

# Washington Township High School IMC

## Monthly Report

September 2008

### Teaching and Learning

#### Statistics

##### Classes 175

English	1
Consumer and Family Science	3
Social Studies	163
Technology	3
Mathematics	2

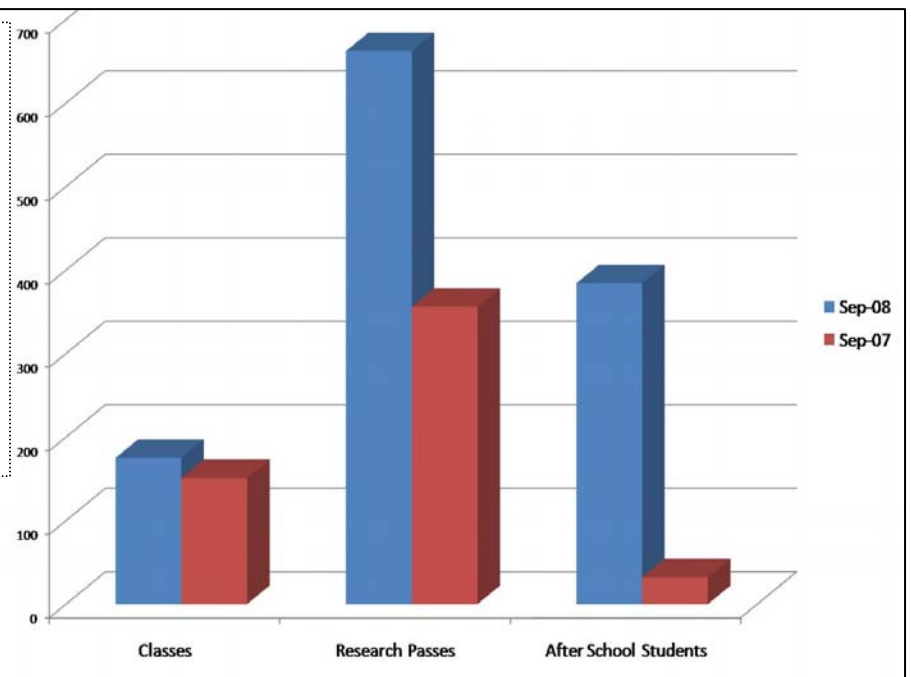
##### Total number of students 4,564

Students with classes	3,317
Students with passes	662
Students after school	384

IMC Student Usage  
September 2007 & September 2008

#### Increase in Student Use

As the chart to the right demonstrates, September was a very busy month in the IMC. There was a 16% increase in the number of students taught information skills lessons, an 86% increase in the number of students sent to the IMC throughout the day on a research pass and there was an overwhelming increase of 351 extra students who utilized the IMC after school.



#### Information Skills

##### September Highlights

Every freshman Social Studies class spent four days in the library for an orientation which included an overview of the IMC services, resources, and web page. The librarians showed the students how to find books and Ebooks using Web Collection Plus and Power Search, how to use the databases, including AP Photo and United Streaming, and how to develop a PowerPoint. The students then created a five slide Power Point presentation for their assigned country.

## **Information Literacy Lessons**

### **Social Studies**

- A comprehensive and informative pathfinder on the 2008 Presidential campaign was created for use by social studies classes. The librarians demonstrated how to research the candidates and where they stand on important issues to Mr. Gorski 's US II students since are taking part in a mock campaign. Mrs. Monaco's students were also instructed to utilize the pathfinder as a tool to complete a homework assignment on the campaign.
- Mr. Eppolite's Honors U.S. History I classes created a Colonial America newsletter reporting on the people and events on the road to the revolution. The librarians developed and taught the lessons giving the students instruction in how to use either Publisher or Microsoft Office, along with the IMC databases, to cover the events from both a British and American perspective.
- Miss D'Amico's Honors US History 1 classes used IMC resources to write a research paper about the year they were born. The librarians created a Pathfinder for the project which is linked to the IMC web page, and they instructed the students in how to use it. From this list of resources, students were directed to databases, catalogs, and internet sources to search for information for their paper. The librarians also guided the students in formatting parenthetical citations and a works cited page, using the web page -linked MLA guide.
- Mr. Callaway and the librarians are team-teaching his US History II classes in writing their research paper. Using IMC resources and laptops, the students are developing a thesis and researching the library's catalogs and databases for supporting data.
- Mrs. Carchidi's Issues in 20<sup>th</sup> Century European and World History class was given a demonstration on how to search the newly acquired eBooks as they searched for information on British Imperialism.
- The librarians taught Mrs. Meares' AP US I students how to use the eBooks and biography databases to locate information for a personality profile paper.

### **Mathematics**

- Mrs. Perry's Statistics class used the IMC Pathfinder developed by the librarians to collect data for a college search comparison graph. Students were taught how to utilize the Coin database to narrow down colleges based on select criteria.

### **Consumer & Family Sciences**

- Intro to Culinary Arts and Apparel students were taught how to search for current event articles using the online databases both in the IMC and from home for an ongoing assignment.

### **Technology Education**

- Mr. Hudock's Electrical Technology classes were taught a lesson on how to search science databases and eBooks to locate information on how electricity is harnessed from power sources and distributed to homes and businesses.

