

CONTEXTUAL FUTURES FOR SMART PERSONAL DEVICES

The Contextual Future of Situated Schools

FALL 2016

UPDATE

**mediaX at
STANFORD UNIVERSITY**



The Contextual Futures of Situated Schools

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Researchers:

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Project Description:

This project addresses changes to the roles of schools, teachers, administrators and students as learning environments become more and more digitally mediated. The project explores the design of effective and empowering digitally mediated learning environments, with a focus on the factors that drive engagement and encourage learning.

The researchers developed a participatory design-based experiment for students at a Bay Area high school (Palo Alto High School). Students made up a “research team” that conducted user research on relevant factors – student social and mobile media use, consumption of student journalism, impact on school based identities and roles. The design goal was to increase reader participation, feedback and discussion. The student group developed and deployed an app to foster reader engagement. The app is in its second iteration. They also conducted follow up interviews.

Research results revealed insights that can help schools reposition themselves within digitally mediated spaces, taking advantage of student technology use to develop engaging learning opportunities for students, and supporting active student roles and identities. Observations confirmed that powerful learning happens when people become part of a community and that students learn well when they are together learning about something that matters to them. Mobile was observed to be a highly personal but also a social experience. Further research will explore the impact of current events, and how the digital media can structure both civic participation and demagoguery within a real-world school community.

Acknowledgement:

The research-in-process reported here is underway at Stanford University under sponsorship by a mediaX Themed Research initiative, made possible by a gifts from mediaX members and strategic partners. This research initiative began with an inspiration from mediaX members that grew to include an international business community and an interdisciplinary group of researchers. Building on a firm grounding in fundamental science from previous research, Stanford’s world-class expertise has been brought to bear on a real-world challenge.

The Contextual Future of Situated Schools

Chris Proctor & Paulo Blikstein



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Agenda

Study motivation and background

Introductions

Research team updates

Discussion and questions

Research Questions

As School becomes digitally-mediated, what is the nature of the space in which School is situated?

What roles and identities are available to schools, teachers, and students in digitally-mediated learning environments?

How might we design more effective and empowering digitally-mediated learning environments?



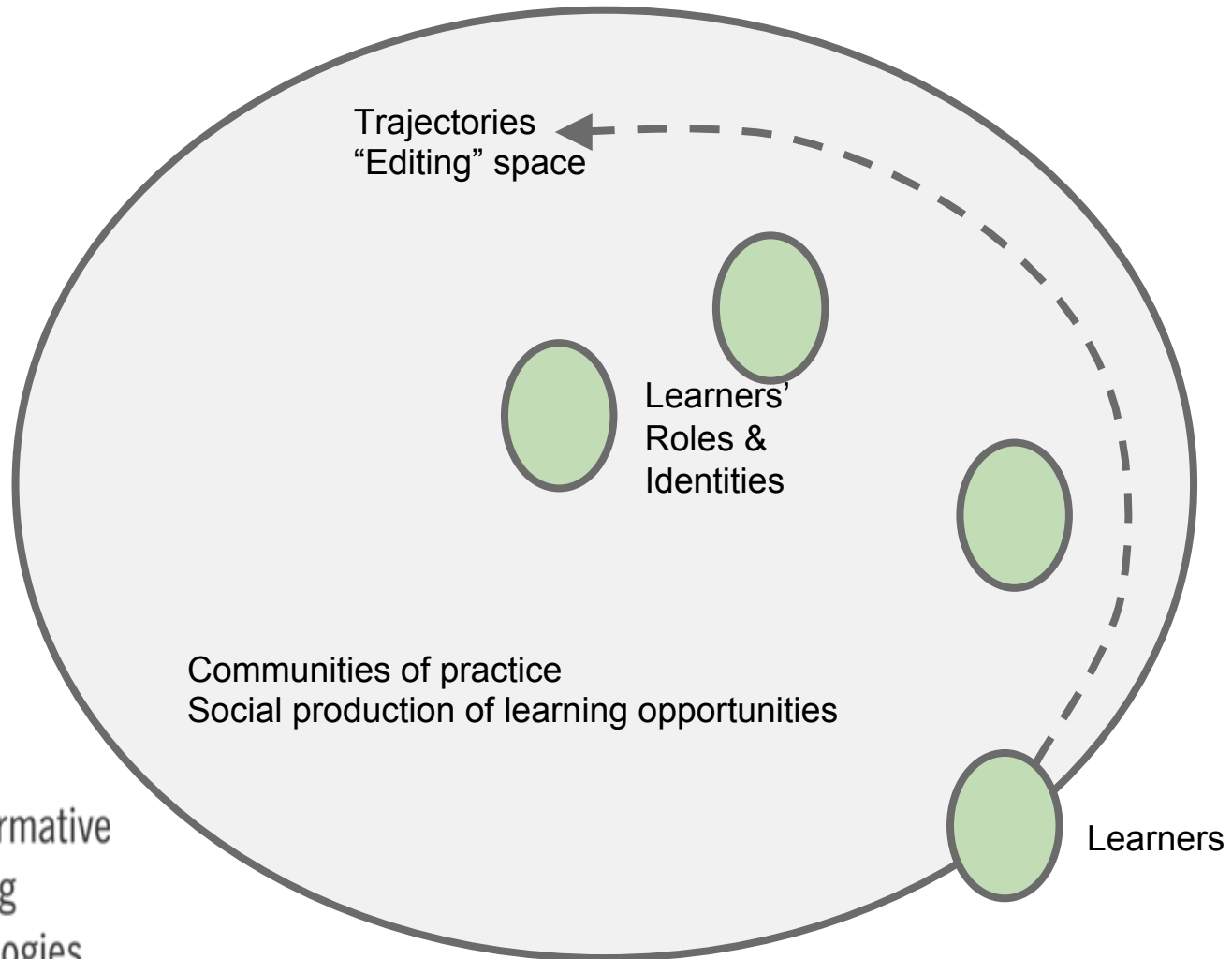
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Theoretical Background

