



DFC SCHOOL BASED COMMUNITY LEARNING

OVERVIEW

The Detroit Future City Strategic Framework Plan (Framework) provides a clear vision and approach for Detroit's future. The implementation horizons for change call for the stability, improvement, sustainability and eventual transformation of Detroit between now and 2050. This call for a long-term plan necessitates the engagement of youth who hold a significant stake in the present and future of Detroit. As a result, Denby High School has adopted the Framework in two significant manners. The 2014 and 2015 senior classes at Denby High School completed senior capstone projects utilizing the Framework to drive research topics. Denby High will incorporate the Detroit Future City Strategic Framework into a community-oriented curriculum developed in partnership with Denby High School, Michigan Community Resources and the Detroit Future City Implementation Office (DFC) across the following subjects: 1) math, 2) science, 3) English, and 4) social studies for grades 9-12 to empower students through curriculum to take action in their communities, and to increase academic rigor through project-based learning. The partnership with Denby High School has served as catalyst for demand from schools and educators across Detroit for community-oriented learning resources to expanded city-wide.

EVALUATION METRICS

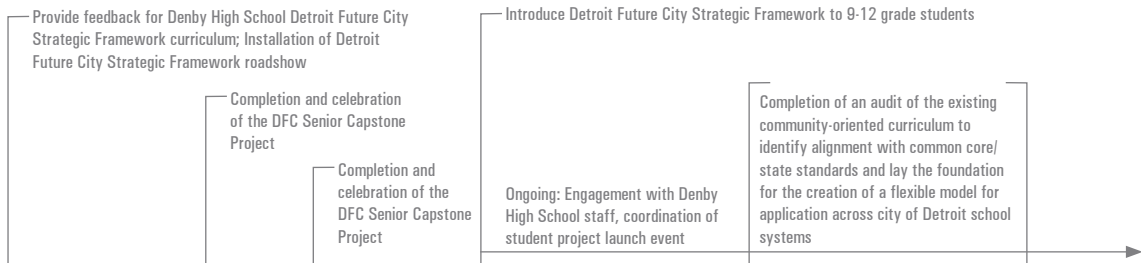
- Number of students directly engaged
- Number of other community stakeholders directly engaged
- Identification of legacy projects to fulfill the DFC Framework
- Feedback from Denby High School staff regarding the quality and impact of the partnership with DFC
- Feedback regarding student academic achievement outcomes and leadership development skills that are essential to high school success and beyond

OBJECTIVES

- Provide technical assistance to Denby High School in developing curriculum plan, partner coordination and project launch event
- Align youth capstone projects with engagement of the larger community
- Engage students, Denby High School staff and residents around the Framework
- Rehabilitate and redevelop Skinner Playfield into a multipurpose field used by both students and community member. (Denby Neighborhood Alliance)
- Re-imagine Denby High School as a hub for community activism and reform, and to empower students to create and implement their visions for positive change. (Denby Neighborhood Alliance)
- Refine DFC community-oriented learning curriculum to align with common core and state standards

RESOURCES

- Detroit Future City Process Leaders
- Denby High School staff
- Impact Detroit
- Michigan Community Resources staff



INITIATIVE VITALS

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:

Detroit Future City Implementation Office, Detroit Collaborative Design Center, Denby High School, Michigan Community Resources, Michigan Environmental Council, Teach for America

DFC INITIATIVE TYPE: Partner

DFC REPRESENTATIVES: Sandra Turner Handy (Process Leader/Impact Detroit), Allandra Bulger (Implementation Office)

INITIATIVE SCALE: One High School

INITIATIVE DURATION: October 2013 - Ongoing

RELEVANT PLANNING ELEMENT: Civic Capacity

DFC APPROACH

In coordination with Michigan Community Resources and Denby High School, a community-oriented high school curriculum has been developed for 9-12 grades across the following subjects: 1) math, 2) science, 3) English, and 4) social studies. The four-year community-oriented curriculum was created in order to provide a framework for schools to incorporate community development initiatives into the Common Core and Michigan High School curricula, to empower students to take action in their communities, and to increase academic rigor through project-based learning. In May 2015, DFC partnered with Teach for America to conduct an audit of the existing curriculum to identify alignment with common core/state standards and lay the foundation for the creation of a flexible model for application across city of Detroit school systems.

Additionally, the Detroit Future City Process Leaders/ Impact Detroit will continue providing mentoring and coaching to Denby High School students throughout the project, and DFC will provide feedback regarding the curriculum implemented to teach and engage students about the strategic framework.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

- 1 EXPAND CAPACITY FOR THE LONG TERM: BUILDING ON STRENGTHS TO EXTEND RANGE
- 1.3 Focus on Detroit institutions
- 1.4 Focus on Detroit residents
- 2 INFORMED, INCLUSIVE DECISIONS: DEVELOPING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION
- 3 A MOSAIC OF TACTICS FOR A MOSAIC OF PEOPLE: DIVERSE PLATFORM OF OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE