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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Idaho students use ITD data to find solutions in their classrooms and communities

BOISE, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education, in conjunction with other partners around the state, recently developed a new curriculum program to connect Idaho students with problems in the Gem State. "Do the Math. Save a Life!" challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes and to employ Idaho Transportation Department's online crash-data dashboards. These lessons help students learn how to use math in real-world situations, bringing STEM directly into the classroom.

Teachers involved in creating the program were from Cassia County School District, Lewis-Clark State College, Nampa School District, Boise One Stone, and Palouse Prairie Charter School in Moscow. Idaho STEM Action Center and Horizon Credit Union funded the initiative.

The STEM Action Center and IDE received an Innovative Partnership Award last week at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon for developing their "Do the Math. Save a Life!" curriculum.

"Idaho STEM Action Center works hard to support both learning in the classroom and partnerships between schools and employers. In working with the Idaho Transportation Department, we have been able to contribute to an engaging curriculum that brings real-world data into the classroom," said Katie Bösch-Wilson, STEM Education Coordination Officer for Idaho STEM Action Center.

Visit shift-idaho.org/do-the-math for learn more about the teacher curriculum, itd.aashtowaresafety.net/itd-safety-dashboards to explore the dashboards, and bit.ly/DoTheMathVideo to watch the training video on YouTube.

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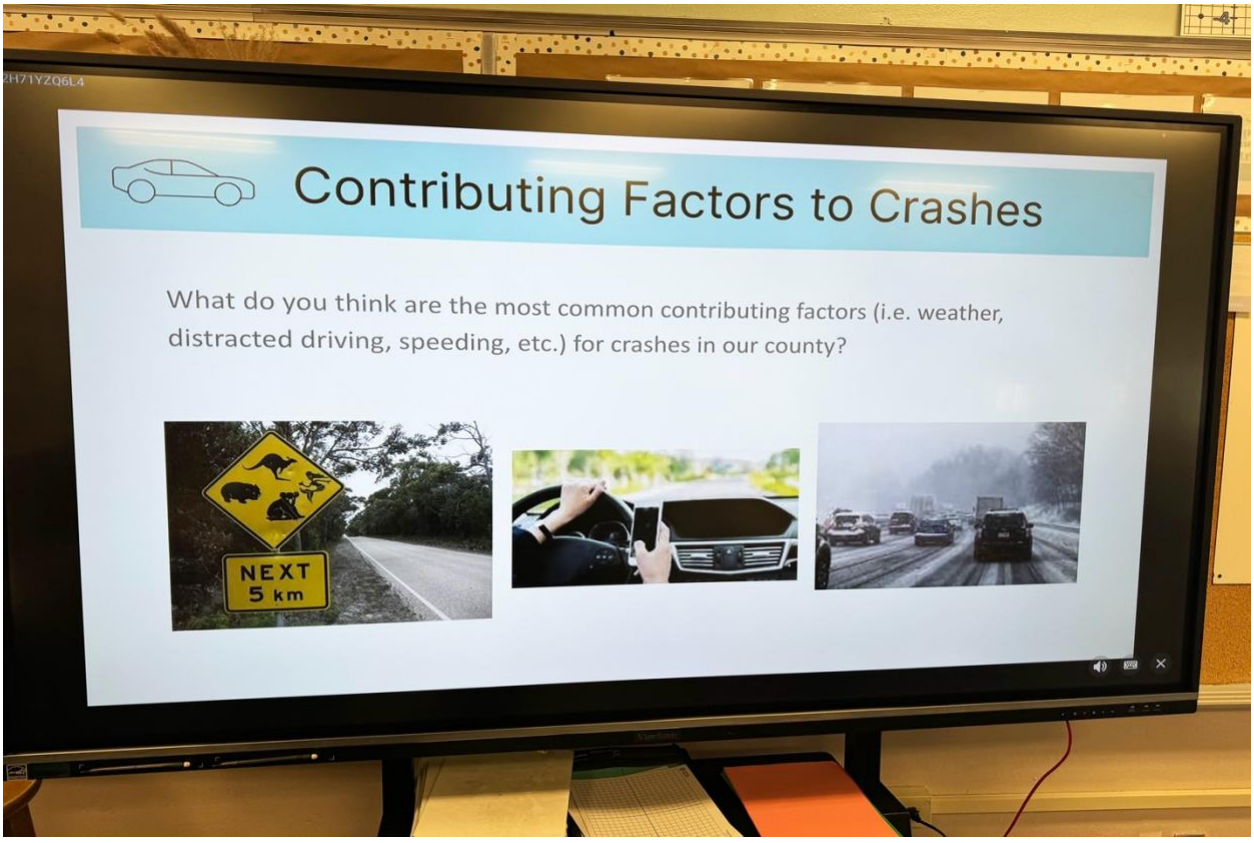
“Do the Math. Save a Life!” photos + captions

