

Active Classroom Spotlight

Deer Creek Middle School Staff

Deer Creek Middle School
Littleton, CO
Teachers: 28
Students: 520

Jefferson County School District
Colorado's largest school district

Schools: 167
Students: 85,793

Class: 30 students, 8th grade
Teacher: Reid Auger

* Source: CCD Public Schools Data
2011–12 school year,
National Center for
Education Statistics



Students began realizing that it's OK to break the old sitting paradigm

From the Classroom – Reid Auger

"This is the first school year that my 8th grade Language Arts class has had the LearnFit™ Adjustable Standing Desks. Four weeks into the school year, students began realizing that it's OK to break the old sitting paradigm, and that it's OK—and even encouraged—to stand, sit and change their position at any time." In his Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) based approach, Reid Auger is leveraging the mobility and height-adjustability of the desks, as the class breaks into smaller groups of students for commercial script writing, debate preparation, short story diagraming or even solo work on essays. He noted that energized students now have a natural outlet for fidgeting by being able to continually adjust their position and posture.

From the Assistant Principal's Office – Susan Arntson

Deer Creek Middle School chose Language Arts as their first LearnFit standing active classroom because Reid Auger was the first to respond to an email, and he instantly knew how to incorporate the on-demand height adjustability and mobility into his curriculum. Among Assistant Principal Susan Arntson's classroom observations are the natural and intuitive movements that the LearnFit enables. With only four weeks of having LearnFits in the classroom, she is anxious to see if an adjustable standing desk can make a difference for a different student. As the school year progresses, we will continue to post comments and feedback from both Susan Arntson and Reid Auger.



The STEM program at Deer Creek Middle School is an interdisciplinary curriculum focusing on the application of STEM areas to a problem-based learning model. Students learn to work in collaborative teams to put their content knowledge into action to solve real-world problems. The STEM program is a challenging curriculum designed to teach the Common Core learning standards adopted by Colorado, while embedding teamwork and communication skills, engineering principles, STEM competitions, and career exploration. Susan Arntson is tasked with developing and implementing this STEM program for two of Jefferson County School District's middle schools, one of which is Deer Creek Middle School. With a philosophy of integration of different content areas and applications in real situations, her students are involved in applying their learnings to local issues.

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