**Professional Development Session @ Hendricks School**

Monday, March 31, 2025 | 1:00P

Presented by ISBE Professional Development Provider Fernando Jones

**Music as a Second Language:**

*Use the Blues and Technology to Help Improve Literacy*

*and Implement Transformative Change in the Classroom*CPS Vendor #41606 | (773) 841-5262  
(Portions of the presentation may be videotaped for archival purposes)

**Participants:**

• Teachers, Principals/Administrations and Superintendents  
• Local School Council Members and Parents  
• Participants don't have to be musically inclined to benefit from this experience.

**Strands:**

• STEAM  
• Literacy  
• Discipline  
• Dropout Prevention  
• Digital Learning  
• Youth Symposium / Music Education • Cultural Relevant Teaching Strategies

**Presenter: Fernando Jones**

• Founding Blues Ensemble Director at Columbia College Chicago

• Blues Kids Foundation, Executive Director  
• Blues Kids of America, Founder  
• Author of “I Was There When The Blues Was Red Hot”

• Chicago Blues Hall of Fame Inductee  
• "Keeping the Blues Alive Award" winner  
• Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated

**Abstract:**

This hands-on, interactive and entertaining seminar is designed to give life-long learners (including but not limited to administrators, pre-K through university instructors, parents and community leaders) strategies to engage non-traditional learners in the classrooms and the community using America's roots music, the Blues. Culturally relevant teaching strategies will also be demonstrated and supported by statistics, the integration of technology and live music. Strategies to help improve literacy, attendance and discipline will also be demonstrated through best practices. Participants don't have to be musically inclined to benefit from this experience. Some may even receive harmonicas.

Fernando Jones has been invited to lecture and facilitated team building seminars throughout the continental United States and Hawaii by institutions and corporations including the Smithsonian, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame + Museum, the LA Unified School District(s), the Annual NABSE Conference, the Conservatory in Pescara, Italy, and Nike.

**For educators to be able to:**

**Learning Outcomes**

• Take strategies learned in the session back into their classrooms/districts.

• Improve literacy, attendance and help close the achievement gap.  
• Design team building exercises with their students.  
• Present a collaborative project at the end of the session.

**Pre-Session Activities (30 Minutes)**

• Background Music Plays Softly  
• Presenter Meets & Greets Participants  
• Slide Show of Past Sessions  
• Professional Development Session Outline (60 - 90 Minutes)

**Outline**1. Intro | **2 Minutes**2. Lift Every Voice and Sing (Live/All) | **3 Minutes**3. Musician’s Pledge (Live/All) | **3 Minutes**4. Ice Breaker/Characters (24 Participants/Males & Females) | **7 Minutes**

5. Academic Benefits of Music  
(Statistics and Dr. Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligence) | **7 Minutes**

6. Cultural Relevant Teaching Strategies | **8 Minutes**7. Powell Jeopardy (3 Volunteer Participants) | **4 Minutes**8. Harmonica Demo (All Participants Receive a Harmonica) | **6 Minutes**

9. Team Building (All Participants Breakout) **15 minutes**10. Presentation of All Teams | **15 Minutes**11. Wrap-Up | **5 Minutes**12. Q&A | **2 Minutes**13. Autographs | **5 Minutes**

**Songs for Breakout Session**

These songs are used for educational and bonding purposes only as supplemental resources. The links are from YouTube and are not intended to be used for commercial usage. If links aren't hyperlinked simply copy and paste them in your URL.

Los Angeles Breakout Group

**"24K Magic" Instrumental by Bruno Mars**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8s9PhFW1ow8

Miami Breakout Group

**"Blinding Lights" Instrumental by The Weeknd**

https://youtu.be/XajaJYraODs

Detroit Breakout Group

**“My Girl” Instrumental by The Temptations**

https://youtu.be/gfYW532iNhs

Atlanta Breakout Group

**“All for You” Instrumental by Janet Jackson**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-aGPeCyZmk

Chicago Breakout Group

**“Golden” Instrumental by Jill Scott**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNMoC26UBQc

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