## Jamaal Stiles Nelson County

Over the summer, I became a Nearpod Certified Educator. I had previously used Nearpod in my classroom instruction for various activities. It was mainly used as an aide for lecturing and helped me keep students on track and focused. As we started the school year virtually, I wanted to provide a platform for my students that allowed them to be engaged but also gave me the flexibility to assign specific tasks and receive formative assessment data. Nearpod has totally changed my style of teaching. Even though I'm currently using it to keep my students engaged virtually, I will continue to use this platform when my students return to in-person instruction. There are so many neat tools on Nearpod that give students access to many resources that we typically wouldn't be able to access. Students can go on virtual field trips, connect and upload their Flipgrid videos, collaborate with their peers through a program similar to Jamboard, answer poll questions that are teacher generated, and so many other activities that are too numerous to list. Teachers are always looking for new and innovative ways to increase student engagement. My students have fallen in love with Nearpod and are disappointed when we don't use it. Since becoming a Nearpod Certified Educator, I have conducted numerous PD sessions for teachers in my district on how to use Nearpod as a student engagement tool. I love helping teachers find new and innovative ways to lead student instruction. Please reach out if you're interested in receiving more information about this excellent technology tool.