



# THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IS HERE.

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**MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**Junior  
Achievement™**  
of Wisconsin



# 3DE is an innovative approach that is transforming the high school experience.

In a 3DE program, the learning experience is re-engineered to be more relevant, experiential, and authentically connected to the world that exists beyond the classroom walls. By giving education real-world context, 3DE empowers, inspires, and better prepares students for life after graduation.

## CURRICULUM DETAILS

### The 3DE Difference

3DE helps students construct meaning, develop competencies, and strengthen core academic skills through a guided exploration of authentic, real-world business case challenges. The 3DE model gives students repeated, relevant opportunities to apply their knowledge and solve problems.

#### COHORTS

In the 3DE model, teachers and students are grouped into small cohorts, which builds a sense of connection, camaraderie, and trust. 3DE coursework is interconnected, supported by an interdisciplinary team of five to eight teachers. This close-knit, self-contained structure gives students the opportunity to fail safely and “fail up,” which boosts their confidence and engagement.

#### COLLABORATION

3DE encourages student collaboration through small group discussions and facilitated debates. This approach boosts social and emotional skills, gives students an active role in their learning, and closely mimics the real world—to more fully prepare students for a future in the workforce.

#### CASES

Learning and curriculums are built around real-world, real-time business case challenges from regional and national companies. This approach connects students with local business professionals, exposes them to life outside the classroom, prepares them for entry into the workforce, and makes lessons more relevant, memorable, and engaging.

#### COMPETENCIES

In-depth business case challenges form the foundation of the 3DE approach. By centering an interdisciplinary curriculum around these case challenges, 3DE boosts comprehension, teaches 21st-century competencies, and doubles the learning opportunities of a traditional classroom. Core academics—like math, science, history and English—are applied to real-world scenarios, making them memorable, approachable, and relevant. The 3DE model helps students develop valuable skills by encouraging creativity, cultural agility, critical thinking, collaboration, problem-solving, and self-direction.



#### 2023-24 9TH GRADE CASE CHALLENGE:

Students are told that Educators Credit Union (ECU), a southeast Wisconsin credit union, wants to improve communication between departments. Representatives from ECU visit the classroom to share background on the company and its communication challenges and goals. Over the next several weeks, students work with teachers in their core subjects to solve the case challenge. In their math class, they may generate statistics for the breakdown of how information is currently being shared. In their language arts class, they may write a promotional brochure about financial empowerment. At the culmination of the case challenge, students prepare a presentation for their teachers, peers, and ECU employees.



# Working Together for Transformation



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+



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3DE is made possible through a unique partnership between the national 3DE team, Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), and regional businesses and professionals.

The curriculum will be rolled out one grade level at a time, in one of two ways—either for an entire school or as a “school within a school” that runs parallel to the traditional curriculum.

This approach makes use of existing MPS resources while creating opportunity for ALL students—to ultimately transform secondary education throughout the entire school system. Along the way, the national 3DE team will provide ongoing resources and support, including curriculum development, case study design, case partner onboarding, instructional support, and teacher training and coaching.



## Inaugural Schools:

Bay View High School

Milwaukee Marshall High School

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## Building Bridges to Regional Businesses

**Because real-world case challenges form the core of the 3DE model, participation from regional businesses is essential.**

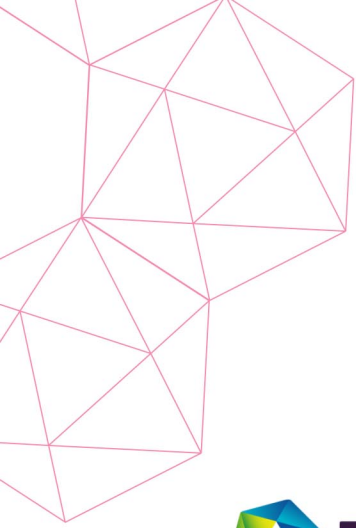
Businesses and local professionals are invited into the classroom to introduce case challenges, provide background on their company, check in with students during the challenge, and observe students’ final presentations.



## Your partnership can transform our region.

### 3DE STRENGTHENS OUR REGIONAL ECONOMY BY:

- Helping businesses build relationships with potential future employees.
- Giving graduates both a diploma and a certification.
- Fueling skills that drive economic competitiveness.
- Generating thousands of workforce-ready graduates.
- Improving talent retention in our region.
- Reaching ALL students, not just the highest achievers.
- Exposing students to a variety of real-world career pathways.
- Preparing students for a rapidly changing economy.
- Expanding students’ opportunities after graduation.



“3DE by Junior Achievement is a natural extension of our desire to ensure that young people are not only ready for their future, but ready with the skillset and mindset to create their future. The 3DE model is not an add-on or a special elective. 3DE is the heart and soul of a new way of learning and applying that learning to life.”



- MICHAEL FROHNA | REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF 3DE, JA OF WISCONSIN

**KEY STATS AND SUCCESS**

**44**

**SCHOOLS**

With 3DE programs in the 2022-2023 school year.

**+34%**

**INCREASE IN GRADUATION RATES**

Based on the matriculation of 3DE students from 9th grade, compared to the 2017 graduation rates at those respective schools. Aggregate averages across schools.

**-42%**

**FEWER CASES OF CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM**

Measured as the number of students with 10+ unexcused absences as compared to school peers, indicating increasing levels of engagement. Aggregate averages across schools.

**95%**

**STABILITY RATE OF 3DE STUDENT BODY**

Indicating a high degree of “stickiness” with 3DE families and students, even in communities with historically high transiency.



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