



Community involvement key in the new year

By Dr. Eduardo Carballo
 Superintendent of Schools

Happy New Year To You All!

Our congratulations go to the Three Kings Day Committee, the ELL Program Staff, Parent Advisory Council members, the Division of Curriculum and Testing, the Dean Culinary Arts Program, volunteers, and Holyoke High School staff in preparing for an absolutely successful Three Kings Day Celebration. The Three Kings Day Celebration provided 1,000 toys to deserving children from the Holyoke City Schools. At the Holyoke High School auditorium, over 980 parents and students enjoyed delicious food as well as a wonderful program, which included a Nativity Play provided by the kindergarten students from Kelly School. This is the 5th year that the Holyoke Public Schools has observed the Three Kings Day, and it is wonderful to see the many parents and students participating in this activity which grows every year.

It continues to be rewarding to see the wonderful work taking place in the classrooms, and as I visit the various schools, it is a pleasure to observe the interest of the students and the commitment of the teachers. On Inauguration Day, I traveled to several schools and watched, along with the children, as history was being made. It made me think that there is a great deal to be proud of in our country and a great deal to be hopeful for as well. There is also a great deal to be proud of in the Holyoke Public School system and a great deal to be hopeful for as we go forward. One of the things President Barack Obama is asking for is the

involvement of community. I am proud to say that the Holyoke community has been actively involved for some time, and over the holiday season, and as the new year began, we experienced the goodwill of community members who care about our children in Holyoke. One example is of a local businessman who generously donated 150 coats to

needy students in the district; another is a local businessman who will be devoting his time and leadership to reach parents and encourage them to speak with their children about the benefits of attending college. This is being done in conjunction with the ENLACE Program at Holyoke Community College. ENLACE is a wonderful Program which brings families together, school by school, to instill in parents and students the need to continue education and the importance of college and technical training beyond high school. ENLACE has set the bar high, and we are very pleased and proud of the success that the Holyoke Public Schools and the Holyoke Community College are bringing about in this joint collaboration. This type of involvement and caring is not only appreciated by so many, but also speaks volumes as to the support which exists in the Holyoke community.

Saturday School began January 24th and will run through May 30th with sites at Holyoke High, Peck, Morgan, Donahue, Sullivan, and White Schools. This program has been successful in the past, and we look forward to



Dr. Carballo gratefully acknowledges local businesspeople who donated to HPS families this winter.

another successful year.

As you may have heard, Governor Patrick said in his State of the State address, it is a very difficult time, and although he did not indicate how much will be cut from state aid, he did indicate that "No one's priorities will be spared." The School Department and School Committee are in the process of budget preparations, and we will do our part in trying to preserve the integrity of our educational program. Whatever cuts have to be made will be made with the focus remaining on children and their needs. We hope all of our staff across the district understand that much will be asked from us and that sacrifices will have to be made as we move forward. We will work diligently to ensure that we are able to continue to provide quality education to the students in Holyoke while working within budget guidelines.

Let's continue to work hard and prepare our children for the next round of MCAS testing. Each year, through our combined efforts, we continue to make gains, and we hope to continue that positive trend this year.



Inside this issue:

- *For Our Community* 2
- **CONNECTIONS**
Program expands 3
- *Presidential Inauguration* 4
- *Science and Health* 5
- *School Briefs* 6
- *Lavish Literacy* 7
- *Holyoke Sports* 8
- *Spanish Highlights* 9-12



Mission Statement

The mission of the Holyoke Public Schools is to provide educational opportunities for all students to reach their full potential in a safe, secure, healthy learning environment while valuing diversity and promoting responsible citizenship.

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Community Involvement

The Holyoke Public School family extends its condolences to the family and friends of School Committee member Mary (Scannell) Signet. She was a dedicated servant to the district for over 40 years as a teacher and School Committee member.

For Kate's Kitchen...

Late one December night, Sullivan Elementary School teacher Kim Beauregard thought of a great idea to have the students give back to the community while honoring their teachers during the holiday season. "I asked myself, how can our students give something to show they care for us without buying their teachers a gift?" said Beauregard. After seeing an article about the need for food at Kate's Kitchen, the idea was hatched with the full support of the school staff. The school's foyer became filled with over 750 non-perishable food items. In return for students giving an item, each child filled out a To and From gift tag and hung it on a holiday tree. Paraprofessional Evelyn Acevedo manned the donation table each morning distributing the tags and recalls, "The food drive was the perfect way for all families to participate in giving during the holiday season." Not only did students donate, but many teachers donated in the name of colleagues. When the collection ended, teachers received their gift tags to know who thought of them. Just prior to the Christmas break, three Holyoke Gas & Electric trucks backed up to the front doors and students loaded the boxes into the trucks. The trucks then proceeded to deliver the goods to the grateful staff at Kate's Kitchen.