DoTheMathSaveALife_1.jpg

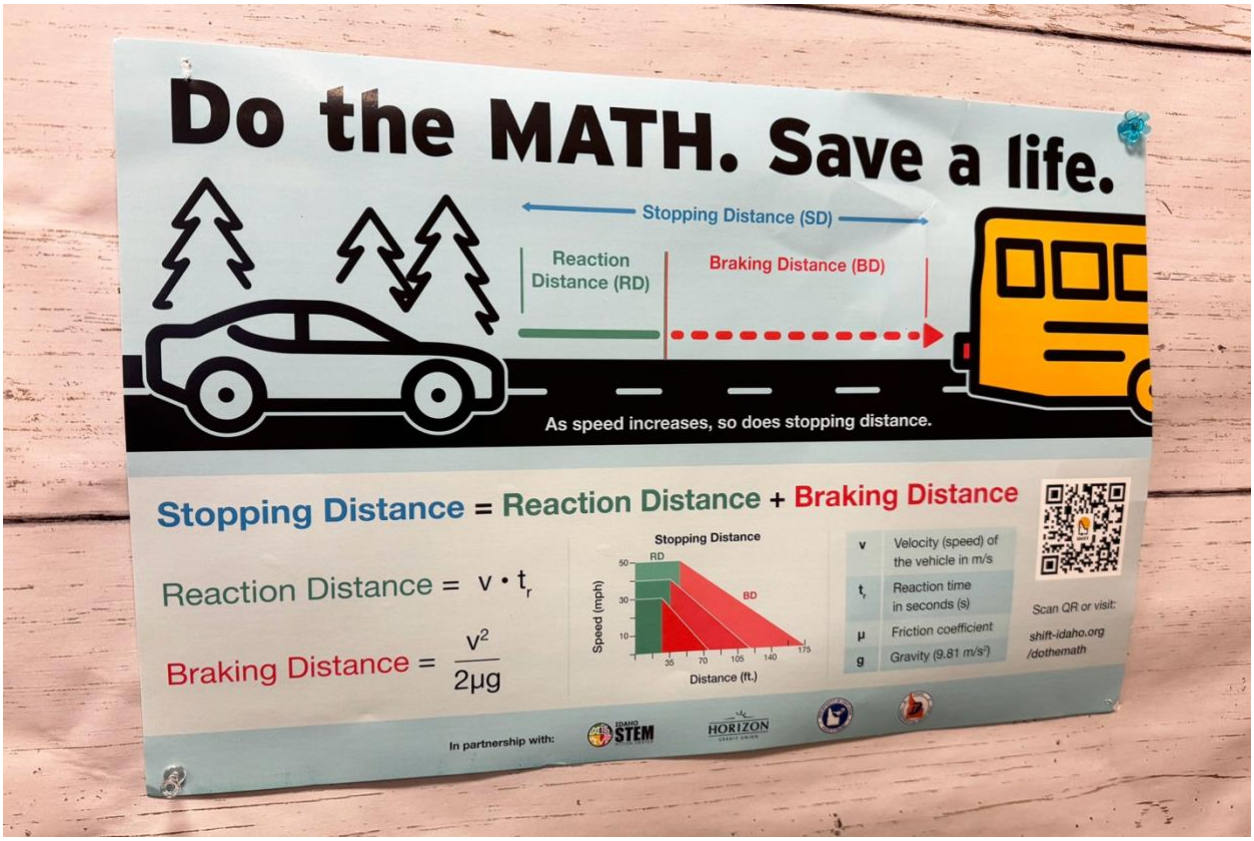
BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — Independence High School math teacher Shelley Nash (back row, center) helps her Data Science – Algebra 1 students (clockwise from the left) Luis Sanchez, Luis Bermudez Jr., Izabela Rodriguez, and Neveah Devine navigate “Do the Math. Save a Life!” curriculum. The initiative, designed by Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education, challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens and to employ Idaho Transportation Department online crash-data dashboards. It recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD’s Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_2.jpg



