

Washington Township High School IMC
 Monthly Report
 March 2009

Teaching and Learning

Statistics

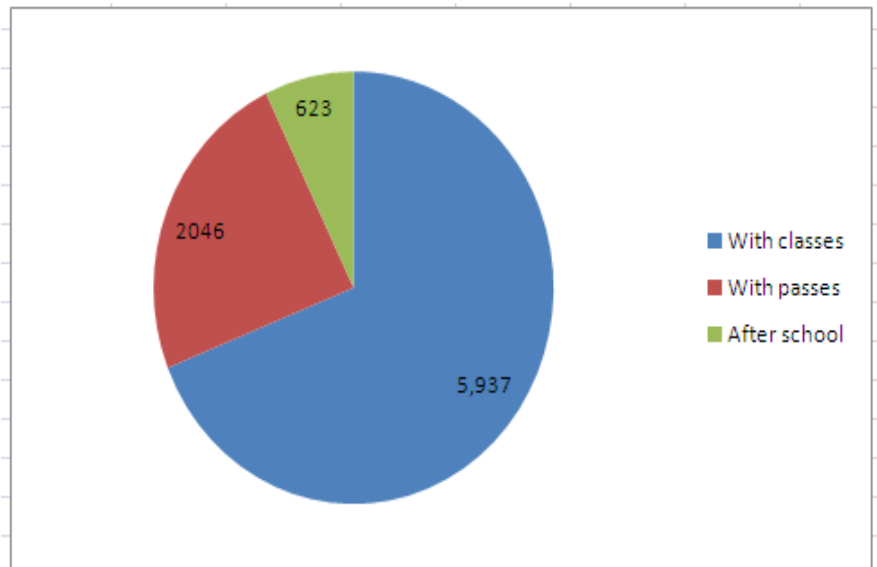
Classes

Consumer & Family Science	5
Visual & Performing Arts	5
English	130
Science	23
Social Studies	108
Physical Education	14
World Language	1

Total Number of Classes **286**

Total number of students	8,606
Students with classes	5,937
Students with passes	2,046
Students after school	623

Student Library Usage in March 2009



Information Skills

March Highlights

The IMC was the place to be during the month of March! Librarian/teacher collaboration was at an all-time high as classes from each department in the school came down to research information and to complete papers and projects. As the need arises, the librarians are busily creating new and updated Pathfinders to facilitate the research that WTHS teachers and students are doing in the most popular curriculum-related areas. Our Pathfinders were heavily used by all departments during the month of March.



On March 17, library staff and patrons welcomed two leprechauns who came to spread some Irish cheer. (Actually they are Jimmy and Robbie Helder, grandsons of library assistant Karin Partridge.)

Information Literacy Lessons

Consumer and Family Science

- Ms. Midgely's classes were happy to see that the librarians had created a Pathfinder on genetic disorders to guide them in researching birth defects. The books, magazines, and websites provided the information for their reports.

English

- Third marking period Freshman Writing Lab students taught by Ms. Calvani, Ms. Bolam, Ms. Sanchirico, and Ms. Mroz completed their papers about a controversial issue which affects society. The librarians are getting ready to welcome the 4th marking period group.
- Mrs. Sandusky's English 12 classes, as well as those taught by Mrs. Natanni, finished their research on their paper about a contemporary artist or performer. The librarians showed them how to navigate the "Famous and Fictitious" Pathfinder to find information.
- Mrs. Skow's 11th grade Honors English classes and Ms. Hayes College Prep English 11 classes completed their research for the paper in which they develop a thesis about the work of a 20th century American author and trace that theme through two (for CP classes) or three (for Honors classes) of the author's works. With the formal lessons completed, many of the students came down after school to put the finishing touches on their papers. Meanwhile, Mr. Valerio 's, Mr. Lawler's, and Mr. Byatt's English 11 classes are just beginning their research paper project.
- Mrs. Kopas's College Prep English 12 classes finished researching the day they were born. The Pathfinder which the librarians created greatly facilitated the writing of their research papers.
- Mr. Hughes's Literature and Composition classes read Elie Wiesel's *Night* . Then the librarians showed them how to use the IMC databases to investigate modern genocide and to create a PowerPoint presentation with their findings.

Performing Arts

- Mrs. Silverman's Theater classes perused IMC bookshelves and databases for a poem that they liked. Then they used IMC resources to find critical and author analysis to share with the class in a presentation.
- Mr. Janicki's Guitar classes put down their instruments long enough to come to the IMC and research famous guitarists. The librarians created a brochure for them to assist in their search for information.

Physical Education

- The librarians guided Ms. Grusemeyer's classes in using the " Issues in Health" Pathfinder to create an informational brochure on a health-related topic.