Jenese Santos fills out a gift tag.



Doris Rivera, mother of Doris Rivera, Morgan School student, participated in a holiday wreath making activity for parents. The activity was part of the Casa Start Program which tutors students after school and makes connections with the families of those students.

Holyoke School Committee

- Mayor Michael Sullivan
- William Collamore
- Yvonne Garcia
- Barry Conway
- Mollie Plant
- Margaret Boulais
- Gladys Lebron-Martinez
- Howard Greaney
- Dennis Birks



Sullivan Elementary School fourth graders load three Gas and Electric trucks of non-perishable food items.

Title I Activities

Events start at 6:30 p.m.

(Cut and Save)

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| 3/2/09 | Morgan School | Dr. Seuss Night |
| 3/3/09 | McMahon School | Dr. Seuss Night |
| 3/4/09 | E.N. White School | Dr. Seuss Night |
| 3/10/09 | Sullivan School | Bingo for Books |
| 3/12/09 | Kelly School | Bingo for Books |
| 3/16/09 | Donahue School | Math Bingo Books |
| 3/25/09 | E.N. White School | Career Night |
| 3/26/09 | Morgan School | Bingo for Books |
| 4/2/09 | Kelly School | Game Night |
| 4/8/09 | E.N. White | Dinosaur Night |

Holyoke businessman donates winter coats



New coats, warm bodies at Donahue

Local businessman Jorge Colon, owner and director of the North End Funeral Home and the Puerta del Cielo Funeral Home, wanted to reach out to Holyoke kids in need. Initially, wanted to buy toys for children until a friend, Jamie Coto, from the Holyoke Schools transportation department, suggested he buy kids' winter coats. Coto and Colon received the whole-hearted support from Superintendent Dr. Eduardo Carballo. Rosie L. Urbana, Donahue School's family liaison, organized staff members to identify students who could use warmer clothes for the wintry weather. Urbana coordinated this information with Colon. On the last day of school before Christmas break, Colon arrived at Donahue School with many bags of coats. He also donated extra coats to other schools in the district. The only thing warmer than the jackets were the smiles of the students as they prepared to take their holiday break knowing they would be warmer thanks to the kindness of a stranger.

Title I Literacy and Math Dinosaur Night at Kelly School



CONNECTIONS Program gets a bit "younger"

The new Peck and E.N. White CONNECTIONS After School Programs are structured in the same way as the three middle school programs and the CONNECTIONS Program at Holyoke High. The program operates from the end of the school day until 5:50 p.m., Monday through Thursday, for 32 weeks. The programs began in September and will continue through May. Because attendance and enthusiasm continue to be very high, there is currently a waiting list at both sites. Everyday program participants are offered snacks, social time, homework support and a variety of enrichment programming. Like all CONNECTIONS program sites, these two new elementary programs are staffed by HPS teachers and an array of community-based partners, including high school and college tutors. Many of the club activities at both schools are similar. For example, students can learn to cook, create a school garden, engage in outdoor adventures, become girl scouts, experience the arts from theater to arts and crafts, learn to play an instrument, and get active and fit!

The third 8-week session began on January 26th with two new clubs offered at E.N. White. A science teacher will help participants in a "GO GREEN Club" explore ways to improve the school's recycling efforts and conserve energy. The Trustees of Reservation will provide children with an opportunity to play, draw, write, measure and explore the lives of dinosaurs. Meanwhile, at Peck, a high school student will teach 4th and 5th grade students how to Salsa, while others will choose to spend time engineering and building various objects including cardboard construction, straw rockets, cranes, yo-yo's and spinning tops in the Design it! club. For more info, please contact Eileen Cavanaugh, Director of The CONNECTIONS Program at 534-2168 or ecavanaugh@hps.holyoke.ma.us



The Culinary Club at Peck makes a Chinese dish.

<http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us>

What's New on the Web

By Judy Taylor

Visit the district web site to take full advantage of the exciting new information that is available.

NEW:

The Holyoke Public Schools district and school report cards are available on the web site.

<http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/schoollist.htm>

Additionally, copies are available at our student's school office, the Superintendent's Office, and the Holyoke Public Library. These report cards contain information required by the No Child Left Behind Act for our district and its schools including: teacher qualifications, student achievement on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and school/district accountability.

Books donated!