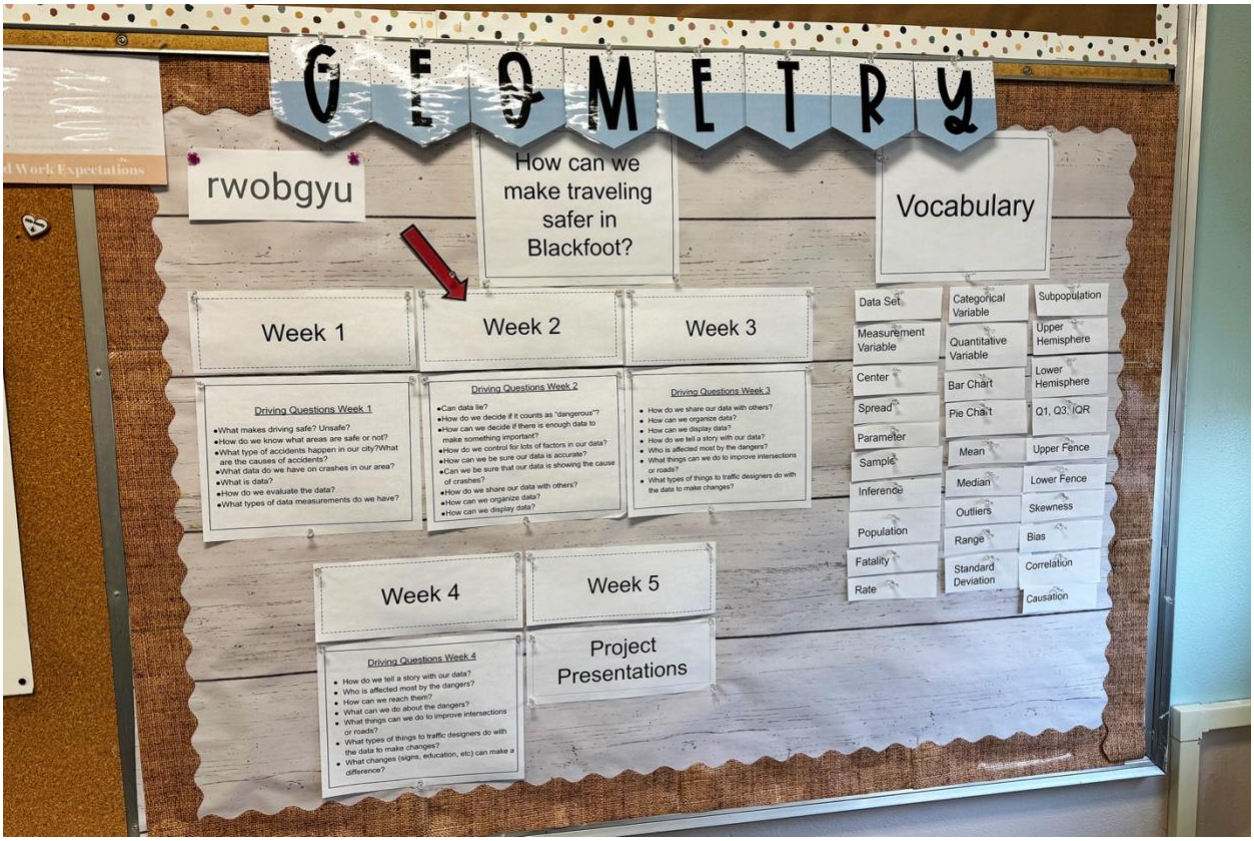
BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — A slide from curriculum Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education developed to help students learn how to use math in real-world situations. “Do the Math. Save a Life!” challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens and to employ Idaho Transportation Department online crash-data dashboards. The initiative recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD’s Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_3.jpg



