

# Washington Township High School IMC

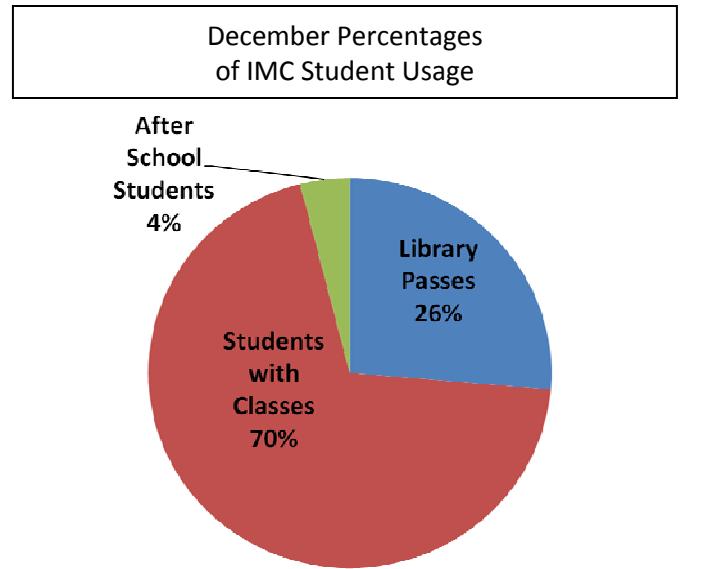
## Monthly Report

December 2007

### Teaching and Learning

#### Statistics

<b>Classes</b>	<b>199</b>
English	129
Sciences	9
Social Studies	33
Special Education	13
World Languages	15
<b>Total number of students</b>	<b>4, 928</b>
Students with classes	3, 434
Students with passes	1, 298
Students after school	196



#### December Highlights

A new dimension to the teaching of the research paper was added to the IMC collaborative teaching schedule in December. For the first time, Special Education English 12 students were team taught the unit on organizing and developing an academic research paper. Ann Hill and Mrs. Blistan worked closely together to assure that each step was fully explained and modeled. Worksheets and graphic organizers were used to assure that the students stayed focused on each area. Since there were two teachers involved, the students were able to receive one-on-one guidance. The success of this approach is evident in the students' own remarks. Lauren Narducci stated, "Ms Hill is a very special librarian! She has taught me all about the process of writing a term paper! Step by step!" Kevin Gross agreed by saying, "Ms. Hill is a nice person. She taught me a lot in the past month about my term paper. The step by step process that she developed was really good. I will miss her when I graduate." Jason Molloy summed up the students' feelings. "Ms Hill is a great librarian. And she knows what she's doing." Mrs. Blistan is looking forward to this unit again next year.

#### Information Skills

The teacher-librarians continued their collaboration with English teachers on all grade levels in the evolution of teaching the research process for papers. These skills were reinforced across the curriculum with all IMC assignments. Students were provided not only with the information for gathering information but also with the means to produce a final presentation. In addition to focusing on MLA format and plagiarism pitfalls, students were shown how to create brochures and wikis as each project dictated. The ability to use these technological innovations assures future success in college and in the work place.

## Information Literacy Lessons

### English

- In addition to continuing the Writing Lab cycle for the research paper, some English 9 students also participated in a Round Robin for selecting a book for independent reading. Other students began organizing a wiki (collaborative web page) and researching information based on the Great Expectations unit.
- English 10 classes researched materials for a controversial issues paper as well as materials for a Crucible theme brochure. In addition to presentations on appropriate databases and print sources, the librarians instructed some students on correct MLA format and other students on creating a brochure.
- The librarians continued collaboratively teaching the research paper with English 11 teachers. Students researched contemporary issues or American authors.
- English 12 classes continued work on the literature and art/music research paper.

### Science

- Chemistry students researched careers in chemistry using a Pathfinder developed by the librarians. A presentation on Career Bridges was provided.

### Social Studies

- AP European students used IMC resources to research the scientific revolution and the Enlightenment for a role playing activity.
- U. S. History I classes researched 1800-1850 for a group decades project. The librarians developed a graphic organizer to help students focus on relevant information. A presentation was then given on reliable sources for information gathering.
- Librarians gave a presentation to U. S. History II students on available resources for information and images needed for a 1920s poster.

### Special Education

- The librarians collaboratively taught the research paper with Mrs. Blistan. The students were guided through the process on a step-by-step basis for research, organization, and development. Worksheets were developed to help the students focus on relevant information and to adhere to MLA format.

### World Languages

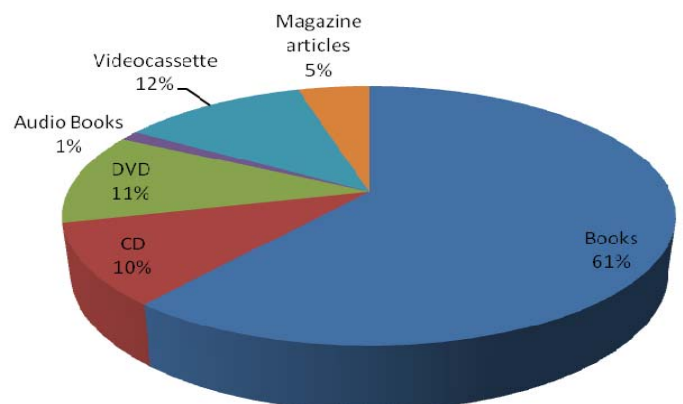
- Librarians gave a presentation to Spanish classes for a project on holidays. In addition to showing students appropriate databases and the process for saving pictures, the librarians instructed students on creating a brochure using the information.

## Information Access and Delivery

### Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	1, 338
Magazines/articles requested	59
Interlibrary loans requested	22
Interlibrary loans returned	19

Percentage of December Circulations



### **Technology Update**

- The COWs (computers on wheels) that will be shared with the English department were activated. Writing Lab and several English classes have already put them to good use.
- Oxford Studies Online, a database, has been added.

### **Reading Promotion/IMC Displays**

- Displayed books on winter sports
- Designed a “Warm Up with a Good Book” bulletin board with titles of books that appeal to adolescent readers
- Ran a “12 Days in the IMC” contest to promote the various types of material available in the IMC
- Craft and Jewelry books were displayed to show affordable gift ideas.

### **Student Book Club**

- Began organizing the service project for collecting eye glasses for the Lions Club of America
- Distributed t-shirts ordered by staff. Proceeds from the t-shirt sale will help deter the travel fees for an author visit by Carolyn Mackler.

### **Program Administration**

- Ann Hill and Stephanie Gaughan attended two events sponsored by the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative. One was a workshop on screen casting, which is a way to use computer software to create how-to manuals for web pages. The second was the fall membership meeting held in Seaview.
- The December Newsletter was distributed. This issue highlighted video on demand sights, including the databases United Streaming and Safari Montage as well as web sights. The IMC usage statistics for November, the January book club selection Nineteen Minutes , and the eye glasses collection project were publicized.
- Final database, book and audio visual orders were organized and processed to ensure access to the newest materials.