

## Journal of Progress

This document contains my Journal of Progress for my Honors Capstone Project. During my creative process, I would walk to the location of the classroom I was researching in. I would video record my reflections before and after the class, reflecting on what I had prepared for the class, my expectations and hopes, what actually happened, and how I felt about the activities being done. These transcriptions were then coded for analysis of overarching themes, which can be seen in my final creative work.

### 5.13.18 Walking to JMU

00:00 So I just came back. Well today, is April 13th, Friday the 13th and I'm coming back from Keister Elementary School. And I'm just going to reflect a little bit on what just happened. So it was my first time observing Maggie teaching this class of her fifth grade students and the weather is beautiful by the way the first in a long time really of this year. um, so I came in 20 minutes earlier to her class and was just uhh talking to her and she gave me a rundown of what her schedule was and like her objectives for her class for that day and they were starting their class songwriting and it was really cool to see how thought out she had her plan and everything along that line. There was like a method to everything she had, there was a reason why she had a rubric and she had homework for the kids which I don't really remember me ever really having homework for my music classes but it was super easy homework.

01:12 just write a line of lyrics that relate to the theme and this class chose trying as their theme um, so yeah, she gave me a total rundown and it was really well thought out. um and then uhh the kids came in, they all sat in a line. random tangent the way her classroom is organized just made me think about how do I want to organize my classroom um and like does she use other people's stuff and just how colorful it was and visually and I just need to start doing that because it's important um and whether not I want to teach elementary general music um and so

01:55 the kids walk into class in a straight line, what not and they have like their spots on the mat and as she was having them turn in their lines she made sure to tell them "Hey, I hope you have your lines" like your one line of lyrics or just a line about trying. If they didn't she told them, here's a post it note, here write it down unless you choose not to do so. and so their grades for all the class was to basically um yeah their grade was you just have to have a line and you get an A. and she didn't have any of them write their names on it, she just like marked off who did not have it and she marked it down right away so she could remember um and then they came in, they did a lot of singing, beginning sort of stuff. She has a ch, ch, chchch as her attention getter and they did like some breathing and elevator breath versus basement breath and they even did solfège stuff with hand signs and shook their feet and warmed up their noses

03:07 what not, really good. I think it's really crazy to plan to adjust to every single age. I have no idea how I would do that and to just sit down and think about that. um what else, so next they um, they played like a really short game of kitty and the mouse and you like basically like tag with a little bit of singing and then they like got over and started writing their songs. and so she has a really skill to just think of a melody and she had one person typing and another person helping that typer um

03:51 and so she would basically pick out these lines and read them aloud and like say is this a verse, is this a chorus and had them watch her hand positions to figure out what chord progressions she was doing. Umm, and they like really understood that, which is great which

makes me think like oh I need to do a lot more songwriting and ukulele and piano and learning guitar. you know, all the works. um

04:21 let me think, uhh what else happened. so they were writing their songs and she would just choose lines and she thought of a melody and she would ask them like hey do you like that. um and they would say whether or not they did. she would change it up, she would say oh maybe you need to shorten the words or the lines what not. um they went into choruses and she talked about like how you can use the same words, but change up the progression a little bit and like what words fit well with a chorus versus a verse umm, yeah.

### **5.13.18 Continuation**

00:00 We had a good talk about that and then what else did they uh yeah, so going through that list of songs, that list of words and then she only added her own words for a bridge and a little, actually just the bridge and then she switched to guitar and they loved hearing it on the guitar and she just had them repeat a lot to sing it and get it into their head and ask them, hey do you like this? um and when they sang the final song, it was actually super cool and really good um

00:45 It's yeah amazing to see what they can do. that was pretty cool and great. Um, but yeah, it was definitely and she called out some people to pay attention oh and they came and went into groups and she was just very careful in making sure that yes, they could be with their friends, but also making sure that it would be an effective group. um, and laying out this is what active listening is and describing it and like I need you to pay attention, but you can comfortable in a comfortable sitting position. um yeah, so they chose groups and had their groups have a theme and their next step will be to write one if not a couple more lines for their group to do the exact same thing. um

01:41 yeah, that was basically most of the class. it was she was super energetic, super bubbly, I'll oh my goodness. I think it's going to be amazing working with her. and I'm excited to see what the class will be like next year as I get to know them. um yeah it's kinda crazy and makes me realize incapable I am and how much more I need to learn about um just music in general and being accessible to everybody. she definitely used she would say hey boys and girls and hey friends, which is cool to see that linguistic thing come out um and she was really confident in her singing but you could really see her personality come out a little bit more with her fifth graders and how she would say like words in a way, I would talk with about words and joke about it and then yeah sometimes she wouldn't sing so the kids had the opportunity

02:45 to do it themselves and repeat repetitive but they were also very empowering words like hey, you wrote this song yourself um and that's so cool. ahh, so it was a matter of hey, let's see if this is for a verse or chorus, how many times do you want to repeat it um, do you think it should be loud or soft, what not. and that was super cool to see, so I'm excited yeah!

### **5.26.18 11:58 am**

00:00 Hello today is May 26th and it's 11:58 am. I just wanted to recap on some things that have been happening with my Capstone um. so the IRB approval was due yesterday, so I drove all the way to Harrisonburg and turned that in and this whole week has been editing and reviewing and kinda trying to lay out what I want for my proposal. It was definitely a difficult process because um I've never done it before and doing research in this kind of context is new to me so I understand that there's a lot of hoops and loops to jump through so it was definitely hard to articulate um why I wanted to do it, how I wanted to do it, like the proper steps for safety for minors and what not. yeah.. so that's what's been happening this week. just IRB proposals and

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getting it edited by Dr. Stringham and Dr. Dredger, which has been really nice to get feedback and get some other student examples. Yeah, so it's been tough to do it in the summer and get my butt back to work, but it's been good to have the experience to do that and it was a little easier because I'm going to do it as normal educational practice, so uh that means I'm just doing what the teacher would do on a normal basis. yup, kay thanks, bye!

### **5.27.18 1:30PM**

00:02 It is April 27th, Friday at about I guess 1:30. and just finished meeting with Dr. Stringham, Dr. Dredger, and Dr. Moore and we this was just our first meeting as a group together and it was good to get everyone to meet each other and it was funny to see the same personalities come through. umm, it's fun seeing personalities come through and what not. umm hahaha um

00:45 yeah and just get talking about some interesting stuff. a lot was dealing with what did we talk about? writing across the disciplines and yeah writing across disciplines and language arts publications, but it was really getting to know each other and they had some questions about group stuff and now I'm just going to figure out writing curriculum and really talking with Maggie about all the stuff we need to do and how to develop the curriculum so it's more with identity than it was just approaching songwriting. um

01:42 and then 01:48 yeah, just lost of reading, they also talked about how I would create the visual aspect into this. and so it would be along the lines of do I do the visual aspect before or after um we write the stories and how children at their age are not very good at metaphorical thinking so how would these images be either generated or created in that sense. ummm

02:22 yeah, so thinking about how students think and how that would change your thinking and also be coming from a diverse variety of backgrounds, how that impacts where students are and how they metaphorically think based on their cultures they grew up in and were predisposed to. ummm trying to think yeah, so seeing how they would grow in that uhhhh

03:02 yeah, it was good meeting, a little awkward. fun though yah.. I'm good with wait time, I like sitting in silence uhh yeah, just some extra thoughts, some extra readings to do and I'm excited for how it's going to turn out. and we out! bye!

### **6.11.18 11:42am**

00:00 Hi Davina Miaw here I just wanted to give you a few updates on what's been happening um it's June 11th today and it's 11:42 am and I got my IRB revisions back that were requested to me that were requested to me on May 30th and I had to turn them in the next day. So I reviewed the highlighted portions that Cindy Morgan had given me and I typed them in did revisions and then I got um reviewers comments from the board on June 8th, this past Friday and I have been emailing between Maggie and Dr. Stringham just to get a couple questions answered and to figure some of that out. It's definitely been stressful it's kept me on top of my toes there's a lot of things from my perspective that I wouldn't have seen and getting into the reviewers' eyes is definitely informative just to see their comments and yes it's stressful, but I know it's going to be good and it will good practice for when I do this internationally and I have to get IRB stuff as well. Umm yeah, so tomorrow I'm going back down to Harrisonburg to meet with the full board and get more revisions and yeah then it'll be a process of hopefully getting approved or having revision requested that I'll just fill out and um do for approval hoping it gets approved. Fingers crossed! Umm.. and so I'll just be going into the meeting tomorrow. I'm nervous and yeah. I am nervous but I hope the process is not too intimidating because I'm just a wee little tadpole. Yeah. Definitely a good experience albeit stressful. okay, that's it! Bye

**6.20.18 7:05pm**

00:00 Hey, it's me again. It's June 20th at 7:05 pm and I can't remember if I talked about umm going to IRB on June 12th so I'm just gonna repeat it again, I think. umm. if I didn't talk about it it was cool to have the experience although it was intimidating to um go and sit in front of a panel of very experienced researchers and professors and faculty but I was glad to have Dr. Stringham next to me to kind of like be my advisor and guide me through a little of bit when I needed help but it was very much like I came in with the list of comments they had and I ran through them um and it was a lot of me just having to know what I wanted to say and really say it clearly and um state it well in front of them. um I also called Dr. Stringham about an hour before to clarify some things before and it was a good idea especially with some of those nit-pickier ideas especially with security and how that's going to work with kids' data and working that out between Google Drive and Harrisonburg City Schools and what they do and what JMU does with SharePoint. umm so next up I'm doing my revisions and getting those done and then I'll send them in and then we'll see if they get approved and the process will go on through yeah.

