



## *Common Student Questions*

### **How do I choose a project?**

To select project ideas, students are encouraged to think about and find topics that match personal interests. Topics should be exciting and meaningful and should represent significant academic and personal growth challenges. Projects must also benefit or have a connection to the community. Students will select their own projects and submit proposals that are to be approved before students launch into fulfilling the remainder of the culminating project expectations.

### **Is any topic okay?**

Students must demonstrate in their proposals that topics meet the goals for the Culminating Project and fit into one of the broad categories (developing or improving a skill or performance; designing or creating a product, service, system, or event; investigating a career). Proposals must also clearly show connections between research (a scholarly paper) and an overall project that benefits or connects to the community. Projects that potentially put students in harm or risk of injuries will not be approved.

### **When are projects due?**

Project **proposals** are due in May of students' junior year. Projects may begin any time after proposals are approved. **Scholarly papers** are due in December of students' senior year. The **Presentation, Portfolio,** and **Written Reflection** will take place second semester of students' senior years.

### **Will there be help at school?**

Absolutely! Students will also be assigned Case Managers who will meet with students during designated meeting times during the Spring WASL window.

### **Who are Case Managers?**

Juniors will be assigned a Faculty Advisor in Spring semester. They will offer guidance in the development of project ideas and proposals. They will also meet with students on a periodic basis and provide checkpoints throughout the entire culminating project.

### **Can I work with a partner or in a group?**

The Culminating Project is an individual project; however, students may collaborate on project ideas that might involve a significant community benefit, for example. If students choose to work together on such a project, each must submit his/her own proposal, scholarly paper (essential question and actual paper must be original), portfolio and written reflection. Presentations must also be completed individually.

### **Will the Culminating Project affect my GPA?**

No, projects are not graded, but all of the components of the project must meet or exceed specific requirements for students to graduate.