



SAISD Hydroponics

PILOT PROGRAM

IN SPRING OF 2021, 17 MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AT EIGHT CAMPUSES ENGAGED STUDENTS IN HYDROPONICS THROUGH SCIENCE AND CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES. THEY INTEGRATED THE GROW WALL INTO THEIR INSTRUCTION TO SUPPORT CONCEPTS SUCH AS ECOLOGY, INCLUDING PHOTOSYNTHESIS AND SUSTAINABILITY, AGRICULTURE, AND CULINARY ARTS THROUGH FARM TO TABLE LESSONS THROUGH CARING FOR AND MONITORING THEIR OWN PLANTS AND THEN USING THEM IN THEIR DISHES. 100% OF PILOT TEACHERS REPORTED A HIGH LEVEL OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH THEIR GROW WALL.

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

IN FALL 2021, THE SAISD FOUNDATION WILL WORK CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION TO EXPAND THE HYDROPONICS PROGRAM. SECONDARY TEACHERS FROM THE INITIAL PILOT WILL CONTINUE THEIR WORK TO CREATE SUPPORTS FOR DISTRICT-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION.



"Working with the Grow Wall has provided an opportunity for my students that they normally do not have at home. Not only do they get to see the growing process, but they also have access to healthy food options daily. We are now implementing a gardening program with our local community center to further their practice and knowledge of healthy food options." - Chef Placette, Lanier High School

"I CONNECTED THE GROW WALL WITH OUR LAND USE, AGRICULTURE, AND CLIMATE CHANGE UNITS. TALKING ABOUT HOW AGRICULTURE AFFECTS THE LAND AND HOW HYDROPONICS CAN BE A MORE SUSTAINABLE OPTION IN SOME PLACES. I WANT TO KEEP IT GOING NEXT YEAR IN MY CLASSES AND FIND WAYS TO USE THE FOOD WE ARE GROWING BESIDES JUST SENDING IT HOME WITH KIDS AND STAFF."

-ALEXIS ZANGER
HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you are a middle or high school science or career and technical education teacher and would like to include hydroponics in your curriculum please visit tinyurl.com/SAISDHydro2 to complete an interest survey.

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