

Washington Township High School IMC
 Monthly Report
 May 2009



The Washington Township Board of Education honored WTHS Media Specialist Ann Hill at its May public meeting for her selection as the Gloucester County Teacher of the Year for 2008-09. Hill now moves on to contention for the New Jersey Teacher of the Year award, which will be determined this fall. Hill (center) is pictured with BOE member Thomas Licisyn (left) and WTHS Principal Rosemarie Farrow.

Congratulations WTHS Teacher of the Year, Ms. Ann Hill, on your selection as Gloucester County Teacher of the Year. The IMC staff is very proud of you!

Teaching and Learning

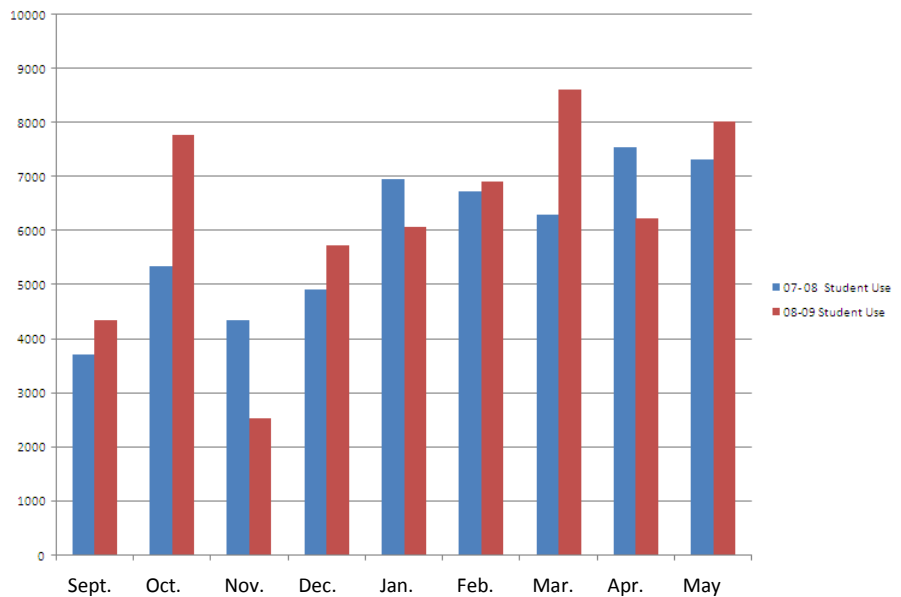
Statistics

Total number of students	8,029
Students with classes	5,406
Students with passes	2,189
Students after school	434

Classes

Consumer & Family Science	3
English	105
Math	9
Performing Arts	1
Science	62
Social Studies	86
Special Education	24
World Language	20
Total Number of Classes	310

Comparison of 07-08 with 08-09 School Year
 Monthly Student Use of the IMC



Information Skills

May Highlights

Summertime and reading...perfect together. As the school year winds down, the library ramps up its efforts to get staff and students excited about summer reading. The librarians redesigned the summer reading brochure available in the library. In addition, the summer reading list on the IMC home page has been updated. Students can now check the list for a picture of the book cover and a summary of the story. They can also check on book availability. The library also solicited student suggestions for the best in summer reading. The book titles will be posted well before the students leave for summer vacation. The librarians are making plans for the "Summer Reading Spectacular"—new books will be put on display to encourage WTHS staffers to check them out for their summer reading enjoyment.

Information Literacy Lessons

Consumer and Family Science

- Mrs. Molle's Foods classes regularly come to the IMC to research and type recipes.

English

- Mrs. Lucarini and Mrs. Thomas's English 9 classes searched IMC resources for songs, lyrics, and pictures to use in a PowerPoint presentation about famous people.
- Mr. Valerio's AP English classes researched sonnets by William Shakespeare and other Renaissance poets using the IMC databases. The librarians explained how to recognize and find literary criticism for this genre.
- The librarians assisted Mr. Lawler's AP English classes in finding information and using MLA format for their research papers.
- Mr. Cullen and Mrs. McFadden's 12th grade Literature and Composition classes learned how write a research paper. Working collaboratively with the librarians, the teachers guided the students in completing a project which was previously thought to be too difficult for a Lit and Comp class.
- Mrs. Biancosino-Walker's English classes finished up the work on their research papers.
- The fourth marking period Writing Lab classes received instruction in completing their freshman research paper about a controversial topic. This is the last group of freshmen to come to the IMC to receive this instruction. The freshman class should be well prepared to write research papers as they progress through high school and beyond.

Math

- Mrs. Bogacki's classes researched the lives of famous mathematicians. The librarians then showed them how to create baseball cards to publish the information.

Performing Arts

- Mrs. Silverman's Theater classes explored IMC bookshelves for monologues which they studied and presented to their classmates.