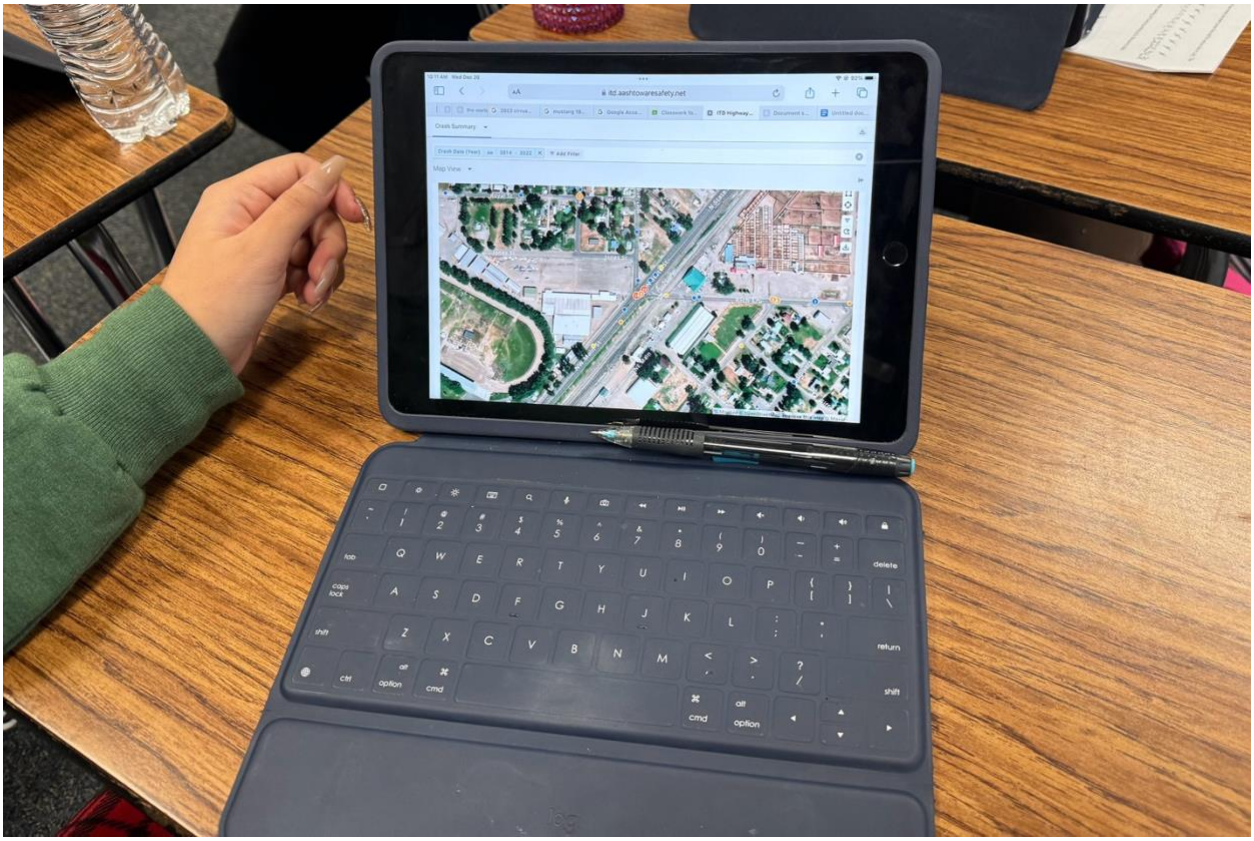
BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — This poster hanging on the wall of Independence High School math teacher Shelley Nash's classroom promotes the "Do the Math. Save a Life!" Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education developed the curriculum to help students learn how to use math in real-world situations. It challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens and to employ Idaho Transportation Department online crash-data dashboards. The initiative recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_4.jpg



BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — Independence High School math teacher Shelley Nash turned her Geometry standards wall into a project wall as her Data Science – Algebra 1 class used "Do the Math. Save a Life!" curriculum to apply math to real-world problems. In this case, Nash's students sought to answer a driving question for the entire project: How can we make traveling safer in Blackfoot. The initiative, designed by Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education, challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens and to employ Idaho Transportation Department online crash-data dashboards. It recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_5.jpg



BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — An Independence High School student uses the Idaho Transportation Department's online crash-data dashboards in map view to examine the severity of crashes at an intersection in Blackfoot. Curriculum developed by Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education helps students learn how to use math in real-world situations. "Do the Math. Save a Life!" challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens. The initiative recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_6.jpg

BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — Independence High School student Denver Hacking explains traffic safety findings to Blackfoot City's Transportation Committee along with his classmates Feliciano Southwood, Agustin Magallanes, and Abisay Chavez. Curriculum developed by Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education helps students learn how to use math in real-world situations. "Do the Math. Save a Life!" challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens. The initiative recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

DoTheMathSaveALife_7.jpg

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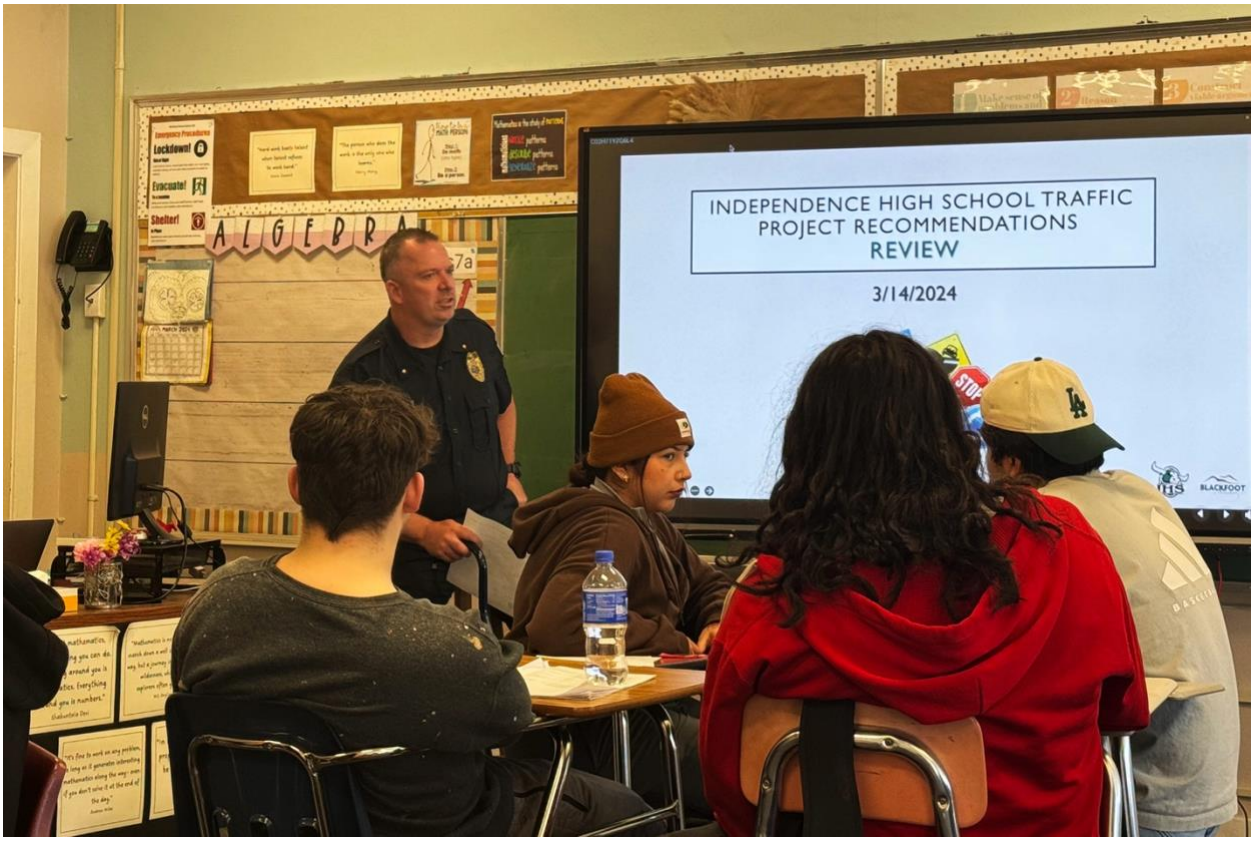
DoTheMathSaveALife_8.jpg



