

SPECIAL
POINTS
OF
INTEREST

- **Let's Get Active**
- **Pyramid of Success**
- **Delicious and Nutritious!**
- **Volunteer at Shenandoah**
- **Latin Ballet at James River**
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Sharing Our Progress

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2014

“Integrity First, Service before Self, and Excellence in All You Do.”

“Integrity First, Service before self, and Excellence in all you do,” was the mantra Colonel Scott Dierlam shared with social studies students in Alexandria, Virginia. As one of a number of guest speakers for Veteran’s appreciation day, he encouraged students to excel in spite of their circumstances. The overall tone of Colonel Dierlam’s message was uplifting and inspiring. He challenged students to make good choices and then to do the right thing. Students’ passion for integrity, service and excellence grew as the Colonel revealed his goal for them to achieve their dreams in life. He emphasized, “I hope for all of you to become better citizens and to better serve your nation.” Mr. Ross McCullough, the security manager at Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center also spoke with students



about military life. He informed students of the process which they must undergo in order to make it successfully into any branch of the Armed Forces. As a veteran himself, he was able to share the typical day of the life of a soldier in the United States Army. While honoring those who served our country so gallantly, so bravely and so proudly, guest speakers instilled a sense of value

within the students throughout the week. Speaking from the perspective of the United States Marines, Mr. Raul Gradillas explained to students the self-discipline of being a Marine, and that it calls for great vigilance, detail and courage. Students were afforded opportunities by listening actively, while engaging themselves in asking questions in regards to the various military branches and the benefits for choosing the military over college. Col. Dierlam, the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor at Arlington Career Center, left students with the timely remark: “Do your best in whatever you do.”
-Byron Brown,
NOVA Detention

Merilee’s Message

The holiday season is fast approaching! Before we know it, the New Year of 2015 will be here! While many of you are busy with the winter weather and spending time with family, the SOP office is looking forward to the warm summer sun and the exciting opportunity to plan and organize the upcoming state conference. The SOP State

Conference will be held on August 20 and 21, 2015, at the Roanoke Hotel and Conference Center in Roanoke, Virginia. Our conference slogan is “The Three R’s: Review, Renew and Refocus.” Our keynote speaker will be Michelle Borba (www.micheleborba.com), an internationally recognized expert in building classrooms

that encourage growth in social emotional skills. It will be a wonderful time to build our network and strengthen our content and SEL knowledge, as we prepare for another year of educating Virginia’s students. So, as you ring in the New Year, begin looking forward to the 2015 State Operated Programs Summer Conference.



Let's Get Active

As a teacher in State Operated Programs, it's easy to get lost in your district. In our unique settings, how do we stay current and up to date in our fields? How do we stay connected to other teachers who also teach our beloved subject? Staff development, which usually occurs in house, and taking courses are great ways to stay current and connected. Another way is by joining your local and/or state organization(s). Meetings and annual conventions sponsored by these organizations serve as

a celebration for our profession! There are opportunities for networking, sharing experiences and different perspectives, and building lasting relationships outside of your Center. As an active member of VAHPERD (Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance), I have grown as a professional, as an advocate for my students and as a leader in my community. Are you a member? I hope

you answered yes... If not, I implore you to get involved. Participating in personal growth opportunities through your local and/or state organization(s) will enrich your life as a professional and the lives you touch daily. Being involved and active is a large part of professionalism, right? So let's do it... Let's get active!!

- Terrica Woolridge, VTCC

Poster Contest

In November, our character education representative, John Lesniak, did a series of lessons on character education. Students in groups of two or three gave talks on what character meant to them and how they could practice developing positive character traits each day. Then the groups selected a character education trait and created a

poster for that trait. Students were very creative in their efforts, using fancy writing, magazine cutouts, their own drawings, and lots of color. The winning entry was a poster on KINDNESS. The winners were treated to milkshakes, while all participants received treats for their wonderful efforts. Congratulations to all of our

students for their delightful and meaningful posters!

- Nancy Walker, Piedmont Detention

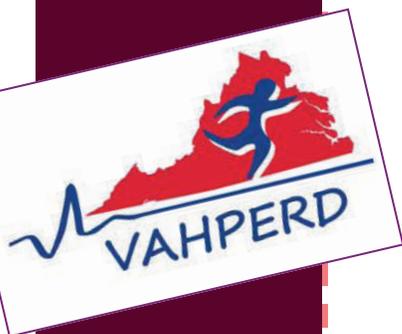
Richmond JDC is Renamed!