## Information Access and Delivery

### Statistics

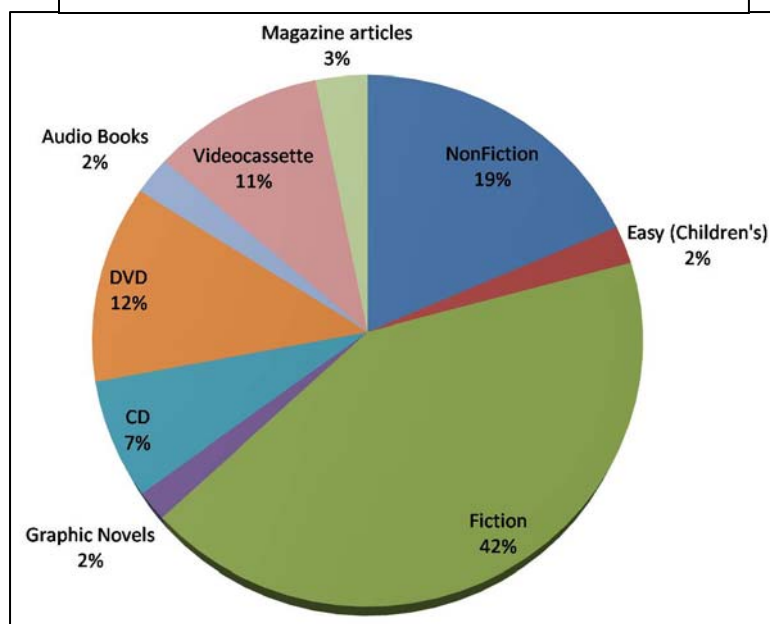
Books/audio-visual checked out	1, 623
Magazines/articles requested	50
Interlibrary loans requested	24
Interlibrary loans returned	9

### Technology Update

#### eBook Collection Expanded

- Over 300 new eBooks were added to the IMC collection. These books which are the electronic version of reference titles are available to the students through the IMC homepage and catalog both from school and home. The eBooks are proving to be an invaluable resource since they provide quality information to multiple students at a time in a format that can be searched, printed and saved where in the past this information could only be accessed by one student at a time in the IMC.

Percentage of September Circulations by Type



### IMC Homepage

**The IMC homepage was updated this September to reflect a number of changes and new programs.**

- A Campaign 2008 page was created complete with links to the online databases and websites on the candidates, issues, Electoral College, etc. A link to the form NJ Voter Registration Form was also posted to this page and to the IMC homepage to encourage students to register to vote.
- IMC resources for readers were reorganized in a new page titled the Reading Corner. This page contains links to Novelist (a readers' advisory database), the Student and Faculty Book Club pages, the Summer Reading requirements, reading list created by staff and students and other valuable tools for readers. A new page on Banned Books Week was also created and linked to this page for easy reference.
- The Virtual Tour of the IMC was updated to reflect changes in the IMC staff and policies.

### Reading Promotion/IMC Displays

- Books with Bite, the ALA theme for this year's Teen Read Week, was also the theme of the bulletin board used to promote reading in the Core hallway. This board highlighted a number of books on vampires and other monsters that have become popular along with the *Twilight* series.
- The interior IMC bulletin board welcomed back students with the reinforcement of summer reading books. Also displayed were the names of the three librarians for this year, including new Teacher/Librarian Denise Skow who replaced the retired Kathy McNally.

- The large display in the IMC featured a theme called “Banned Book Readout.” Book covers of the most frequently challenged books and authors, including such classics as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, were on display to raise awareness of “Banned Book Week—Celebrating the Freedom to Read” which began on September 27.
- A variety of books on the candidates and politics were also on display in the IMC.

### **Student Book Club**

- The Student Book Club had both a general and executive board meeting during the month of September. A record number of students attended the general meeting where they received information on the Book club meeting schedule including the first title *Whale Talk*, provided their email address and joined the online discussion group on Shelfari. The Executive Board met to revise membership responsibilities and select the book schedule for the remainder of the year. The Book Club will meet twice in October to discuss *Whale Talk* by Chris Crutcher and *Interview with a Vampire* by Anne Rice.
- The Student Book Club webpage was redone to include links to Shelfari and to the Book Club eBoard. The schedule of books and the theme each book reflects was also included on the new page. Each monthly theme will be highlighted with a list of books similar to the monthly title.

### **Program Administration**

- The IMC staff distributed a Welcome Back packet to all WTHS staff that contained a variety of informational memos and lists of the resources available to them through the IMC.
- Librarian Ann Hill conducted a new teacher orientation to introduce the services of the library and the available technology to all new hires in August.
- The MLA guide was revised to reflect changes made to various databases and changes made to the way electronic media should be cited. This guide is available on the IMC homepage and will be distributed to English 11 students when they begin their research assignments.
- A newsletter highlighting new IMC materials, pertinent research and valuable websites was distributed to staff members.
- The IMC staff hosted a staff pick contest which allowed all staff members to recommend a book they read over the summer. These books will be used in a Staff Picks display and on a webpage.
- Librarians Ann Hill and Stephanie Gaughan, in collaboration with freshman English teachers, redesigned the Writing Lab program for the classes that will be coming to the library beginning in October. The classes will now research a current event or issues affecting teens rather than the biography paper that was used in the past.