# SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

The Skyline High School community engages our students by embracing an education that values critical thinking, academic rigor, cultural responsiveness, and healthy relationships. We strive to create equitable and meaningful learning experiences from which students thrive in college, career, and community with courage, confidence, and joy.

**Final Summary for the 2019-2020 Measure N Commission**
**Skyline High School**

- *A pattern observed across all of our probationary schools is that there was a clear gap in knowledge of Linked Learning. In order to be successful, what will your school do to ensure all stakeholders deeply understand Linked Learning?*
- *Based on the feedback you received in the Spring of 2019, the fall site visit, and your participation in Charter Management Organization Leader meetings, how have you adjusted the overall vision and program to align to Measure N?*
- *Linked Learning Pathways are built upon four pillars: Academic Rigor, Career Technical Education, Work-Based Learning, and Integrated Student Supports; which of the pillars have you focused on to more fully develop your school's program in alignment with Measure N?*
- *What are the changes you are making to the design of your school in master schedule and staffing to support the implementation of a Linked Learning pathway?*
- *In a year from now, how will your school be dramatically different than the current design?*

In 2019-2020, Skyline High School has been focusing on Rigorous Academics and Integrated Student Supports. In preparing for the 2020-2021 school year, we have been developing support for an ambitious improvement plan focused on integrated Career Technical Education and Work-based Learning. A year from now, we anticipate that Pathways will not only be strong learning communities unto themselves, but powerfully cross-pollinating throughout Skyline, as well as with industry and community partners.

Our goal is for all students in Skyline Pathways to feel empowered through improved learning opportunities to deepen their understanding and connection to their programs of study, as well as how their academics connect with the world through work-based learning experiences.

As of Fall 2019, Skyline teachers and administrators are beginning to feel a sense of relief and confidence, with improved stability following years of turnover and change. As a result of this increased consistency, the school community has been able to focus more fully on quality improvement, rather than worry over basic needs. Improved enabling conditions - such as systems for ordering and bi-monthly pathway budget meetings - have made it possible for stakeholders to focus on carrying out Skyline's vision. This can be seen through heightened instructional rigor and pathway integration, instructional learning walks in every pathway, integrated projects at every pathway and grade level, and improved quality development of Project Based Learning. Beyond this, we

are prioritizing student empowerment through strategic academic planning and collaborative support for students. Some of these steps include: more targeted life and career skill building, increased student leadership and voice opportunities, and better calibrated systems of student support.

Three intersecting theories of action are at the heart of Skyline High School's improvement work in 2019-2020:

1. If the work of Pathway Directors, Department Chairs, TSAs, and Administration is closely and strategically **aligned**, then all teachers will receive targeted and integrated support that will lead to more rigorous academic learning for all students.
2. If Linked Learning pillars and Behaviors of Learning and Teaching are **embedded** in all-school professional development planning and assessments, then all stakeholders will deeply understand, implement, and benefit from linked learning.
3. If the Instructional Leadership Team, supported by a ConnectEd coach, focuses on the improvement of school climate and rigorous academic culture through a strong Department-Pathway-Admin **communication and collaboration**, then students will experience more engaging experiences across their classes and work based learning experiences.

Implementation of these theories of action has cohered around a strategically  planned ILT structure in which Pathway Directors are centrally placed. Merging Pathway Leadership with ILT has enabled the work of Linked Learning calibration to connect directly to whole school improvement in terms of both academic rigor and school culture and climate. The redesigned ILT structure has also strengthened communication, collaboration, and shared purpose across Pathways.  In the words of the redesigned [ILT Charter](#):

*By engaging in two-way communication with all school stakeholders, the ILT team uses data at their disposal to develop a clear message and assist in the implementation of best practices for the school. If we create shared leadership structures in schools, where school leaders work with empowered teacher leaders, we can build better opportunities for feedback and growth, retaining effective teachers, and driving increased student achievement.*

As they share professional learning goals, methods, and experiences, Pathway Directors and other school leaders support one another in their strengths and challenges, to create a more unified, vision-aligned school.

For example, ILT meetings this fall have engaged Pathway Directors in collection and analysis of data that has resulted in each pathway planning team retreats focused on teachers learning to build stronger relationships with students and trust with colleagues. By creating stronger professional learning communities that foster experimentation, innovation, and reflection, teachers are able to deepen the quality of integrated projects and calibrate both core content and CTE curriculum around Capstone rubrics as well as industry and discipline standards.  Additionally, through their strengthened collaboration, pathway teachers focus more effectively on the needs and growth of each student in the pathway.

Please see the [2019-2020 Measure N Site Visit Presentation_Skyline](#) for more details on our current status and theories of change.

*You will  find our completed [Statement of Intent](#) here.*