**8.23.18 10:20am**

00:00 Hi, it's Davina here. Um today is August 23rd and it's 10:30 am and I just got back from a Keister music class they're 5th grade and so this week is the first week of school and just to give you an update on what's been happening. so um I got IRB to approve my forms and everything and on a certain date I'll get back to you later, so IRB has approved everything and I sent the form the assent and consent forms to Maggie Hagy to be translated at Keister and she's having them be translated and they're a little lengthy so they're taking a little bit longer and then we'll give them to the students to sign and for their parents to look over so this week

01:01 I went into the class and just got to meet the students and she's already has a lot of the names down because since they're new and repeating students um but for me it's learning the names and getting to know personalities a little bit better. so she sent me the lesson plan she had beforehand I got to review them and talk over them with her and she's also got a unit plan which we're going to on a google doc that we'll discuss and reflect upon and I'm going to comment on them and see what we can work around

01:33 umm.. so there's that but these music classes were a lot of fun. it's a lot about engaging the kids and making them interested in music so just working in those little bits of like here's how we sing solfège and then here's a game with solfège like Mousie, Mousie um or uhh just getting them to sing for like I was going to Kentucky and introducing ourselves and what not and then um there was what else did we do we did dum dum dada game which is a lot about rhythm and like figuring out the big beats and little beats are and so it was good to here um and debrief after the class with Maggie about the personalities and you can see the kids and I can't name names specifically but the kids who are really like engaged and loving lyrics and then some who are more reserved and some are more like a little antsy and so it'll be interesting to see how they grow with songwriting and like what they're base level with be what their max level will be and like just seeing there's a lot of difficulty of 02:54 being one teacher in a classroom and the fact that like if a kid needs to go to the bathroom and you're talking to them about being respectful going to the bathroom but you also need to keep music going so just being interesting workshopping things and seeing how it goes with the songwriting so next week

03:09 umm it's going to intro to ukulele and it's definitely going to be a struggle for some of the kids as like it's hard and it's new and sometimes it's going to hurt their hands um but I'm excited

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to see how they're going to grow how I've getting to know these kids so far and just playing with them and seeing their smiling faces and saying hi and I think it's really good that I get to come in at the beginning of the year just because it's a fresh start, I get a fresh start, I get to know all their names um yeah, so I'm excited about where things are gonna go and we'll see bye

### **8.29.18 10:21AM**

00:01 It's Wednesday, August 29th and it's 10:21 am and I just got out from um the 5th grade class at Keister elementary with Mr. X's class um. and so the schedule for today was them coming in warming up their bodies and faces, so they do warming up their fingers and their nose um and like roaring like a lion, squeezing like a lemon that sort of thing. um and then went on to solfège. so she does this thing where they voices and they use different voices to say hi boys and girls and then they say hi Mrs. Hagy back and that gets them into their singing head voice and then doing like different solfège patterns. umm, then we did going to Kentucky to get their energy out again,

01:02 and then um, just a couple rounds and then she grabbed a ukulele and they she was like have them repeat, down, down, up uptown up and then pattern and really get it into their heads and then having them grab chairs like 3 at a time and having them repeat solfège and DDUUDU um that pattern just so they were doing something musical and it wasn't too chaotic while grabbing chairs. and um grabbing ukulele and leaving them in their cases and doing DDUUDU that sort of thing um

01:53 and that was really smart to leave it in their case and then teaching them which number is theirs for ukuleles and how to strum like what part of the finger you uses like the side of your thumb to strum um, what else does she do? then they got to learning their C chord first, so the way she does it is doing finger use, so she taught them which finger was what, string and then fret. so uh for C you would do 3rd finger, 1st string, 3rd fret and then going around and checking and then strumming and doing the DDUUDU and just giving them 8 seconds to find the C and then putting it down in rest position and teaching them rest position was and then brining it back up

02:52 and it's fun to see how like how she's done it once already, she knows exactly what they're going to say. something about oh my finger hurts and my finger's bleeding and it's purple and all those funny things they say.

03:17 so there was that and then after that, they learned the F chord and um it's definitely like a lot of put it down and find and like adapting to things, like oh if this difficult for you then um like just stick with doing down strums. there's a lot of adaptations which is really good. and that after learning that, they're minds are blown and you can really see different kids are really get it and some are not as much, but it's like first day so it's fine haha. um,

04:00 and then after that, she taught them how to put their ukuleles away properly with the strings facing up and being gentle and then they did dum dumdadada, which for them is so confusing and so cute and funny because they have a really hard time figuring out their left from their right um.. yeah and then there was that and they're just very chatty. so I think a lot of it is figuring out how to um like do chchchch or fingers of doom and like figuring that out. yeah and then they ended sitting in a circle and then they're done and it's funny because she'll like say things to them .

04:59 and what not how we're laughing about she had predicted and you can just she a lot of the students are English language learners in that class, so hearing like some of the things was really difficult for them and just having to repeat it a lot because they're just lower on the level. so

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yeah, that was all quite interesting. right now it's just really learning ukulele, so I'm interested in seeing how they all develop lyrics and what they're gonna say about how they feel um and I think it's just really fun to come into the class and they're all like "ooh, who's this person" um but it's definitely interesting to see personalities and who's chatty and who is gonna get it, it's just gonna take, wow I'm proud of you like you're getting it and giving them lots of time, so yeah, that was today and it was really fun and really good and tomorrow I'm teaching the CM chord, so just figuring out how to teach it well and

06:08 clearly um, it's going to be super huge and remembering to repeat and be patient. yeah, so that was my day. I'm excited and she's been sending me her lessons plan so I get so I know what the point is for each and I get to comment on her ukulele things and she's very open to advice and how to teach. so I think I'll go back and look at some Illinois music educator's stuff that I have. yeah bye!

### **8.30.18 10:30AM**

00:01 It's Thursday, August 30th um, it's about 10:30. and I just got out from Mrs. Hagy's class um at Keister and it's so interesting because you come in expecting something from a class like this class has a lot of lower level students and so um they were a lot rowdier last week and so I was expecting like you know a little more energy than Wednesday's class but um they did really well and were so great um. I got to see Maggie's lesson's beforehand and she ran through the same things, but we actually got through switching chords, which was more than yesterday's class and it was like this class it is fun. it is so fun seeing kids personalities and just like seeing how I'm almost like an oddity to them um

01:00 ah yeah, they're still like oh she's so cool and also like some of the kids were speaking Spanish and I was like oh I understand a little of them and they were just amazed. and wow, I wish I could say kids' names so badly but I don't think I have the permission to do that with IRB um, but I think what was cool about this class was that they were a little more focused and driven. I got to teach how to play CM chord and it was nice how Maggie set me up very well about like talking about finger placement and lot of it is about review, review, review, to get to know these things and I think what's really hard is being able to asses while you're teaching at the same time. it's really difficult to be like this kid, this kid needs this, because I'm only one person um

01:55 I think a lot more of these kids might have more backgrounds in guitar playing so it might be a little bit easier. and it's interesting to see how this instrument allows them to do different things and I'm excited to see how they will express themselves once they learn how to play this um. and um.

02:26 yeah, it's just interesting seeing how personalities come out and what students do when there are difficulties arising like, they don't get it so do they just gie up or do they actually try and work on these things. um and then. I think

02:51 um so Maggie ran down through her whole unit and curriculum plan and what not um, I know it's fun seeing how we played the dum, dum, da da game and these kids picked it up so much more quickly than they did last time getting their lefts and rights and just laughing and playing and like even if they couldn't get it right they were at least just trying to keep the beat um and that was cool for them. um

03:21 what else happened? I think yeah, there's this one student who is lower level and Maggie was explaining how um just like these little steps , he has like a plan of what to do and what not, if then", and she has to give options and stuff which is really good. um, so like 5 seconds this or

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like what not and adapting, but she's saying how it's difficult to find what accommodations and when and how far do you push and when and why um. but yeah, just seeing this one kid take a lot of time out, but then participating and she was saying how it was so exciting and so good for him um.

04:15 so that was super cool, um yeah I just think it's interesting seeing these kids work and their difficulties. they're so funny when their fingers start hurting um yeah, so I'm learning a lot how to kinda act out and be out of my comfort zone when teaching. you just have to be really excited and look stupid um with these kids because all eyes are on you and they want to see what you're doing. yeah, so it's been fun. I'm excited for next week, doing a little more planning, figuring out that stuff. um today was so good getting to know these kids and have laughter and like the little things with one kid losing his tooth. bye!