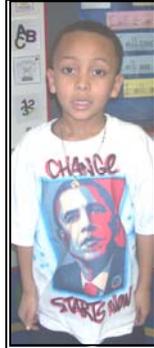


The Sullivan School Library received nearly 100 new books for its collection recently thanks to the "Link to Libraries" representatives who visited the school and donated the books. "Link to Libraries" is a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy by collecting and distributing new books to public school libraries. The sponsoring partner for the Sullivan School donation was Meyers Brothers Kalicka CPA, a Holyoke-based accounting firm. Both Susan Jaye-Kaplan, co-founder of "Link to Libraries, and David Kalicka, managing partner of Meyers Brothers Kalicka, visited the school and presented the books in the library with Mary McAndrew's first grade class on hand for the presentation. Principal John Breish was also present to thank both Kaplan and Kalicka for the donation.



Presidential Inauguration

- Donahue School joined the nation as all eyes turned towards Washington, D.C. for the Inauguration of Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States of America. Viewing stations were set up around the school, including two large screen projections of the event. The excitement was palpable in the gymnasium as 8th graders chanted "O-ba-ma," and wildly cheered when our first African-American President was sworn into office. The feeling of watching history unfold was magical. Following the event, students in the upper grades were invited to a screening of the PBS documentary, "Dreams of Obama." Teachers followed up the inauguration with activities and lessons, including writing letters to the President.
- After overwhelmingly electing now-President Barack Obama in the mock election in November, arrangements were made for the students of Kelly School to witness the Inauguration. Everyone crowded around the number of televisions that had been rounded up, affixed with safety pins and hanger antennae, and watched in silence as the first African-American President of the United States was sworn in. Teachers with tears in their eyes, as well as students who stared unblinking were all moved. Seventh grade Special Education Teacher Laura Shanahan said, "I remember watching the Inauguration when I was in school, and feeling deeply moved by it. I wanted to provide the students with an opportunity to experience this important part of history, and I wanted to experience it with them. I want them to see that anyone's dreams can come true, no matter what."
- The Inauguration of President Barack Obama was met with great excitement at Sullivan School. Principal John Breish led the entire school in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Wearing red, white and blue, students and staff gathered in classrooms, library, and the computer lab to witness the swearing in of the new president and the inaugural address. Teachers conducted special activities to highlight this historic day. Kindergarten classes practiced writing the President's name, read about his life, and made American flags. First grade students made a "flag cake" to honor the new President. Fourth grade students studied the "Presidential Oath of Office" and then wrote their own inaugural address. They also made "rally sticks" and proudly waved them throughout the ceremony. The eighth grade gathered together and spent the morning developing prior knowledge, discussing democracy and the electoral process. After the ceremony and the inaugural address, the class had a follow up discussion and then wrote letters to the new President and they are anticipating a response.
- E.N. White students in grades 4-8 participated in a mock Presidential election in November where overwhelmingly, 90% of the vote went to Barack Obama. On Inauguration Day, all students in K-8 watched with the rest of the world as President Obama became the first African-American President of the United States.



Sullivan's
Michael Nuñez is in the spirit!



Scenes like this played out all over Holyoke as students and staff watched history being made.

Peck's "Peace" Recipes

Cathy Foley's 8th grade Reader/Writer' Workshop students have a unique outlook on peace after participating in this year's Peace Week project. "I came up with the idea of recipes because it takes many elements or ingredients to achieve peace. I also told them that they don't need to think about world peace; peace begins at home, in your neighborhood, in Holyoke." Students brainstormed "ingredients" such as share, love, charity, help, tolerance and patience. Then they had to list the measurement of each ingredient and describe how to mix the ingredients. When asked how she chose the ingredients she picked for her "Peace pastries," Kiara Fernandez said, "When you say "peace" I automatically think about love and what it takes to give love." Jaime Monegro has been closely following the election of Barack Obama and feels that his presidency will be a key component to achieving world peace. When asked why he feels Obama will fare better than his predecessors Monegro said, "He is smart, inspirational and is dedicated to the job."

Stop War Stew by Jaime Monegro

Serving size: 6.2 billion

Ingredients: Love, Peace Treaties, Barack Obama, Understanding, Caring, and Soldiers

Directions:

Stop sending soldiers to Iraq; Elect Barack Obama to bring back the soldiers already in Iraq; Understand how the soldier's families feel if he or she dies; Have caring thoughts and actions for all; Sign a peace treaty to stop war; Take advantage of the love the soldiers feel for their country and show them love when they get home; and Take love and spread it around to all.