On November 19, 2014, the staff and students at the Richmond JDC had the pleasure of hosting, Dr. Virgie M. Binford. Dr. Binford is an educator, an author, and a motivational speaker with over 40 years of experience. Most importantly, the school at the RJDC is named the Virgie M. Binford Education Center after Dr. Binford! The students

honored her by reading poetry and displaying presentations dedicated to Dr. Binford. She then gave an encouraging and powerful speech to the students. At the end of the presentation, students from each Pod recited various pledges written by Dr. Binford that encourage youth to become better citizens and students and to have high

self-esteem. Dr. Binford was honored by the educational staff with a luncheon following the program. She also gave signed copies of her book, *Image Makers: How to be an Effective Role Model in Today's World*, to the students who presented.

-Sidney Gunter, Richmond Detention



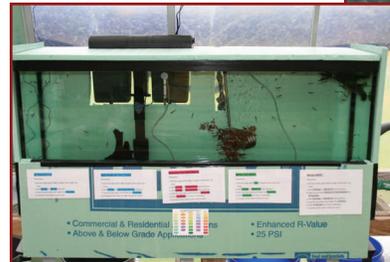
Trout in the Classroom

James River students are participating in Trout in the Classroom (TIC) this year. Trout in the Classroom is a conservation-oriented environmental education program for middle, and high school students. Students raise trout from fertilized eggs supplied by VGIF hatcheries, in aquariums equipped with special chillers designed to keep the water near 50 degrees F. The students make daily temperature measurements, and monitor pH and ammonia levels with test kits. They record their data, plot trends, and make sure that the water quality is sufficient to support trout development.

The trout tank is set up in the greenhouse. We started off with 200 trout eggs, which started hatching after about a week. We have been counting eggs and fingerlings every day to see how many we have in each stage. The Fingerlings settled to the bottom to hide in the gravel. They feed off their yolk sac for two weeks. Once they started swimming toward the surface, we began feeding them. The Post-D residents are responsible for maintaining the tank and taking care of the baby trout. The students will monitor the fish until early May, when we will release them into a stream near Waynesboro. By then, the trout should be over

two inches long. We will keep a few to be the James River mascots.

-Ben Anderson,
James River Detention

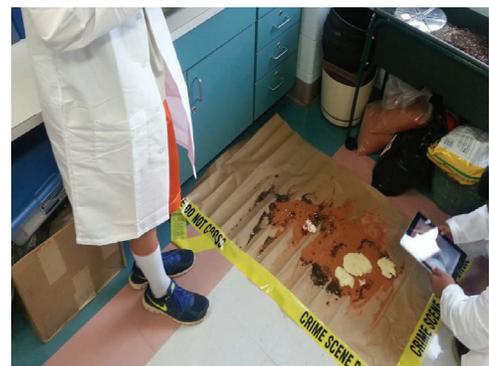


Rhyme, Crime, and Slime

Rhyme-Crime-Slime-Lab Mystery Unit integrates English and Science classes at the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents. Using the genre of mysteries to provide motivation and excitement the students conduct their own laboratory experiments by using inquiry based scientific methods to solve the mystery. The students observe, collect data and write conclusions in the format of newspaper articles and video photography. Now in the science lab at CCCA the students are solving The Case of the Lost Skull. Each day upon entering the classroom the students put on their lab coats and grab their case books for another exciting day of collecting evidence

and solving the crime. Through real life connections, students are learning the proper techniques for non-contamination of evidence, proper labeling techniques, fingerprint identification, blood typing, shoe impression analysis, use of the microscope, and hair and fiber analysis. If you pass by room 626 and 627 you may overhear students discussing possible motives, possible suspects and a student shouting out "I have my own theory about the suspect's alibi!" As collaborative teachers, we have observed higher student interest, higher attendance, greater student engagement, and enthusiasm.

