



Chat Transcript: Supervisor/Administration Back-to-School Roundtable (09/07/2021)

Question: What are your most immediate needs and what are you most looking forward to for this school year?

- *D. DuBose:* We have been in for a month. Our focus is providing teachers with the resources to engage students in closing learning gaps without overburdening the student or the teacher. I'm most looking forward to supporting our expanded visual arts teachers, we have added many across the district to support our students.
- *L. Mitchell:* My most immediate need is for people to get vaccinated and to wear masks so we can STAY in school. I'm most looking forward to seeing students engaged in the arts again.
- *C. White:* My immediate needs are ensuring support for arts programming and not letting it "get lost" as we strive to close learning gaps in other areas. I'm most looking forward to students being in the classroom and being able to create hands-on art with timely feedback.
- *A. Wells:* I am most looking forward to learning and connecting with everyone as I am new to my role and having a larger impact on the future of art education in my district. My immediate needs are qualified educators to fill open positions and clear expectations for my teachers on what is expected of them in various COVID related scenarios- and then the resources to support them in those expectations.
- *M. Slechta:* My need is finding qualified/certified art teachers and substitutes. I'm most looking forward to art teachers excited to have our annual fall student art show set up physically as it was pre-covid.
- *N. Yang:* My immediate needs are safety protocols, navigating the new educational space, and short falls that have become more apparent during this pandemic. I'm most looking forward to human interaction beyond digital.
- *A. Kingsley:* Same as M. Slechta, finding teachers and subs!
- *E. Stuart:* M. Slechta I am with you— I have 13 vacancies to fill!
- *T. Lowke:* My immediate need is subs for teachers and time to deal with all the "extra" due to COVID. Teachers for virtual school and vacancies are a huge issue! The ones we can find are very inexperienced which is putting lots of stress on the system.
- *K. Gant:* My immediate need is providing teachers time and opportunities for meaningful professional development.
- *J. Walsh:* My immediate need is digital/virtual resources to ensure that students have opportunities no matter the learning model. I'm looking forward to networking and meeting more people in SC!
- *A. Procacci:* My immediate needs are for NJ schools to be safe from COVID-19 and the damage from Ida. I am most looking forward to students developing a definite, proactive, creative, stance, and self-assurance with their ability, vision, and contribution to society.
- *K. Gant:* Definitely technology and SEL.

Question: What does the future of art curriculum look like? What does it include?

- *A. Wells:* Antibias/antiracism is critical and is integral to art. I see our content as the way to teach students humanity and compassion in addition to the creative process, how to express their thoughts, and analyze ideas through art.
- *N. Yang:* In the college sector, we have been finding a challenge in creating a balance between a workload that is challenging but not overwhelming for the students who have come into the institutions with increased anxiety. This has become far more apparent during the pandemic. We noticed many students started leaving school due to societal anxiety caused by the lack of social interaction and increase of digital education.
- *D. DuBose:* Our art programs are thriving because the curriculum has historically supported student identification and development across multiple areas of training and development. Technology is important, but alternatives must be available for equity. Autonomy is critical for the mental health of our teachers too.
- *A. Procacci:* D. DuBose - You are correct!
- *N. Yang:* Autonomy is something that has helped our institution. Instructors have been allowed autonomy in their courses as long as the course outcomes are met.

How can technology be used strategically to support learning in and through the arts? How can we support teachers in their use of technology?

- *D. DuBose:* Technology has to be a natural integration into the classroom. If it is forced students will not find the connection and support that it can provide.
- *A. Procacci:* Is Adobe and ISTE taken seriously in art programs? Industry standard technology is essential for students to embrace.
- *M. Slechta:* The key is to focus on the learning goal/outcome and then find a tech tool that supports the students in their learning.
- *A. Procacci:* As an art educator, I have tried to incorporate Media Arts for years. I've gotten the impression that Art Education has not taken Media Arts to incorporate in art programs because it was not a visual art. Major mistake but I now have a view that does embrace Media Arts. It's about time!
- *D. DuBose:* We have partnered with CTE (CTAE) to ensure that we have Adobe for all students and teachers K-12. Their federal funds have been essential for supporting this initiative.
- *N. Yang:* A difficulty with media arts is the cost of the fundamental tools and programs. There are many schools that can't afford the cost and maintenance. For colleges, industry standard tools and programs are a must.
- *A. Wells:* Technology has been great in my district for providing differentiation in accessing content as well as submitting thoughts and responses to art, especially for students with anxiety.
- *A. Kingsley:* The adobe education exchange has some great ideas for you
- *A. Wells:* Pixlr has been a great alternative that is accessible on a Chromebook and auto saves to the IP address

- *T. Lin:* Yes, love Pixlr! Also love photo pea (also website based)

What new policies are being implemented and how will they affect our work? How can we support teachers, administrators and community partners in navigating policies and potential restrictions?

