Human Growth and Development,

A course designed to explore methods of increasing public engagement. Community, school, student, and parental values are explored with a view toward shared accountability for school improvement. Issues related to diversity within the community,

Purpose and Plan for Action Research exposes students to the basic principles of action research. Emphasis is given to what constitutes action research and how it differs from other types of research. Topics include the process of scientific inquiry and data-driven decision making in an era of school reform. Students will learn how to generate research questions, collect and analyze data, and evaluate programs. Students will develop their own research projects, using relevant ideas based on the evaluation of initiatives in their own schools or school districts.

In this course, students will learn the entrepreneurial side of school leadership. Emphasis will be placed on the school structure of charter schools and independent schools, especially the organizational differences between these types of schools and traditional public schools. Topics will include financing, student enrollment, and legal issues related to non-traditional and for-profit schools. Students will investigate the attributes of an entrepreneur (such as vision casting, risk taking, and innovating) and determine how these could be applied in the age of school reform.