### **9.5.18 10:25AM**

00:00 Today is Wednesday, September 5th around 10:25 and I just got out and so she's sent me her lesson plan and Maggie's been really nice about letting me take baby steps about what I've been putting into her class and like teaching so this week, so this week I did CM, and FM, a review of what they had learned last week. um, so she started up with them warming up, shaking out their hands, that sort of things, and she was doing elevator breaths with them, and then she's very good about making sure they're using solfège and audiating, something that we learned in vocal tech and starting that off with eh pentatonic scale, very easy. super cool seeing that being put in place. um and then they played this ring circle game which helps to like get out energy, but group participation and community building. so they did kumala and that purpose is to keep a steady beat, so very basic standards of what she wants to accomplish

01:09 and then they practiced strumming and you can really see some kids really getting it like right away. Like oh I remember this strum pattern, it's DDUUDU but and some of them their muscles are getting used to their strumming up and down at the times, but it's like hard because they're like up, up um. but it's cool to see like it clicking and I was talking to her about how hard it is to assess um and she says she just marks down the people who just aren't getting it for ukulele it's just a lot about participating and who's participating um and so that was cool to see as one teacher how do you asses 15, 20 kids in your classroom um

01:53

So another thing I've really liked about her teaching is how calming she is because vocal nodes is a thing and if you're yelling over your kids, you're setting a standard but she always keeping it very calm. like they got excited about seeing a grace vanderwaal video um which she kinda had to be like, uh I'm stopping because this judge isn't wearing something really appropriate. but she was very good about like they were really excited and loud and she was like, no, no stop, calm down. she had a very calming voice, she's very good about calming them down and being very relaxed but also being excited um and she's like very happy with the students' participation and that they're getting it. um

02:41 yeah, for me it's figuring out a way to like, so when I was teaching to be clear about finger placement and going around and like continuing to strum, but also like let's all say CM together or let's all say third finger, 2nd string, first fret, just repeating and making sure the kids are all getting it um. rather than just doing it the way I would usually do it and so that's good to like edit the way I teach so that they're like talking as a group more and responding more rather than me talking all the time. I think it's something I'm learning, like can everybody say FMajor what not. so

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03:36 there's like a lot of extra time, so she's very good about showing them the dulcimer and telling them personal stories as well and letting them a little into her life and being exciting like saying this is

03:58 this is my husbands' dulcimer when he made when he was 9 and that's so cool and sharing these things and like sing to them musically and then she also showed them a chord sheet and it's cool to see how even though they're not like practicing ukulele a lot and we finished really early, she's able to input these things and show them the basics of songwriting, show them like Grace Vanderwaal who's their age, but also writing her own songs with positive messages and playing ukulele. like it's very cool for them to see that and I appreciate how she like slides it in and shows them chord charts

04:37 I think something that's really good, I almost got the names down and realized who are the more trouble kids oi uh yeah but like the girls are so sweet and so something for me is starting to write my own songs or like be able to do things that are cool to these kids so I can relate to them better. um, it's super important at this point now and then we also played dum dum da da and some kdis really like and enjoy it and some kids it's so hard that they stop. umso yeah, it's been a lot of let's learn the basics of ukulele and then we'll get into songwriting. I'm excited to see what they're going to write about and what kind of poetry comes out um yeah. that's it! bye!

### **9.5.18 10:20AM**

00:00 oo it's Wednesday September 5th around 10:20 um just got out of teaching at Keister and week by week I've been adding and maggie's been super nice about letting me add what I want to teach so this week I was helping them review um the FMajor and CM chords that they learned last week and so she sent me her lesson plan and they were doing a new ringcircle song which allows for like participation and um lik allowing um group participatin and like energy out. So kumala um yeah, so they do the warm up their hands, warm up their bodies, do a little solfegge and it's cool to see how things I learned in vocal tech are taking place and she's doing it. Like using head voice and um audiating so like she'll hum things without solfegge and they have to sing full solfegge or like you know baby steps towards that which is really good so then after the ring circle game kumala and it was like the purpose was to make sure they're clapping and keeping a beat um and she was saying how she like she learns things from previous classes like they couldn't high five each other because they didn't like touching each other um so they did fist bumps instead. um and then after that um what did we do? She did the practicing strumming, some kids like immediately remembered down, down, up, up, down, up and I think like it's hard for them to get the up and realize they're strumming down and up, but they're getting it!

### **9.6.18 9:09AM**

00:00 It's September 6th around 9:09 now and I'm walking over to Keister um I'm excited to see what this group is going to do because they're one of her lower level classes um just like in terms of capability, so I'm excited they take review, how they'll take learning the chords and reviewing the chords, um hopefully they'll surprise us. definitely low of energy wow. school and teaching is hard, teaching's been real hard, but I'm hoping to just have a lot of energy coming into it and glad to be reviewing, I'm trying a little bit of different ways to be reviewing, like a lot more repetition um, yeah so hopefully today goes well

### **9.6.18 10:21AM**

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00:00 It's Thursday, September 6th and it's about 10:21. I got out of Maggie's class and it was super interesting. It's interesting to see how things change day by day like you learn from the previous class that you teach. So I used a lot more repetition of like say 1st finger with me, blah, blah, blah and just seeing how Maggie varies things so like she taught them swinging rhythms and reviewed swinging rhythms but didn't show them the video of Grace Vanderwaal or didn't go into as depth of the dulcimer stuff so it's interesting seeing the way she varies and like what she ends up doing like there was no audiation today, it was just singing solfège. um, and so it was interesting to see which kids were acting up this week because they were different than last week. like last week the class was so good, the class was on point, everyone was on track

01:02 um and then this week, we had a couple students who can't say their names, but like as she's telling me more and more of these kids, it's so hard to hear some of their backstories and um like why things are why they are. and yeah, so that's hard um, but one student who usually stands on the side was really participating today and that was really amazing to see like him enjoying himself and having fun and participating apart from what his normal is which is aside. um

01:46 I think, 01:54 it's yeah, it's just interesting um being around these kids and seeing them recognize me more and teaching them and like the class turned out so well with them having fun and enjoying and participating and then ukuleles went and it was going well and they were learning chords and then they went into dulcimer, which is again another slower thing after sitting and Maggie was really good about saying like sometimes it's not the students' fault and it's not necessarily your fault either but like what can you do better? and so something she mentioned she could do better was pacing. um pacing to um keep the kids active. like after sitting for ukulele, doing something more active like Mousie, Mousie, that sort of thing. so she was saying, what can I improve on and a lot of it can be spur of the moment when you're teaching. cause by the end, they started off so well, and then they were totally scattered. making jokes, being distracted um and like one student has a timer where he takes a break and that was good, but he was just totally for the rest of the time

03:12 yeah, so it was hard to see a class that was doing so well at first, not crumble but like kinda did. um, but knowing that Maggie is so gracious in recognizing that it's not always like this is the student, I could have done this better as the teacher. yeah as they were doing dulcimer, they were making jokes and she had to have a very serious conversation with them about maturity and what not and it was just hard trying to get their attention um,. and like you know they can't always get a Cougar Paw because you know how good they can be no

03:58 um, yeah, for me it's fun seeing as the students get to know me a bit better and like me getting to be more comfortable teaching and reviewing, that's super cool for me and just being able to see them grow even though. it's sad to only see the kids once a week, like uh so hard. um. and Maggie was saying 55 minutes is a long time, it's a long time to have these kids for once a week. Um, yeah.

04:34 and then it was super nice. I was asking her about borrowing some of her curriculum for China and she was like yeah, everybody borrows stuff.

### **9.6.18 10:21AM CONTINUATION**

00:01 Um, yeah, she was super nice about letting me borrow it and she was saying like with VMEA showing um it's one of those things where other teachers teach you and you learn from them but where is the line? like of course she's going to let me do it, but the songwriting project was mostly out of her own thinking and so don't take credit for it. it's like you're learning from

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others and as Lexi say, peer poaching, because it's good, that's how you learn but know that it's not all your own and umyeah and I was talking to her about building ukuleles in China and seeing how we could do that and she made a good point of saying like you know sometimes it's not the best because the ukuleles are a lot harder to play, so now it's like, do I do it that way, do I not do it that way, I don't know. we'll see. I'm excited to see what it's going to be like in China. and just to like use her lesson plans and what not yeah. yeah! that's really loud sorry... so I'm excited to see what the kids do next week, we're going to review chords, do G, and introduce songwriting.

### **9.12.18 9:02AM**

00:00 It's September 12th and it's about 9:02 I'm walking over to Keister now. Um, today we're playing Kumala again, singing and then Maggie added in Mousie, Mousie after ukulele so they would have something to pace break up like mentioned last time um, I'm having to review CM, FM, and Em today and then she's going to teach them GM which is going to give them a lot of angst because it's hard at first. Um, um I'm exhausted and I don't know how teachers do this because they actually have to talk but yeah, I'm just exhausted from school and everything so figuring all that out. but I'm hoping that today goes well um, with the kids, um we'll see what happens um they're going to be getting to... [something about the hurricane and weather] so they might be a little wild, I don't know. we'll see yeah.

