



Iron County School District will offer a new high-tech high school focused on entrepreneurship and personalized, competency-based education called Launch High School, opening in August 2020.

Launch High School will partner with SUU's School of Business and Entrepreneurship program, as well as SouthWest Tech, to give all students opportunities for authentic work and a pathway to their future education, career, and success. Students will attend Launch High School, in the building next to the district office, on either an A day or B day to study English, math, science and social studies in a unique environment that will infuse technology and design thinking. They'll return to their boundary high school to take elective classes on the alternating days and for extracurricular activities/athletics.

This school will be best suited for 9th to 12th-grade students who are interested in:

- Early access to credit acquisition toward graduation and/or early college/technical education.
- Experiential learning in a hands-on, project-based environment.
- Essential skills, like creativity, communication, and collaboration, integrated into courses.
- Entrepreneurial education that connects to industry and post-secondary partners.
- EdTech integration to provide a mix of in-person and online instruction and activities.
- Elect an alternative approach to education where teachers personalize learning.

Personalized Learning

Offering personalized learning, meaning instruction is tailored to students, is the next logical step in efforts to ensure all students are college and career ready in our district. This will build upon all we know and are already doing to implement good teaching practices while providing the increased flexibility, support, and technology educators need to put students at the center of education. We recognize that each student is unique and special and that one-size-fits-all approaches are less than ideal. Students will be more engaged at schools that personalize learning, like Launch High School, by having the learning path and pace customized to their strengths and interests.

This school, and others that personalize learning, facilitate an educational environment that will:

- Identify and tailor to each student's personal academic background, strengths, and needs.
- Help each student develop ownership of their learning and learn how to learn effectively.
- Provide students targeted instruction, practice, and support in areas where they're struggling.
- Help students think critically, communicate, and collaborate adeptly while becoming resilient.
- Help students work together to design, create, and present their work with hands-on projects.

Students' progress in school will be evaluated based on knowledge and skills, rather than seat-time requirements. Students will move to new concepts and skills when they demonstrate mastery of the prerequisite skills that come before it. In this way, students can learn at a flexible pace that is right for them in order to ensure they have thoroughly learned the material and that they can move on from topics they already understand. Personalized learning will also provide parents with a deeper understanding of how their child is progressing. Finally, diplomas issued from this school will represent that a graduate is prepared with the knowledge and skills to succeed, giving employers and post-secondary institutions confidence in graduates. Look for more information coming soon.