

# VDOE State Operated Programs



## Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School

*Facilitating Educational Success*

August 12, 2013



# What is NVJDCS?



- A regional state operated program located in Alexandria, VA that provides appropriate educational services for school-aged students who are residing at the detention center.
  - For the 2012-2013 school year, the ages of the students ranged from 13-17.
- The center is a secure, 70-bed pre and post-disposition institution for adolescents who are being held for the juvenile courts of Northern Virginia. It serves the Cities of Alexandria and Falls Church and Arlington County.

# NVJDCS Student Population



- Students are placed at NVJDCS due to court involvement in Arlington, Alexandria or Falls Church; however, our student population is **not limited to those three school systems.**
  - For example, we have many students from Fairfax, Prince William, D.C., Prince George's County. While at NVJDCS, all students are to be instructed on the Virginia SOLs (unless completing home school assignments).

# NVJDCS Student Population



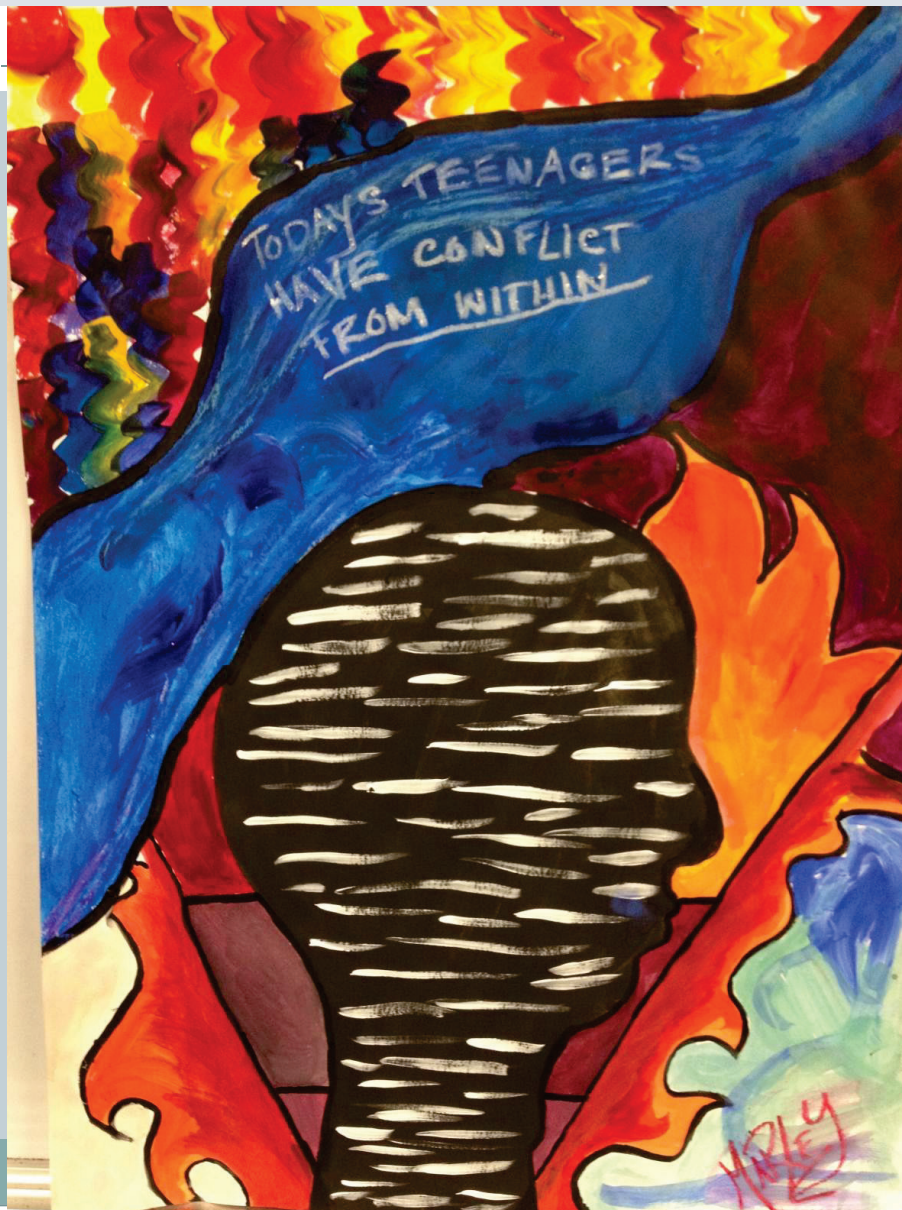
- Unit 1: A class of older, male students who are pre-disposition. These students are typically from local school systems. Average length of stay is 22 days.
- Unit 2: A class of males who are a part of the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement//Division of Children's Services (ORR/DCS) program. Students have past or pending involvement in the criminal justice system may affect his or her immigration status. The English proficiency and educational experience of this class varies greatly. Average length of stay is 67 days.

