INNOVATION GRANTS



2023

HANDLEY TRUST

CHANGE YOUR **TUNE**

JHHS School Counselor Lara Maguera partnered with Music Therapy students from Shenandoah University to provide a variety of music opportunities to help address students' social and emotional needs.

MERGE WITH **LEARNING**

STAFF EMPOWERMENT

Instructional Technology Coach Kara McDaniel brought AR and VR technology to students at VACDES with a Merge Cube. Merge Cubes provide digital hands-on teaching aids, simulations, and interactive holograms.

In the photo, 2nd graders were applying their knowledge of weather conditions and patterns to predict the weather around the world!









A specialized team at JHHS created a Literacy Library to account for small groups, cultural diversity, and reading levels of students. The Literacy Library includes picture books, leveled readers, adapted texts, and books to support the teaching of literary terms and devices.





YOGA **AFTER SCHOOL**

FDES Art Teacher Jessie Westman received Mindfulness, SEL (Social Emotional Learning), and Yoga Teacher Training so she could host an after school yoga club for students.

WHAT ARE INNOVATION GRANTS?

Through the Handley Trust, WPS offers annual grant opportunities in 3 categories: Classroom Innovation, Multi-Classroom Innovation, and School Innovation. Funding is awarded up to \$15,000 for innovative projects that align with the school's improvement and the division's strategic plan.





REALITY

Students at FDES get to use virtual reality headsets thanks to a grant proposal from Instructional Technology Coach Kelly Carey. The Class VR VIRTUAL headsets and controllers, along with 2.000 educational resources and tools. allow students to visit ancient civilizations, tour other countries. experience cultural celebrations, and take virtual field trips to otherwise inaccessible locations.

AMERICAN HISTORY MUSEUM



Erin Fox and her English 11 students applied for a grant to go on a field trip to the Smithsonian Museum of American History. English 11 Standards of Learning are centered around American literature, and the museum trip provided an opportunity for students to learn information about American authors, history, culture, innovation, and restoration.

MIDDLE SCHOOL **FIBER ARTS**

DMMS Fine Arts teacher Amanda Bryant Poliakoff was surprised to learn that students were interested in fiber arts as one of their top three art electives, so she got materials to start an after school fiber arts club. Fiber art includes art made from fibrous materials such as yarn, textiles, and paper.





21ST CENTURY **CLASSROOM**

Shane Campbell wanted to bring his JHHS math classroom into the 21st century, so he replaced traditional desks with modular furniture that includes dry erase tops. This allows for more collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking for students.