### **9.12.18 10:25AM**

00:00 Still Wednesday, September 12th again. Um, and ummit's about 10:25, I just got out from Maggie's class um so today they had a sub so it was definitely, like she definitely needed to be more strict with the class and they did a good job honestly and I think the balance with games, and singing, and uke. and something for me to learn that she was giving me feedback on was to not ...00:59 umm to not be afraid to give them a little bit of time to settle between transitions and to like have a commanding presence and it is a little hard because it is her classroom but also like the kids are used to me and she's definitely given me the authority with them, but I'm also playing games with them and so it's a hard balance to be like this is what we need to do and we're reviewing so like let's calm down and settle down and trying to find that balance um so that's her feedback for me. Don't be afraid to wait a little bit to let them settle cause like, I'm trying to find a balance between doing things really fast and um like keeping their attention but also like they're kids so their not all gonna I don't know they're not all gonna be quiet at the same time. It's hard to find a balance, but that was her comment for me and like she talked quieter when she wants to get their attention. which is good for your voice first of all but it's also like a little more serious and so I think tomorrow that's what I'm going to try and figure out like how to have a more commanding presence but not in the authoritative sense, but in the like hey, let's all do this together, we all need to settle down a little bit. and given some kids are really getting it, but first they're forgetting form week to week, like how do I do this chord and how do I do this chord. um 02:26 yeah, so it's just definitely a balance. I think I've almost got all the naems down it's just a little hard sometimes uh

02:46 um, what else? oh so Maggie taught G and she's very good in like mixing in stories so they can have brain break sand review. It's a lot they're taking in. so just a for fun story for a brain break. and then yeah, so she taught G and she was very good about showing them and having them observe different things like certain thinsg so like I have these two fingers, which two fingrs are on the same string. which string has two fingers on it? what fingers am I using. like

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having them observe and look at her before they have to do it themselves. so that was super cool and super good for them

03:43 um...03:49 yeah, that was mostly the day and I think you can see little personalities come out and just talking about one kdi who only wants attention and that specialness so like this kid just wanted to do it all. she didn't want to put up with an argument um, yeah so it's balancing things.

### **9.13.18 AM**

00:03 It's Thursday September 13th and I'm walking over to Keister um yeah most tired yesterday was feeling a little down and tired I think it's partially because of the weather um which is hard and it's definitely like you try slightly different teaching approaches just so maybe they'll all settle down and they don't have to raise my voice when I'm talking to them um and quieter maybe and I also think wow teaching is like uh I'm supposed to have all this energy and how am I supposed to be real with these kids and the fact that like you know sometimes I may not be as energetic as I may want to be that sort of thing. and like what if the students don't like me but realizing like it's not about that in a sense um it's kind of hard to wrestle with and balance how you teach and how the kids respond all that jazz but hopefully today goes well um last week was class had a hard week that started out really well so hopefully the pacing game with Mousie Mousie will help yeah.

### **9.13.18 10:24AM**

00:01 Thursday September 13th at uh 10:24. Just got out of Maggie's class and uh so this class is a lot lower level of students and so right at the beginning you hear them coming down the stairwell and they're already pretty loud and hear one student in particular. And Maggie knew immediately oh we got to be a little stricter with them what not and you can see kids getting more comfortable and starting to act out. Like kids who were fine at the beginning and then like what are they doing and one kid who usually stands aside but he's been participating. I think at first it took him a while to warm up and then he's getting more and more into it and music apparently is one of the classes he participates in the most and it's so exciting to see that. um.

00:56 I think I'm almost good on names, um. and we had one student who like wasn't really in control of his body so Maggie had to take him out and talk to him and she was saying how it's nice having another adult body in the room because if you do it in front of people they shut down or like are upset asking in front of kids and so she pulled him aside at first. They were doing rhythm patterns at first and so she like wanted to have a student lead and students were like, wait I can't actually do this and so she called me up and I was like "AHH" like on the fly teaching, say what?. So that was definitely scary and definitely learned a lot from that. My speaking voice is always so much lower and I always have to remember with elementary general music you have to sing higher and head voice and it's actually something I'm not used to and so I was like, uhh it has to be higher and just thinking of patterns like ta ta ta ki ti ki ta and like rest and stuff is really hard, but they were really good with me especially when I was like

02:03 I couldn't keep a continuous because I was thinking so hard about different varied patterns um, so I'm thankful for their grace with me. um and the fact that I had observed and done stuff with Maggie enough that it was as difficult except those things like when you teach, honestly you black out I think for me right now, I'm like, "What am I doing?!" and then I can't remember it anymore. um haha and

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02:34 yeah, it was just spur of the moment and then he was and then the student was able to sit aside and kind of like calm and at the very end he joined and played and it was so good to just yeah. and some of the other kids have these things called soccer balls and um it's just for good behavior and just knowing that I think she has to read a ton of IEPs and just especially with every single kid so it's so hard to know like it's hard to know how she knows the students so well. It kind of blows my mind

03:13 yeah, and then so we did "{ }" again and I really think I need a higher voice like and did review. learned form maggie so I told a story because we got forked this morning. I think I need to do a better lead up to the story, so practicing that. But to give them a brain break to massage their fingers and kind of get it all out um and yeah, it was much better this time getting them in rest position and not having to raise my voice as much and like feel like I needed to talk above them um which was good

04:00 she also ended five minutes early which was funny because she was like, oh I have to think of something else to do and like yeah cause sometimes you just forget um and then what else happened. yeah so there was that and

04:25 um at the beginning they were playing Kumala and one kid acted out and did a weird dance move, which was no bueno. um, and so she had to have a more serious talk with the class and it's like how do you balance serious and maturity what not I think is really hard especially for these students because they're like the oldest grade and still figuring stuff out. yeah, I think this experience has been good, it's definitely out of my comfort zone what I've been doing, but it's been so good and so rewarding. Maggie has the kids say thank you to me everytime I teach and I'm literally like, I do nothing, like you're teaching me and she's so kind to let me be in her classroom and helping out and stuff like that it's um I just feel very blessed to be able to be in the classroom at this point and um gain the knowledge and experiences. Even knowing games for general music is just good to know and I'm really thankful and blessed by that

05:41 I think the kids did really well and some of the kids are super sweet. Like one of the things they would pick it up and were actually trying and some kids who didn't want to so it's a mixed bag, but they're doing so much better with their strumming than they were the first week and I'm really proud of them. you become attached honestly , yeah, that's it.

### **9.19.18 10:20AM**

00:00 Wednesday, September 19th and it's about 10:20, I just got out of the class um I'm glad that I'm starting to actually know everybody's name. there's two kids that I'm a little unsure of but yeah today maggie introduced the songwriting portion.s she had a powerpoint presentation and it was her sharing so she like shared the book what would you do with an idea.or something like that, but it was a really, really cool book, but she used the lines to share with them the hardships, like it's going to be hard and there's like people might laugh at you for it, but also like this is what it is. She showed examples of good and bad lyrics and talked about lyrics matter and it's important to write things um, in a meaningful way, not like justin bieber's baby or taylor swift's never every getting back together. but writing them with more depth and in a more poetic manner.

01:14 they started off the time with coming in, warming up bodies, solfegge, kumala, you could see they were getting really antsy. yeah, they were getting pretty antsy and so it's just I think she's going to try and add more games next time. um just for movement and kind of like little snippets you can see it. some of the kids jsut don't get it and then make jokes and laugh and want to move a lot. some of them you can see like they're like tearing up and crying or they say really

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profound things, just like little nuggets or where they're like almost there. One um student was saying like, but she's just writing her feelings? what's wrong with that? It's a totally valid point, um so yeah. It's crazy and just the fact that Maggie can share her songs are really meaningful to the kids to see

02:14 um and like they've never met Jordan, but they hear so much about her that they love her. um yeah, so it's super cool seeing and that and it just makes me want to write songs more and really share. I think there's these moments for me where like after watching them ahh I should write a song blah blah and write out some lyrics or just looking at my past journals and seeing um how I'm feeling would be super cool yeah, I can't wait to write a song about this and hear myself talk again about the ups and downs because yes, it's hard when the kids aren't focusing and paying attention but those little nuggets of truth and the golden wow like that clicks is so worth it um even though it can be really hard um

03:08 yeah, it's just a matter of writing things down and trying things out. umm, yeah, hopefully tomorrow goes well. I got to share with them the forms and just like the fact that this project is really special to me and I'm I can't wait to hear what they share and how I can share that with others um, because these kids have such sweet hearts and they have such amazing stories and you know they may be 11, 12, 10, um but their words are so important and they have stuff to share. It makes me wanna like go back and compare the writing from when I was younger and write stuff about it. and just my feelings from way back when um. yeah, super cool, super cool, and I'm excited for tomorrow and to see what happens, yeah

### **9.19.18 10:25AM**

00:00 It's 10:25 on today's September 19th? I want to say. Umm, just got out of Keister. today maggie switched it up just based on what they did yesterday and so instead of doing a game and like hiking up their energy or losing it, um. she instead they had their morning meeting, so she just went into telling a story and she said it went a lot better which was good from yesterday. I could definitely see the difference in that there were more people focused and less jittery which was good um. yeah, they're definitely behavior issues today and it's so insane because it switches every week. every single week. who's having a good day, who's having a bad day and it's so interesting seeing kids who are like. today, I'm extremely exhausted and tired because I stayed up way too late making cookies, but it was worth it, but like kids show it on their faces so well how they're doing and in their language and so some were having good days and some were having hard days and um

01:16 and again, like some of those nuggets these kids have, sometimes it's just one child, one nugget in an hour but it's just so profound. um, yeah, it's insane sometimes just what these kids say um. yeah just amazing and hearing maggie and jordan's song, there's rawness to them um something I think these kids are starting to understand but I think it can be a little hard for them too. Maggie also they didn't the kids didn't get to do the why circle but it's super cool she was showing it to me

