Shanghai Tongji-Huangpu School of Design and Innovation
New Option for Elementary Education
Promoter(s).
College of Design and Innovation, Tongji University

Funder(s).
Huangpu District Bureau, Shanghai City
College of Design and Innovation, Tongji University

Aknowledgements.
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Context.
At present, most of public elementary education in China is examination result oriented. Universities are losing fresh students with query spirit and creativity.
The project.
10,000 square meters, 2 campuses in city center of Shanghai. College of Design and Innovation Tongji University collaborates with Huangpu District Education Bureau to build a new school. This school offers 40% PBL (Project/Problem/Based Learning) courses + 60% original subject courses which integrates Design Thinking into teaching philosophy.
The design process.
* June 2016, Agreement
* January-May 2017, Course development
* March 2017, Campus design
* April 2017, Roadshow
* July 2017, Teachers’ training
* August 2017, Students’ enrollment
* September 2017, New semester
Tongji-Huangpu School of Design and Innovation is built in the city center. It's a joint project operated by College of Design and Innovation Tongji University and Huangpu District Education Bureau.
Activism and Civic Participation

High school teachers involved in the PBL course design.

Students and teachers as users participate in the space development and user policy making.

The teachers get pedagogical training before the school opens. They included subject knowledge into PBL courses. As the space users, students and teachers have equal right to participate in the space development and user policy making.
This school shares resources with community people. The museums and galleries could be great places where the art and history courses take place. The lectures in this school are open to all the community people around.
The school will provide facility ‘Green Chain’ that helps students to work in real projects and know how to get along with nature, how to protect the environment, how to connect people between countryside and downtown.
This project provides students new learning experience. It also empowers the school and regional community to share knowledge with each other.
College of Design and Innovation Tongji University provides pedagogical training to the school. The teachers will apply Design Thinking Methodology as a tool to provide better education experience to the students. Meanwhile, the students will also receive some basic design training.
The school creates new requirements to the high school teachers. Regional community is involved in the teaching process, Tongji’s knowledge community also provides support in the teaching process.
Creative teamwork, storytelling and visualization are used to help students and teachers express their feelings and ideas.