DreamIt: Fall-ing Forward Reflection

By: Adrienne Keiner

* What would you do differently if you could start again?

I would review all my current unit plans that need to be taught throughout the year and alter them to implement more of my DreamIt ideas. I started the year by separating the two, DreamIt was implemented separately from my IB unit plans. I should not have done this, I should have melted the two together and had everything focus on DreamIt Unit plans. Everything my DreamIt has encompasses the IB philosophy so it would not have been difficult to collaborate. I don’t know why I kept them separate. Looking back I will be altering my IB Unit plans to implement all parts of STEM.

* What are the small details that if attended to, could have improved the entirety of the project?

Cameras! I have been looking for student cameras this entire year and have not found any that I think would work overall with every student. We have been currently using the schools Chrome books and CPS student gmail accounts to create many of the STEM DreamIt components. But having 1-1 cameras for each student would of aloud much more autonomy for the students outside of school. I think creativity would have bloomed if students were able to hold a camera anytime they saw math, not just in school.

* What are the areas in which your project can grow?

I still think I can get more out of students with seeing math everywhere. I want students to not only see math everywhere but to then communicate what they saw to others. I would like to expand the project to somehow passing the message onto younger classes.

* What do you wish to see out of your Dream IT this semester?

At the end of the year my class holds a Math-a-palooza for the entire school. My students create math games that can be altered for different grade levels. We then invite other classes to partake in the games. Math-a-palooza has a very circus theme and students love sharing what they have learned throughout the school year. But I’m thinking I would like to add a showcase for the DreamIt Projects students have completed throughout the school year.

* What would be your wildest hopes for your project during this round of implementation?

We have been printing students “math memes” and “math is everywhere” photos but what I would REALLY love is to get funding for our flat screen TVs. I have been after flat screen TV’s all year for the middle school floor. I wanted to have students see their work while passing to other classes. I want two flat screen TVs that teachers could add student work, class problems, discussions, debatable questions, thoughts, ideas, vines, memes, visual vocabulary and much more. So far everyone is on board with the idea but there is no money. So, I have been applying for every possible grant and keeping my fingers crossed.