What are the showcases?
Showcases are designed to incorporate multiple units of study into a larger project showing mastery of several learned concepts and standards.

Why are showcases scheduled for the end of the year?
We know it is hard to maintain student engagement and learning after testing, so we use showcases as our means of hands on learning that keeps students learning and engaged until the end of the academic year.

How are groups chosen for these showcases?
Groups are chosen intentionally. The kids may be assigned to a group with students they do not normally work with. The skill of working on a team and building those new collaborative skills and relationships is essential to future successes in life. We work on building problem-solvers and rounded learners who can adapt to any situation.

When do they have time to work on this?
The last two weeks of school after testing have been scheduled to be dedicated to construction and prep of the showcases. Ample class time will also be given throughout the school year to work on mini-components such as research and practice of oral presentation skills.

Will all the grades be group grades?
Almost all components will be individual grades. Each class will assign components of the final project individually, and it will not be until the end that the teams bring all their research and work together to create a final presentation. Even that final grade is still mostly individual, as the teachers are monitoring and grading throughout the process. No one will fail because one team member did not complete a component.

Are parents allowed to see the presentations?
ABSOLUTELY! Parents and family members are all encouraged to see the presentations! It really is something the students take a lot of ownership of and are very proud to present.