Peace Pastries by Kiara Fernandez

Ingredients: 2 full cups of love, 2 cups of patience, 1 ½ cups of comprehension, 1 cup friendship, and 2 Tbs. sharing

Directions:



Bake 2 cups of love and put it in your heart. Add 2 cups of patience, Stir in 1 ½ cups of comprehension. While you mix the ingredients together add 1 cup of friendship, blend until mixture is complete. Spread around two tablespoons of sharing on top of the mix.



Twelve Peck students had their Recipes for Peace on display at Heritage State Park.

Science and Health

Attending the 23rd Annual

Day in the Lab

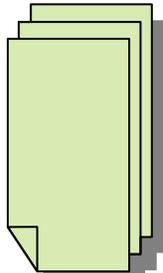
Forty students in grades 6-8 at Peck School participated in Hampshire College's Day in the Lab. This event was a full day of workshops presented by science faculty, staff, and college students in the Hampshire College Laboratories. The goal of the program was for students to find out what it is like to be a scientist. They participated in hands-on projects such as understanding the structure of the brain, forensics, making models, and performing magic. The event was funded by Hampshire College.



Future scientists work on experiments at Hampshire College.

Visiting Hazen Paper Company

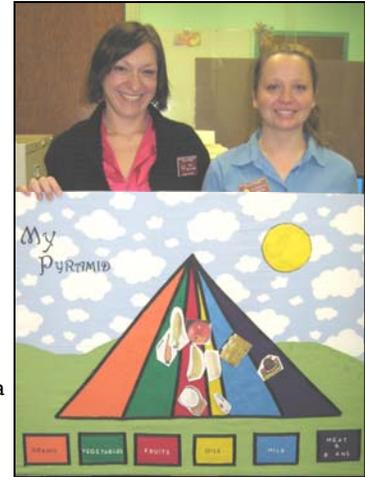
The fifth grade students from E.N. White Elementary School were welcomed to the Hazen Paper Company with the help of a grant called "The World is Our Classroom". Upon arrival, students spent time playing games involving the water cycle and put on a play about the transfer of energy. They also learned the life cycle of an oak tree and how it is used to make every day paper, that is used throughout our schools. A tour of the factory was also part of the day where the students were able to take home paper that they made. The Hazen Paper is an original paper company that has operated in the City of Holyoke since 1925.



Center for Excellence

Nutrition and Body Weight Project

The Center For Excellence Health Program recently teamed up with the University of Massachusetts nursing students and with the Holyoke Community College's licensed practical nurse's program. During these practicums, student nurses are assigned to a school nurse to learn about the community cultural influences and nursing care. When Gloria Merriam RNBSN met with Maureen Groden RNMS clinical assistant professor and students Elizabeth Lemoine and Misty Malachino for the first time, she had ideas of doing a nutrition program along with completing heights and weights of all students in the K-12 school.



Misty Malachino and Liz Lemoine show their food pyramid.

During the fall semester the students observed each classroom, researched the community from water sources to ecological influences, to doing hands on nursing care. The students did height, weight and scoliosis checks on students. The students met with their instructors, Groden and Merriam frequently. The students designed a food pyramid game board with Velcro food items. The student nurses went into classrooms talked about nutrition and played the nutrition game. The nursing experience was at no cost to the City of Holyoke.

HPS staff training to better help our students

AL'S PALS:

Kindergarten and first grade teachers were recently trained in an "Al's Pal's: Kids Making Healthy Choices" curriculum. This program is a nationally recognized evidence-based curriculum and teacher training program that develops social-emotional skills, self-control, problem-solving abilities, and healthy decision-making in children ages 3-8 years old. Through fun lessons, engaging puppets, original music, and effective teaching approaches, *Al's Pal's* helps young children regulate their own feelings and behavior, allowing educators more time for creative teaching by reducing the need for discipline; creates and maintains classroom environments of caring, cooperation, respect, and responsibility; teaches conflict resolution and peaceful problem-solving; promotes an appreciation of differences and positive social relationships; prevents and addresses bullying behavior; conveys clear messages about the harms of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; and builds children's abilities to make healthy choices and cope with difficult situations in life.

SECOND STEP:

Teachers and paraprofessionals at Metcalf were trained in the Second Step: *A Violence Prevention Curriculum*. This curriculum is a universal prevention program that is taught to every child in the classroom rather than to selected children. The curriculum encompasses preschool through middle school and is designed to promote social competence and reduce children's social-emotional problems.

CLASS ACTION:

On November 4th, a trainer from *Class Action*, a high school evidence-based alcohol prevention program, trained all health teachers, and high school counselors in its curriculum. *Class Action* looks at the real-world social and legal consequences involving teens and alcohol. Teens are divided into six Class Action legal teams to prepare and present hypothetical civil cases in which someone has been harmed as a result of underage drinking.

