A 4-year evaluation on a USDE-funded program that trains teachers to integrate standards-based performing arts and math curriculums demonstrated improved academic performance by their students.

1. For English as Second Language students, the report states, “Teachers commented that the use of music, movement, and dramatizing concepts was beneficial for all students, but in particular students who were shy, who had never been to school, or who were speaking another language.”

2. Students in the classrooms taught by participating teachers performed better on the Early Math Diagnostic Assessment compared to those on the control group. According to the American Institutes for Research: “Wolf Trap professional development program had a statistically significant positive impact on students’ mathematics achievement in both the first and the second year of implementation.”

3. Teachers who participated in the professional development program were able to apply the strategies independently in their classrooms.