

Education

The

Right Way

Keith Hammond





Before I can even go into the Introduction, I need to confess that I relied on promised funding that never materialized because of forces beyond my control.

I apologize to the people this school closing affected, and their families.

And, particularly the entire team of people like Diana Collier, who should have been the principal, Jeanne Webb, Steve Dinkins, Corey Frazier, Idee Alexander, and others too numerous to mention. I hired too many staff relying on promised funding and for that I am sorry.

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In 1998, I developed a concept for a technology high school. My primary objective was bridging the gap between technology and education.

After three years of laying the groundwork, a myriad of meetings, and much preparation, on September 4, 2001, Minneapolis Technical Training Academy (MTTA), a nonprofit, opened our doors to 225 students and featuring my design of a School of the Future.

Bankers and nonprofit foundations alike came to the table to back the project with the initial funds needed to get the project underway, and the school district awarded me a contract of \$1.4 million a year, and we began receiving just over \$94,000 a month.

MTTA received accolades for my concept, my curriculum, and a truly unique approach to using technology as a draw to re-enroll students who had already been affected by a 50% dropout rate within the school district.

In this book, I will show how internal and external factors prevented the school from being a benefit to the students, the staff and the community. MTTA closed four months after it was opened and people were outraged.

## INTRODUCTION

Bridging the gap between technology and education was my primary objective.

1998 Concept Developed	1998 Research Conducted	1998 Market Studied
1999 Plans Created	1999 Proposal Written	1999 Team Recruited
2000 Analysis Performed	2000 Strategy Tested	2000 Focus Group Held
2001 Contract Approved	2001 Facility Built	2001 School Opened



The concept was simple...

Develop a technology high school that could easily be self-sufficient after just one year by incorporating two income generating components that would ensure continuous funding.

Three programs, One Facility.

1. High School

Supported by \$95K per/month income from school district contract.

2. Technical Services

Supported by \$52,500 per/month income as an ISP and Tech Svc.

3. Adult Education Facility

Supported by \$52,500 per/month income from county ESL contact.

## CONCEPT

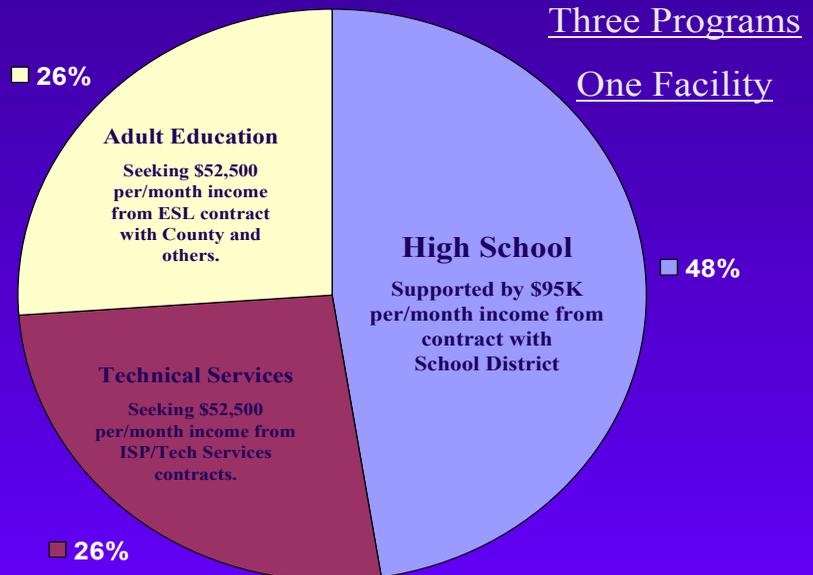
### Proven and Tested

Simple. Or so I thought. What was the problem? Several things.

a. Opposition from both the school district as well as private individuals who could not afford for a school of this type to generate this type of income, draw this type of support, and most importantly, be developed by a felon.

b. Enrolling kids who had already dropped out of the school district by offering them trade certification in two areas before graduation, enhanced their chances for success, increased attendance rates, and scared the heck out of the school district because I refused to keep quiet about them green-stamping diplomas for students I knew could not read.