-Shelley Garrison and Sandy Powell,
CCCA

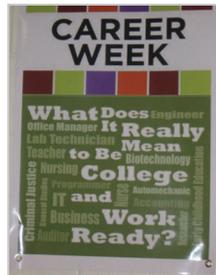


CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS

Career and College Awareness Week

Not all students will leave high school and go to college or finish college; so it is important for our students to develop a plan for their future. Career and College Awareness Week allowed our students to look at themselves and their passions to determine how they can become productive citizens and share in the economic growth of the world. Career sharing with the students was extremely important because it benefited the students both academically and vocationally. It promoted career exploration skills and increased the student's knowledge of career options and career paths. Our detention staff participated and it showed great support and teamwork!

-Renita Davis-Kelly, Chesterfield Detention



Grateful for Our Veterans

CCCA students celebrated Veterans Day while learning about November's character trait focus, "gratitude." Making blankets for the Salem VA Medical Center and writing letters of thanks and encouragement were hands-on activities meant to demonstrate to students how important it is to express thankfulness. In the past, the veterans in Salem have sent thank-you notes to our education program to say how much it meant to them to be remembered and honored in this way. This is becoming a well-loved tradition. Students learned more about Veterans Day by taking a virtual tour of many of

the war memorials we have around our country. They were challenged to create their own memorials for the recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In addition, students navigated an obstacle course in our gymnasium to experience in a small way what our service members endure in order to prepare for service. Lastly, cadets from the Virginia Women's Institute of Virginia (VWIL) at Mary Baldwin College shared with CCCA students about the ROTC program they are participating in; their motivations for doing so; and how they express gratitude in their lives. As they closed their presentation, they made

sure to explain to the CCCA Education Program how grateful they were to be recognized and remembered and that they were impressed with the projects CCCA students were engaging in. -Debbie Combs, CCCA



Delicious and Nutritious

Our life skills students had a great time learning about nutrition with a hands-on experience with cooking. The unit began with a lesson on how to read nutrition labels and why it is important to know how to read nutrition labels. The students were able to make owl cupcakes, crescent pizza rolls, and pumpkin cheesecake. At the end of each recipe, the students would determine the nutritional value of each

snack and how often it should be consumed. The students were fascinated by the nutritional labels and were shocked to discover just how awful some of their favorite foods really are for them. On Halloween, students were given cookie kits to decorate and eat. Most of the students, when given their cookie immediately turned the box over to read the nutrition label before decorating or eating their

cookie. We look forward to exploring more ways to incorporate cooking into our classroom.

-Kelly Page,
New River Valley
Detention



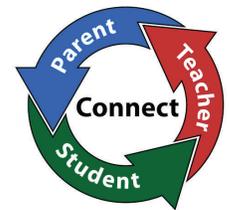
Calling All Parents

W. W. Moore Education Program sponsored its second Calling All Parents event on November 8, 2014. The education staff held conferences with parents to discuss individual student grades and progress. Teachers also offered helpful tips and suggestions that parents can use when students return back to their home schools. Also during this time, a wellness check was provided for parents to have blood pressure checks

and blood glucose level testing done. Many parents attended the event and they were appreciative of the teachers taking time to share with them.

Because of our efforts to involve parents, Danville Public Schools has recognized our program as a Family Friendly School.

-Pat Davis,
W.W. Moore Detention

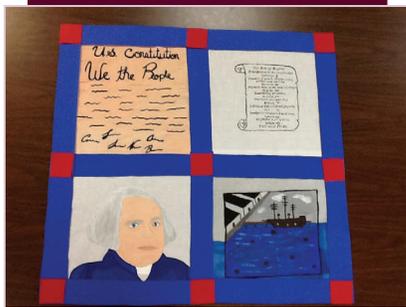


A Work in Progress

Social Studies students at Highlands Juvenile Detention Center are in the process of creating a history quilt. Each quilt square depicts a different symbol or event in history, selected by students and painted onto quilt squares. Some choices were: the Statue of Liberty, George Washington, the Liberty Bell,

The Oregon Trail, the Airborne insignia, a covered wagon and many more. The plan is to donate the completed quilt to a local agency that supports youth.

- Jewell Cardwell,
Highlands Detention



Special Education in SOPs



Thank you to everyone who attended the State SOP Special Education Training in Richmond. It was great to see everyone and watch the interactions that occur between our programs. As the sole special education teachers in our facilities, we often feel isolated. Hopefully, these meeting remind us all we are NEVER alone. Please reach out whenever you have questions, comments, concerns, ideas

to share, or just need to vent.