Sociocultural Learning Theory

Lave & Wenger
Hull & Greeno
Ma & Munter

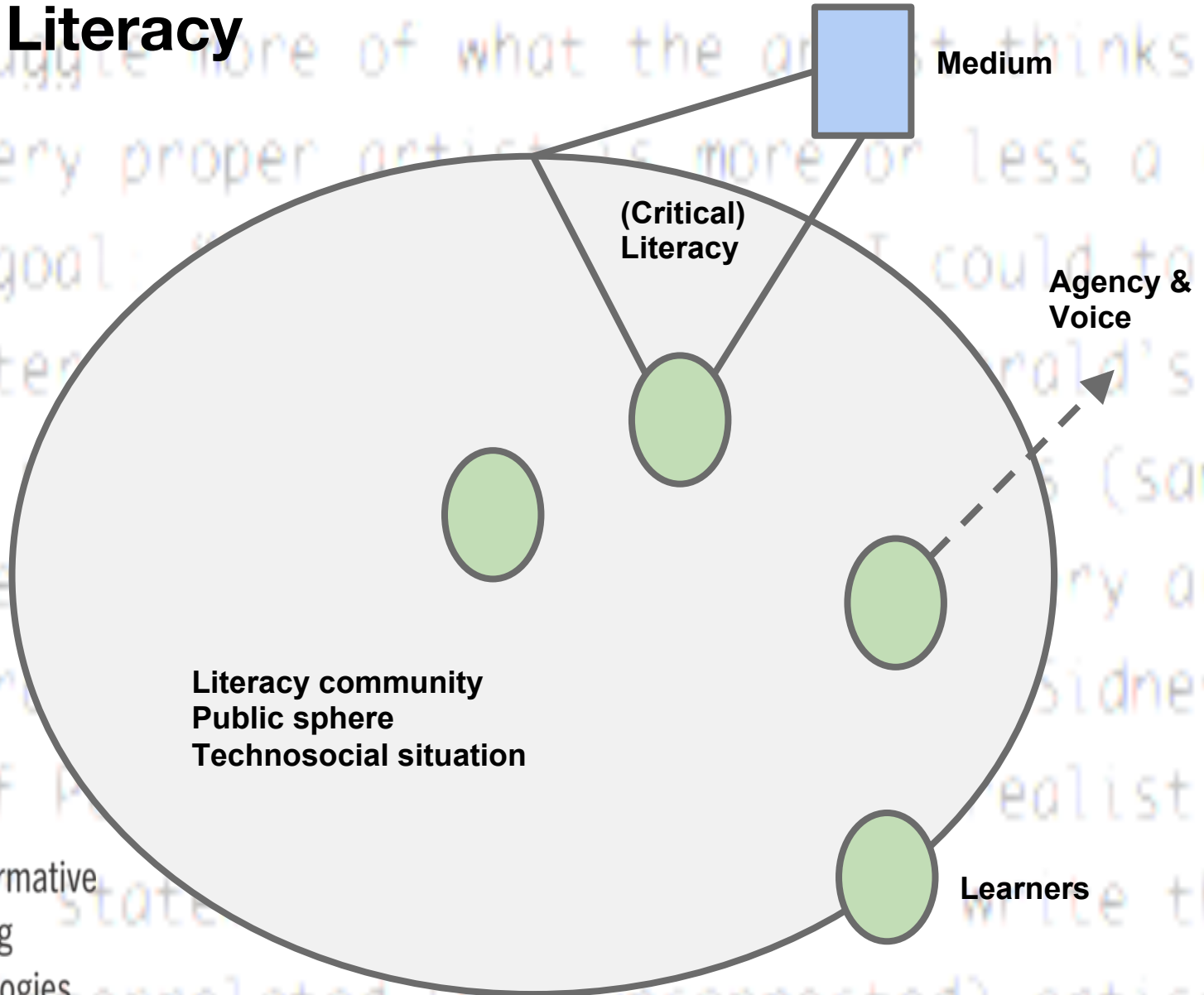