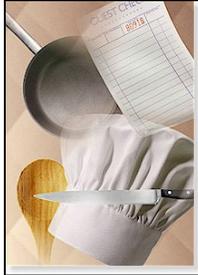
All of the above training related costs were paid for with the District's Federal Safe and Drug Free Entitlement grant.



Dean Technical High School

"This is just a smattering of good that I see around me all day here at Dean Technical High School. There are many acts of kindness too numerous to mention. However, in this day and age when the negative exploits of our young people are front page news, it is refreshing to see that a vast majority are making the world a better place," said Principal Linda Prystupa.

- The Culinary Arts Department has been busy this school year. Here are the highlights: prepared dinner for the Friends of Holyoke Public Library; hosted a fundraiser at E.N. White serving 1,000 guests; and participated in the Annual Community Dinner. In conjunction with the Connections After School program and the Jr. Air Force ROTC, the Culinary Department hosted the annual Bingo and Dinner for Veterans. With the ROTC, the Culinary team, and Holyoke High School Honor Society, the students helped to host the annual Holyoke Police Department's Bright Nights for Seniors. The R.O.T.C. raised enough in cash and donations to give 85 cases of food to Kate's Kitchen and Margaret's Pantry.
- Dean had 41 students receive early admission decision for Holyoke Community College, and seven students were awarded the Adams Scholarship and treated to brunch with Principal Prystupa.
- Tony Cortes purchased and raffled off 12 turkeys to his classes at Thanksgiving. Nelson Garcia put on a Thanksgiving Dinner for all the Carpentry Shop.



School Briefs

Donahue's Memoir Authors



Fifth grade students at the Maurice A. Donahue School spent over a month crafting their lives into the written word through the composition of their memoirs. Guided by experienced writers (and 5th grade teachers!), Mel Mancini, Eileen Murphy and Leann Gonzalez, the

students wrote about an experience that impacted their lives. When these two classes of students met, their work was spread out over several tables. Students brought in photographs to help illustrate their stories. Several of these memoirs, including "Going Bowling," "My Great Grandma," and "Eric's Skateboarding Heart" are currently on display by the main office. Post-it notes and pens were provided so participants could comment on each other's work.

A Difficult Farewell

By Tess McGeer

The bells ring as scheduled, homework piles up, sports teams train, and students grasp new material. Life at Holyoke High School continues just as it always has, with one glaring and undeniable change. These days, as students make their way through the science wing, they will see one less friendly,



Maureen Perkins (center) with her children Brendan and Hillary at a recent Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade.

smiling face, because we have lost a beloved teacher, Maureen Perkins. Maureen Anne (Craven) Perkins, 55, a Biology teacher at Holyoke High School, died Saturday, November, 1st 2008, at her home. The Holyoke native was a graduate of Holyoke Catholic High School and Fairfield University. She served as the Supervisor for Volunteer Services at the Holyoke Soldiers Home for 26 years before beginning her tenure at the high school. Mrs. Perkins was very involved in her community, a member of the Holyoke Lodge of Elks #902, the Mass Teacher Association, and the Crosstown Friends Association. Perkins also served as advisor for the Holyoke High School As Schools Match Wits team. She is survived by her children, Brendan and Hillary Perkins, both of Holyoke, as well as a large and loving extended family.

Continued...See Perkins on page 7

Talking Points

- Congratulations to Josh Menard, Sairi Winkler and Kayla LaFortune who were top participants in the E.N. White Holiday Fundraiser.
- All fourth grade students at Peck School are doing their reports for Readers and Writers Workshop on an element of Holyoke History.

Reciprocal Teaching Model at Morgan

There was excitement in the air when Morgan School recently welcomed four visitors who spent time with the K-3 students. The "Fabulous Four" - Madame the Powerful Predictor, Clara the Clarifier, Sammy the Summarizer, and Quincy the Questioner - helped to kick off the Reciprocal Teaching Model that is being implemented in all the K-3 classrooms.

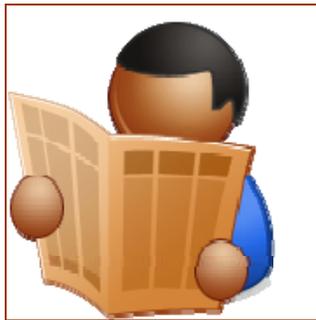
Reciprocal Teaching is a scaffold discussion technique that is built on four strategies that good readers use to comprehend text: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarizing. The Fabulous Four reportedly enjoyed helping to introduce the four comprehension strategies. The group plans to revisit the school to see how the program is working.

