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Middle School Latin America Study Culminates with Food and Dance

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The 7th grade teams at Middlesex Middle School (MMS) had a lot to dance about recently.

MMS students on the Aqua, Blue, Gold, and Purple teams culminated their research and two-month study of Latin America in their Social Studies classes with an all-out grade-level event. The MMS *Latin American Festival* focused on the culture, geography and history of the region.

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For the event, students created a booth (*pictured above*) with a partner sharing various aspects of Latin America, along with demonstrations that brought the richness of the culture to life, according to MMS Social Studies teacher Heather Maher.

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Students enjoyed a catered authentic Latin American lunch from *Mi Casita* in Norwalk. The lunch included empanadas, rice, plantains, salad and a special dessert.

The day also included a dance lesson from two professional Latin American dance instructors from *Fred Astaire Studios* of Norwalk. They demonstrated various popular Latin dances, including the merengue and salsa.

— *Marc Marin is district director of instructional technology. This article is republished from the Darien Public Schools News of the Week newsletter.*