

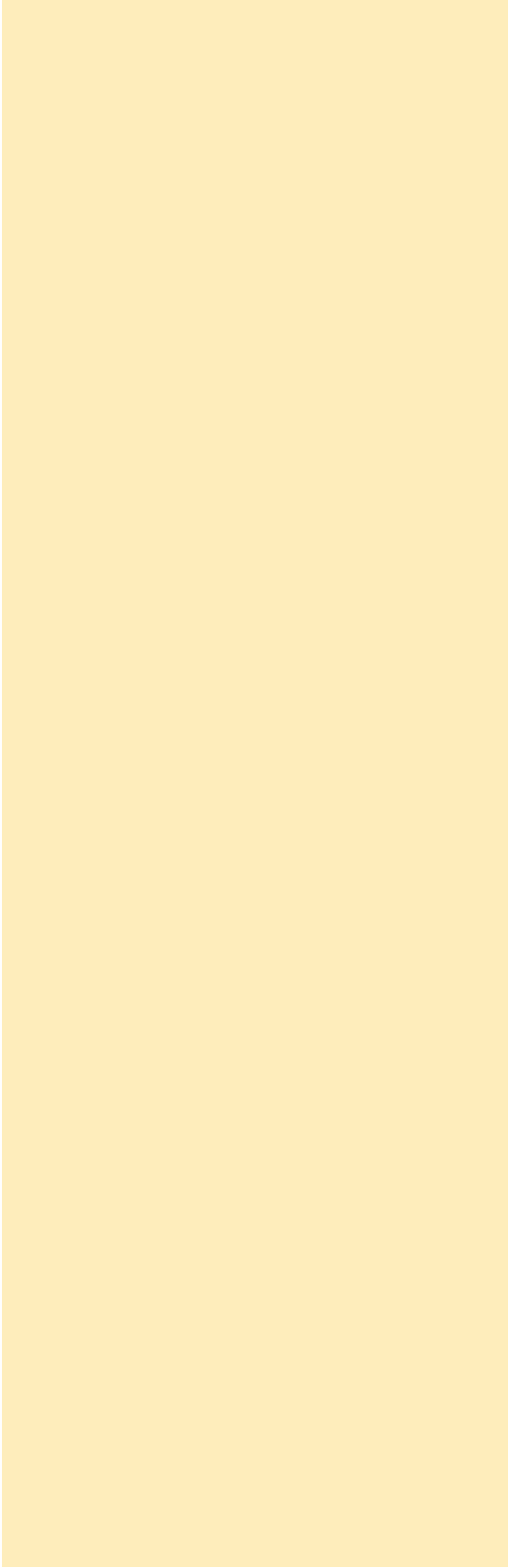


E x C E L L E N C E

Berkeley Public Schools

BI ANNUAL REPORT B U S I N E S S D I B , CA

WINTER 2016



Innovation in Teaching & Learning Math

New Standards, Teaching Strategies

The arrival of Common Core curricula in math classrooms across the district has ushered in a whole new way of learning and talking about math. Learning to use math to problem solve and reason is the goal of the new grade-level standards, and requires students to make sense of math rather than to solely perform functions to arrive at a correct answer.

“Studying their mistakes, and learning from their mistakes, is really what learning is.”

— Leah Alcala, 9th grade math teacher at Berkeley High School

Growth Mindset Changes the Way Kids Think about Math

Berkeley math teachers are using knowledge about how the brain works to create conditions in which students can best learn math, seeking to develop a positive, or “growth”, mindset in

their students.

Research shows that a student who believes intelligence and skills can be improved with training and practice, rather than being fixed and inherent traits, may have brains more primed for solving math problems.

“We are dedicated to helping students establish a growth mindset in math and to make sense of mathematics. There is no such thing as a math gene; everyone can learn math.”

— Rebecca Burke, district math teacher coach



Don't miss a new video on how Willard Middle School math teacher Robert McCarthy (aka “Mr. Mac”) generates excitement about math in middle school:

In Pursuit of the 2020 Vision

Improved Attendance, School Readiness; More Students Enrolling in College

The statewide transition to a new set of grade level standards and new assessments has made it more challenging to use longitudinal data to measure student learning over time. However, local assessment tools put in place to monitor progress are showing continued improvement in Berkeley cf1.4(s p)-7.4(2.3(s)-1

E x T x

A large body of research demonstrates that non-cognitive factors influence the



2020 Bonar Street, Berkeley, CA 94702



Re-envisioning Cooking and

Band is one of several music options.

