

Whitewater Valley Elementary: 5th grade, STEAMWORKS musical performance group

STEAMWORKS is a group created by WVE music teacher Deron Frye with the idea that the group could cover all of the components of STEAM in a musical performance group. Frye had already been doing things like this in class for several years in an effort to make the classes more cross-curricular. "I wondered if it were possible to do lessons in music class that covered all the subjects that are taught in school. I thought this would be extremely hard to do, but once I put a few lessons together I realized that it was actually quite simple to include other subjects in music lessons because they're already there most of the time."

Deron adds, "The students involved are some of the best I've ever taught. They're all very interested in learning whatever they can, no matter how much it actually applied to the songs we were putting together. By the time we were putting an actual set of songs together for the November 28 performance, we had covered a fair amount of science, technology, engineering, and math....I'm extremely satisfied with the results of this first attempt at putting this group together, and I plan on continuing it in the future."

The members of STEAMWORKS are all 5th grade students. They are: Jaylee Ahr, Charlotte Best, Jayce Cochran, Brynn Farris, Abby Glacken, Mikellah Hall, CJ Hunter, Meena Keys, Max Kober, Luke Luebbering, Molly MacMurdo, Kayla Morris, Matthew Rudolph, Ian West.