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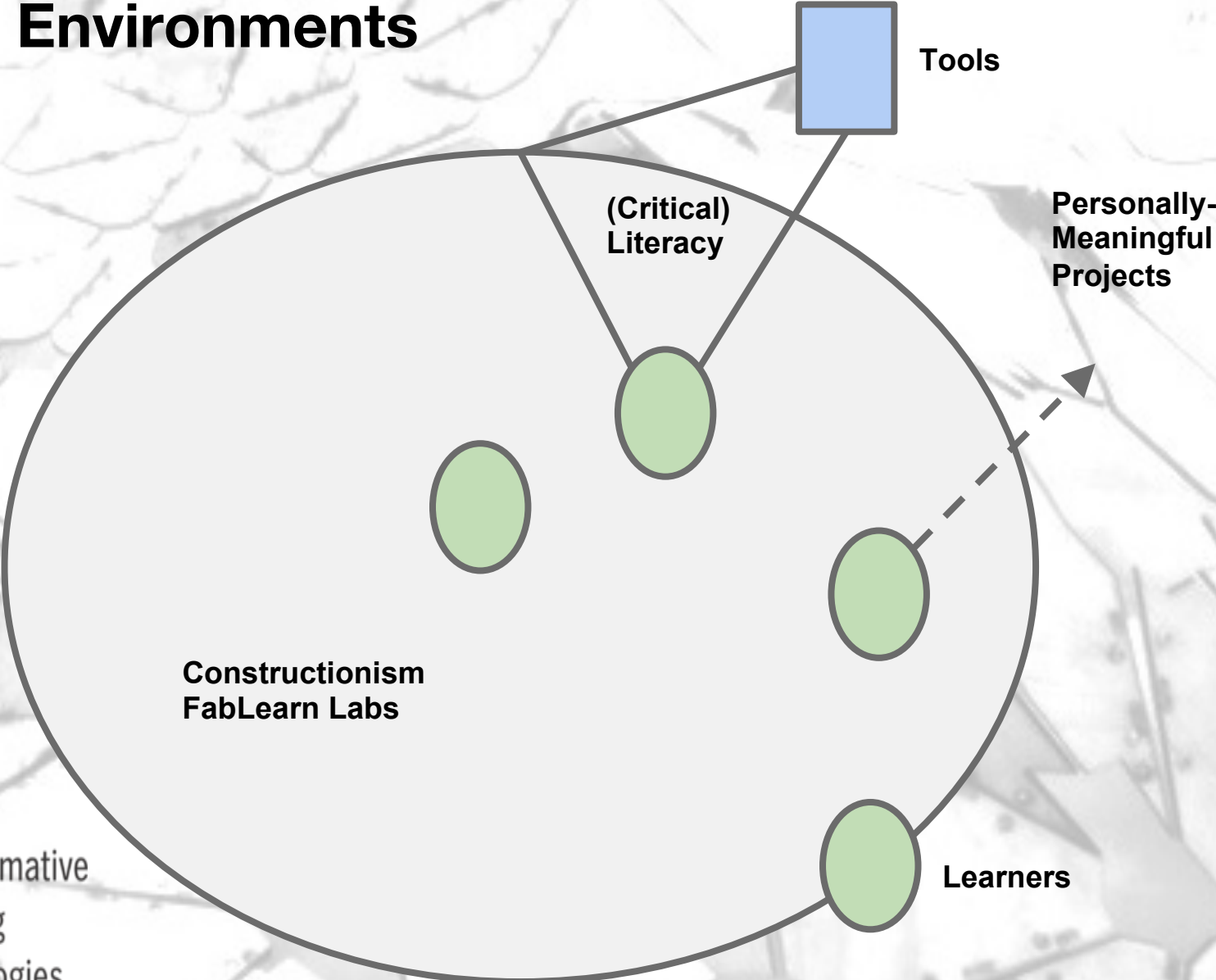