BLACKFOOT, Idaho (May 16, 2024) — Blackfoot Police Chief Gordon Croft (back) presents the city's response to recommendations Independence High School math teacher Shelley Nash's Data Science – Algebra 1 class (including Feliciano Southwick, Neveah Devine, Abisay Chavez, and Luis Sanchez) made to the Transportation Committee about safety concerns at several intersections. Curriculum developed by Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho Department of Education helps students learn how to use math in real-world situations. "Do the Math. Save a Life!" challenges students to use crash data to raise awareness of the prevalence of traffic crashes among teens. The initiative recently earned an Innovative Partnership Award at ITD's Highway Safety Summit luncheon. (Photo by Carol Hicks)

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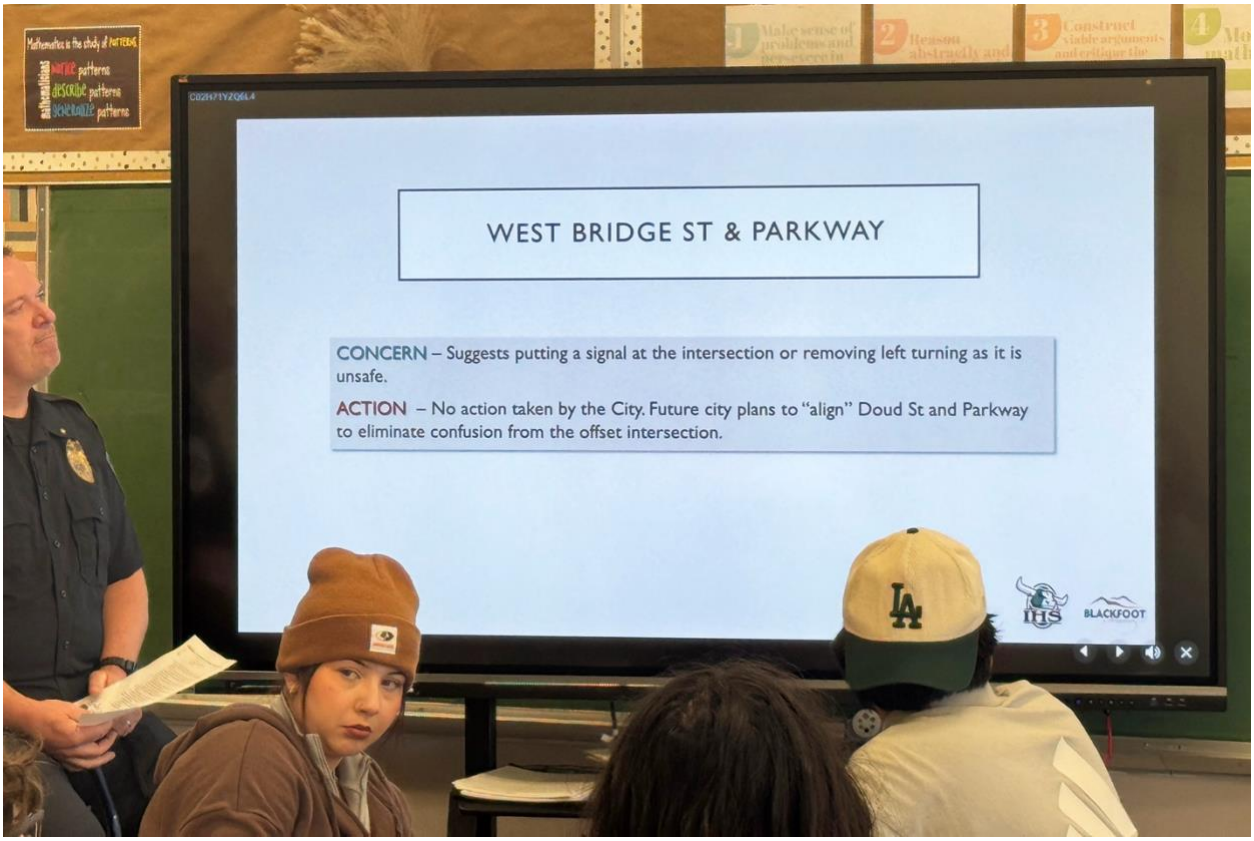

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