

SUPERINTENDENT'S PODCACST – Transcript

Feb. 3, 2017 - DSMS Project X

DR. BRUCE GEARING: Hi! I'm Bruce Gearing, Superintendent for Dripping Springs ISD, and welcome to my podcast. Our students are going to face problems to solve in the world that we know nothing about yet. So, in sixth grade Design Tech, our teacher has been creating opportunities for student to solve some of those problems. This is a multi-step process that's taken our student through thinking about creative solutions to difficult to solve problems and then designing those in 3-D in modeling situations and then finally in 3-D printing. So let's go look what our students are up to.

BOBBY ORR (DSMS Design Tech Teacher): Hi!, I'm Bobby Orr, I teach Design Tech. What you all are watching behind me is their City X Project. What it is, is they were tasked with a problem from another individual from another planet that had a problem. This planet only had a 3-D printer so my kids were tasked with coming up with a solution to that problem by inventing something that had never been invented before. They couldn't research it on the internet, online, they couldn't use any ideas that had been made for movies or games. Had to be completely original thinking and they had to have... make sure they had a thought process behind their entire project.

(Music playing kids talking in the background)

GARON (DSMS Sixth-Grader): ... my other friend's problem he said that night lasts a long time there, so I figured since there are solar panels we could make lunar panels, since night lasts such a long time, and since there's so many stars and you only get about 20 percent of the energy from the sun and there's so many stars you probably only get like one percent from each star but every single star on the sky at night will probably end up powering the whole city.

(Music)

BEN (DSMS Sixth-Grader): So this is my Planet X project, my problem was that people on planet x cannot grow their food with all the planet X conditions, at the top I have a window, here's the vault, I have all the soil and a chain with a plow, and here is the vault. Over here when we did our Tinker CAD designs I have the chain up here with the plow and the two moving pieces. With the vault also cutting the half section and the vault is right here.

SERENA (DSMS Sixth-Grader): I like this project because it allow me to be creative and think outside the box, like my project over here. We got a problem and we made a project that's not from a movie or anything you've seen from media, which I think is pretty cool, and we are going to 3-D print it.

(Music and 3-D printer subtle noise)

DR. BRUCE GEARING: One of the interesting aspects of this project for me was the way the teacher limited the research ability of the students to force them to really use their imagination and creativity in this process. I hope you enjoyed seeing our students at work and thanks for listening, have a great week.