

WELCOME TO STARTLAND EDUCATION! WE ARE RETHINKING THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE.

MECA Methods is a “disruptive” professional development program that equips teachers with the tools to use design thinking and bring real world learning to the classroom.

Design thinking is a transferable problem-solution framework that allows for

Increased student ownership and adoption

Validation and empowerment of students’ ideas

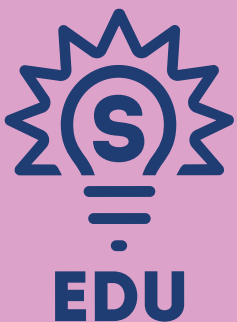
Cross-curricular and real-world industry applicability

Real-world industry and community connections



“I hope that design thinking becomes a way for my students to not only think more deeply, but to think in a manner that generates an impactful action as direct follow up.”

ART TEACHER, GRANDVIEW HIGH SCHOOL



Design Thinking is a cornerstone of three important MVAs: Internships, client-connected projects and entrepreneurial experiences.

Design thinking is a problem-solving framework that will position students for success in each.

WHO IS STARTLAND EDUCATION?

We are a group of passionate educators with experience in both the classroom and entrepreneurial settings working to reimagine the classroom experience. Our work is grounded in human-centered design thinking, and we aim to work alongside educators to amplify their expertise and fuel innovation. Our work supports the values and undertakings of the Kauffman Foundation's Real World Learning initiative, with years of experience helping a variety of schools and districts meet their RWL and MVA goals.

"Design thinking leads my students through a process to expand their problem solving into areas outside of their usual. It stretches their creativity and shows them what they're capable of."

**SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER,
LEE'S SUMMIT WEST
HIGH SCHOOL**

"Design thinking shifts the way students minds are wired; inspires creativity again."

**SCIENCE TEACHER,
LEE'S SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL**

WHO ARE YOU?

You are dedicated to Real World Learning and striving to improve the number of MVAs students are earning. You see the creative potential in all students and want to provide authentic, meaningful, and engaging learning experiences that match that. You are seeking ways to offer coaching and support to teachers who are passionate about real world learning in their classrooms.

WHAT YOUR TEACHERS WILL EXPERIENCE

In an open, enriching, and rewarding environment, they'll work alongside facilitators that respect educators as professionals. (We know they are the experts!) They will learn about human-centered problem solving and develop a greater capacity for empathy. They will walk away with practical tools ready to implement this training with students.

"I very rarely get anything out of professional development, but this was an extremely beneficial experience for me after a very taxing year. The facilitators were very kind and helpful, and I appreciated how passionate they were about design thinking."

**MODERN LANGUAGE TEACHER,
LEE'S SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL**