SYNERGISTIC EHS SUITES Glossary of Terms

Challenge The primary objective of each **harbor rotation** is for the **suite team** to solve a problem that is presented in their team challenge. During a challenge, each harbor team is accountable to contribute specific knowledge to this task. The suite team documents their progress towards completion of the challenge and submits this documentation in the form of a **portfolio**. Since a suite rotation involves 3 harbor rotations, each suite team will work through 3 progressively more difficult challenges during each suite rotation.

Facilitator Since most content is presented by the computers, facilitator more accurately describes the role of the professional in the tech lab. His or her job is to schedule students in suites and harbors, manage rotations, troubleshoot, motivate, answer questions, provide feedback, and guide students through tough spots.

Field Trips Field trips are short enrichment activities that are completed at the end of **interval** 1 during each **harbor rotation**. Students are allowed to pick which of them they want to complete. Field trips can either provide additional information on the harbor topic, or can be a more generic activity. Many field trips focus on career explorations, ethical decision-making, technical writing, research methods, or writing professional cover letters.

Harbor There are three harbors in each **suite**. For example, the aerospace rocketry suite contains harbors for mission control, aerospace engineering, and propulsion engineering. Students work at a harbor for about 3 weeks either by themselves or with a partner. Two students together make up the Harbor **Team**. During each suite **rotation**, students will move through all three of that suite's harbors, in most cases switching partners each time.

Interval Harbors are divided into intervals. These are numbered 1-4 and are worked through by the **harbor team** consecutively. Interval 1 is content taught by the computer. During interval 2, the **suite team** comes together and is presented with their **challenge**. Interval 3 allows the harbor teams to work on their part of the challenge, and during interval 4 the suite team presents their **product** or solution, along with submitting a **portfolio** documenting their work.

ISA Individual student assessments are filled out by the **facilitator** on each student at the end of each **harbor rotation**. This gives a student the chance to do well even if they happen to be in a lower performing team.

Logbooks Each day, students will keep track of their progress on a logbook worksheet. This progress will then be compared to the **harbor** and **suite teams'** established goals, and checked by the **team captain(s)**. In this way, students can self-monitor their progress in order to help themselves complete the **challenge** on time. It also gives the **facilitator** a means of tracking each student's progress through the **intervals**, harbors, and suites.

Portfolio This is a collection of documents that is submitted at the end of each **team challenge**. The portfolio documents each student and **harbor** team's learnings and progress towards completion of the **challenge**. Along with the team challenge (or product) and the **individual student assessments**, the portfolio is one of the most heavily weighted parts of a student's grade.

Presentation At the completion of each **challenge**, suite teams will present their solution and/or product in a formal presentation. This presentation may be in front of the class or for the **facilitator** only.

Rotation This is where it starts to get confusing. Students rotate suites, harbors, and intervals. (How many were going to St. Ives?) Each **suite** rotation lasts about 9 weeks, and contains 3 harbor rotations, each lasting about 3 weeks. Each **harbor**, then, contains 4 **intervals**. Rotations are typically numbered as "suite.harbor.interval". For example, a student on rotation 2.3.4 is on interval 4 of the 3rd harbor in their second suite.

Suite Suites are the main organizational divisions in the **tech lab**. At EHS, we have four suites: Bio-Robotics, AgriBiotechnology, Aerospace Rocketry, and Health Science. Students work in suites for about 9 weeks (one grading period) with anywhere from two to five classmates. This group makes up the Suite **Team**.

Team The team concept is a central theme in the tech lab. Students work with another student as a **harbor** team, and then with two other harbor teams as a **suite** team. A significant proportion of each student's grade is calculated on work that is submitted as either a harbor or suite team.

Team Assessments At the completion of each **harbor rotation**, each student fills out a team assessment rating themselves and their **suite team** as a whole on several different areas. This allows students to reflectively look back at their past effort, and also gives them a small amount of input into their grade.

Team Captains In each **suite**, one **harbor** serves as the team captain(s). The individual or team in this harbor is responsible for leading the suite **team** through the **challenge**, **portfolio** assembly, and **presentation**. It is also the captains' responsibility to monitor the progress of each harbor team by checking their **logbooks**. Each student will be given the responsibility of serving as a team captain during one harbor **rotation** in each suite.

Electronic Assessment As students complete the first **interval** of each **harbor** rotation, the computer will occasionally ask them a question to check for their understanding. Each students' individual performance on these questions will be recorded in the gradebook as "electronic assessment."