Science

- Ms. Constans's CP Physics classes had their own classroom "science fair." With information gathered in the IMC about the physics of numerous geological and biological processes, the students presented their findings in written lab reports and "science fair" style story boards and visual aids.

- The librarians showed Mr. Holmes' AP Chemistry classes how to search IMC Science resources to find modern applications for chemistry. They published their findings in visual aids such as posters, handouts, and overheads to share in a presentation to their classmates.
- Ms. Schuler's classes researched environmental concerns, as well as their causes, effects, and possible remedies. The librarians assisted them in putting their information into Power Point presentations to present to the rest of the class.
- Mr. Clark and Ms. McIlvaine's classes had a choice of creating a diorama or a poster using their research on biomes. The librarians showed them how to use the Biome Pathfinder to search the ebooks, databases, and weblinks for information.
- The Biography Pathfinder created by the librarians showed Ms. Sereno's classes how to search for information about famous scientists. They then put the information into a PowerPoint presentation for the class.

Social Studies

- Mr. Callaway's History classes conducted their own scavenger hunt for historical information using IMC resources.
- Mr. Gorski's US History II classes conducted mock trials on the subject of the Kennedy assassination. The librarians selected specific books on the topic and showed them how to search other IMC resources for information to prepare their positions.
- Guided by the librarians, Miss Mason's Sociology classes researched a contemporary sociological issue using the IMC databases. They had the option of creating a movie or a brochure with their findings.
- Mrs. LaRosa's US History II classes used the IMC Pathfinder called Twentieth Century to search for highlights of the specific decade that they were researching. The students were looking for information about the important events and people in sports, entertainment, and music for the decade they were assigned. They then created colorful and imaginative PowerPoint presentations with their findings.
- Mr. Mitchell's World History classes created lessons about the age of Reason, Enlightenment, and Absolutism using IMC databases and ebooks.
- Ms. D'Amico's classes used the Civil War Pathfinder which the librarians created to search for famous people, events, and battles of the Civil War. Their assignment was to create nine trading cards using the information they had found.

Special Education

- The librarians showed Mrs. Renzetti's classes how to create a PowerPoint combining their own personal history with research they found about the day they were born. The presentations were put onto CDs for the students to give to their parents as graduation gifts. The students were thrilled to learn how to set their lives to music using the IMC programs.

World Language

- Mrs. Jacoby and Mrs. Belisario's classes explored careers requiring knowledge of Spanish. Using IMC resources, the students searched the career databases and classified ads. They then chose a career and presented a PowerPoint highlighting that job.

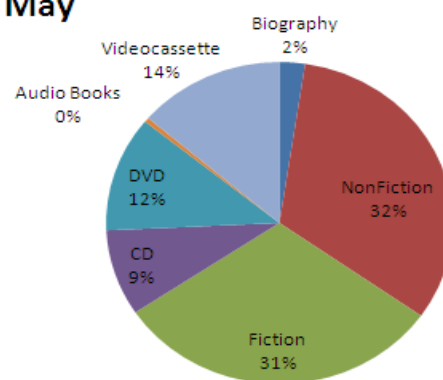
- The library enjoyed its first visit from Mr. Dempsey’s Chinese classes. They were translating text from Chinese to English using the IMC computers.



Materials Circulated May

Information Access and Delivery Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	1,814
Magazines/articles requested	59
Interlibrary loans requested	16
Interlibrary loans returned	9



Technology Update

The IMC home page was again updated to get staff and students excited about summer reading. Visitors to the page will notice a flashing yellow button which attracts them to the summer reading link. From this link, students can view the brochure which list book titles for each grade. They can also see the book cover, read a short summary, and check for availability at not only the IMC, but also through the Margaret Heggan Library and JerseyCat.

Reading Promotion

The library bulletin boards for this month encouraged staff and students to explore books about different cultures. The “Many Cultures, Many Lands” theme featured covers of books, both fiction and nonfiction, which allow the reader to enter a different world and see it through the eyes of people from different lands and lifestyles. Meanwhile, one library bookcases featured gardening books under the title “How Does Your Garden Grow.” The other bookcase showcased previously recommended “beach reads.” We again thank our talented and creative library aides for their colorful and informative displays.



Student Book Club

The Student Book Club met on May 27 to discuss their last book of the year, *Kabul Beauty School*, by Deborah Rodriguez. After a year in which the club attracted a record number of students, the club's officers are busily preparing their list of books to be discussed next year.

For the first time this year, the club met without their moderator, Media Specialist Stephanie Gaughan. Ms. Gaughan is currently on maternity leave. She and her husband Rob welcomed their new daughter, Riley Christina Rech, on May 21.

The IMC Staff congratulates Stephanie and Robert Rech on the birth of their first child, Riley Christina. Welcome to the world, Riley. May your life be filled with love, happiness, good health, and good books!

