



**VISION** We believe all students have the right to high quality educational experiences that develop their unique needs and passions.

**MISSION** The mission is to partner with community resources to change public education, emphasizing creativity and utilizing a fully inclusive model that educates the whole student through our core values of **Community. Empathy. Thinking and Balance**

## SAMI School Improvement

### 1. Integrating project-based curriculum with the resources of the park.

**Community** – *We will continue to graduate all/nearly all our students (currently 99.2%) on time so that our students will be active and contributing members of our community. Through more authentic, park-based community projects, all or nearly all (99.2%) of our students will continue to graduate on time with viable post high plans. 95% of our seniors will graduate with acceptance to next institutions as measured by the district VANI of which 80% will be accepted into four-year institutions, both public and private. Within five years we hope all SAMI students will have the option of developing authentic projects to serve Pt. Defiance Park and the Tacoma Community such that all students will gain entrance into four-year institutions and come back to serve Tacoma aligned to their strengths and passions. SAMI students will increase their Industry Recognized Certificates from 2% - 25% this year with a goal of 100% by the end of five years. Our SAMI students will support the Tacoma mission to be an educated city.*

**Empathy**- *We will continue to support all (currently 98% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders and 100% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders) of our students in their endeavors so that are engaged and not participating in unsafe behaviors (physically and emotionally) as students engage in projects aligned to natural and physical sciences. Extra-curricular participation will increase from 8% - 20%. Within five years, SAMI students will have sustainable student- led projects across grade levels 12<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> that benefit each other and Pt. Defiance Park.*

**Thinking**- *We will increase our enrollment of SAMI student in rigorous coursework (AP and College in the High School) from 99% to 100%. Over the next five years, we will align our physical and natural science and mathematics pathways and projects such that 100% of our students will participate in a Next Move Internship aligned to their post high plan and eligible for college credit. With this alignment, SAMI students will increase their mastery of Common Core standards from 58% - 68% in ELA and 45% - 55% in Math. In five years, 90% of SAMI students will demonstrate mastery of Common Core standards through project-based learning that benefit Pt. Defiance Park and/or the Tacoma community.*

**Balance**—*SAMI students will balance their expectations with aligned and integrated coursework. SAMI students will develop and participate in extracurricular activities and Next Move internships (rigorous coursework) that support their post-high passions.*

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We challenge ourselves to dive deep into any idea, seeking a strong understanding as opposed to merely reciting facts. Learning is inspired by dreams and imaginations. - **THINKING**

**EMPATHY** - Every member of our community has unique perspectives, strengths and struggles, and we strive to adapt our approach to see the world from their point of view.

We are a learning community. Careful planning and design of school culture enables us to rely on the strengths of each staff and student and to develop our highest potential. - **COMMUNITY**

**BALANCE** - We seek both left-brained and right-brained thinkers, creativity alongside analysis. We find balance in perspective and our schools seek to always show both sides of a picture.



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## **2. Developing the Mentor Group and the Mentor to be the entry point and advocate for student interests, passions, strengths and post-high plans.**

**Community-** *SAMI's multi-age Mentor Groups will develop so that 100% (currently 99.2%) of our seniors graduate on time with a viable post-high plan. Currently 84% of our students are accepted to the next institution of which 70% are 4 year colleges/universities. We will increase this to 80% with a goal- in five years, 100% of our students will have the option to attend a 4 year college/university based on their post-high plan, course mastery, Internship and Capstone Project that has supported a Pt. Defiance Park need.*

**Empathy** *We will continue to support all (currently 98% for 12<sup>th</sup> graders and 100% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders) of our students in their endeavors so that are engaged and not participating in unsafe behaviors as students work with their Mentors within their multi-age Mentor Group to support each other with post high planning, on-time graduation credit reflection, mastery of standards and regular attendance. Within 1 year, our SAMI students (most) will indicate through a climate survey that they feel safe and welcome in all or nearly all SAMI learning environments, in particular students of color. Within 5 years, our SAMI students (all or nearly all) will indicate through a climate survey that they feel safe and welcome in all or nearly all SAMI learning environments, in particular students of color.*

**Thinking-** *SAMI Mentors have strong relationships with their mentees and work with them to develop their post-high plans, rigorous coursework and mastery of course standards (through regular attendance). This relationship currently supports 58% of our students meeting ELA expectations and 45% of our students meeting math expectations for state graduation requirements as measured by SBAC. Mentors help students think through their strengths and passions to develop authentic projects. SAMI students will increase this mastery to 68% and 55%, respectively. By the end of five years, almost all students (90%) will meet standards through authentic, community base projects.*

**Balance-** *Reflection on our SAMI learning culture is critical to continuous improvement of our community. Climate survey participation will increase from an average of 17% to 40% this year and 90% within the next five years. Increasing the capacity of Mentor Group means increasing student voice and the power of mentors and mentees to communicate the needs, interests and passions of their group to and for our larger community. We will use this representative voice to support responsiveness, growth and interdependence to support our students and learning community. Within five years, all mentors will determine best supports for each mentee and be the advocate for interventions and enrichments to support all benchmarks.*

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