Lavish Literacy Flows Throughout E.N. White School

By Mary Wright, Literacy Coach

The commitment of teachers in the literacy programs at the E.N. White School is evident as soon as you walk into the building. You are greeted with the selected Book of the Month, Rocks in His Head, by Carol Hurst. Next, you are enveloped in a bulletin board exploring what makes great vocabulary instruction across all grades and content areas. Finally, you get into the classrooms and begin to see the amazing artifacts supporting students in their genre studies.

The staff at the school is whole-heartedly involved in literacy at every level. Kindergarten teacher Karen Kent wrote a grant and received \$800 to bring all of the kindergarteners to the Eric Carle Museum during the Eric Carle Author Study. Kelly Halpin, first grade teacher stalks the halls one afternoon looking for a place to hold the "Writers Club" with a group of students during her prep time (because she *knows* they are ready to go deeper). Sixth grade teacher, Alecia Pettengill, scours every letter to the editor within a 2,000 mile radius so she can show her students what a good persuasive piece looks like, then wallpapers her room with them to support her lessons. Astrid Lindstrom, 7th grade teacher, hands me entries that her students wrote for a contest responding to the memoir of author Harriet N. Michaels. She is sending them into *The Republican* in hopes of her students getting recognized for their hard work.



All over the E.N White School community teachers are on fire. There are many more things going on everyday behind the scenes where teachers are going above and beyond the call of duty to support their students. If only there was a "Group Educators" award that I could bestow on them so that they would understand how much their efforts are valued and appreciated. Even though it is hard to see the "big change" when they are in the midst of it, I am fortunate to see it for them. I see it in the kids' expressions when they read and write. I hear it in their voices during a "turn and talk". I feel their excitement during conferences, when I get to talk about their learning. I can read it in their memoirs and reports.

The whole school community also had Family Night of Literacy to enjoy at Barnes and Noble in December. The school's violinists, under the direction of our music teachers, Mr. Verrocchi and Mrs. Veazie, played for the event; and our school's librarian, Ms. Marcotte read a story to the students. As an extra special bonus, Barnes and Noble gave us 20% of the sales made by E. N. White School Community Members that night!

Similar to the realm of current United States politics, the E.N. White School is experiencing a wind of change...thanks to teachers willing to take risks and students possessing passion to learn, we are truly a community of readers and writers evolving deeper into our literate lives. Our new president, Barack Obama, was certainly correct when he said it. "Yes, we can."



Fifth grade student *Eric Karpoff* (left) is a Reading Angel to third grade student *Antonio Colon*.

Reading Angels has been a 'heavenly' success

Members of the E.N.White School CONNECTIONS After School program kicked off the Reading Angels campaign before winter break with a festive ornament ceremony. Reading Angels is a program that matches older students with younger students as reading partners. Lead teachers Mary Hamel and Kate Plasse selected fourth and fifth graders who show responsibility, leadership, and a love of reading to become reading "angels" for second and third graders. The selection process was intense and included a crash-course on oral reading to youngsters. In the end, those selected as Reading Angels signed a contract, agreeing to read to their younger buddies for 30 minutes at least twice a week. When interviewed, our students had this to say about it:

"It's good because we're helping little kids learn how to read. Also, it's nice to get to meet new friends.", Luz A., 4th grader

"It's fun! So far we read Bear's Shadow. I like being in a quiet place and not getting disturbed when I'm reading with my angel."
~ Emmanuel C., 2nd grader

"I feel happy when my angel comes to read with me. The best part is the attention I get and I don't have to share it with anybody!" ~ Anthony P., 3rd grader

"I'm a reading angel for my little brother. I like it because I know he'll listen to me and behave. I feel like I'm being a good role model for him. I'm showing him what he can do in the future." ~ Luis P.

Perkins...continued from page 6

Senior Alyssa Sweeney said "I will really miss Ms. Perkins. She was a great teacher who really cared about her students and tried to do whatever she could to help them." Sweeney got to know Ms. Perkins even better due to her involvement with *As Schools Match Wits*. "She was always supportive and considerate." Sweeney had Ms. Perkins as a Biology teacher when she was a sophomore and commented that "she helped me get interested in my least favorite subject and made the class enjoyable for me."

Perkins's colleagues had nothing but praise for her. "Her enthusiasm for Biology and supporting her students is why I will remember her most," said fellow Science teacher Mrs. Pasternak. Ms. Perkins taught her to "persevere through hard times."

