

An Innovation Center: Hanu Snyder '21 and Aidan Scheidt '25 Made a Plan

When Roycemore School acquired and renovated 1200 Davis to serve as its new home, it left one space in the building purposely unfinished and dedicated to the future needs of Roycemore's students. Many of us know it as "Room 200" which is a 6,000 sq. ft. space on the second floor above the existing library and administrative wing. It currently serves as a "warehouse" for extra furniture and storage, as well as a space for painting sets and working on projects.



In January 2020, a high school junior, Hanu Snyder, embarked on an independent JST (January Short Term) project to learn about architecture. JST is a three-week period during which our upper school classes are suspended and students have the opportunity to explore their own passions. He enlisted a current parent who is an architect to serve as his project director and together they developed a plan for a makerspace. They partnered with middle school student, Aidan S., who had focused on the development of room 200 as part of his Personal Passion Project (P3). They made a presentation to the Roycemore Board of Trustees to transform room 200 into an innovation and makerspace that can serve multiple purposes and created a prototype for consideration.

Hanu heads to MIT, and Aidan is now a Freshman at Roycemore. Hanu is serving on the Steering Committee for the campaign to build this dream, and Aidan serves as the student representative on our Board task force assigned to make the space a reality! Aidan and his peers will have the opportunity to see this vision fulfilled and benefit from the opportunities of an Innovation Center during their high school career. Hanu will go forward, pursuing architecture with a realized project under his belt. We cannot think of any place this would happen other than Roycemore.