Laurie: Laurie.Cooper@charlottesvilleschools.org

Stefanie: smraleigh@fcps.edu

Reminders from the Training

- Complete the SPED page is Virtuoso for each student who enrolls in the program.
- Remember to return to the SPED page when you complete an amendment and fill in the “IEP Meeting Date”
- Please remember to complete a full page Prior Written Notice (PWN) for all special education paperwork (annual IEP, amendment, proposed evaluations, eligibility, etc.)
- As the case manager, it is your responsibility to make sure all teachers have access to and understand the students’ accommodations.
- Breakout Sessions:
 - Be sure you have thoroughly examined the incoming IEP for compliance
 - Examining best practices when writing annual IEPs: detailed PLOPs, current testing, SOL accommodations
 - Ensure your amendments match the students’ needs, and is not simply a description of what your facility offers
- You should have received emails with the following information:
 - Transition examples
 - Scavenger Hunt activity and answers
 - PWN PowerPoint
 - Updated Flow Charts
 - VA regulations link:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/regulations/state/regs_speced_disability_va.pdf



Do you have any tips to offer other sped teachers about IEPs, engagement, organizing, progress monitoring, co-teaching, etc? Email ideas to Stefanie: smraleigh@fcps.edu to post in our next SOP Newsletter.



“In teaching, you cannot see the fruit of a day’s work. It is invisible and remains so, maybe for twenty years.”

~Jacques Barzun



Tips in Special Education

Behavioral Issues

Students with significant behavioral issues should have their situations reviewed to determine if a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and/or Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) are needed. The typical purpose of an FBA is to identify the student's behaviors and the purpose of the behaviors. The BIP will provide interventions for the student's behaviors and strategies for dealing with them so that the behaviors will not be triggered. There is no definition of FBA or BIP in the federal law so look to state law for guidance on the content and process for completing an FBA and BIP.

Tips for Principals

The principal should come to meetings prepared to participate. Because the principal is frequently the LEA representative at meetings and in a leadership role, the principal should come to meetings with direct knowledge of the student and with the goal of active participation. Knowledge of the student is generally obtained through direct observation, through review of the student's educational file and through discussion with professional staff who work with the student. If there is a dispute at the meeting, it is the LEA representative who determines the school division's position on the issue. Thus, the LEA representative should be knowledgeable about the student when making decisions.

General Education Teacher's Role

Co-taught classes should be jointly taught by the general education and the special education teachers. The special education teacher is not an assistant. The special education teacher should fulfill the role of a co-teacher. There should be cooperative planning between the two teachers for the benefit of all the students in the class.

Tips for Compliant Prior Written Notices (PWNs)



- * Complete all items on the form. Avoid using phrases and terms such as "n/a" or "see above."
- * Ensure that each item of information on the form is understandable on its own merit. Do not rely on another form or another piece of information to convey information that the PWN must communicate.
- * When asked to "describe" on the form, provide a comprehensive written account or list the required items.
- * When asked to "explain" on the form, provide an adequate justification or reason(s) for the action.
- * Write the PWN as if you are explaining the items on this notice to a reader who is not conversant with special education or the special education process. Avoid abbreviations, unfamiliar terminology, and educational jargon that may not be understood by all readers, especially when a new student is being evaluated or placed.
- * Remember to provide a copy of the procedural safeguards to the parent. If the safeguards were given prior to the meeting, offer to review them with the parent at the conclusion of the meeting and document on the PWN.
- * If the parent has a written language other than English, provide this notice in that language.

TTAC Online - A Wonderful Resource

- ◆ Effective Strategies for Student with Learning and Behavioral Problems
⇒ <http://ttaconline.org/esd/>
- ◆ Assistive Technology Network
⇒ <http://ttaconline.org/atsdp/>



Rap Artist Visits Rappahannock

In support of our Character Education instruction to emphasize “perseverance,” the students and staff of Rappahannock Juvenile Center were honored to have a special guest appearance on September 23, 2014 by Rap artist, Kool CrAzE.

