Robert Iezzi Scavenger Hunt Arts in STEM

We are currently covering the periodic table in my class. While we are going through the periodic table, I try to relate it to things students know. This can be a tough subject for students since there are so many trends and patterns to know. Organization, groups, periods, atomic numbers, radius, etc can be a bit overwhelming for students. We start off by doing an activity called “periodic people”. This activity has students figure out how to organize aliens and “draw” the missing one. We then go over how they organized the aliens; antenna, size, body shape, facial expressions, etc. As I read through the standards, I began to think about how I can incorporate it into the periodic table. I came across two specific standards I think can enhance the lesson. The first being MA:Pr4.1.8 and the second being VA:Cr2.3.8a. I have listed both of them below. Both standards are similar, yet different. Both have integrated multiple contents and forms into a media & using interdisciplinary projects. However, the one standard that stands the tallest is the second. It states “select and organize images to make visually clear presentations.” I have struggled in the past to relate the periodic table to something the kids know. As I read the standards, why not have them do it? I am thinking of creating a project where students will take a known topic they like and create a periodic table of it. Fast food, colleges, sneakers brands, etc. Students can take images and use them as element squares where they can use the first standard to make it appealing.

MA:Pr4.1.8- Integrate multiple contents and forms into unified media arts productions that convey specific themes or ideas, such as interdisciplinary projects, or multimedia theater.

VA:Cr2.3.8a- Select, organize, and design images and words to make visually clear and compelling presentations