

## Transcript

As I look back on the last 18 months my journey developing innovation plan and what it's doing. There's a strong connection for me with the program. It's something I've done. It's something I've done in my, in my classes as part of my engineering program that we put together. And it was a hallmark of it. It's been one of those things that over the years, it's been difficult to explain to people how I did it and what we did, and we worked at it, we worked at really hard, but it was something that didn't come easy. And through this program, it's actually become much easier. Over the years, I've done projects where we would do 3D printing and do things for other teachers and make things like models for animal cells or a simple protractor work with math department curriculum director and coming up with a fifth grade protractor that was more age appropriate that didn't have all of the individual degrees. but were in bigger chunks where they can understand what was going on in some of the larger angles and get the concept down before they worked with a much more complex tool as the protractor that we're actually used to. But it's actually pretty complex. It's hard to do with numbers going in both directions and all of the small increments, and so we made it simpler for them. Now, these things weren't always easy to do. We actually had lots of trouble with things. You know, sometimes we would work with our special ed department and coming up with things that were pretty good. They weren't great. They weren't awesome. They weren't long lasting, but they they made a change in what was going on. We also did things like with toys working on different projects and it took us several years till well build. We were really working at it and doing things we did solar cars. We did underwater robots. Doing these innovative projects was something I always did. But they were always messy. They didn't always work well. It was actually kind of a rare event if it came out well, and people really liked what we were doing, but they didn't quite understand it. Through this program, we were able to do some things like actually come up with and really get to the heart of what we were doing. And we had come up with a set of beliefs and we were able to really expand on it and say, what we what it meant to us and really get to that. Doing this COVA program helped me to put those words together to really give it some meaning and do things that just really go at the way I was always did. I wanted those innovative projects and I wanted things to be individualized and that's the way I worked. And that was the way I taught but for the first time being a learner in that it really helped me to understand how to bring it to my learner's better and then bring it to my other teachers as well. And one of the neat things that has happened recently was over the last year with some of the Sphero work that's going on, and seeing other teachers do it. It's not exactly the way that I put it together with my innovation plan. But it actually works really well. And what we wanted to do, and other teachers were seeing that work, and they are starting to

do those things and take off. And that's really what I wanted to see. It wasn't a project that I came up with just to solve the degree plan, but it was something that I felt passionate about, that I knew would be great within my school. And we're starting to see that take place. And through this work in the doing with all of this professional growth and putting it together is really helping me to articulate it. And to really do well not just with my learners where their podcast is starting to take off and their apps are actually making it into the app store for the first time. We're able to actually do this in a broader sense with my other team. And the other programs and our building. So I'm really excited about what's been going on and what I've learned and it's really helped me grow as a leader and as a teacher both and it feels really good to be able to take this and move forward and do things so much better than I've able been able to do before.