Travis Ivel Ham, known to his fans as Kool CrAzE, is an American hip hop recording artist and record producer from Fredericksburg, Virginia. Born September 25, 1989, he first rose to fame after becoming BET 106 & Park's freestyle Friday champion on July 24, 2009. His compelling lyricism and production earned the attention of industry heavy hitter, LL Cool, who featured him as a Boomdizzle All-Star finalist. Shortly after, LL Cool J's DJ, Cut Creator

crowned CrAzE among the top 10 artists on the site. In 2011, CrAzE released his first official single "L.O.V.E", which earned him over 100,000 views on YouTube. Riding the wave of a tremendous internet following, he has performed in some of the United States hottest cities to include: Hollywood, CA; Atlanta, GA; New York, NY; Chicago, IL; and San Antonio, TX. His accomplishments also garnered recognition from print media as well as quoted support by industry authorities and celebrities.

CrAzE delivered a heartfelt message to our students to stay in school in order to get ready for life. He shared that when he went out into

the business world, he was not ready for what he encountered. After signing poorly written contracts that impacted his ability to succeed in the music industry, he quickly learned the importance of an education and the benefits of reading well and gaining business knowledge. CrAzE provided real life evidence and advice to support our students, and shared how important it is to be persistent and resilient in order to succeed in life.

-Denise Fines,
Rappahannock Detention

Dual Enrollment at Loudoun

When many think of institutions of higher-level learning, one of the last places they would imagine would be a juvenile detention center. However, in 2014, the Loudoun County Juvenile Detention Center shattered this misconception by partnering with Northern Virginia Community College to offer on-site classes and access to online courses to three Loudoun County Public Schools students.

What makes these courses especially notable is that students did not just earn college credits for these

courses; instead, they earned both college and high school credits—essentially getting a “two for one” deal for the courses. Through negotiations with students’ home schools, students were allowed to both continue high school and begin college careers simultaneously. One male participant, back at his home school with six college credits, plans to continue his studies in auto mechanics. Another released male who completed six credits has since earned his GED and plans to resume college classes to earn an Associates of Arts degree.

The third student, a female housed at the LCJDC, completed six on-site college credits and three online college credits; she is currently enrolled in three online classes. Her home school has agreed to allow her to finish all her required courses with the college while they continue to award her high school credits, waiving her required high school attendance as she strives to earn a degree in social work.

Kristin Weaver,
Loudoun Detention



NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Student centered. Community focused.

SEL Via Volunteerism at Shenandoah

Students at the Shelter and Assessment Center have had the opportunity to explore social and emotional learning through volunteerism. Students have begun volunteering at the SPCA, Noon Lunch program, and making hats for newborns at Augusta Health. These experiences have allowed students to learn the importance of giving back to their community, and have given them a sense of pride. With academic rigor being at the forefront of student success, a

lot of times social and emotional aspects are neglected. Students are able to feel the reward of working with the community to make it a better place. While at the SPCA, students meet with the cats and dogs, and then bond with the dogs through dog walking. Students have also helped at the Noon Lunch program, by clearing and washing dishes. A more long term project includes making many hats in order to donate to the birthing suite at Augusta Health.

The students have found comfort in these activities and the Shelter and Assessment Center is planning more experiences to help enhance the social and emotional side of learning.

-Tanner Boyle,
Shenandoah Valley
Detention



Paving the Way

Life is not always as simple as you think. The path to the greenhouse was rough, sometime muddy. Students at Chesapeake Juvenile Detention were to use paver bricks to create a walkway to the greenhouse. Measure, Plan, Estimate, Measure, Dig, Frame, Level, Stabilize, Measure, Place the pavers. The PD crew designed and constructed the

walkway using basic tools such as shovels, tape measure and level. The ground was prepared so that the paver surface would be even with the existing threshold of greenhouse. Working as a team one student acted as project supervisor learning what it was like to be responsible for someone else's performance. The other team members experienced first hand

the challenges of working together. When the project was complete the building maintenance supervisor remarked that the project looked better than one he had just paid a professional to do for him.

-John Kren,
Chesapeake Detention



Pink Out!

