

Everyone's Story Matters: Middle School Students Collaborating and Telling Stories Across Worlds

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
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SUMMARY

Immigrant and non-immigrant youth in Columbus City Schools are curious about one another's lives but need structures to support listening and learning together.



During lunchtime story clubs students discover

- insights about their distinct views and experiences
- shared sense of community
- engagement with their own histories and life stories
- connections with language arts curricula
- connections with their school and community

Impact

- 60 Hilltonia Middle School students have participated in story clubs from 2009-2017.
- 5 Ohio State graduate students have guided weekly or biweekly story club sessions.
- 5 teachers have supported story club during lunchtime and language arts class time.
- Students are more aware of and supportive of one another's histories and viewpoints.
- Students' stories become more elaborated and engaging over time.
- Students and teachers build strong connections with diverse literature
- Students and teachers see strong connections with language arts standards
- Shift perspectives, use details, develop context and setting, ask relevant questions, compare stories, seek further information, develop vocabulary

2017-2018

- Story clubs in 2+ schools will meet weekly
- Story clubs will read diverse literature and tell stories
- Story club members will work with community leaders
- Story club members will share favorite stories across middle schools
- Story club members will share stories with families and community leaders via video, digital stories, zines, theatre
- Researchers will connect teachers and students with schools across Canada, Australia, and Mexico

Partners

- Hilltonia Middle School
- Department of Teaching and Learning
- Columbus City Schools