# NVJDCS Student Population



- Unit 4: A class of female students. May also contain younger male students as needed. These students are typically from local school systems. Average length of stay is 22 days.
- Unit 7: A class of students who are in the 6 month post-disposition program called New Beginnings. This unit may be male and female students. These students are typically from local school systems. Average length of stay is 180 days but can be less if a student is not successful in the program.

# Students' Voices Through Art



# NVJDCS Teaching Staff

## CORE

Math

Science

Social Studies

English

Art

Health/PE

## SPECIALIST

Special Education (2)

ELL

Post-Disposition

Literacy Coach



# What makes NVJDCS unique?



- Students reside at detention center
- Short enrollment periods
  - Stays range from 24 hours to 6+ months
- Multi-grade, multi-ability classes
- Collaboration with detention center staff
  - Each class has a detention specialist
- Student from varying local education agencies



# What do the NVJDCS students have to say?



- How would you describe our school?
- How is our school different from your previous school?
- How is our school helping you to be successful when you return to your home school?

# Social-Emotional Supports



- **Advisory Period**
  - Goal setting
  - Character education
  - Current events
- **Small class size**
- **Co-taught classes**
- **Positive reinforcement**
  - Monthly “Celebrations of Learning”
    - ✦ Panel of external judges
  - Student of the Week awards
  - *STAR* improvement certificates
  - Flocabulary

# Teamwork!

The *Tree of Kindness* assists in creating a positive, caring environment.



# Successful Strategies for Student Engagement



## **Ms. Zeleta Green, NVJDCS Literacy Coach**

- STAR testing process
- ROAR- daily reading period

# Successful Strategies for Student Engagement



## Ms. Sandra Story, NVJDCS ELL Teacher

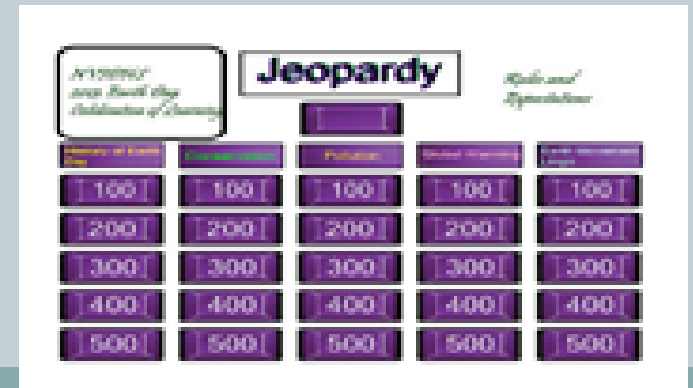
- ORR/DCS student profile
  - Student strengths and opportunities
- Instructional strategies
- Student success stories