## Concept...tested and proven





# We Found the Key...

Our **Key** to a successful School of the Future was in:

## THE KEY

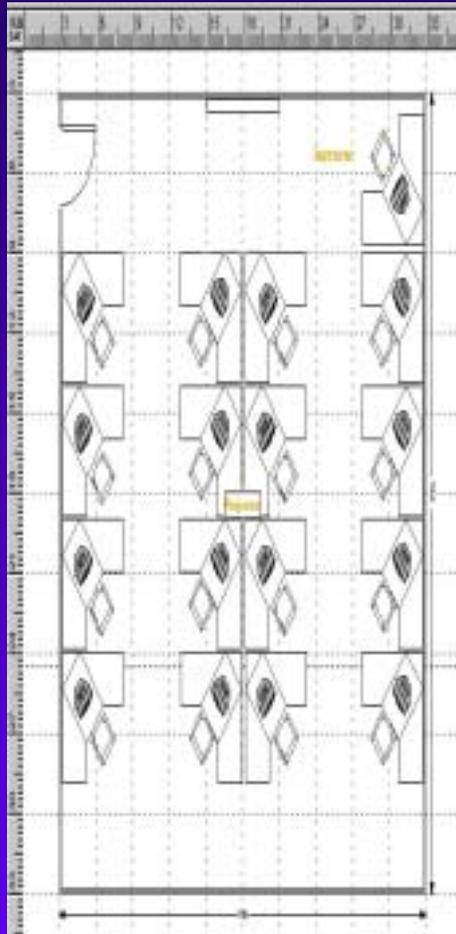
- ◆ DESIGNS that capture attention
- ◆ CLASS SIZES that provide individual space
- ◆ UNIFORMS that promote professionalism
- ◆ CURRICULUM that challenges the mind
- ◆ PROGRAMS that foster social growth
- ◆ ACCOUNTABILITY that produces results!



# Designs...that capture attention

Our school of the future was designed...

## DESIGNS



◆ With an atmosphere that promotes higher learning.

◆ To help students prepare for college and career.

◆ With technology at their fingertips.



# Class Sizes...that provide individual space

We created Smaller Class Sizes to...

CLASS SIZES



- ◆ Give students their own workspace.
- ◆ Introduce students to corporate environments.
- ◆ Put computers and Internet access on every student's desk.
- ◆ Give teachers time to help each student.



# Uniforms...that promote professionalism

## UNIFORMS



We required uniforms in High School to:

- ◆ Remove competition
- ◆ Reduce family expense
- ◆ Promote professionalism
- ◆ Instill confidence
- ◆ Increase self-esteem
- ◆ Encourage school pride
- ◆ Attract corporate sponsors



# Curriculum...that challenges the mind

## CURRICULUM



The courses we designed...



1. Encouraged versatility, creativity and curiosity.
2. Taught with & about the latest technology.
3. Allowed students to use proven methods and discover new approaches.





# Programs...that foster social growth

The programs we developed...

## PROGRAMS



1. Helped students take ownership of the world around them.



2. Taught students to help others, which increases everyone's chance of succeeding.



3. Promoted the benefit of parent involvement, and volunteering.



# Accountability...that produces success!

We measured outcomes and performance by...

## ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Identifying Need
2. Assessing Progress
3. Reporting Impact
4. Helping to Develop New Standards
5. Commanding Excellence



1



2



3



4



5



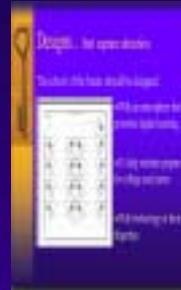
# We Built... a School of the Future



To Unlock the Future



We Found the Key



In Design



In Class Sizes



In Uniforms



In Curriculum



In Programs



In Accountability

Now...let's examine why it failed.



Brother Keith Hammond

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Brother Keith is a born again Christian. He is a Spirit-led man of God, teacher and author. His life has been transformed from things such as pride and prison to passion and purpose.

God is the author of the Bible. It is meant to be our instruction manual, our roadmap home. Without it, we are lost. Use the information in these books to help you and others.

God destroys the darkness behind us, to direct us toward our destiny ahead. So whatever you do on your journey, never turn back. God bless you in your walk with Christ. Amen.

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