

Principals' BOE Report for March 2019

8th Grade NAEP

Our 8th graders were selected to participate in the NAEP exam (National Assessment of Educational Progress) mandated by the Institute of Educational Sciences, a branch of the U.S. Department of Education. The assessment was administered for the most part on computers and measured our student's abilities in either reading or science. The average length of the assessment was 90 minutes and occurred during the regular school day on March 1 with testing sessions in the morning and afternoon.

Southwest Technical Center Visit for the 8th Grade by Linda Alford

On March 5, the 8th grade students traveled down to Southwest Technical Center for the annual visit to learn more about career opportunities associated with the different programs available at their site as part of a career exploration unit.

Book Fair (March 11-March 15)

The Parents' Association hosted the Scholastic Book Fair during the week of Spring Conferences. It was held in the Media Center and open during the school day Monday - Thursday and during the afternoon and evening of conferences. Although cut short by a day due to the give-back snow day, the turn-out was fantastic, with positive feedback from all. The Book Fair continues to be a fantastic event for students, staff, and parents alike and greatly appreciated by our E-K community.

Spring Conferences & 8th Grade Planning Night by Linda Alford

Parents and students had the opportunity to come and visit the school on March 14 for Spring Conference Night. Students in the 8th grade, along with their parents, were invited to High School Planning Night with presentations from each department elaborating on the sequences and opportunities within that content area. Ms. Alford and Mrs. Boyce organized this event to share pertinent graduation requirements and course options to consider as students plan their future in the high school.

Gateway for Seniors by Linda Alford

On March 21 the seniors attended Gateways at SUNY Canton and then enjoyed a nice lunch at the Smokehouse in Madrid. Gateways is a county-wide event organized by BOCES to give students a chance to practice their job-seeking skills. This is a culminating activity for seniors as they learn proper job interviewing skills and resume writing in English 12. Students had a chance to do three mock interviews and have their resume critiqued by local employers.

4th Grade Power Authority Trip on March 29 by Fred Foster

The Power Authority Field Trip has two components that go with our 4th grade curriculum. The first part was the Visitor Center that includes two films in their movie theater, one about electricity and its dangers, and the other about the NYS Power Authority building project and how it was achieved. These are extremely interesting films that go into detail about both subjects and have some really great footage of the dams being built and how we get the hydro power from them. The students then get to explore the Visitor Center with its many cool activities and interactive games that are all about energy, and specifically, hydro power. For example, there is a stationary pedal bike the kids can ride and see how much electricity they can generate and discover what kinds of things they could operate from the electricity that is produced. There is also a breaker box that is connected to a bunch of fake

appliances. The kids must turn on as many appliances as possible without tripping the breaker. The kids love these activities!

The second part of the trip is the Nature Center, which is all about plants and animals and their habitats/environments. This goes with our animal and plant adaptations unit. This center has many different animals in their natural habitats and a walking trail the kids go on to learn about various animals and plants. The main attraction is a giant aquarium that has many different fish, turtles, and other animals in it.

This is a great field trip with many educational aspects to it, and the kids enjoy it a great deal. It is one I myself never get bored with!

"Mamma Mia" Musical by Tanya Truesdell

This year's production of Mamma Mia was a HUGE success. We had about 45 cast and crew members involved, ranging from grades 6 through 12. We had three students from the BOCES cosmetology department do hair and makeup, and a couple of parents volunteered to help with the concession and flower stand. Financially we scored big, about \$3571 at the ticket booth, and \$1271 for concession and flower booth. Total of \$4842. The attendance was amazing. The reviews were multiple thumbs up. The students had lots of fun and were very sad that it was over. We are planning on a viewing party for the cast and crew in the coming week.

Upcoming Events:

April 1 - NHS Blood Drive
April 1 - Elementary Character Ed Assembly
April 2 - NYS PBT ELA - 3rd grade
April 3 - NYS CBT ELA test - grades 4-6
April 3 - NYS ELA test - grades 7-8
April 3 - NYS PBT ELA - 3rd grade
April 3 - Parents' Association meeting
April 4 - NYS CBT ELA test - grades 4-6
April 12 - Students dismissed at 11:10 a.m.
April 12 - Sexual Harassment training (p.m.) - all staff
April 15-19 - Spring Break
April 24 - PK-3 & Hance to OCP in Ogdensburg
April 30 - NYS Math test - testing window opens