

**Artifact Title:** Guitar Exploration Field Trip

**Date Experienced:** February, 2012

**Artifact Description:**

My artifact is a page from the *Wisconsin School Musician* magazine. This page includes pictures of members of my 2011-2012 high school Guitar Exploration class while on a field trip to a recording studio at the Wisconsin Center for Music Education. The page also advertises this trip in the magazine as a new field trip for schools to take. My class was the first to take advantage of this recording studio experience.

**Wisconsin Administrator Standard Alignment:**

This artifact best aligns with standard 1.1 **Content and Curriculum:** The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches *and can create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful to students.*

This experience aligns best with standard 1.1 because it demonstrates ability to create learning experiences that make subject matter meaningful to students. This “first of its kind” field trip allowed students to experience diverse perspectives and capture key concepts that are linked to their prior understanding of the course. An administrator must have a vision for assisting teachers in creating learning experiences that will enhance knowledge and skills for students.

This field trip demonstrates my competency in this standard because it requires the educator to create meaningful experiences while integrating knowledge and skills learned from this course. The artifact successfully models how a new learning experience can be developed and executed with success.

**What I learned about teaching/learning from this experience:**

I have learned that creating new and exciting experiences will not only build on student prior knowledge and skill, but will generate interest and excitement in the course, consequently encouraging full classroom involvement from learners in the future. Even students who struggle in other educational disciplines took advantage of this experience and grew noticeably as a student.

**What I learned about myself as a prospective administrator as a result of this experience/artifact:**

As a teacher, I learned that by creating meaningful learning experiences, students will work more diligently before and after, because of the excitement that was generated. As an aspiring administrator, I understand how valuable learning experiences are to students and will strive to create a school culture that encourages new and different learning experiences. Creating these experiences can be done in ways besides taking field trips. In the classroom, teachers can use a variety of techniques to bring real world experiences to the students to generate excitement in a particular class. As a learning leader, I will work to develop these experiences with teachers in all content areas. I believe my creative thought process will also benefit teachers in coming up with “out of the box” experiences to use in their classrooms.