# Successful Strategies for Student Engagement

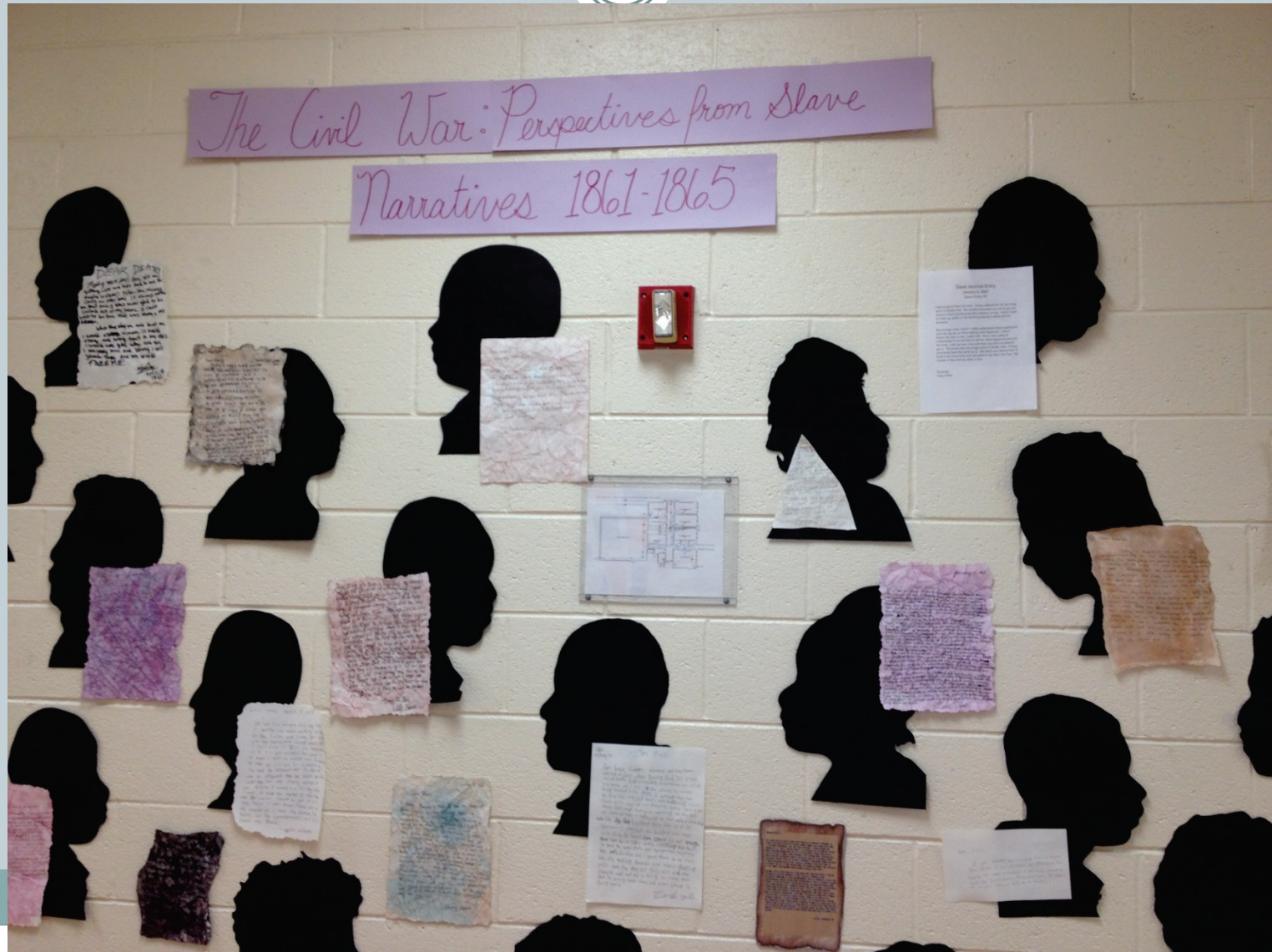
## Ms. Mary Chukwu, NVJDCS Science Teacher

- Diversity of learners
- Co-teaching & instructions
  - Strengths
  - Challenges
- Looking forward



# Examples of NVJDCS Collaboration

## Perspectives from the Civil War



# Parent/Guardian Outreach



- Open House events
- Parent/Guardian conferences
  - 22 out of 24 parent/guardians attended spring conferences
  - Conferences with ORR students

## Other forms of communication

- Emails
- Phone call (initial and follow-up)
- Letters related to student progress (ex: STAR Test results)



# Transition Supports



- Initial intake meeting and individual registration
- Communication with student's LEAs
- Provision of home school assignments (if appropriate)
- Requesting parental consent for multiple years for follow-up and monitoring (planned SY 2013-14)
- Attendance at re-enrollment meetings
- Collaboration on special education meetings
- Exchange of assessment data

# Measuring Educational Success



- Behavioral data
  - Decreasing number of student removals from class
- Standards of Learning
- Grades
  - Educational transfer summaries used for students enrolled for more than 5 days
- STAR Test
  - Increasing scores seen every 30 days
- GED
  - Several students are successfully passed the examination

# What are areas of challenges?



- Increasing use of differentiation techniques
- Permission needed at times to use effective teaching strategies (ex: positive behavioral supports, movement in class, regrouping)
- Balance of needing to be nurturing, supportive & being too nurturing, supportive
- Supporting transition to home school
- Engaging disengaged students
- Increasing parent/guardian involvement

# Students' Voices Through Art



**The Silence of Chaos**  
Personal experience with drug abuse made me notice the world is just passing by

## The Silence of Chaos

# Students' Voices Through Art *(continued)*



**Choices**

By  
Choices

# Students' Voices Through Art *(continued)*



# Students' Voices Through Art *(continued)*



Heaven and Hell

# Students' Voices Through Art (continued)





# Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School



Questions?

# Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School



- Thank you for the opportunity to share our story with you!

# Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School



Dr. Julie Crawford, Principal

Ms. Mary Chukwu, Science Teacher

Ms. Zeleta Green, Literacy Coach

Ms. Sandra Story, ELL Teacher

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