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Learning Environments

Papert
Blikstein



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Context: Palo Alto High School

25+ years of impactful journalism

Declining reader engagement

Culture of success

Heavy student mobile usage

Well-contextualized by prior research



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THE CAMPANILE

HOME +

NEWS

SPORTS

LIFESTYLE +

OPINION

SPOTLIGHT

VIDEOS

EDITORIAL

ABOUT US +



TRENDING → DISTRICT SHOULD TREAT ADHD-RELATED ISSUES EARLIER



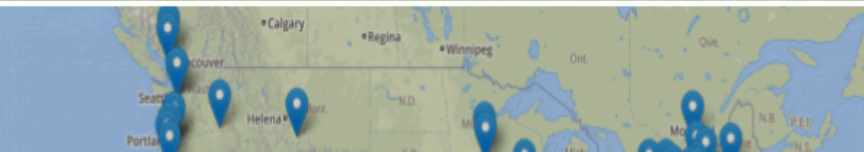
CROSS COUNTRY MAY BECOME A CUT SPORT

by Kai Oda | August 14, 2016 | News, Showcase, Sports



THE PAUSD PREDICAMENT: SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

by Peter Maroulis, Kai Oda and Ethan Teo | June 20, 2016 | Showcase, Spotlight



Method: Participatory design-based experiment

Recruited research team of current students

Generative user research: student interviews

Student social & mobile media use, consumption of student journalism,
Impact on school-based identities and roles

Grounded theory affinity analysis

Design goal: increase reader participation, feedback, and discussion.

Strategies: Tagging, Forum, Comments as Content, Connecting Readers and Authors

Field Study

Deploy heavily-instrumented app to distribute student journalism and foster reader engagement

