



SFUSD SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



PRESS RELEASE

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Teachers Return from a Summer of Learning

August 10, 2010 (San Francisco) - This summer, teachers from San Francisco's public schools journeyed to New York City, Puerto Rico, Singapore and beyond as they completed fellowships for professional development in a discipline of their choosing. They are returning this week to their schools inspired by their pursuit of ideas, terrains, and cultures across the globe -- and are incorporating what they learned into their classroom lesson plans.

A sampling of teachers' summer itineraries:

Carol Fuerth (Jefferson & Feinstein Elementary) is a librarian who benefited from intensive language and cultural study in Antigua, Guatemala, to better communicate with and inspire both students and parents;

Steve Firestone, Rene Mitsui, Michael Sova, Elizabeth Wong (Dianne Feinstein Elementary) and **David Breese, Meredith Rojek, Sheryl Sparks** and **Samantha Steinfels** (Sherman Elementary) attended The Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University to enhance students' learning experiences;

Jade Rivera (Cesar Chavez Elementary) studied traditional Afro-Puerto Rican music, particularly the Bomba, in order to share the stories and history of Puerto Rico through song and music;

Connie Hendrix, Katrina James Barrone (Francisco Middle) and **David Johnson** (Horace Mann Middle School) attended the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) summer conference to develop plans for implementation of a 21st Century Learning curriculum; and

Maria Rode (Lowell High) traveled to Jingdezhen, China, also known as the "Porcelain City," and created ceramics at a residency center for international artist/educators.

These teachers' experiences were financed by Fund for Teachers, a national, donor-supported organization that awards fellowships for self-designed professional growth to teachers who recognize the value of inquiry, the power of knowledge and their ability to make a difference.

Since 2006, 57 San Francisco teachers have received approximately \$206,000 in Fund for Teachers' grants to experience summer learning odysseys that continue to transform learning for themselves and the 41 schools they represent.

For more information about Fund for Teachers, visit fundforteachers.org.

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