

3. Communication (C)

This goal is related to learning to be a great communicator: to understand your audience, to write, read, speak and listen well, to use technology and artistic expression to communicate. It includes being exposed to another language.

4. Social reasoning (SR)

This goal is related to learning to think like a historian or anthropologist: to see diverse perspectives, to understand social issues, to explore ethics, and to look at issues historically

5. Personal qualities (PQ)

This goal is related to learning to be the best you can be: to demonstrate respect, responsibility, organisation, leadership, time management, to reflect on your abilities and strive for improvement. It includes learning to live in community.

Big Picture Academy Programs

Big Picture Authentic Program

Year 8 Advisory	4 x BP Learning Goals Classes	1 x BP Elective Class	1 x PE or BP PE class	1 x (free choice) Elective Class
Year 9 Advisory	4 x BP Learning Goals Classes	1 x BP Elective Class	1 x PE or BP PE Class	1 x (free choice) Elective Class
Year 10 Advisory	4 x BP Learning Goals Classes	1 x BP Elective Class	1 x PE or BP PE Class	1 x (free choice) Elective Class

Big Picture Exploration Program

Year 7	<p>6 x Mainstream Core Classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Education ● Language ● English ● Science ● Mathematics ● HaSS 	<p>1 x Big Picture Elective Class</p> <p>This class is designed to use the Big Picture Learning Goals to design and create a Personalised Learning Program based on the students' passion or interests.</p>
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