DESIGN FAQs

WHAT IS DESIGN?

Design is both a noun and a verb so it can refer to many different things. In the context of the program at Woodside we're referring to the verb. To design something is to go through the design process, which is a series of steps used to create a product or service.

WHAT IS THE DESIGN PROCESS?

The Design Process is what your child will be doing in every design project. It is a methodology that originated in a variety of design fields then became more standardized with the emergence of personal computing. It guides designers through a series of steps that help them determine the right solution to a problem. This steps are typically Research, Brainstorming, Prototyping and Evaluation.

WHAT IS DESIGN THINKING?

This can be defined in a number of different ways, but at Woodside we're referring to the thoughts and decisions that are made when designing something. Design thinking occurs when designers discover an issue, analyze it's roots and test a variety of solutions. It's a way of approaching problems from the target audience's perspective.

WILL IT DETRACT FROM MY STUDENT'S CORE SUBJECTS?

No need to worry, it will take no instruction time away from core subjects. The revolutionary approach that Woodside is taking is an integrated one. I will be collaborating with each grade level to create projects that support their curriculum. It will act as a kind of enhancement to difficult subjects as it has been shown to increase engagement and comprehension.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO DESIGN THINKING?

Over time as industries begin to shift and change more rapidly, innovation will become increasingly important. A professional that is able to adapt to changing issues and markets will be a vital part of any company or organization. Through Design Thinking experiences students learn how to uncover the roots of key issues and continually adapt solutions as the issues change.

WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Great! I'm always happy to talk about design. Feel free to email me anything you're thinking about at hfenton@woodsideschool.us