



**BATAVIA
PUBLIC
SCHOOL
DISTRICT 101**

Contact: Sue Gillerlain
Communications Manager
Batavia Public School District 101
(630) 937-8824
sue.gillerlain@bps101.net

**Watch Batavia High School Student Entrepreneurs Give Their Best Pitch
Pitch Night - Wed., May 16, 6:30 p.m., Batavia Fine Arts Centre**

April 28, 2018 (Batavia, IL) - Batavia High School juniors and seniors in the INCubator Entrepreneurship course have been preparing all year for the final Pitch Night on Wed., May 16, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at the Batavia Fine Arts Centre. This “Shark Tank”-style event is open to the community and will include teams of three and four students pitching their new products and services to real business professionals from the local area.

The Incubator Entrepreneurship course from INCubatoredu offers BHS students a real entrepreneurship experience.

During class, students work in teams to create and fully develop a product or service, and local entrepreneurs and business experts serve as volunteer coaches and mentors, guiding student teams through Lean Startup processes of developing hypotheses about a business concept, testing those hypotheses, adapting, and further iteration. The program also includes foundational business topics such as marketing, human resources, business law, and finance.

“This is authentic learning for our students,” said Dr. Brad Newkirk, BPS101 Chief Academic Officer. “There are so many important skills that they are learning. They are problem solving with every obstacle that comes their way—and there are plenty. They are thinking on their feet, having to pivot on ideas, and are constantly collaborating with each other, their team mentor, coaches, and instructor. That’s real life, and that’s exciting.”

The entire community is invited to the final Pitch Night at the Batavia Fine Arts Centre on Wed., May 16, 6:30 p.m., to find out which, if any, students will walk away funded business owners before high school graduation. This event is free and no tickets are necessary. For more information about Pitch Night, including event sponsorship opportunities, visit bit.ly/PitchNight2018.

###