

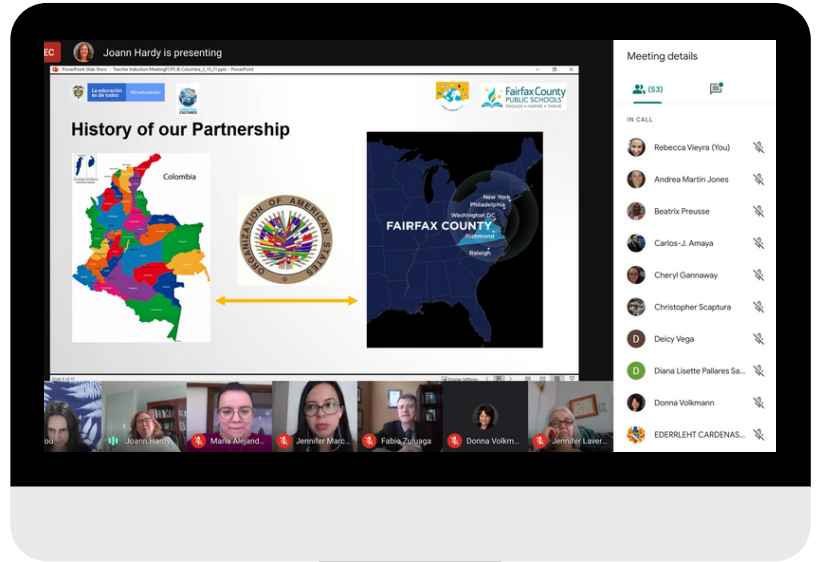
# Country Focus: Colombia and USA

On 10 March 2021, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) of Virginia, USA and the National Ministry of Education of Colombia held an orientation session for matched teachers for the **Global Classroom** and **Connecting Cultures** projects.

Supported by an agreement between FCPS and the OAS, this effort connects 15 teachers from the FCPS' *Global Classroom Project* with 15 teachers from the National Ministry of Education of Colombia's *Connecting Cultures* project.

The shared vision of these initiatives is to support teachers to "**establish relationships** with colleagues in which they will **collaborate** to plan **meaningful learning experiences** for their students, develop **intercultural competence**, and engage in **job-embedded professional development**."

Over the period of five weeks, teachers will collaborate around one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals to develop a collaborate project in which both their students as well as their matched partner's students from the other country will collaborate.



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**30 teachers** from Colombia and the USA have been matched. Among these matched teachers are **ITEN Teacher Fellows Hilary Powell and Varrie Smart**, whose collaboration pathways will focus on STEAM.

