

C.S.I. at M.I.T.



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## Introduction

- Rigor and Relevance framework explored by MIT teachers at the International Center for Leadership in Education in Washington D.C.
- School wide projects build community, build relationships, everyone learns more.

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## The Case



\* Clue 13, bloodstain

- Louise Santiago, the school's Director is found dead in a classroom at M.I.T Middle School.
- Clues are everywhere; everyone on campus seems to have a motive...

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## The Case

- **22 staff members were suspects**
- **Wild and irrelevant accusations** surfaced that were **not based** on sound **science**.
- It was all anyone talked about; everyone had a **sense of belonging** to the investigation team
- Indictment, trial and conviction done at the high school level

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## Core Academic Learning

Students gained strength in

- **Language Arts:** character analysis, crime journals, and bios of suspects
- **Math:** bullet trajectories, blood splatter analysis, and stride measurement.
- **Science:** Project boards depicting STEM careers and CSI, mystery powder tests, fingerprint analysis, biotechnology, and utilized the scientific method and lab reporting formats

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### DNA Analysis



## Stretch Learning

- Students demonstrated rigorous and relevant learning using real life tools of Crime Scene Investigation:
  - ◆ pH tests, mystery powders, tread marks, casting, soil sampling
  - ◆ latent fingerprints
  - ◆ fiber, hair, bite marks, voice prints, handwriting analysis

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## Student Engagement

**Students analyze clues, motives and alibis**



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## What This Means

- Student are engaged by the active process of learning **real-world science** and fine tuning deductive reasoning skills
- Even if students never become forensic scientists they are more **educated citizens** and more scientifically literate

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If you teach them how to **think** at a higher level, they will excel in all areas



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Forensic science fosters a love of learning  
as well as helping to develop critical  
**thinking skills**



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## Crime Scene Journals



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“When students use what they learn they remember the information better and understand the utility of what is taught.”

-W. R. Daggett, Ed.D

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Case Closed



**Mare Island Technology  
Academy  
Charter School**  
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