

EXPLORIS CENTER FOR INNOVATION

MISSION

Empowering teachers to change the world.

To create an Exploris-affiliated nonprofit Center, led by Exploris staff, to facilitate and encourage highly effective teaching at Exploris and in other participating schools. The Center would involve teachers and leaders from other charters and traditional public schools.



DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The full business plan for the Center will be completed during the coming school year, including the design of prototype projects to be implemented at Exploris during the summer of 2019.

PHASE 1 (the 2018-19 school year and the summer of 2019)

The planning group will:

- Complete the initial plan;
- Complete the full business plan for the Center;
- Sustain current requests for site visits, document current master work, and develop website for communicating current and future work;
- Develop and implement several prototype projects in 2019;
- Create the Exploris-affiliated nonprofit Center with a board of teachers and other school leaders drawn from NC charters and traditional public schools;
- Prepare and submit funding proposals to foundations to fund the Center's business plan;
- Proposed cost for Phase 1: \$50,000

NEXT PHASES:

To be described, in detail, in the business plan. The board will receive regular progress reports on the development of the business plan.

ADVANTAGES FOR EXPLORIS:

- will continually energize and improve teaching at Exploris;
- will establish Exploris as a state leader for the improvement of teaching;
- will establish Exploris as a bridge-builder among charters and traditional public schools;
- will enhance the institutional reputation of Exploris, which in turn will facilitate Exploris' fundraising over time;
- will, when fully operational, produce revenue for Exploris, e.g., facility fees for conferences and events, potential rental income, potential source of additional income for teaching staff, etc.

**Center for Innovation Budget Breakdown
2018-2019 - Year 0**

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1. <u>Designer</u> for website and training staff to upkeep & publish monthly-	\$5,000 (10K+)
2. <u>Legal / Structural</u> - Drafting bylaws, establishing nonprofit structure within school board	\$3,000 (5-10K)
3. <u>Initial Plan</u> - Create/ establish - the vision/craft a draft (1-2 year immediate model)- October	\$2,000
4. <u>Monthly Blog</u> - \$100 to writer, \$50 to edit & publish (10x annually)-	\$3000
5. <u>Expedition Snapshots published monthly</u> (20 per year, \$50 per post) -	\$1,000
6. <u>Set tour & PD calendar monthly</u> - (2 hours week, \$200 month)	\$2,000
7. <u>Contact person:</u> Create and maintain sign ups, contact participants, Q&A, evaluations (10 hours per week, \$25 per hour, \$250 per week),	\$12,000
8. <u>Long Term Formal (Strategic) Business Plan</u> (5 year)	\$5,000
9. <u>Design Exploris Gold Standard</u> - Mt. Vernon Institute for Innovation Atlanta (4 faculty members, 3 days/2 nights - \$600, Travel (Drive \$0.55) \$600, Institute Costs \$3000, Stipend to create final document \$200 per teacher)	\$5,000
10. <u>Workshop Costs</u> - We need some initial capital to design our initial workshops. Ultimately, workshops should pay for themselves through grants or attendees fees. Workshops will be designed with minimum participants to insure cover costs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 1- Presenter - 3 hours planning 1 hour Presenting. \$140-200 per workshop hour (\$40-50 per hour for master teachers) b) 2- Presenters - 2 hours of planning for 1 hour of workshop. \$150 per workshop hour (\$25 per hour for assisting teachers) c) GOAL for Year 1 and beyond: 40% of participant fees or grants will go to facility and administrative costs. 	\$2,000 (Goal \$0)
11. <u>Presenting at Conferences</u> - with a purpose of advancing Exploris as a regional leader.	\$3,000
12. <u>Defining partnerships,</u> evaluating partnerships, identifying opportunities for grants with partners, grant-writing. 80 hours	\$2,000
13. <u>Sub pay</u> - ability to release master teachers to network, and build capacity. \$100/20 days	\$3,000
14. <u>Administrative Supplies</u> - Paper, copies, business cards, letterhead.	\$2,000
	Total: \$50,000

Notes:

<http://r2innovates.blogspot.com/p/what-we-do.html>

Pockets of Excellence: <https://learningforward.org/docs/default-source/jsd-june-2016/expanding-excellence-june16.pdf>

Cage Busting Teacher: <http://hepg.org/hep-home/books/the-cage-busting-teacher> (I completely respect Jamie, but this book is so much of a counterpoint to her argument...we do INDEED have lots more freedoms that we give ourselves credit for - especially here in NC).

Teacher Powered Schools: <https://www.teacherpowered.org/>. Even though my old school (<https://www.tricountyearlycollege.org/>) was public, had a principal, and was in a very conservative district, we were one of the ~120 across the country that were teacher powered. It's a beautiful thing!

The level of peer-to-peer collaboration, free exchange of ideas, and rapid prototyping is what enabled us to do school-wide, cross-curricular, cross grade-level PBL in a competency based learning environment (and led us to be selected as the newest member of the [Global Schools Alliance](#)).