Eddie Chen Ways of Knowing

12/7/15 Dr. Jeranyama

Rounds Reflection – Tanya Jung

For this round, I went to South High to attend Tanya’s art class. Prior to the round, the students had been learning about the properties of colors and had some practice making color wheels. The next step in her unit was to allow the students to practice this knowledge by mixing colors with paint. Students were given sheets with a grid and spaces to create color combinations. They were also given roles so that they could keep track of the recipes that got them to the colors they were making. Students were allowed to name their colors, which I thought was a fun way to engage the kids.

One of the goals of the class was to allow the students to explore the process of mixing paint. Another was to manage materials responsibly and keep track of their work. In many cases, students were working together, although a few of the groups really stood out to me. In one group, they were able to consistently produce warmer colors. They were the only ones that stood out to me in this regard. Everybody else had a majority of dark color combinations. Other groups had produced a wider variety of colors overall and it was evident that they understood the concept for making darker colors. I noticed that one group was struggling to find the shade of blue that they wanted but didn’t understand the concept well enough to get there.

I appreciated the hook of the lesson, which was for the students to make a new color for Home Depot. It reflects something that goes on in the real world where freelancers are contracted to complete jobs for businesses. It also makes me think of some of the ”Design Squad” engineering videos in science class where students get to design items for Ikea. One of the takeaways for this lesson is to incorporate fun videos that provide context. Even though Tanya didn’t spend as much time teaching during the class, the students self-sufficient and motivated. This shows me that students were able to use knowledge gained that Tanya had taught them in previous classes for this activity. Overall, I liked the lesson a lot. I think that it represented a good progression in her unit. I hope that I have the chance to visit and observe other schools.