March is Reading Month

In celebration of March as Reading Month, many activities were planned across the district. Special thanks to Bronson Battle Creek for offering healthy taste testing during our elementary literacy events. Prairieview Elementary held their annual literacy night. Families were invited to experience a night of creative writing, building silly sentences and reading in the new library. Westlake students participated in dress-up days and themed reading days including pajama day, beach day and camping day. Also at Westlake, staff members and families donated gently used books for a book sale. Students could purchase books for $0.25. One thousand forty-eight books were purchased by Westlake students! On Wednesday, March 21st Westlake families enjoyed “Reading is My Superpower” literacy night. Students played Superhero Bingo, with books as prizes, decorated masks, and read with their families.

The LHS National Honor Society members recently helped support “Change for Children,” a fundraising project during March is Reading Month to benefit SAFE Place. NHS manned a table each morning on Arbor Trail to get word out that all library fines would be cut in half and donated to SAFE Place. NHS also collected used cell phones and new books. LHS library was grateful to all students for their participation in the project and for making such a positive contribution to the Battle Creek community.

Sofia Boyer presents the results of her investigation: “Which gum makes the biggest bubble?” Students showed off their projects and answered questions like “which gum makes the biggest bubble?” and “what makes the bubble pop?” Students showed off their projects and answered visitors’ questions.

The LHS Multicultural Club prepares for a week of celebration and awareness. Students from all LHS international clubs are busy preparing for a week of multicultural celebrations. The week will start off with a food fair where students carry flags that are related to their heritage. These flags will then be hung in Arbor Trail for all to enjoy. The LHS news, Channel 101, will have segment dedicated to multiculturalism and its importance to the Lakeview school community. Other events during the week include a fashion show, a dance assembly and a food tasting event.

The week will wrap up on Thursday, May 3rd with the World Showcase event that will not only celebrate different cultures but also bring awareness to students at Lakeview High School. To prepare for the showcase, the students in Multicultural Club have created posters about specific countries. The posters include information about the culture’s types of food, activities, tourism, and language(s) spoken as well as fun facts. Students were encouraged to pick a country that has personal meaning to them and to bring in artifacts, decorations, snacks and to dress in traditional attire.

For the food tasting event, Multicultural Club has partnered with local restaurants; including Taste of India, Continental Bakery & Umami Ramen; who will provide samples. Any restaurant or organization that is interested in helping to bring cultural awareness to our students by way of food tasting or traditional dress may contact Stephanie Taylor, International Coordinator, at Lakeview High School by email at staylor@lakeviewspartans.org or by calling 269-565-3745.
Minges Brook Asks, Where In The World?

Do you know where in the world your ancestors are from? Recently Minges Brook Elementary third grade students researched this very question. Part of the third grade Social Studies curriculum is Michigan History. Students learned that if they weren’t 100% Pottawattamie then their ancestors came from somewhere other than Michigan. Students had about a month to research their family ancestry. They were encouraged to talk to their parents and grandparents to help gain information.

To complete the unit, a Heritage Fair was held. On Tuesday, March 27, third grade students brought in their completed projects. Some students brought in samples of money and memorabilia. Several students were dressed in clothes representative of their ancestry. If a student was unable to find out about their specific family history they were encouraged to share family pictures, their family tree and/or traditions. Family members were invited to come in and observe the students projects in all three 3rd grade classes. Students were eager to share what they learned about where in the World they were from.

Riverside Hosts Google CS Class

On March 1, several third grade students committed to before-school learning for Riverside’s first Google Computer Science class taught by the school’s Robotics and Instructional Technology Coach Jessica Day.

During the program, students will master 21st Century Concepts and will invent products and methods using technology. Students will also understand and demonstrate authentic tasks and use tools where they will demonstrate proficiency in using digital media to share their work publicly.

“My students will make narrated videos of their learning process using key terms from the skills they learn in class. In turn, we will use the student-made videos to communicate what is going on in the classroom giving parents and other interested parties a window into the classroom,” explained Day.

According to Day, students also plan to take their learning back to their teachers how them to use it in the classroom.

Photo Caption: Students from the Google CS class work on their animated projects.

LHS Holds Empty Bowls Fundraiser during Parent Teacher Conferences

The annual Empty Bowl Ice Cream Social, hosted by the LHS Art Club, will take place on April 19 from 4-7 p.m. during the high school parent teacher conferences. In Arbor Trail, a variety of handmade bowls will be for sale and all proceeds will benefit the Food Bank of South Central Michigan. Cash and checks will be accepted for purchase and every person who buys a bowl gets a serving of ice cream from local sponsor Culver’s. Auntie Anne’s will be providing pretzels and several other local businesses have provided prizes for the raffle.

LHS Holds Empty Bowls Fundraiser during Parent Teacher Conferences

In Arbor Trail, a variety of handmade bowls will be for sale and all proceeds will benefit the Food Bank of South Central Michigan. Cash and checks will be accepted for purchase and every person who buys a bowl gets a serving of ice cream from local sponsor Culver’s. Auntie Anne’s will be providing pretzels and several other local businesses have provided prizes for the raffle.

Minges Brook Students and Staff Observe Women’s History Month

Students in Mrs. Van Hoose’s communications class that meets on Thursdays participated in the first Junior Achievement It’s My Future® program. Six program sessions took place utilizing technology to make the learning more relevant.

“Embedded videos, interactive games, and on-screen content help keep students engaged and add a new dimension of learning by providing students with practical information about preparing for the working world,” explained Mrs. VanHoose.

Following participation in the JA It’s My Future® program students are able to research potential careers, and learn how to plan for and keep a job. They are also able to develop the personal-branding and job-hunting skills needed to earn a job.