- *K. Gant:* I can no longer visit classrooms and I'm unable to speak to teachers in person about their needs
- *L. Stuart:* My school system is only doing virtual field trips for our first quarter and will re-evaluate for second quarter

How has the pandemic changed the work that we do with schools? What have you learned that will help you move forward?

- *C. White:* I have found myself being more reactionary rather than proactive. We spent so much time on surviving the school day that we didn't work on where we want to go. We have to move forward again.
- *A. Wells:* Our job is more critical than ever.
- *A. Procacci:* The pandemic ignited resources and an urgent attention to SEL, social equity, various free and industry standard digital platforms, and professional communication.
- *T. Villanueva:* Looking forward to seeing how we move forward collectively stronger together this school year. It will be interesting to see what folks will carry with them as strengths/epiphanies from the pandemic and how they pivoted in resilience to realize the change.

How are Arts Educators in jeopardy?

- *K. Newman:* Budget cuts!
- *K. Newman:* Decrease of enrollment in public schools. Not currently happening but I think we need to be aware that it COULD.
- *C. White:* Our arts educators in upper grades are considered part of the "all teachers" classroom pool. So, those positions may be in jeopardy, particularly if a teacher leaves.
- *N. Yang:* There has been more pressure on the reduction of a more intensive curriculum, ie watering down the course content.
- *C. White:* We have block scheduling. We have been that way for years.
- *L. Rice:* We are using Thinking Walls for ideas and connection making. That has saved some of our teachers.
- *L. Stuart:* I am working on my doctorate and specifically using arts integration to affect Algebra 1 courses.
- *T. Villanueva:* K. Newman, if there is a decrease in enrollment within TX public schools, do you know where the students are enrolling? In DC - the students in charter schools are dropping in enrollment as well. I'm curious.

- *K. Newman*: My district actually expanded the visual arts department by 8 additional art teacher in 2021-22.
- *L. Rice*: That is amazing *K. Newman*
- *K. Newman*: T. Villanueva charter schools are impacting our enrollment. We have seen a huge decrease in K and PreK enrollment. We "lost" 3,000 students at the PreK level.
- *N. Yang*: Connect with one of the art colleges/universities within your area or across the country and try to create a joint program/workshop to help showcase the power of the arts.
- *K. Newman*: T. Villanueva our district is working through our office of transformation in creating more unique campuses to attract families that are interested in smaller campuses.
- *T. Villanueva*: *K. Newman*, I was afraid you might say so. Ours are due a lot to gentrification, moving out of the country, and even choosing to homeschool.
- *T. Villanueva*: *K. Newman*, that's great. I would love to know more - and am happy to check in at some point.
- *A. Procacci*: *T. Lowke*, are you equating Arts Integration with STEAM? Talking about a definition.
- *T. Lin*: I've built some great arts integration programs. The teachers need to be on the same page, fully invested/excited, have ample time to plan prior, and debrief frequently while it's being done and afterwards.
- *L. Stuart*: *A. Wells*, what if you write up your thoughts and post on NAEA Collaborate and FB/Socials... see who is interested and create the space to start the dialogue.
- *T. Lin*: Yess Turnaround Schools!! We're the NYC office for the Bronx.
- *L. Mitchell*: Our PD for teachers in arts integration kicks off on Monday!
- *L. Rice*: Integration is a way for all students to see themselves in school
- *L. Mitchell*: I'm inspired to come together to show that the arts are essential because they ARE healing and ARE life!
- *T. Villanueva*: Would love to connect with anyone on here to maintain connection during my time as S+A Director-Elect for NAEA. trinity@arteducators.org | IG: @tara_trinityyyyy
- *L. Stuart*: For anyone who wants to connect! Elizabeth.Stuart@pgcps.org