On Thursday, October 30, 2014, W. W. Moore observed Breast Cancer Awareness Day. The event was sponsored by Coach David Lee, Health/Physical Education Instructor. Coach Lee encouraged all teachers and staff to wear pink to show their support for those who may have suffered from breast cancer or lost a loved one due to the illness. To further emphasize breast cancer

awareness, the teachers and staff participated in a Pink Power Walk from 8:05-8:20 a.m. The day proved to be a success as teachers, staff, and students joined together to promote breast cancer awareness.

-David Lee,
W.W. Moore Detention



Fun and Fitness from Local Gym Trainers



As an extension of our Career Week, Lisa Bailey Walton, General Manager and two personal trainers, Austin and Cierra, were guest speakers at our facility. Mrs. Bailey spoke directly to our student body about how she started her career ladder with American Family Fitness Center. The important message that she shared with students was: follow your dream, achieve your goals and be passionate about what you want out of life. Both personal trainers talked about their day-to-day activities as trainers and how their education from Liberty University and James Madison University prepared them for the job market. Ironically, each trainer graduated from high schools in Chesterfield County. The students were engaged and asked a lot of great questions ranging from fitness to employment.



The teachers and staff challenged our Physical Education Teacher, Mr. Joel Hughes and Youth Supervisors, Mr. Kevin Jackson and Ms. Ebony Patterson, to a “push-up challenge.” Minutes into the challenge Ms. Patterson was out. The battle raged on with Mr. Hughes and Mr. Jackson. After much effort, Mr. Jackson dropped out of the race and Mr. Joel Hughes, PE Teacher won the challenge! Our facility is hoping to partner with American Family Fitness Center in the future for additional health/fitness and team building activities.



-Renita Davis-Kelley,
Chesterfield Detention



This Day in History

Did you know that on November 14, 1968, that Yale University announces its plan to become a co-ed school? Did you know that on March 9, 1964, the first Ford Mustang rolled off the assembly line? The students in Mrs. Crouch’s Social Studies classes at Blue

Ridge Juvenile Detention Center are learning an interesting fact for each day of the school year. On Fridays, the students choose one event from the preceding week and write an article about it. The articles are placed in a

notebook in the front lobby for visitors to enjoy.

-Tomacine Crouch,
Blue Ridge Detention



Former Colts Linebacker Visits Students



Steve Grant, a former football linebacker for the West Virginia Mountaineers and Indianapolis Colts, told his story to the students and staff at Chesapeake Juvenile Service Center.

Growing up, he was known as ‘Money’ because his focus was on “me, myself, and I,” and all the associated bling. He had not listened to the wisdom of his grandmother. He had not seen the hard work of his mother. What changed his life was hearing the gun pointed at his head jam -- that is when he heard with his heart. “Don’t dwell on the past,” he says, and “The future is only a promise.” He attended WV on scholarship and graduated in three and half years. He encouraged everyone

to dream, to develop relationships with people who want the best for you, and to hear with your heart. After his presentation, Mr. Grant shook everyone’s hand as they left. Mr. Grant is currently the chaplain for the Texas Tech University football program in Lubbock, Texas.

- John Kren,
Chesapeake Detention

**James River
PD Students
Enjoyed “Sol
and Luna” at
the Glen Allen
Cultural Arts
Center.**

Latin Ballet at James River

Flamenco dance, Mayan “Amate” bark paintings, Murals, Mexican author readings, Spanish vocabulary and designing Flamenco costumes for a skeleton, in honor of Day of the Dead...these are all components of a collaborative theme project students completed at James River Juvenile Detention Center September through November, 2014.

Art, English and health/physical education courses integrated lessons around the theme of Flamenco culture and Hispanic influences as illustrated in the Latin Ballet of Virginia production, “Sol & Luna” on October 23. Post D students attended the performance at the Cultural Arts Center (Glen Allen, Virginia.) which told a story through dance, song and spoken word of the discovery of the new world through the eyes of two historical women, the Princess of the Aztec Empire

and Queen Juana I de Castilla from Spain. Students learned about dance styles such as Salsa, Flamenco and other Latin movement patterns as well as music background during health and physical education class. English classes learned the Spanish and English vocabulary for skeletal system words and read Hispanic, Mexican authors’ works. Art students took part in creation of Murals depicting the landscape and jungle themes similar to the countries being studied- Mexico, Spain, etc. Students’ artwork, background Flamenco music and a decorated skeleton mannequin were all on display at the parent visitation night November 12, 2014.

