

Washington Township High School IMC
Monthly Report
June 2009

Teaching and Learning

Statistics

Classes	53
English	1
Science	11
Social Studies	5
World Languages	32

Total Number of Students	2,619
Students with classes	1,163
Students with passes	1,222
Students after school	234

June Highlights

Our annual Summer Reading Spectacular drew record numbers of faculty and staff eager to stock up on books for vacation enjoyment. Each year, we showcase the books that will appeal to readers of all genres, and this year our categories included "Beach Reads," "New Fiction," "Biographies," "Historical Fiction," "Fantasy," and several others. Staff and students also appreciated the opportunity to take home the old magazines that the library was discarding to make room for next year's issues.



Information Skills

The IMC was booked solid the last two weeks of school with classes finishing their PowerPoint presentations. Teachers took advantage of the IMC resources which allowed students to demonstrate their research by creating interesting and eye-catching presentations. Other classes used Microsoft Word and Publisher for projects which departed from the traditional research paper format.

Information Literacy Lessons

Performing Arts

- The budding actors and actresses in Mrs. Silverman's Exploring Theater classes looked for monologues in the library's collection of books. They then memorized them to present to the rest of the class.

Science

- Mrs. McIlvaine's and Mr. Clark's Astronomy classes used the Astronomy Pathfinder created by the librarians to research different aspects of astronomy and to create PowerPoints with this information.
- Mrs. Cosgrove's Biology students used the Human Evolution Pathfinder to research Early Man for a class project.
- Mrs. Carpinelli's Astronomy classes used IMC resources for their "Save the Satellite" project.

Social Studies

- Ms. Meares's US History classes used IMC resources to research a person or event in American history from 1877-1917 and to redesign a cereal box with panels containing the information.

World Languages

- The librarians assisted Mrs. Jacoby's and Mrs. Belisario's classes in researching careers which required a knowledge of Spanish. The students not only researched the jobs, but they scoured classified ads for openings. They presented their findings via PowerPoint presentations which the librarians burned to a CD for their teachers.
- Mrs. Smyth's classes researched famous Spanish authors, painters, and composers. The librarians showed them how to publish the information they found on baseball cards.
- Senora Clark's Spanish students researched Spanish artists for their final project.

Information Access and Delivery

Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	1,237
Magazines/articles requested	8
Interlibrary loans requested	5
Interlibrary loans returned	3

Technology Update

As a result of the merger of ABC-CLIO and Greenwood, the IMC will now have access to additional databases including the Latin American Experience, Pop Culture Universe, the African American Experience, and Daily Life in America. The IMC's monthly newsletter described Web 2.0 products which teachers would be able to immediately utilize in the classroom.



Reading Promotion

The IMC home page contains a wealth of information about reading for students and staff. After soliciting suggestions from the staff, the librarians compiled a list of books for discussion by the faculty book club next year. Also available is a list of suggested summer reading books, along with a short summary about each. Students have been following the "flashing yellow button" on the home page which directs them to the summer reading link. Information about summer reading for students is not only available there, but also in the tri-fold brochures which students can pick up at the circulation desk. These resources should greatly facilitate students completing this very important assignment.

The library bulletin board was a congratulatory graduation message for our seniors, many of whom have used the IMC as their second home for the past four years. The "seniors only" section, which contains a wall with up-to-date magazines, is a particularly welcoming place for many of our "regulars."



Student Book Club

The Book Club selected their officers for next year and met to decide on the books that they will be reading next year.

Program Administration

The library staff hosted a pizza and movie party for our Student Library Assistants. These students, some of which are special needs, have been a tremendous help during the year, acting as messengers, folding brochures, performing clerical tasks, and doing whatever was needed to help the library staff. The student aides who were graduating received a special graduation gift to celebrate their accomplishments.



During the last few weeks of school, the library staff worked particularly hard at conducting a full-scale inventory of the library shelves and making sure that all cataloging is accurate and current.

Ms. Hill prepared the IMC's Annual Report which will be available on the IMC home page.