



Newsletter | September 2021

Read how we have brought learning to life this month!

Chestnut Family Foundation Continues Incredible Support for Students in Hephzibah

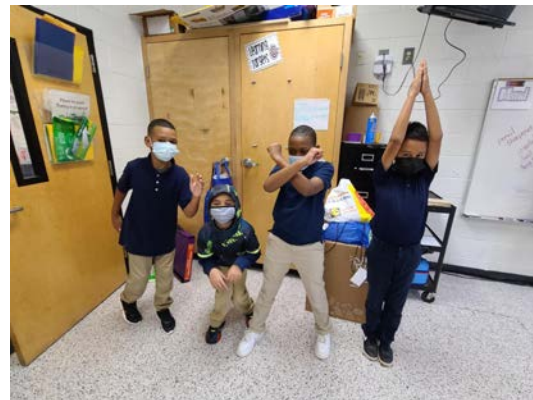
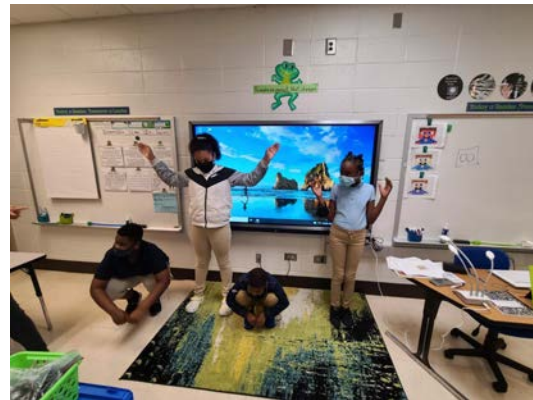
ArtsNOW was the recipient of another incredible donation from the Chestnut Family Foundation. In order to support students of Hephzibah, GA, the funding was used to provide 300 laptops and a Verizon MiFi hot spot with a one year service agreement provided to families of need. Crystal Collins and Pamela Walker worked with Richmond County School System to help identify students who would benefit from this generosity. Pam and Crystal ordered, organized, and delivered the items to the community. Families and students from Hephzibah High School, Hephzibah Elementary School, Willis Foreman Elementary School, and Goshen Elementary School were incredibly grateful and appreciative. Augusta, GA media outlets were on site at the high school in order to capture many incredible moments on film. We were featured on the nightly news, and parent interviews spoke highly of the Chestnut Family Foundation, ArtsNOW, and the opportunities these two devices offer their families. It was an incredible day of giving back. We thank the Chestnuts for their kindness and willingness to support ArtsNOW's mission and vision.



Clayton County Received a Grant Extension As We **Continue Our Partnership with Engaging Minds**

September provided us the opportunity to complete the final month of Clayton County's four year federal grant focused on math and arts integration. Barry Stewart Mann worked with students as they learned how

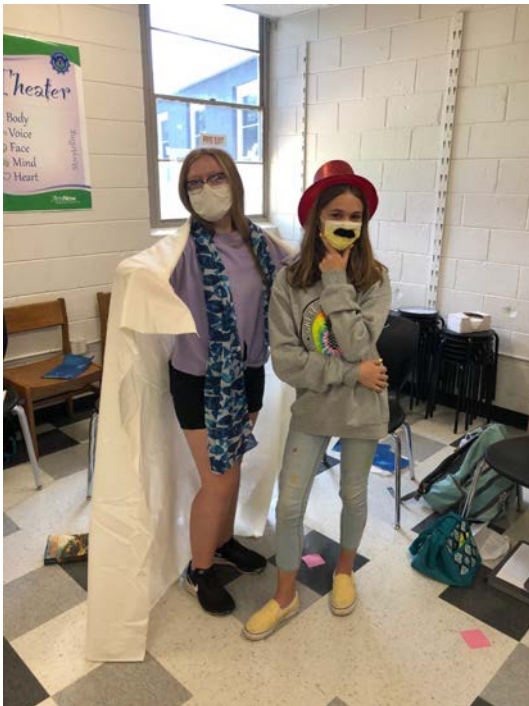
drama strategies can easily be integrated in their math classes. We appreciated the ability to be face to face with the students, while following safety protocols. Students thrived in the active environment provided by Barry, and the mathematical understanding was evident throughout each lesson. Beginning October 1, we are excited to announce that we will be able to continue the work we have been vested in for the past four (4) years. Kathy Baker, Dr. Melinda Mollette, Heidi Turcotte, Dr. Monika Wiley, Pamela Walker, and Crystal Collins all came together to request a one (1) year no-cost extension from the USDOE. Mrs. Baker submitted the request, and was granted permission. We are all so excited to have this opportunity to continue focusing on authentic arts integration and mathematical best practices.



Barrow County's Center for Innovative Teaching **Is Providing Excellent Opportunities for Students and Teachers**

September brought our ArtsNOW consultants back to the Center for Innovative Teaching to begin our 2021-2022 ArtsNOW Residency Program. Over 250 students and 12 teachers from several Barrow County schools have participated in 96 arts integrated lessons at CFIT this month. Students range from grade 3 to grade 8, and are experiencing integrated lessons in visual arts,

dance, and theater. They are exploring the connections between the arts and animal adaptations to their habitats, the solar system, economics, and the coordinate plane. Teachers are learning strategies and techniques in arts integration that they will take back to their own classrooms and schools. We will welcome 12 more teachers, and their students, in our next rotation beginning mid-October.