02:06 so she started with what, it's really easy to say what we do and how, how we do it, but the question is why, why are we doing something and that's something nobody else can touch and I'm just starting to think about like I hope these kids turn these forms in and sign them. it's such a huge barrier to doing research but um yeah. I'm praying hard that these get turned in but, it's so true that you literally pieces of your heart with these kids um and just thinking about I'm going to write further on about the song I have to write. um, it's going to be so tough but it's going to be so good and

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03:01 yeah, honestly when I think about the why and kinda blending into the capstone, hillcrest grant a little bit. I'm uncomfortable songwriting like I'm uncomfortable in the classroom and Maggie's an amazing teacher just seeing her um, truly truly amazing um and just the reasons why she does things um yeah I just have to ask why I'm doing this and why am I doing music and why do I do this and why do I want to do this? but I know as I was thinking with my capstone and grant stuff that um

03:42 um, I am leaving pieces of my heart here with each one of these kids and getting to know each one and love them and they're just so much fun um. yeah it fits in well as I was thinking of it because I think I titled this one I don't know if I wrote this one to be pieces of us of the other one, um but it just fits well because like I am and my heart is going to these kids and I cannot wait to see what they write. like one of the kids was like, "I don't know how to write a line, I can't do it, um, but I know he's going to come up with something amazing and I'm so excited for that um. yeah, that's me. bye!

### **9.19.18 8:55AM**

00:00 Hello, it's Wednesday, September 19th at 8:55 um, I'm walking over to Keister now and um. not as tired as last week, but definitely just a little bit tired. um, I'm going to teach and review all the chords they learn today um and also talk about forms that need to signed um. yeah. yeah. Excited to review, always kind of a bit nervous beforehand Maggie and in front of the kids I want to do well and yeah I think it's always difficult in front of other um to make yourselves known to them as you teach because like you're being wah to teach um yeah

### **9.19.18 Continuation walking to KES**

00:00 It's just IRB's a bit much and this forms really long and Maggie even commented that the translation's really long and the parents aren't really going to going to read it I don't think, so she just had me highlight where the kids would sign and where the parents would sign so hopefully more of them would be able to um. just be able to sign and participate in it. so it's a little hard, but hopefully it all goes well.

### **9.26.18 8:55AM**

00:00 I'm walking to Keister at 8:55 on Wednesday, September 26th I think. I think it's the 26th, I don't know. I'm just really tired. This seems to happen more and more as the school year has gone by I'm just exhausted. Ummm so today they're supposed to bring in a line of poetry and yeah and Maggie's going to write a song using their words. I saw this um thing that she did last semester with her songwriting, so I'm excited to see it again now that I've seen the whole process they've gone through. um. yeah. I think it's going to be super cool and just to see them seeing their own words being used will be really interesting, exciting um

01:04 what else... ummm... I'm supposed to make a half-sheet and so for me the challenge will be figuring out how to make it understandable for low level readers, but also a good way to prompt them to like draw or write what they're feeling. um yeah, that's kind of where I'm at now. I've started messing around with words and lyrics for my song that I'm writing after this process umm... yeah something that I've been kinda going.

### **9.26.18 10:24AM**

00:00 It's 10:24ish um at Keister. really different than last year when I was observing. Um, so they had an assignment to bring in um uh to bring in one line of lyrics and so last year when I

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visited almost all of them did and if they didn't she allowed them like there were 2 or 3 and she allowed them to write on sticky notes um, but this time they were given time like in the morning to write it ahead of time and what not, um and still only I think like seven of them wrote seven out of 15 um. and she was able to give partial credit to those who spoke up and said something like 3 out of 5 points, but um it was still amazing to see the level at um just very different from last year when I visited. um

01:03 yeah and so I got a couple forms turned in which is good it's so hard the fact it's hard that this has to be the case and I have to turn in these forms and just like I feel like it actually hinders research with little kids because like I've met them but not their parents and it's just difficult. um. yeah but I think there were 4 forms turned in, which is good! um and even so, they'll just have time to reflect um on their own, yeah. what else? um.

01:45 so Maggie had this lesson plan to play games and solfeggio and warm up but honestly, they were just such a mess. She was saying that this was her at her meanest because they just like someone jumped because they were so unfocused and just like get it done, get 'er done. um

02:05 so this class was definitely harder to work with and just like last year she had somebody type um but I ended up typing because the kids were a little bit slower um which is um a really good example of the lower level these kids are at reading wise and ability wise that she was talking about. um yeah, it was kind of amazing because I don't know if I had this many issues when I was their age. I don't know. um what else? It was so cool to see the song piece together and she's amazing at coming up with things right away. I would not have been able to do that as well as she did. um yeah amazing. um

03:00 it's giving me ideas for my song. I really just need to write lyrics I'm right at the point like the kids like wow, I really don't know how to do this and it just takes practice and a lot of experimenting and messing up and yeah, Maggie was really good about encouraging the kids but also we gotta write lines. I think the best part was probably as these kids starting writing lyrics and hearing like their words being used in a song to create so beautiful and cool, they started getting ideas and um just like bouncing these ideas off each other, which is amazing and being so into it. It was so cool just like rolling off their tongues and raising their hands like those little moments and you can see some of the kids like one kid has more difficulty um but I think he's so close to getting it, I just think some of his friends are hindering him which is a little bit hard um.

03:59 yeah so truly is a balance um it was so interesting today I like saw their names spelled oh my goodness.

04:16 that was just something else. This is so different and so cool! Cause I knew how it was pronounced but seeing it spelled was like a whole nother world. um yeah, I'm hoping tomorrow goes better um with the kids turning in their lyrics, but I don't know, we'll see maybe they will maybe they won't um yeah and it's hard with kids cause like Maggie was saying how she loves to see their reaction in it and kids like don't see it as much this young which is hard, but um they got into groups, she let them choose their groups um hopefully it works out and they'll be able to encourage one another and help each other in it of whether they tear each other down and distract each other um so next week they'll be doing rotations and I'll be asking them questions. I need to think of my questions cause she asked me if I wanted to help lead it and I was like "eh heh" because I'm not like comfortable with it yet. I think it's just a practice thing and writing songs and writing words and like spending the time to write these things um. yeah, so I'm excited and I'm also nervous because I feel they're in a much better position. yeah okay, bye!

**9.27.18 10:23AM**

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00:00 It's 10:23 and I just got out of the class! So Maggie came in with a different game plan to their behavioral issues were in a bit of the mud. and definitely saw Mama Bear come out a little bit, which was funny, but it was needed like it was needed because I think one of the big issues in this is that is kind of a bit unstructured which allows the students freedom but also like when one kids acts up it actually hinders another kid from getting it when they're so close um and so one of the kids she was like, no mhmm, go to the back corner, sit, no leeway and that was really good and all the kids were really attentive and focused at the beginning, but this class it so long and it's like 55 minutes and by the half hour point they're like whewww, it's a little harder for them, um. It was interesting to see how she took this class because they're song was umm maybe not as developed and oh I ended up typing but like the student was a good typer, it's just hard to go that fast which is understandable. um, yeah

01:18 so what ended up happening was um uh definitely hit an impasse a hard point in the song writing where she couldn't figure out like what to do and the kids were like I don't know what words to fit in and nothing really fits um and there thing was also friendship so it was interesting seeing the differences between the two classes um,

01:51 yeah and so it felt real with them in that songwriting we try again and we listen to the guitar and we try and figure something else out um I think someone else oh so this class had a lot more people turn in things which is really good um. but I think um yeah, I also like the forms are good and necessary but also those who filled it out are definitely higher they're higher level students and so the data that I'm gonna get is definitely not gonna be as like good as I want it to be because yes I will but I won't be able to share the kids who are "trouble kids" and be able to share like oh this is what this is and this is what this is you know um. but people at huh huh the superintendent's office got word of this and they want to come in and record these kids and these kids are so excited, but Maggie's also like we got to piece some things together before it gets put on local news um, but I think it's so cool and um It's an amazing opportunity that I get the chance to work alongside her and maggie is doing really great stuff I mean it blows my mind how amazing she is at stuff like this. um, yeah.

03:22 I'm excited to see what they write. I started practicing guitar again for like worship stuff, but the callouses and my fingers they hurt, but it's fun to kinda like mess around and my first inclination is to start with the music first because like just because I can mess around with chords but honestly what I need to do is just sit and write and then put the lyrics to the music, I think that's the better first step.

### **9.27.18 9:00AM**

00:00 It's raining and I'm walking to Keister. It's 9:00 on Thursday, September 27th. Umm. yeah it's raining and sad, but I got my umbrella so it's okay. um mhmm \*humming and wait walk button\*

00:45 I'm really hoping for good stuff today at Keister um yeah, I'm a little nervous um just because yesterday was okay, but the kids were mhm and this class is supposedly difficult. different challenges but like a little bit lower level and so I really want to see these kids just like open up and understand um and really get the importance of songwriting and expressing feelings and stuff but I don't know, one can hope, one can dream. umm yeah I hope they all turn stuff in. um both lyric wise and forms so I have data to base stuff off of um, yeah

01:39 that's the hope, I'm really excited to see what I come up with, but I'm also nervous for what they might not. I don't know, we'll see. also my fingers hurt from playing guitar cause I'm rebuilding those callouses. yay!