Follow-up interviews



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Impact

Help schools reposition themselves within a digitally-mediated culture

Rethink discipline

Curate their space and the identities available to learners

Support active student roles within literacy community

New (old) progressive pedagogies

Design insights for schools



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Progress Updates

Design

Development

Research

Journalism



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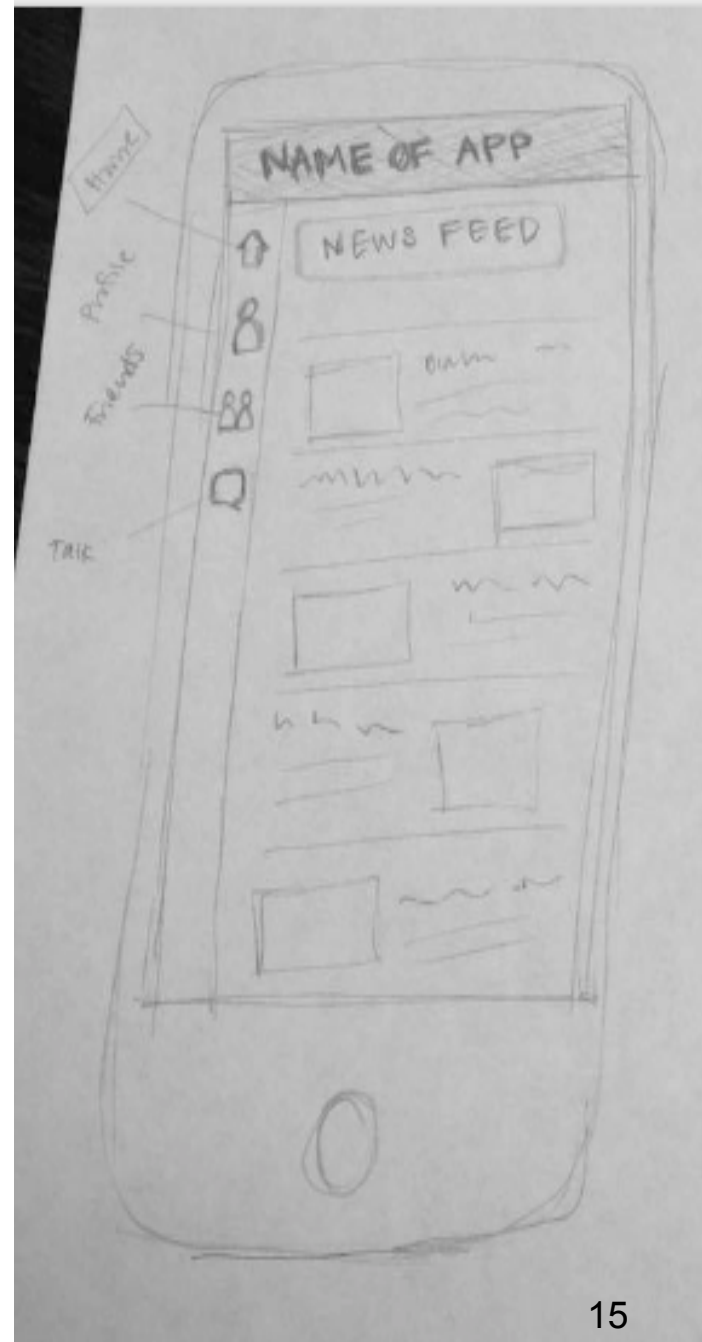
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Palo Alto High School/15
verde magazine...

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Browsing

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pic		Campanile
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Pub	Topic	Hot

X	Volleyball	
X	News	
X	Discipline	
X	Homecoming	
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Pub	Topic	Hot