Hephzibah Elementary School and Process Board Professional Learning

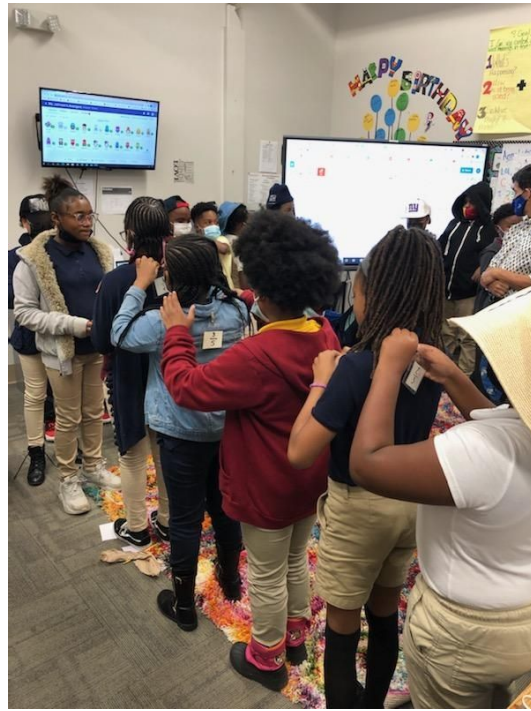
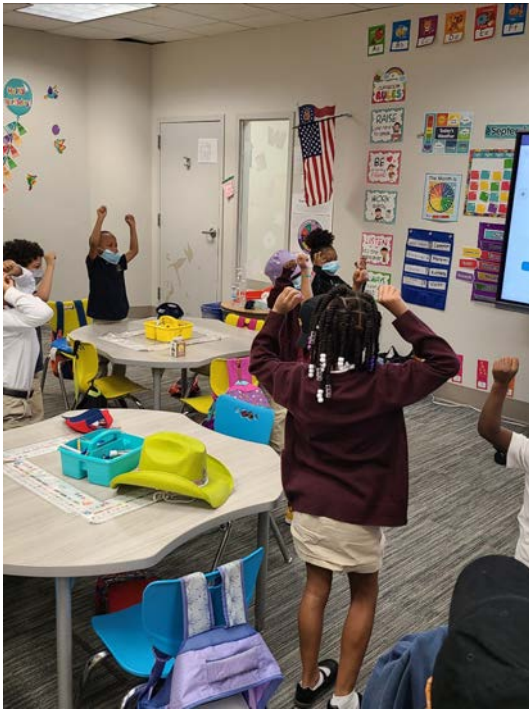
Pamela Walker provided professional learning for teachers in the area of process boards. Process boards allow teachers and students to document the journey of learning. Standards are highlighted, key vocabulary is shared, teachers and students reflect upon the lesson/unit, and there is evidence of a

beginning, middle, and end of the learning cycle. Process boards are often confused with bulletin boards, and Pamela explained the differences between the two. As we continue the journey with HES, there is a contagious energy within the school focused on continuous improvement.



North Metro Academy of Performing Arts in Gwinnett County

Thanks to the funding from Nordson Corporation, we are able to continue our partnership with NMAPA. As part of professional learning, we are conducting student demonstration lessons and teachers in each respective grade level process observe the arts integrated strategies provided by ArtsNOW consultants. This month, one of our drama consultants provided literacy and math integrated lessons. Next month, music and dance are already scheduled. It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that we are continuing this partnership.



Other Highlights from September

- ArtsNOW has begun a new partnership with Gadsden Elementary and Garden City Elementary in Savannah, Georgia. We are excited to work with both of these schools as they begin their journey to integrate the arts into their curriculum.
- Pamela Walker is supporting Ford Elementary School and Powder Springs Elementary School in Cobb County. She is working with the administrative team and teacher leaders at Powder Springs to support sustainability of best practices in arts integration. At Ford, we are excited to begin this journey!
- ArtsNOW is thrilled about our new partnership with Colleton County, in South Carolina. Under the leadership of new superintendent, Dr. Vallerie Cave, meeting the needs of all students through innovative approaches is a priority.
- We would like to thank The Atlanta Braves Foundation Board of Directors for awarding ArtsNOW with a 2021 Atlanta Braves Foundation Community Grant in the amount of \$10,000. These funds will support ongoing partnerships in Cobb County.
- Pamela Walker and Crystal Collins were invited to Richland County 2, in Columbia County, SC. We met with district leadership, local school teams, and teacher leaders to begin conversations about pursuing a partnership together. We are very enthusiastic about this possibility.

Why ArtsNOW?

- Integrated learning is powerful learning.
- For over 20 years, ArtsNOW has been leading the way in reshaping pre-K–12 education by integrating the arts with all core subjects.
- We're setting the stage to encourage teacher confidence and improve student engagement for greater academic and personal achievement.
- Teachers are champions and students are heroes.
- We're not just teaching. ***We bring learning to life.***



Please share this newsletter with an educator or administrator who may not know about ArtsNOW!

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