**9.27.18 10:25 AM**

00:00 But it's about 10:25 on Thursday, got out. and this class I was happy with in that a lot of them turned in more stuff, but haha definitely saw Mama bear come out with Maggie and the fact she knew from this class that she had to nip it in the bud um and , no you're not going to act up like we're gonna do the work and you're not going to distract the kids the kids around you because I think the hard thing is that um some of the kids are so close on the cusp that when they have a friend bothering them it prevents them from writing something beautiful. Um so she told him to go sit in the corner because he needed it um yeah. It was just very interesting overall um 01:03 it was interesting seeing like got to see the more realistic part of songwriting where you get a little bit stuck on words and maggie like couldn't figure out a way to do it. So she just kinda played and listened and went through that um. Yeah, it's also interesting because like these kids were so good at the beginning but just because this class is 55 minutes instead of 30 like they get antsy and it gets hard and so by the end they were like uh uh, but I love seeing like the kid who doesn't really talk and stands off to the side um just like slowly mouthing quietly mouthing the words and like these kids getting to seeing these words being used. like wow, it's a beautiful song! um, that's cool for me and like the superintendent's office got word of it and they're gonna go and videotape and photograph so that's super cool

01:58 yeah, but Maggie's like we won't have them come quite yet because they still have quite a lot to do, rotations, um, yeah and it was also interesting seeing like yes, this is a lower performing group and one girl was typing and she was doing great, but it was too much to go that fast, and so she kinda just stopped and was like okay, I'll type. um yeah, it's interesting to see they kind of had the same topic but went different ways on it. um. and yeah, I just love seeing those kids light up because their own song is coming and I think for me I'm practicing for worship stuff and my callouses are coming in and they're HURTING like butt. um haha.. but like I want to do music first and then add the lyrics but what I really need to do is like stick to it and do the lyrics first then add the music um, yeah.

**9.27.18 Continuation**

00:00 and continuing on, let me think. hmm.. what else happened. yeah, it's just cool that their lyrics get used um and I'm really excited to see where it goes. and yeah, it's just super exciting for me to see all of it and see like pieces come together. choosing groups was hard for them I think because they just want to be with their friends, but also can they work well together? Yeah, so that's it! Excited to see how it goes in the future. um. yeah.

**10.3.18 8:57 AM**

00:04 it's wednesday october 3rd and I'm walking over to Keister now um, it's about 8:57 umm. figuring out that I'll probably have to transcribe all my videos by hand by myself, not like with a program. it's kinda annoying to do that, which kinda stinks, but it'll be good to listen to myself hear the information I've been saying and the thought process has been through it all so yeah. They're doing group rotations for the first time, so they'll have four areas umm hopefully they all brought in their homework of their lines so they have some materials to write their songs with. yeah, that's the hope because last class they did not do so well on that last week. I feel like I'm a little off today, just slept weird and yeah so it's been a little hard um. but basically maggie's gonna take one station helping them work on like their lyrics and piecing together lyrics and music

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01:15 they'll have another station just to work on ukuleles, another station just to work on their lyrics, another station with me will just be either they're drawing or writing and I think we might just have some conversations um it's a little bit hard because I'm going to figure out how to balance it all out. like the forms where I can audio record and who I can't and who I can video record um, so that's a little bit difficult. um

01:46 and then, yeah, so each week when they have rotations, what I'll be focusing on will be a little different, but will be a progression um so I'm thinking about songwriting and identity so this week on their half sheet of paper for drawing and writing what I had them do was is how did you feel about putting together lyrics and music and what I'll ask the kids on the videotape is the same question uh but also the fact like um like I want them to hear about their songwriting process, like is it hard, easy, frustrating to write lyrics and how are they dealing with that. is it cooler or maybe like worth it in the end because it's their own songs they're making umyeah, so that's what I kind of want to get out of this week is the process of songwriting and how it's affecting their own personalities like how are they growing and in further weeks asking them about what's your song about? what does your song tell about you? or what is the message you want to give? I just think right now with their lyrics being developed, they're not quite there yet  
03:01 um, yeah so hopefully this class goes well! Bye!

### **10.11.18 8:52AM**

00:00 It's 8:52? on Thursday, October 11th. Hoping it goes well, gonna ask similar questions see what they answer. Yeah, teaching's exhausting. bye!

### **10.11.18 10:23AM**

00:01 It's 10:23 um, yeah. It's 10:23 on October 11th of Thursday. um, really interesting. So I had this great idea because technically like of course through IRB I can't use the students' um voices and like identifiable information and so it's really interesting so I reviewed the chords with them for ukulele um, I want to make it more interesting because it's just so monotonous to be like "3rd finger, 1st fret, blah, blah, blah" what not. umm but it's so fun seeing how the kids get really interested and invested and like oh I have to write a song for my project, like you all are writing a project, and like I am too and so it's cute to see them be like, what, so cool! um. and like kids just want to know about your life apart from being a teacher and what you do

00:59 um, what else? um, what am I thinking of. yeah so, first group had a group of girls and it was harder because they hadn't gone through a rotation yet, so they were less talkative and it was hard to think of things to talk about so we're thinking of switching things up and putting them in the middle. um later. and the last group was AMAZING that day. they were so cute, they had just come from writing their song, they were so excited. um and they were like, "Let me share with you!" like kind of squirrely, but super cool. and then one group found out about copyright cause they were using the wrong things they were using other people's lyrics which was kind of hard for them and you see personalities be like, I'm never writing lyrics again because of this and kid was actually like ah I'm good at freestyle rap um

02:10 and wrote a lot and that was cool to see his story being put out in that .um. yeah so a lot of cool bean kind of stuff. yeah, just so interesting to see these kids come out and stuff and it's funny hearing like "ah, is your song a story?" and some of them are like "No.." and some of them are like "uh, yes!" and this concept of identity is so foreign to them. So I can't like explicitly ask kids what is identity in the stuff I'm learning, it's more what I'll probably have to do is be like, ah this is how their identities and personalities have been changing and taking like the beginning

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beginning um versions and like what they're feeling about being nervous and what not and seeing how it changes overtime other than like ah how's your identity changing? because kids this age really can't tell. um

03:11 yeah, but so so so cool what's happening. I love them to death, I'm going to be so sad to leave and just the fact that I got to come in the beginning and build these relationships and get to know their names and like it's super super sweet.

### **10.17.18 9AM**

00:00 Wednesday, October 17th it's cold outside. it's cold outside. Umm, yeah, it's very cold outside, um about 9 o'clock. So I'm going to Keister now hopefully it goes well. So it's their last day to work on their songs because Maggie won't be there next week um, so last week to actually put their songs together and create a completed project. product. um. hoping they are able to come in and bring more lines I think we're going to switch rotations of who I'm going to interview first so there's a little variation and that Maggie can work with one group at a time in a different order um and get better ideas. My questions this week were a lot about how we share songs with others and why do we share it, like why are we sharing a piece of ourselves. do we even want to? um, that sort of thing, so that's my main questions. So on their half sheet I was like, Who would you share it with?, um and on advertisement how would you share it sort of thing and the questions I have are based upon that premise. yeah, so yeah I'm hoping it goes well and that the kids come in with some good ideas and they're talkative and yeah.

### **10.17.18 AM walking back to JMU**

00:00 Wednesday, October 17th. I'm walking back from Keister um, yeah, today actually went really well, it's nice with this group that they only have 3 and they only have 4 stations because it gives them time um finished all their songs, I'm super excited to hear them. cause I haven't really, like I've got to hear a couple of them, but not really, so I'm excited to see what they've written umm it's definitely hard having this unit in the fall and Maggie was saying like if it was in the spring, she'd spread it out more and like there's definitely crunch time with everything and keeping the important thing is keeping students accountable so having them write a lyric every week, it's just been really busy in the fall and I'm sad to say that's partially my fault because of how it worked with my semester scheduling and what not. But, yeah, it would be interesting to do it in the spring and analyze because they've matured a lot more and they've grown up a lot more. Um, so that would be super interesting too, but maybe for another time

um01:07 super, super cool to see how that so many kids are starting to like ukulele and that it's just so funny because some of them know their strings and their chords really well. they're like, C ,third string 3rd finger, 1st string, 1st fret. they understand and then when I interview them they're hilarious because like nah, I'm not a songwriter. no, I'm not this and they don't and they're like ah, no I don't want to share it. ah there's is better and they say things so differently than how they're actually doing them and it's just so interesting to me. um

01:49 man, it's going, I loved coming in and getting to know them right from the beginning and it's going to be sad not getting to see them like that's going to be sad. um. when this whole activity is done, um, because like I lvoe them and I miss them. um definitely for me something I think something I struggle with this interviewing ishow do I manage like classroom management, not in the sense, like behavior management because again, I'll have the highest position, but um

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02:32 yeah, it's really just a balance um yeah, sometimes I don't feel like I come off as too strict or I'm too laidback. definitely on the side of too laid back just because of the context umm ,super interesting, but I love all of them I'm excited to hear their songs and transcribe everything and see there's just so funny. They say stuff and then they're like but your actions don't mAH yeah. umm yeah definitely learning a lot from this experience and an experience I definitely wouldn't have gotten otherwise. really happy about it. bye!

