New School students create giant mural

By TODD GUILD
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WATSONVILLE — A talk by a team of accomplished muralists to the students at New School in Watsonville turned into a real-life art lesson Monday, with many of them lending a hand to create a mural of their own, a giant colorful mandala that will hang on an outer wall at the school.

The talk by muralists Arturo Thomae, Elijah Pfotenhauer and Taylor Reinhold was through Cabrillo College’s Your Future is Our Business program, which connects schools and students with the business community and with work-based learning opportunities.

Painted on a large white piece of plywood, the mural is a sunburst of rainbow colors, emblazoned by the school’s motto, “Never Give Up.”

“It’s great that we’re working together to build this masterpiece to show how the school feels — ‘never give up!’,” sophomore Jairo Rocha said.

New School Instructor Rebekah Freeles (center) and muralist Elijah Pfontenhauer work with students Monday on a new campus mural.