



News and information for the Lewisville High School feeder pattern of Lewisville Independent School District

## Hedrick Middle School Students Collaborate to Create ELA Café

2013 MAY 31



HMS student Marlin Catalan shares his sketch with team members helping design McCloud's learning environment

**Hedrick Middle School** (Hedrick) art teacher Ryan Bernard told students exiting news in his Art I class recently: "You're hired." Hedrick English Language Arts (ELA) teacher Julia McCloud commissioned art students, who are currently taking Bernard's advanced art class for high school credit, to design and create typography and artwork to accompany her ELA flexible learning environment.

"We know [meaningful and relevant work engages students in profound learning](#)," McCloud said. "What is more meaningful and relevant than designing and formulating a plan that will be implemented before the school year ends? I thought this would be a great opportunity and Bernard and his students agreed."

Much like working for a design company in the real world, Bernard and his "designers" met with their "client" to discuss the needs and vision for the space. The students worked together as a design team to generate ideas, which they submitted to McCloud.

"This project required students to collaborate with one another, but also with their teachers," Bernard said. "It was an opportunity for them to be the experts in art and design and to couple their expertise with a desire to satisfy the client."

The final products will include a large photo mosaic to be displayed on an accent wall, as well typography created by the art students, which will be done with whiteboard marker and crayons to be displayed on the two 12-foot whiteboard walls in the room. McCloud's room will still have the jumbo, red exercise balls, bean bags and gaming chairs for students to continue to enjoy.

"This project taught me a lot about working on a deadline and collaborating with people," student Emily Herrera said. "Even better than that, it was a great opportunity to show people what we are capable of and to leave our mark on the school that nurtured us for the last three years."

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