Holyoke Sports

The Republican All Scholastic/Academic Fall Winners

ALL ACADEMIC TEAM SELECTIONS

- Billy Sullivan – Holyoke High School Football
- Gerald Tessier – Dean Technical Football

ALL WESTERN MASS FIRST TEAM

- Ben Mann – Holyoke High Golf
- Dominique Padilla – Holyoke High Football
- Corey Smith – Holyoke High Football
- Billy Sullivan – Holyoke High Football
- John Reidy – Holyoke High Football

ALL WESTERN MASS SECOND TEAM

- Earvin Hernandez – Holyoke High Field Hockey
- John McKenna – Holyoke High Golf
- Cody Hodgins – Holyoke High Cross Country
- Javier Rodriguez – Dean Technical Football
- Arthur Reynolds – Holyoke High Football
- William Figueroa – Holyoke High Football
- Angel Ruiz – Holyoke High Football
- Pat Thompson – Holyoke High Football
- Karellisse Lopez – Holyoke High Girls' Volleyball

More Sports Photos on page 11



The Lady Knights

The Holyoke High School Girls' Basketball Team has had one of its best starts and hopes to continue that success as they head into the post-season tournament in February. The Knights have had a nine-game win streak in large part to the mix of veteran players and newcomers. The team has a balanced attack with many different players contributing to the success. Head Varsity Coach Tom Brassil has been pleased with the balance he has on this year's team. "We have had some injuries on the team and we have not missed a beat. We've been able to substitute other players who have played well. On any given night the line up can be different and we get contributions from everyone on the roster. At the end of the game it's never surprising to see a different player leading the box score because we have had so many different players lead us in scoring this season." Returning for the Knights are seniors Natasha Colon-Ortiz, Ashley Sicard, and Sheyda Westbrook along with juniors Kim Martinez and Tania Ortiz. The newcomers are Juniors Kerry Leahy, Cathleen Maisonet, Natasha Scott, and Jillian Greaney. Holyoke also add two freshman; Monique Heard and Selena Yates who have made significant contributions to this team and have bright basketball futures ahead of them. With a young team, the Lady Knight's basketball team should be strong for years to come.

Morgan School ELA News...

- Students in Julie Winberg's fifth grade ELA class loved one of the recent books of the month so much they begged for more! After reading *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* by Mo Willems, Winberg located *The Pigeon Finds a Hotdog* and *The Pigeon wants a Puppy*. Soon after students began writing their own pigeon stories that included dialogue and illustrations. Lischey Correa, Samantha Montanez and Melanie Torres read their stories to first graders.
- Winberg's class also welcomed author Hilda Cruz (pen name of Ashley Zurc Pereira) who wrote *Lilly and Milly: Amigas 4 Life*, which is a series of books about a Puerto Rican girl who moves (against her will) to the United States. Cruz answered questions and donated 50 autographed books for the students. She was also accompanied by Jan Sadler, a writer and artist who assisted Cruz in publishing her book. Cruz also gave an impromptu creative writing lesson during her visit.



Morgan School fifth graders read their published "Pigeon" stories to first graders.

Envolvimiento Comunitario: Componente Clave Para El Nuevo Año



Por Dr. Eduardo Carballo
Superintendente de Escuelas

Nuestras felicitaciones al Comité del *Día de Los Tres Reyes*, al personal del Programa ELL, a los miembros del Consejo de Padres, al Departamento de Currículo Y Evaluación, al Decano del Programa de Artes Culinarias, a los voluntarios y al personal de la Escuela Superior. Este año, la actividad de celebración del Día de Reyes distribuyó 1,000 juguetes a niños merecedores de regalos de nuestras escuelas. Más de 980 padres de familia y sus hijos disfrutaron de una deliciosa comida y de un programa fabuloso en el auditorio de la escuela donde estudiantes del kindergarten de la Escuela Kelly nos deleitaron con una obra teatral sobre la Natividad. Este es el 5to año que las Escuelas Publicas de Holyoke observamos el Día de los Tres Reyes, y es maravilloso ver a muchos padres de familia y estudiantes disfrutar de esta actividad que crece más cada año.

Continúa siendo reconfortante ser testigo de la maravillosa labor que se lleva a cabo en los salones de clase, porque cuando estoy de visita por las escuelas me da una satisfacción observar el interés de los estudiantes y el compromiso de los maestros. El día de la Inauguración Presidencial visité varias de las escuelas y vi junto con los estudiantes cuando se estaba haciendo historia. Esto me hizo pensar que hay mucho en nuestro país de qué sentirse orgulloso, y hay mucho de qué sentirse esperanzado. También hay mucho por qué sentirse orgullosos de nuestro sistema escolar público y mucho de qué sentirnos esperanzados cuando avanzamos hacia el futuro.