By collaborating on this multidimensional content area, students and instructors were able to expand and dig deep into topics of interests and relevance in many areas- English, History,

Music, Movement, and Art. Teachers were excited to share ideas and meet together to plan for these shared concepts and maximize teaching and learning. For more information about the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, Virginia. and the Latin Ballet of Virginia go to www.latinballet.com or call (804) 356-3876.

- Hope Montgomery,
James River Detention





Merrimac Students Are On the Move

Our Post-D Program literally outgrew their former Unit One home, according to Les Hooker, Merrimac's Post-D teacher. Because of the trend towards a larger Post-D population, the decision was made to move to the more spacious Unit 4. But then, movement has always been a big part of Mr. Hooker's teaching style...

The Post-D students are fortunate to have an amazing resource in their backyard- the College of William and Mary. Sara Jones, the affable Post-D Supervisor, works closely with Les Hooker to collaborate with the College in creating opportunities for college students to interact with Merrimac students. One program, Merrimac

Mentors, has successfully brought together altruistic college youth with at-risk youth. Two times each week, students take vans to the nearby campus where W&M students have planned engaging activities that seek to educate, team-build, or entertain. A Post-D student, J.P., remarked that, "The fun stuff we do at William and Mary helps prepare us for life outside Merrimac. We went to a car place and got to see how mechanics and technicians work on European cars. I like cars and am considering a career in that field, so it was a great opportunity." Another weekly activity for the Post D students involves volunteering at a local food bank. "Working at Erase the Need makes me feel that

I am helping the community and developing a stronger work ethic", said K.P. Every week, students help unload trucks, organize, and bag food for local people who are disadvantaged. The Post-D Program at Merrimac has always been known for its extensive garden plot and successful chicken raising/egg producing enterprise. As things settle down after the big move, Les and Sara still have to find time for one more large scale project- relocating the gardens, chicken coop, and chickens to the other side of the building. Wish them luck!

- Gail Albert,
Merrimac Detention

Math Olympics and *The Monument Men*

VBJDC's Summer Enrichment Session 2 Topic was "Math Olympics". I was paired to co-teach with the math teacher, Mr. Mason. Together, we designed a unit of study that combined both our subjects and strength areas.

We began by examining the Value of Art: monetarily, historically, and presently. We showed video clips that featured famous art, artists, art careers, art crimes, art forgeries, art heists, unrecoverable stolen art works, a branch of the FBI that involves "Recovering Stolen Artwork", and current events in the news, such as the value of artworks at auction and recent discoveries in art,. Additionally, we used the

2014 film, *The Monuments Men*, in conjunction with a viewing guide, to embed and further explore Character Education and 21st Century Life Skills. Finally, students were introduced to the math term/concept of dilation(s). A dilation is defined as a transformation that enlarges or reduces the original figure proportionally. Essentially, we chose 2 black and white photograph(s) of the original Monuments Men, not the actors in the movie, holding priceless artworks. These photos were enlarged to 18" X 24" poster size. Each poster was then cut into 3" X 3" squares, and carefully labeled and numbered on the back side. Students

practiced both their math and art skills by creating a drawing where they enlarged/dilated 3" X 3" square(s) to 6" X 6" square(s). Students were deliberately kept uninformed of the origin of the image(s) they were asked to dilate/enlarge, so that they could focus their attention on creating exact photo dilations/enlargements, with correct measurements, proportions, and drawing/shading techniques. Although students worked individually on their dilations, they ultimately demonstrated co-operation and teamwork to produce the end result.

- Elizabeth Bates,
VA Beach Detention



Submit articles in MSWord

format to:

sharingourprogress@gmail.com

State Operated Programs

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for the Sharing Our Progress newsletter this year!

Articles must be submitted the **15th day of the month before the publication.**

Newsletters will be published on the 1st of October, December, March, and June.

A few guidelines for articles:

1. Provide articles that are **75-200** words in length. If you have more information to offer the field, include your email so that you may be contacted.
2. Provide author's name at the end of the article.
3. Submit graphics as JPGs or GIFs.
4. Submitted articles written by you or your staff.

Thanks for all your support and contributions to our newsletter!!

