

The "I Know I Can" music video was a powerful and uplifting project that showcased the voices of fifth grade students at Cool Spring Elementary as they reimagined Nas' iconic song with their own original verses. The students wrote and performed lyrics centered around academic success, self-confidence, and perseverance, which reinforced the message that they have the power to achieve their goals. The primary purpose of the video was to empower students to express their aspirations, highlight the importance of education, and showcase their talent and creativity. By incorporating music-a medium that resonates with young people-it fostered enthusiasm for learning and self-belief. It also aligned with PCPS's mission to develop 21st-century citizens who can effectively collaborate, communicate, and innovate. This video was designed for PCPS students, families, and staff. It served as an inspiration for other students to believe in their abilities and it allowed families and staff to observe how creative and culturally relevant learning experiences, such as music collaborations, can enhance student motivation. The "I Know I Can" music video was a unique approach to storytelling that strengthened the connection between students, schools, and the PCPS community. By using music as a communication tool, the project amplified student voices in an engaging and relatable way. It also reinforced the Division's ongoing efforts to share positive student-centered narratives. The video has received over three thousand views on YouTube, giving those students involved a public platform to showcase their talents and commitment to learning. By combining music, education, and student empowerment, the "I Know I Can" music video effectively reflected the Division's goal to foster active engagement and ownership in the learning process-one verse at a time.