

Instructional Media Newsletter

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Check out what our district is doing now in technology and instructional media!

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA STAFF MEMBERS "LEAP INTO LITERACY"

Librarians and Computer Consultants Assist Literacy Committee To Help Execute Team's First Literacy Expo

The Brentwood High School literacy theme is "Leap into Literacy". And, boy, did our students leap into our very first Literacy Expo! Under the direction of Reading Consultants, Kristine Curran and Patricia Orechovsky, on Monday, December 5th, the Sonderling gymnasium was transformed into a literary paradise. Media stations were set up and managed throughout the gym with the help of the Instructional Media staff who also double as literary agents. All members of the Literacy Committee contributed and their hard work paid off.

As students entered the gym, they saw and heard movie trailers based on books that have been transformed onto the silver screen. The sounds and images of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, *I am Legend*, *Rise of the Planet of the Apes*, and the *Lovely Bones* were used to draw in the students and to encourage reading.

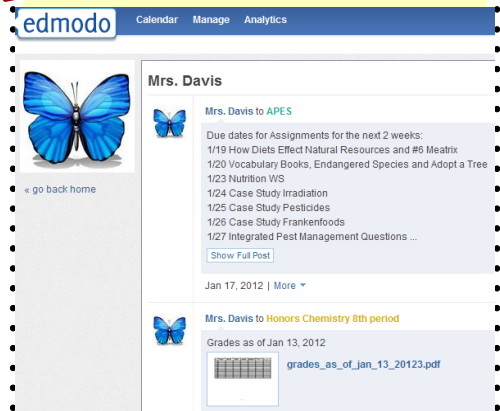


The Ross and Sonderling Libraries went mobile! Carts of recommended books of all genres were selected and brought directly to the crowds! Using the Follett system and a laptop, the librarians could check out books for anyone who wanted one. Even students who are reluctant readers or who don't have time in their schedules were able to sign out a book. Students were thrilled to avail themselves of this opportunity!

Susan Lewis asked staff members 'The last great book' they read. She printed flyers on Publisher that were attached to portable partitions. There were walls of recommended reviews that students could read with commentary from teachers on their favorite books. They loved reading the flyers and asked if they could have a copy of those recommended.

The students left the gym energized and many, who never or rarely read, took a newfound interest in books and reading and their teachers were overjoyed as well.

Who's Using Edmodo?



BHS Science Teacher, Ms. Adrienne Davis, implemented a new type of technology this year! Already a master at School Center, when Ms. Davis learned about EDMODO at the October Superintendent's conference, she thought she'd give it a try. Her findings? "Since Edmodo is tied to my email address, it allows my students the ability to ask me questions about assignments or concepts from class, while they are working from home on the assignments!"



The Freshcast is the BFC's video school news program. Armed with a microphone and camera, Freshcast anchors and reporters report on what's going on at the Freshman Center. Regular segments include: *What's up in the World*, *Teacher Feature*, *Hallway Holla*, *Music and Entertainment* and more!

The first broadcast, which aired in December, was a resounding success. Mr. Suarez was interviewed regarding the ongoing construction in the building, student and staff members indicated what they were thankful for this holiday season, and the Brentwood Green Machine's Syracuse performance was highlighted.

At the close of each broadcast, anchors sign off with the following line: "Keep it Fresh Freshman Center." This is precisely what the BFC is doing: *Keeping it fresh with technology!*

Middle School News!

North Middle Student Projects Highlighted on Website!!!!!!

Recently, students of Pam O'Brien at Brentwood South and North Middle Schools wrote poetry in alignment with the Common Core Standards and the New York State ELA Assessment. The student projects will be posted on www.rfkcenter.org. The unit was about the environment including the story of the courageous Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and creator of the Green Belt Movement. The poems are entitled, "Mottainai Means Maathai." Mottainai is a Japanese term that means "a sense of regret concerning waste when the intrinsic value of an object or resource is not properly utilized."

Through an emotional, multisensory connection, students analyzed and created original poetic devices using the combination of abstract and concrete ideas with objects found in nature that were relevant to the abstract concepts found in the biography of Wangari Maathai.

No water, pollution, deforestation.
 Malnourished, curtailed, impoverished...
 Their struggles were like a flowing river,
 they traveled up and down.
 Soil erosion, lack of shade, diseases spreading.

