

Austin Independent School District *Project Creative Learning*: Abstract

Fine Arts Department

Austin Independent School District

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*Project Creative Learning (Project CL)* is dedicated to improving student engagement and achievement in high-needs K-12 schools through two tracks of innovative professional development and coaching: arts integration and music education.

In a Title I vertical team of elementary, middle and high schools in Austin Independent School District (AISD), general classroom teachers will participate in professional development that builds their competency to integrate fine arts instructional strategies into their content-area courses. At the same time, music teachers will engage in specialized training in the Kodály concept of music education. Classroom teachers will learn how to employ drama, visual arts and music-based instructional strategies to increase student engagement in core content areas, including English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Music teachers will develop and deepen students' cognitive skills by implementing Kodály instructional strategies in their classes. Both general classroom teachers and music teachers will also benefit from ongoing coaching from instructional coaches, specialists and Kodály master teachers.

Through this systematic campus-level support that provides intensive, job-embedded professional development, Title I students will ultimately benefit academically, with creative learning becoming a key component of their success.