

Paolo Cepeda's GripTape Learning Challenge Application

- 1. Share your passion. Tell us about the topic you want to pursue for your Learning Challenge.**
 - a. The skill I plan on exploring through this challenge is mountain biking. This is something I have become very interested in ever since I stumbled upon a Youtuber named Seth's Bike Hacks. Around the summer of 2017 I was able to purchase a lower end bike and begin riding the local trails. I learned how to ride the beginner trails and picked up on some basic techniques when riding. But now I am looking to take it up a notch, I want to ride some more aggressive trails this year. Over the past years I have seen myself try to ride the higher level trails but my bike has limited me. I have worked on my bike to make it ride better, but the parts just simply aren't meant for my intended use. Not only have I been passionate about riding but also helping out others with their bikes. Through these years I have also learned how to repair bikes and how the different parts work. This has allowed me to give some of my family and friends help with their bikes.
- 2. The BIG Why? It's important for us to know why this Learning Challenge matters to you.**
 - a. Mountain biking has helped me stay physically fit and focused. I enjoy mountain biking because it can be physically demanding and I always enjoy that. But it has also helped sort of develop this sense of awareness. When riding in the trails you have to be mindful of your riding, you don't want to slam into any rocks or trees. Staying alert is crucial because if not it could leave me walking my bike home. This feeling though has sort of transferred to school, in school I see myself paying more attention to detail in my work.
- 3. This is a learning challenge. As you dive into your learning, what do you want to discover about your topic?**
 - a. By the end of this summer I hope to have experienced all the higher level trails near me, I want to be able to experience the different jumps and descents in all of them. I also hope to keep improving my knowledge on mountain bikes and all the different maintenance procedures I must go through. Learning how to maintain a mountain bike is important because that way I won't run into many issues and my bike will last as long as possible.
- 4. The 10 weeks are in your hands. In detail, tell us what you plan to do during that time.**
 - a. This summer I hope to be able to buy a more reliable bike. If for some reason I can't buy the bike, my other plan would be to buy better parts for my bike. The reason why buying parts isn't my first option is because some of the more reliable parts require a lot of different conversions to my bike that wouldn't make sense financially. After buying or improving my bike my next plan is to ride the more intense trails. I plan on starting off slow in order to get a feel of them and take notice into the different features they have.