## **Davie County Schools**

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## Davie County Schools Launches an Exciting New Virtual World of the Arts

Davie County Schools is pleased to announce the 2021 Arts Smart Festival has transitioned into a new and exciting virtual world. Launching May 11, 2021 and sponsored by Ashley Furniture, the new virtual realm features student artists and performers from all schools in Davie County. Artist's ages span from kindergarten through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Ashley Furniture Industries has a national focus on building community around arts celebrations. Ashley Furniture began their partnership with Davie County Schools in 2014. The new virtual Arts Smart experience mimics school and business buildings, bringing you into a plethora of art displays. Equipped with performance stages, art galleries, a Winter Wonderland, bee hives and hot air balloons, everything has been carefully designed to engage its audience and provide an interactive experience. Will Marrs, teacher at Davie County High School, has dedicated time and effort into building this virtual space. John Marshall, Digital Teaching and Learning Specialist, contributed to the function and design efforts as well. A thank you also goes to the Arts Departments across the district for their hard work in securing content for this experience.

"As has been common among schools and businesses during the pandemic, we have had to rethink how we execute the programs and events that our students, parents and community have become accustomed to." said Superintendent Jeff Wallace. "In this case, we have discovered something really special that will engage families and the community into an exciting and interactive space for years to come. We appreciate Ashley Furniture for their continued support and thank Mr. Marrs, Mr. Marshall and our Arts Departments for their commitment to this project."

Davie County Schools (DCS) serves Pre-K and K-12 students in the Piedmont Triad, just west of Winston-Salem. DCS includes 6 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, Davie County High School, Davie County Early College High School, Central Davie Academy, and Davie County Virtual School with a mission to engage, equip, and empower students. DCS provides a safe, innovative learning environment where each individual is valued, respected, and challenged. An engaging staff and community ensure students learn, grow, create, and discover their talents through experiences that prepare them for success. With a robust arts program, Career and Technical Education and home to the War Eagles, Davie County High School is a member of the Central Piedmont 4-A Conference, offering competitive and well-rounded experiences for students and student-athletes.