Mottainai means perseverance.
 Green Belt Movement, trees, courage –
 incentive,
 The people's freedom was like a path
 that would not end.
 1977, environmentalists, about 15 billion green belts were planted,
 A destiny to empower.

Mottainai means courage.
 Denounced President Daniel Arap Moi's proposal
 For the skyscraper in the middle of Nairobi Park
 Criticized, detained, against arrogance.
 Their dignity was running from them.
 Save the park or else no oxygen or shade
 Clarity was needed.

Mottainai means Bobby, Mottainai means me.
 Ripple of hope
 Reduce, reuse, recycle, respect.
 Wangari was a ripple of hope for all
 She empowered everyone she met with knowledge
 Wangari and Bobby and I will be a ripple of hope.



East Middle Creates Glogs to Raise Awareness about Bullying!

Forget Blogging, try
Glogging!

Ms. Pion's Health classes worked with Ms. McCullough at the East Middle Computer Lab to create online multi-media bullying awareness posters on edu.glogster.com. Students incorporated images, music, quotes, videos, links, and animation to create powerful messages. Several Glogs were chosen to be displayed on our school website: schoolcenter.bufsd.org/east! Check out www.glogster.com or edu.glogster.com to create your own multi-media posters on any topic!



www.MyFootprintsSD.org

Home Beau Mallory Anthony Destiny Elementary Only!

In a digital world, the question is not whether you will leave a mark.
 The question is, "What kind of mark are you leaving?"




West Middle Knows their "Netiquette!"

In West Middle School it is not enough to know how to use the computer and all of the resources that go along with it; students also have to be good "digital citizens." In Mrs. Kavanagh's 6th grade Computer Skills classes that is exactly what students are learning. Using the website, www.myfootprintsd.org, classes are learning about the ways in which to behave when they are on the internet, texting, gaming or skypeing. These students will continue to explore this topic by creating a user handbook for students who want to be good digital citizens. They will conclude by creating Public Service Announcements that will be posted on the school web site and also shown around the school.

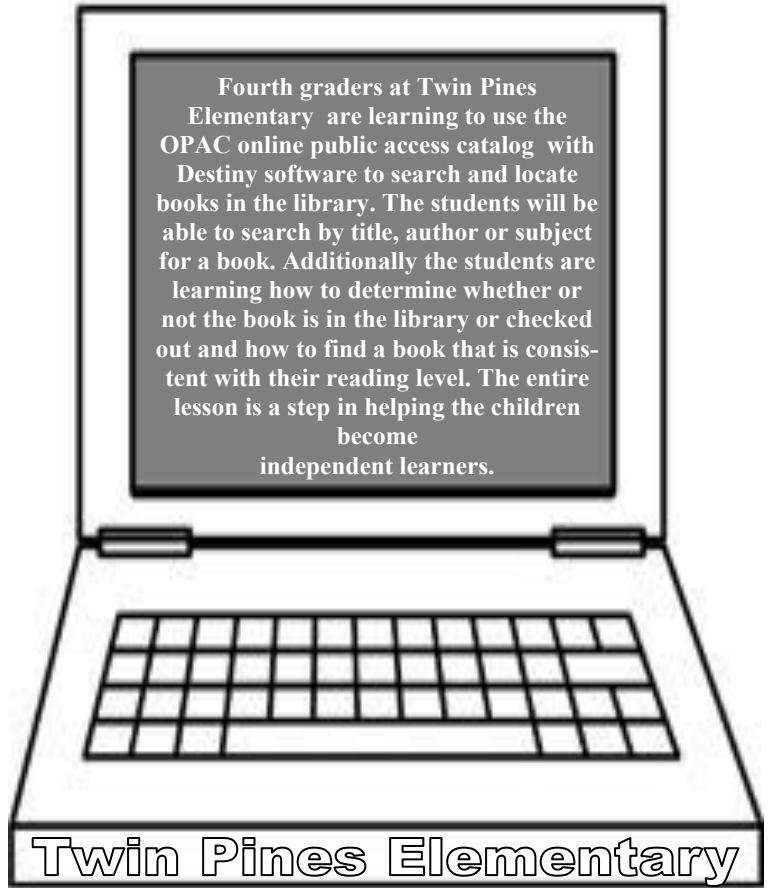
Elementary School News!