Social Studies

- Some of Ms. D'Amico's CP US History I classes used the Civil War Pathfinder which the librarians created to research Civil War topics and create trading cards. Her other classes used IMC resources to research a reformer from the Antebellum Age. The librarians showed them how to use Publisher to create a brochure with their findings.
- Events in the Cold War era were the topic for research in Mr. Barnshaw's Honors classes. Some of the students chose to present the information in a newscast which featured pictures and videos which they had discovered using IMC databases.
- Mrs. Carchidi's Issues class researched the Nuremberg Trials using IMC resources.
- Ms. Monaco's Honors History classes used the IMC resources to finish the Civil War portfolio which they began last month.
- Mr. Eppolite's U.S. History I classes began research on their term papers about famous people in history. The librarians instructed them in exploring the IMC's collection and in using MLA format. His CPA classes worked on historical newsletters for topics from Antebellum era.

- Mr. Gorski’s US History II classes searched for scholarly journals to find information for their research papers.
- Mrs. LaRosa’s CP US 1 History classes researched incidents of genocide throughout the world. The librarians showed them how to publish their findings in a brochure. Meanwhile, her US History II classes used the “World War II” Pathfinder that the librarians created to produce a PowerPoint presentation on the various aspects of that war.
- The librarians stressed the importance of using the correct search terms as they assisted Mrs. Meares’ Honors History classes in finding information for their slavery position paper.

Science

- Mr. Napolsky’s Chemistry classes broadened their vision of modern careers and the sciences as they used IMC resources to research the use and need for chemistry in the global business world. The librarians showed them how to find information in the science database. Then they directed them to the business Pathfinder to explore the business and economic resources.

Mr. Tsoukalis’s Honors Chemistry classes researched various forms of energy in preparation for their class debates where each student will advocate for one of them. The librarians directed them to the Environmental Studies Pathfinder to find information and graphics to strengthen their argument.

- Ms. Cosgrove’s Science classes created a “pedigree chart” to track hereditary diseases. The “Hereditary and Diseases” Pathfinder, which the librarians created, assisted them in their search.
- Mrs. Carcel’s Science classes explored careers in Biotechnology. The librarians helped them to navigate the three career databases to find information which would guide them in finding a careers they would enjoy, as well as colleges which offered the appropriate major.

Special Education

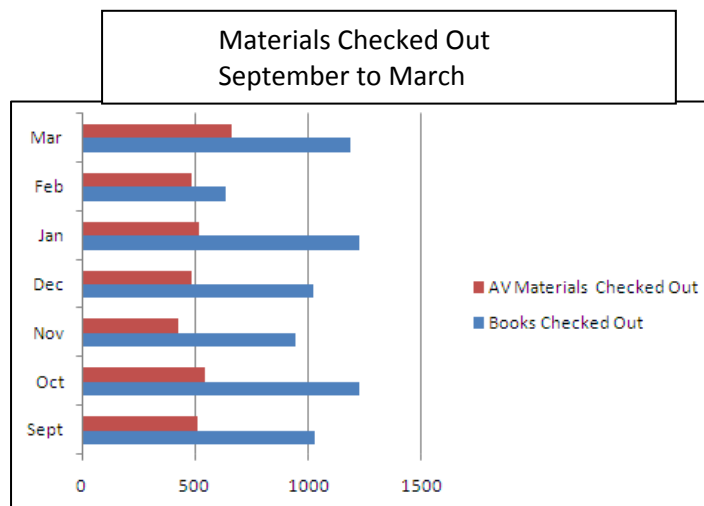
- The librarians guided Mr. Cullen and Mrs. McFadden’s students in selecting a young adult book which tackled contemporary issues.

World Language

- The librarians assisted Senora Clark’s AP Spanish classes in locating both Spanish and English articles on court cases by searching the IMC newspaper and magazine databases.

Information Access and Delivery Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	1,951
Magazines/articles requested	104
Interlibrary loans requested	34
Interlibrary loans returned	70



Technology Update

Teachers and guidance counselors have been offered a free 30-day trial subscription to a new database called Testing and Education Reference Center. Clicking the link on the IMC home page allows interested staff to test the Career Module, Resume Builder, and Testing resources offered on the site.

Reading Promotion



The IMC library assistants are a talented group. Besides all of the work they do to help with the smooth operation of the library, they also share their artistic talents to make the library a welcoming place. Diane Hackett, who has her undergraduate degree in Art, is shown drawing the “WTHS Poet Tree” which will greet patrons as they enter the library. Staff and students will be invited to write their favorite poem on a leaf which will decorate the tree for Poetry Month in April. The hallway bulletin board, designed by Mrs. Partridge, highlights the new books which the library just put on the shelves. The seasonal theme is “Spring Into Books.”

Student Book Club

- The collection of books for the used book sale is getting larger and larger. The book club is continuing to promote and collect books for a used book sale that they are planning. Donations of new and gently used books are being dropped off in the IMC. Proceeds from the sale will support the club’s literacy outreach program.
- The Book Club sold “Eat. Sleep. Read.” t-shirts that were designed by a former WTHS student.

Program Administration

- Ann and Denise attended a workshop sponsored by ETTC to improve their skills in using the Microsoft Excel program.
- Faculty, staff, and students are continuing to check out the new books, CDs, and DVDs, which have recently been catalogued and placed on the shelves.