

The New Alternative High School:

Learning by Doing On Line

Engines for Education is proud to announce the formation of the world's first alternative on line, learn by doing, high school. This is a four-year high school where only one curriculum is followed each year. Students will be admitted into this curriculum in September, 2010. They will matriculate at schools that have agreed to offer this curriculum. We are in discussions with various schools now. As of this posting, there will be a public school offering this curriculum in Kansas and a private school offering it in Florida. Since the curricula will be available on line as well, parents who wish to enroll their children in the on line school simply need to contact the school of their choice. Students can enroll in these school from anywhere in the world. They will receive their high school diplomas from the offering school.

The four years currently being offered are:

Year 1. Health Sciences

Year 2. Computer Science

Year 3. Communication

Year 4. Business

These years are described below. Students take only one course per year. These courses are intensive all day, nine month long experiences that consist of a series of projects with regular deliverables. Students work in teams with mentors either on line or face to face. All materials are on line. The on line alternative high school will be administered by the school itself. Engines for Education will provide the curricula and help train teachers at each school.

A common question asked about this school is how students will get into college after having taken this alternative curriculum. This curriculum will satisfy entrance requirements to the major universities in the United States as well as satisfying the standards of the states in which the offering school is situated.

As part of this curriculum, intensive summer schools will be offered, on an optional basis, that are intended to ensure that all students will do very well on SAT tests. Plans are underway with ██████████ to provide the SAT prep courses for our students each summer beginning in the summer of 2011.

Teacher training will start in February. Schools interested in participating should contact Patti. Parents wishing more information should contact Patti as well.

Descriptions and links below:

The Health Sciences Curriculum offers a variety of experiences based in medicine and the allied health professions. Students find themselves acting and learning as internists, dietitians, crime-scene investigators, plant pathologists, hospital administrators,

epidemiologists, interns in sports medicine, advisors in bioethics, and more. In so doing they steadily improve their scientific reasoning skills and learn how to learn what they need to know to solve the problems they're engaged in. By the end of the year they will have found themselves drawn into some very compelling individual human and public problems.

The Software Development Curriculum is a series of several overlapping Story-Centered Curricula designed to immerse students in the world of developing modern web-based applications, from simple web pages to interactive web sites with databases, from individual writing of code to team-based requirements analysis, project planning, and design, to new business development. Students learn basic coding skills in HTML, CSS, Javascript, Java, JSP, and SQL.

The Business Curriculum allows students to practice the basic skills they will need to learn to in order to add value in the first years (10) of a professional career in a corporation, or in a small business or as an entrepreneur. The curriculum teaches the foundations of the business profession, and involve complex and practical reasoning processes in finance, marketing, supply chain, technology, business planning, innovation, project management and business ethics. A person taking this program learns how professionals work in real life by doing the tasks professionals actually do to in real situations, presented in the different modules. Playing fictionalized roles, students do specific tasks such as: analyzing financial statements and diagnosing the financial problems of a company, preparing a financial plan for the next 5 years to support negotiations with banks, designing the functionality of an on-line business, performing a usability test of the business interface.

The Communication Curriculum provides a variety of immersive experiences via which students will learn to communicate effectively in a variety of genres and formats, both traditional and online. Within a series of Story-Centered Curricula, students will be motivated to write essays, technical documents, journalistic reports, critical reviews, and persuasive pieces. They will write for new media, including blogs and webzines, as well as writing and producing

videos. They will also learn to develop and make effective presentations.