"The Laurel Mice"



@ Laurel Park Elementary School

Inspired by the book **The Library Mouse** by Daniel Kirk, students display the booklets they wrote to demonstrate their Writer's Workshop writing skills. Each student who wrote a book as part of a homework assignment received a Star Student Award and their booklet was displayed in the library. Pictured with the students from left to right are Ms. Borelli, first grade teacher and Ms. Steinke, Librarian/Media Specialist.




Fourth graders at Twin Pines Elementary are learning to use the OPAC online public access catalog with Destiny software to search and locate books in the library. The students will be able to search by title, author or subject for a book. Additionally the students are learning how to determine whether or not the book is in the library or checked out and how to find a book that is consistent with their reading level. The entire lesson is a step in helping the children become independent learners.

Twin Pines Elementary



At the Loretta Park Library, Ms. Battista read Martin's Big Words by Doreen Rappaport to her first grade students and learned who he was and why he is famous.

Hemlock Park's First and Second Graders Receive the Gift of Reading

First and second grade students at Hemlock Park along with Mrs. Brittan, the Library Media Specialist have something to celebrate. Through the help of Operation Outreach USA and the generosity of Target in Bay Shore, Hemlock Park was awarded an Early Childhood Reading Grant. Every first and second grader at Hemlock Park received two books as a gift. Their teachers received lesson plan guides for both titles the students received. Parent discussion guides in English and Spanish were sent home with the books.

The Final Word

A Library Media Specialist is an Integral Member of Each Elementary School

Written by Lisa Catandella

In addition to ordering, exchanging, maintaining, and keeping inventory of books, periodicals, instructional videos, AV equipment and Library supplies, a Library Media Specialist services all students, and supports all teachers, administrators, consultants, and staff members in their school.

Library Media Specialists are teachers. They teach students how to; locate, evaluate and use books in the library, use electronic resources, such as Destiny (the digital card catalog) determine if a book is "just right" for them (including interest and reading level) and use the VRC (Virtual Reference Collection digital database) that further enables students to think independently while researching. Students are exposed to; different literature genres, the research process and how to evaluate whether a site, book or database is appropriate for their assignment



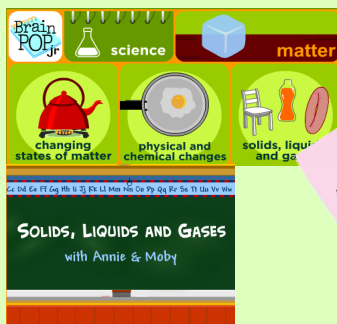
Library Media Specialists provide collegial support. They collaborate with teachers on current and future lessons, projects, and units of study that enhance the learning process and incorporate Common Core State Standards. Library Media Specialists suggest mentor texts for Writers Workshop and maintain a professional collection in the LMC (Library Media Center) that provides staff with materials to support curriculum, help struggling students, and keep them abreast of the educational trends and initiatives in the District.

Library Media Specialists wear many hats. Some Library Media Specialists function as Scholastic administrators by maintaining the SAM database. Some ensure ink orders and technology repairs are processed. Others work with their school's PTA and SIT Teams to plan and facilitate school and community events. All Library Media Specialists proctor State Assessments. All Library Media Specialists work closely with their clerks to ensure their library functions most efficiently and effectively.

Along with teaching students, supporting colleagues, providing many behind the scenes services, as well as managing and maintaining a Library Media Center, one can see the Library Media Specialist is an integral member of each elementary school and benefits all!

Highlighted Websites featuring Elementary Science:

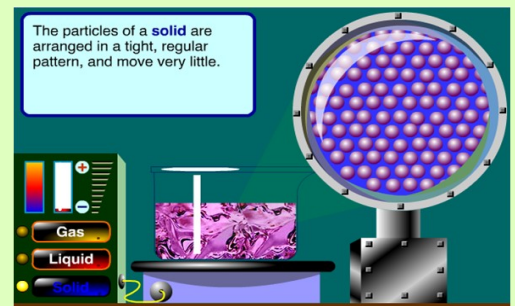
<http://www.brainpopjr.com/science/matter/>



BrainPOP Jr. offers

three movies on Matter! Check them out!

BrainPOP Jr. also offers lesson plans, quizzes and activities for each movie!



http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/states_of_matter/

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