### **10.18.18 10:36AM**

00:00 It's October 18th and I'm walking back around 10:36 umm. today was good, it was definitely exhausting um because our classes are really long. So we switched up the groups where the all girls group went second and that was so good because they could actually like finish their song so when they came and chatted to me it was lot easier and better and they even sang some of their song for me, it was super cute! Um, uhh, teaching the chords, I think when I teach chords, I do a lot of repeat after me or touch this or like figure out this so being cognizant of like who I'm looking at and who's saying it because like you've got that one kid who will always answer and ah the students must understand, but wait a minute the students don't, it's just this one kid so doing that. Um

00:57 yeah, it was a chiller day because there were less kdis, definitely think the last group I worked with. The one kid was just so antsy and he was having such a difficult time, by the end of 55 minutes and like it was so hard like I don't think I'm strict enough and so I'm nervous about when Maggie's gone and I'm the one actually doing the subbing stuff that huh AHH they're gonna like run me over but. but hopefully that is not the case. She said the key is transitions um and just doing it right after another sand so um yeah, definitely tiring, I don't even know how you teach for like 6 hours a day. I'm exhausted after one! Heh, just to give it your best everytime, that's just like insane to me. um, I'm exhausted, ah heh.

02:04 umm, yeah so next week gotta prep for that. A little nervous to be honest um, but yeah, all the groups completed their songs, um I'm really excited for them in that um. yeah I'm excited to hear all their songs.

### **10.25.18 AM Walking to KES**

00:00 I'm going to substitute teach for 5th grade so Jennifer Pope will actually be there being the real sub and Maggie leaves a video, but I'm basically doing is facilitating the songs um praying so hard, so nervous to actually do it because they've seen me but now I have to take a little more authority um

00:32 nervous about that

00:53 yeah, definitely nervous about that. um just hoping that some of the kids are more difficult are good and yeah, it's just a matter of me keeping those transitions really good and using fingers of doom and being serious and yeah, I'm nervous, but hopefully it goes well

### **10.25.18 10:20AM**

00:00 It is October 25th at um uhhhh 10:20 AM. Oh my goodness, it's over. I just don't understand how teachers like how Maggie does it, because I am exhausted after 5th grade. Like exhausted! But then Jennifer Pope was saying like it's fun to see them in age groups because in kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, angelic, and so I'm like ah maybe because they're angelic, um it makes it so much better. but ahhh this class has me worn out! They're not your peachy keen, like it's office or nothing sort of kinda thing. um and the kids talking back to you and the kids like why

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this, why that and wheww it's a tough bunch of kids. a bunch of love for them, but exhausting. umm yeah, we played games and some games worked really well, and some games didn't and their voice levels definitely got high and um my voice is kinda shot.

01:18 Thankfully after watching maggie a lot, I've learned she lowers the level and she is like stern with them, but not to the point where she's yelling because that doesn't help. so it's really important to realize that the level of your voice really determines. so when you escalate and you're like singing really loudly or singing really softly it really impacts your counting down and stuff um but exhausting , exhausting, these kids are exhausting. but so sweet, like and it makes me sad because some of the kids like um are really good and they're having a good time, but their education is hindered by the people who the teacher kinda has to crowd control and you're like how do I help it like what do I do? um

02:04 yeah, it's hard sometimes um and like to be honest, you make mistakes as a teacher and kids pick up on that, but also to be like, you know I made a mistake, I said somebody's name when it should have been a secret and you're like ah it happens. To give myself grace um it's exhausting and I'm exhausted. um

02:36 and I'm so thankful that I've been with this class because I could call them out by name and even if it gets crazy I'd be like, hey stop it. And some kids who I thought were going to be a lot worse were get and some kids who I was like eh were tanking down. um. like one kid was super great in participating and fabulous and it was really hard, what was really hard for me was like I was so thankful for Jen Pope um to but in and talk. She just has a different method, like a more aggressive method than Maggie and

03:10 that's okay, and so I think have to balance being stiff and stern and not being like a pole they can hit over because you want to have fun but you also have to keep the ground and stop it, stop it, stop it uhhh haha. yeah, I think for me the worst part was probably like when Jen and then um it's Mrs. Wright, but she's the person who helps with the kids with IEPs and makes sure everything is going okay like, helps out what not were talking in the back and I guess they were explaining games and chatting, but as a student teacher, it's one of the worst feelings and like it's a fault of mine to jump to conclusions, like ah they're talking about me and how poor and teaching, but it's like the worst feeling to be there teaching and trying to keep control of the class and there's two adults like talking in the back um so yup, that's a rough thing.

04:38 I also think, but at the end what was so great, honestly like I did points and for some of the kids, it worked because it was like that's the difficulty with being a sub because they're used to certain thing and then you put in a sub and they're like, what on earth! um and so when I did a game wrong or something they're like, That's not how you do it! I'm like, Sorry! Or like with points being taken away, you can't take away a point! uhh yes, I can. Um and so for me like I've seen them better but with uh Jen Pope she was saying like, they deserve a cougar paw, I don't think I would have given them a cougar paw cause I've seen them better, but um it's all relative honestly and it really is. um and so like for not having Mrs. Hagy there, I think the class was decent

05:34 um and I'm less traumatized by how crazy it was because lik I've been there so much and they know me, and uh oh my goodness, um yeah just super interesting and yeah she was like, you did a good job like this is the calmest I've seen them for the apple tree game and the best it's went and she was like, you did good. and I felt like it was sort of good, but it was like uhhh. So I'm glad she sad that to me because for me, it slightly felt like a mess, but also like not too bad for my first shot at it. umm so, yeah. those are my thoughts umm. yeah huh.

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06:40 yeah, it was good, it was crazy. I'm glad that she sent after that it went pretty well because for me, I was like they're talking about me, blah blah blah. yeah,

### **10.23.18**

00:00 But I was saying like it's gonna be cool to reflect and just the fact that this class um so amazing gets the opportunity and we get to see the best of them even though it may have been quote unquote like bad class and just to see the best of them and I was saying like as a teacher it's not about the product because you can do it. Like proving that your students can do it or you can do it means nothing, it's about giving your students um the courage to experiment to make mistakes to be afraid and just it's empowering to them um and it's cliché to hear, but you're gonna have those bad days um but there's something going on in like deeper and you kind of have to wait and see ti come out.

### **10.28.18 7:58pm**

00:00 Today is October 28th at 7:57 pm I'm skypeing into Krista class in Wuhan, China today and I'm super super excited um a little nervous but excited to see how she lays it out and how I can plan going after that yeah so hopefully all goes well

00:26 I turned in my IRB the 26th of October and hopefully it gets accepted and goes smoothly yeah bye!

### **10.31.18 8:50AM**

00:00 Umm it's October 31st, Halloween, umm at 8:50 in the morning and going to Keister um today they're practicing their songs um and I'm excited to see if they can remember them and how it goes and they'll be playing uke too

00:53 umm yeah I'm excited to see how they do if they remember um how the kids are gonna do. It's always a surprise to see who's gonna act today and who's gonna do well and what sort of things are surrounding it um yeah I'm excited to see, hopefully all goes well and they get to play their songs

### **10.31.18 10:26AM**

00:00 October 31st and 10:26 I'm coming back from Keister. So what they did today was they got into groups and had time to practice two of them working with Maggie and I and the other group listened to their recordings. So I felt not as helpful in this because I just don't know the songs as well so like the kids were having struggles finding pitch and I was like I don't know either so let's listen to the recording together and do it. Um. Because I honestly don't know their songs that well, but I think it was good to hear like Maggie gave a pep talk and was talking about like these kids are like "ah, I feel nervous" and "ah, I feel nervous" and they don't realize everyone else is feeling the same way and uh

00:56 or even the fact that um even the fact that they're song is better, but no you can't do that like you can't compare because all your songs are beautiful and recognizing that. but all the kids are up with their papers like this \*example of paper half covering face\* like they were singing and heads kinda down and it was definitely a comfort level kind of thing um but it was so cool to hear all them together and just the fact that yeah super amazing um to have all these kids sing their own songs in their own words and um maybe not necessarily proud of them but to know that they did it and to use these skills um was so cool to see and my favorite moment um the kids are giving each other their little thumbs up good job as they're singing so that when they look up

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they have encouragement and my favorite thing was when this one group sang their song it was their chorus was like "We are stronger than ever we are stronger together if we stick together we have the greatest power" and um the fact that other kids started singing the song with them their song, the chorus, just brought tears to my eyes, I was just like epp\*pretend wipes tear from eye\* umm..

02:20 because that was just so beautiful to see each other supporting themselves and becoming more confident and like looking up and seeing and oh it was beautiful. Um. Gave me the idea of like um, I love these kids I've really grown connected and they also had two new girls come in and that was so crazy the fact that it's a regular thing for people to come in at this time. It's they're like, it's just so strange and just something to get used to

03:08 and then umm I think something else that stuck out to me I cannot wait to listen to their recordings Maggie said she listened to some of them and I just cannot wait to hear what they say. Umm it's gonna be so cool just to transcribe everything um I think also that umm

03:51 yeah for my song what I want to do I'll like write my song and then

03:53 I'll like write my song and overlay kind of mash up with some of their choruses, I think that's what I'll do when I'll have mine somehow find a way to make it work we'll see. Umyeah super excited for that so after that I'll finish writing my own song happy day happy joy thinking about what I want to write hopefully tomorrow goes well and singing. Some kids were like mhmm not about it, but it's just a matter of having them stand up there ummyeah hopefully tomorrow goes well too.

