My Experience With MB Immersion

I have spent the past week in the Filmmaking, Photography, and Social Media Immersion. During this time, I have visited several immersions to get an idea of how this experiential learning program benefits students. I observed my peers scaling a rock wall, building their own car, creating their own articles of clothing, and much more. This learning style is undoubtedly a drastic change from what MB students are accustomed to, but the benefits of learning in this style become apparent as soon as you step into an immersion classroom. Students are smiling, laughing, and learning unique skills while also growing a closer bond with their peers and teachers. To see students become so dedicated to working together to construct their own escape room or create their own music makes it impossible to deny the benefits of immersive learning. When asked about the benefits of immersive learning, Jerrett Wilson, Upper School Director of Student Life, said, “Everyone shows up excited because it’s a different day... The day is new something fun is going to happen”. Some questions may get raised about the motivation of students. In this learning style, there are no grades, so what motivates students to engage themselves and learn? From what I have observed, the only motivation many students need is the enjoyment they get from constructing something or helping someone. The satisfaction of finishing a project that you put hours into is enough motivation for many. For a select few groups whose topics are centered around community service, the fulfillment of helping the general public is what motivates them. I found that many students were genuinely interested in their topic and wanted to explore it further using immersion. It has been a fantastic experience to see the benefits of this learning style the past week, and I genuinely hope that this program continues to be a part of the MB upper school experience. -Jake M. 2023