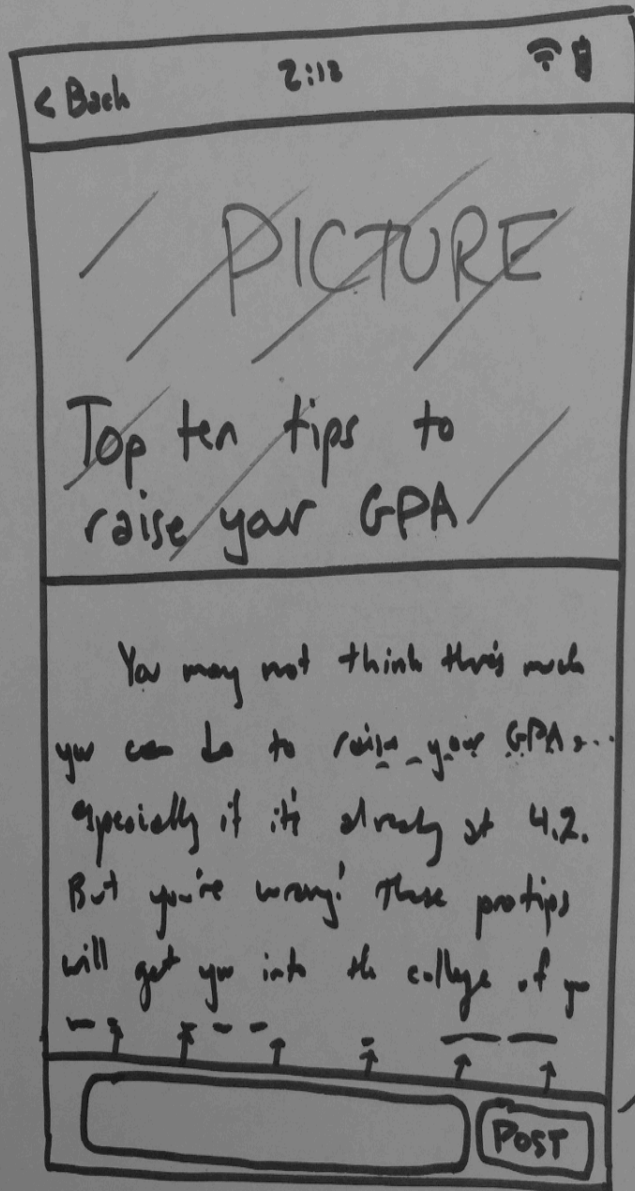
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X	Earthquake!	
X	New Restaurant opens	
X	You won't believe these 8 things!	
X		
Pub	Topic	Hot

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Drill down to a list of matching articles, by date

Sorted by recent comments & Reads

Reading



Picture collapses as scroll.

Scroll ...

* Inset top comment in article?
(as pull quote)
(Or create - choose top comment)

← Swipe to comments

↑ Pops up, switches to comment view

Writing

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"I just don't understand all the fuss." - Normo Jones			
Pete Asher		~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~	
Vivian		~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~	
Andria		~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~	
Ruben Robinson		~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~	
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← Top comment
- either stored
by curators or
most upvotes

highlighted
Comments upvoted
with enough upvotes

↑ Edit box
pop up, button
for anonymous/
named comment

Upvote/
Downvote

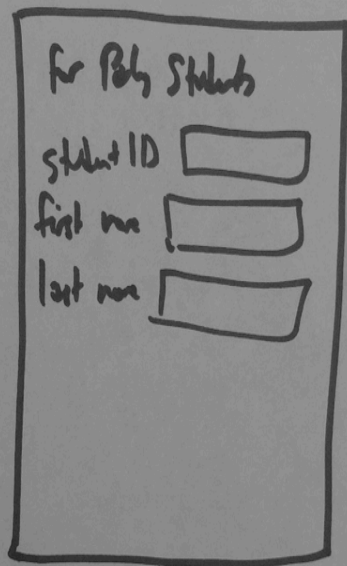


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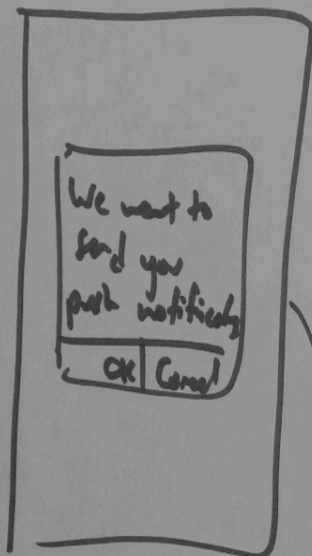
Onboarding



Splash screen

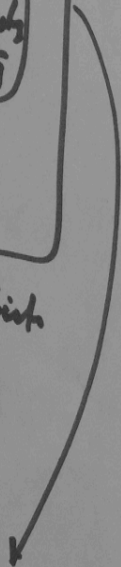
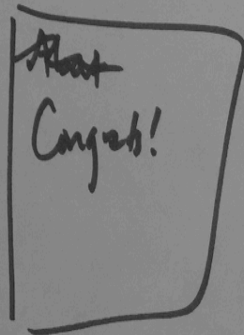


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