### **11.1.18 10:30 AM**

00:00 So it's november 1st umm and it's about 10:30 and I just got out of their class and um at Keister it's Thursday. oh my goodness, so you heard my little speal beforehand about how I hope it goes well, I don't know how this one group is gonna go, there's some of the kids I don't know some days they have really good days and some days not so much. umm and oh my goodness talking to Maggie and hearing them. I never heard the words to their songs um and I was blown. I was like almost in tears for each one of their songs because their words are so beautiful. umm and just like oh my gooness blown, blown, blown, blown um just like the fact okay, this one kid. new this school year um new this school year, knows his song super well is singing it lovely, has a beautiful singing voice um and just like kids love stories, they love hearing about your life umm

01:24 and just I was blwon, one kid who usually sits off to the side actually stood up front and was singing um and he was so kind. he asked someone if he could help them stack their chair blown, mind blwon. and then the kids who would laugh usually and sing and like think it's funny, and think it's a joke, what not actually stood up and sung and so many like actually like this went so much better than yesterday which was amazing for this class because coming in I was like I don't even know. expectations were really low. um and

02:04 like mind blown because they put they put their papers down. Halfway through they dropped their papers like they did it consciously because you know I don't need this anymore and so much encouragement, like so many thumbs up and uh like singing and one kid was like, that was amazing! because it was hearing your peers like um

02:34 amazing, insane I'm blwon. it was beautiful. um..

02:50 I just like the words of their songs were so beautiful which is why I was half crying, the melody of them singing um like we practiced with the groups and they had a much better grasp on their songs um and just to see like those kids who were like I want a ukulele, I'm gonna share

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this one girl who like hated singing and didn't like her song and was always off to the side when I was asking questions was like, I'm gonna show this to my neighbor, I'm gonna sing this to my neighbor, like WHAT?!?! um

03:24 I'm blown away by them um.

03:33 yeah, I just wow.

03:48 I'm just stunned amazed by them. Just the growth they've shown and those performance with the papers down and just being encouraging to one another and loving and supporting one another like oh my goodness amazing amazing. umm yeah, so I'm super excited for the final performances next week and they'll be video recorded by Bob Adamack, one class will be and then what they'll do is they'll choose one or two songs to sing on the winter concert together and then he'll actually be playing bass too and they'll get to sing it all together and I'm so excited and so proud.

### **11.7.18 8:53 AM**

00:00 Wednesday at about 8:53 I'm going to Keister, I think today's going to be my last day. We're doing performances umm yeah, it's their last performance day and they're going to do a little discussion reflection umm which kind of makes me sad

### **11.7.18 10:20 AM**

00:02 It's November 7th at 10:20 um I'm walking back from Keister. They did their final performance and it was so beautiful. They definitely improved, especially some of the kids um which is like putting words down, the papers down. Some of them I think were a having a little bit harder time, but honestly it went really well um they just jumped right into it. um yeah, they're recorded and then they had time for a little bit of discussion they so they kind of did reflection discussion after um by um like after their song they would provide comments like wow, that was so good, or I really loved when you all sang this line together and it just really worked because some of the songs we're stronger together and they got louder and stuff um  
01:01 really worked out and lots of positive comments and stuff like oh I loved when you looked up and sang in or a great part was seeing how the kids in the audience were really reacting well um and just singing the words and smiling at them and yeah um super cool.

01:22 I'm excited for tomorrow just because they're songs are also really great as well um yeah and it was cool. One really profound question was Why should I play music if I'm not going to be a musician? and each of the people like Joel Rittenhouseum and Maggie and then Bob Adamak were able to say, yeah my job isn't a musician, but I love playing music and doing stuff with music and that was super cool um. and then I got to say a couple words, I wasn't really prepped to, I think for me just this experience being with them and songwriting was really eye opening. It's kinda even like wow, I need to get more into this because like I don't really write a lot of songs umm but seeing these 5th graders who are so much younger than me use their own words to write a song is like amazing um so that was super cool um

02:25 and then yeah so I just like it's so cool to see the growth that they've all experienced and how much they've matured since the first day and like playing games to be able to sit down and do these thing yeah and I love them all and I'm so sad to be going. Obviously I'll pop in a bit, but yeah it's sad um yeah, but we'll see. It kinda just makes me want to improve my vocal skills more and that sort of stuff um to get better at the songwriting portion, especially since with China like I'm going to have to be doing what Maggie's doing right now and it's a little scary so yeah. and they did some reflection and yeah, bye!

### **11.6 or 7.18 8:54AM**

00:01 It's like 8:54 now I guess um yeah it does make me sad that it's one of the last times I get to spend with them just because umm I've been there for a couple of months now yeah it's hard I'm excited to see their final performances like last week they were so excited to and it's going to be super cool and super good umm yeah I'm excited to see how it goes.

### **11.8.18 AM time**

00:00 It's Thursday November 8th I'm walking quickly, quickly to Keister um...

00:27 umm. They're doing songs again [mumbling about ukuleles]. I'm excited to see how this group goes um yeah, I'm excited for them. I think there's a little more depth in their songs in this class than in yesterday's class um and like they're practice performances were like final performances so I'm excited to see where they can grow in that and um I'm sad that it's my last day also for this class um cause they're sweet beans yup.

### **11.1.18 9:00AM**

00:00 Ummmm today is the first (november?) at 9ish I'm going to Keister I'm excited to see how the kids are going to do today and yeah I'm excited to see how the kids are going to do, what the kids are going to do singing um I definitely feel more at a disadvantage with this group just because of I actually don't know what their songs song like and because of IRB I can't get the songs sent to me because it includes some of their voices on it um. so we'll see how everything happens. I'm interested to see how this one group goes um the group that had to rewrite um because one child wrote most of the lyrics to this song but with his friends in the group um I think it might be harder for them to sing about it, but also to take it seriously umm so I'm interested to see how it goes yeah and then um I'm supposed to give them a pep talk today like maggie did yesterday um and I don't know, I'm kinda nervous about what to talk about and I kinda feel like just to say that I've heard all of them say that ah I'm nervous cause I've talked to them um sharing that and just sharing my experience um performing just being recital hall in college and everyone being super nice about it umm that's where I think I'm gonna go with it so yeah hopefully everything goes well today. talk to you later

### **11.8.18 10:20AM**

00:00 Um It's about 10:20 on Thursday, November 8th um yeah today was good. At first they were a little squirrely and so she made one group sit back down again, I think it was group #5 um and then have them come back up which was good and we kind of reworked it so they didn't stack the chairs when they were sitting down for the discussion um it was actually just moving the chairs and that worked so much better um and just having a discussion rather than just simply writing down. It actually worked a lot better for the kids um and it's cool that Maggie says that with elementary you get to try again. um with the different classes, so that's always really nice and helpful um yeah I

00:50 they did well, I was expecting one group to chosen when voted for, but I think they were having a little more trouble but most of them like put down their papers were singing a little quieter than their dress rehearsal, but more confident and more excited and it was good um yeah. I think it's cool maggie was saying and oh the daily news record and principal came in to watch which is probably terrifying as a teacher um haha but she did wonderful and everything was fit to a plan and purpose with her. One student can't be photographed, so she made sure to tell the

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photographer and like stuff like that and it was just there was a lot of intent in what she did um and I really appreciate her and extreme thoughtfulness um and reflection um

01:55 it's sad to say it was my last day for the past two days, but I didn't feel like I was saying goodbye exactly um and that's kind of how I like it because it's not um a goodbye, it's a see you soon, I'll see you later, I'll see you sometime because um yeah and I think that's the beauty in that um like it was so sweet when she sad it was my last day and I just got sad and they're like why, why are you leaving like I don't understand. um, that was super sweet to see and for me it's a little harder because I don't have as much control over the class because Maggie's the teacher and I just come in so like when we're doing discussion it's a little harder for me to lead because I don't. I mean sometimes I don't have the personality for it and sometimes like they just don't know me as a person like I'm semi in power, sort of um so it's one of the those things where uh I wonder how student teaching will go or how um um actual teaching will go um, I think for me it was actually

03:16 I started off very timid. The amount of growth I'm excited to see what I say in my past videos because I think the amount of growth for me has been a lot like Maggie opened up the space for me to put in my opinions and I guess for me it takes longer to think and reflect so I want to improve on and stuff like that but it's just very purposeful in everything she does and say and with 5th graders she can be more open and tell them real things about her best friend and sister

03:49 and like real stories and they really enjoy and appreciate that. For me I think I've grown in that I'm less timid and hey I don't really know what I'm doing, let me follow you, but learning how to balance like I have my own ideas and I know what I want to do but I will be in a lower position of power until you give me the space to do stuff, but I can also put ideas when um and it was cool um just seeing her and the fact that she was saying um--