

OPEN DOOR STUDIOS

Cape Elizabeth School District

Inaugural Summer Program

July 8-31, 2014

OPEN DOOR STUDIOS

- Name comes from a portion of the Cape Schools' motto: Open Minds and Open Doors
- Program to support students with additional subject exposure in literacy and math
- Goal: to create a studio experience for students and engage them in a quest to answer the question, "What shapes a place, and how do we tell its tale?"

Cape Schools Open Minds
and Open Doors

Community • Academics • Passion • Ethics

OPEN DOOR STUDIOS

- Multi-age classrooms (1-3, 4-6, 7-9)
- Integrated curriculum—subjects presented in an inquiry-based format, with application of skills in meaningful context
- Activities included creative writing, reading, speaking, listening, moving, performing, measuring, mapping, graphing, exploring, researching, observing, recording, and coding



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- Initial invitations sent to students who we felt could benefit from additional literacy and/or math support
- About 25 additional requests came from families who wished their students to participate
- All who expressed interest were invited
- Over 100 students accessed the program in some way —whether the full four weeks or just a few days.

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- Integration of STEM for grade 9
 - Surveying
 - Robotics/Physics
- Collaboration with Maine Audubon
 - Weekly for grades 1-3 and 4-6
 - Full week participation for grades 7-8



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Six dedicated Cape teachers worked with students:

Thomas Charltray, Mary Jane Ham, Kris Moniz, Danielle Kunert, Courtney Ferrell, and Evan Thayer.

Four teachers from other districts joined us:

Abbey Manchester Eisenhooth, Erin Benson, Ashley Damboise, and Jacqueline Roy.

John Holdridge

- Consultant: provided professional development for teachers prior to the program
- Worked with teachers and students throughout the summer to integrate creative literacy and the performance process
- Used Richard Blanco's poem "One Today" as the foundational text for exploration of place for all levels



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Families' Responses:

"Teachers were fun and light-hearted....it was not an up-tight atmosphere. It's amazing how much they learned in 3 days a week, 3 hours a day. Learning was FUN."

"The hands-on experience was better for [our student]."

"I have seen my previously reluctant student become engaged, cooperative and enthusiastic about attending this program...."

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Looking forward to next year:

- Expand programming to include high school grades
- Exploring further integration of special education and regular education summer programs as appropriate for students