Una de las cosas que el nuevo Presidente pide es el involucramiento de la comunidad. Me siento orgulloso al decir que la comunidad de Holyoke se ha mantenido envuelta activamente por un buen tiempo, y durante las fiestas de fin de año, tanto como al comienzo del nuevo año, hemos visto la buena voluntad de miembros de la comunidad que

se dedican a los niños y jóvenes de Holyoke. Un buen ejemplo de esto es la donación de 150 abrigos para niños necesitados en el distrito que fue brindada por un hombre de negocios. Otro empresario dedicará su tiempo y liderazgo para acercarse a padres de familia y motivarlos para que platicuen con sus hijos sobre los beneficios de obtener una educación universitaria. Esto se está implementado en colaboración con el programa ENLACE del Colegio Comunitario de Holyoke. ENLACE es un programa formidable que reúne a las familias, de escuela en escuela, para inculcar en los padres de familia y los estudiantes la necesidad de continuar sus estudios y la importancia del colegio y capacitación técnica más allá de la escuela superior. ENLACE ha colocado las expectativas en lo alto, y estamos complacidos y orgullosos del éxito que las Escuelas Publicas de Holyoke y el Colegio Comunitario de Holyoke estamos teniendo con esta colaboración. Este tipo de involucramiento y dedicación no sólo son bien recibidos por muchos, sino que también ejemplifican en grande el apoyo que existe en la comunidad de Holyoke.

El sábado 24 de Enero comenzaron las Clases Sabatinas en las escuelas Holyoke High, Peck, Morgan, Donahue, Sullivan y EN White. Las clases continuarán hasta el 30 de Mayo. Este programa ha tenido un mucho éxito en el pasado y confiamos en un año más de éxito.

Usted habrá escuchado al Gobernador Patrick en su discurso oficial de gobierno donde se refirió a los tiempos difíciles, y a pesar de que no indicó en cuánto será cortada la ayuda del estado, sí indicó que "ninguna prioridad se escapará. . ." El Departamento de Escuelas y el Comité Escolar de Holyoke estamos en proceso de preparación de presupuesto, y haremos lo que nos corresponda para tratar de preservar la integridad de nuestro programa educativo. Cualquier recorte que se deba hacer se hará con la necesidad de nuestros estudiantes al frente. Esperamos que todo nuestro personal de distrito comprenda que



Dr. Carballo aprecia la gente de negocios que donaron a nuestras familias este invierno.

se nos pedirá mucho y que se tendrán que hacer sacrificios en el camino hacia adelante. Vamos a trabajar exhaustivamente para asegurar que podemos continuar ofreciendo una educación de calidad a nuestros estudiantes dentro de los márgenes de las regulaciones presupuestarias

Continuemos trabajando duro y preparemos a nuestros niños y jóvenes para la próxima ronda de los MCAS. Cada año, a través del esfuerzo conjunto, continuamos logrando progreso y esperamos continuar en esa tendencia positiva este año.



Recetas para La Paz de Peck

La clases “Taller de Lectores y Escritores” del 8vo grado de la maestra Cathy Foley tiene un enfoque peculiar después de haber participado en la Semana de Paz de este año. —Se me ocurrió la idea sobre recetas porque requiere de muchos ingredientes para lograr la paz. Les dije además que no tienen que pensar en la paz mundial, sino que la paz empieza en casa, en el vecindario, en Holyoke—. Los estudiantes empezaron con ingredientes tales como compartir, amor, caridad, ayuda, tolerancia y paciencia. Entonces empezaron a identificar las medidas de cada ingrediente y ha describir como se mezclarían. Al preguntársele por qué escogió los ingredientes que usó en sus “pastillitos de paz”, Kiara Fernandez explicó, —Cuando uno dice “paz” yo pienso de inmediato en amor y lo que toma el hecho de dar amor—. Jaime Monegro ha estado siguiendo de cerca la elección del presidente Barack Obama y siente que su presidencia será un componente clave para lograr la paz mundial. Cuando se le preguntó por qué cree que con Obama será mejor que con el antecesor, Monegro dijo —porque él es inteligente, y es dedicado a su trabajo, y él siempre tiene la respuesta correcta para inspirar a la gente—.

Guisado Contra La Guerra) por Jaime Monegro

Porción servida: 6.2 billion

Ingredients: amor, tratados de paz, Barack Obama, entendimiento, cuidado de otros, y soldados

Direcciones:

- Parar el envío de tropas a Irak
- Elegir a Barack Obama para que retire las tropas de Irak
- Comprender el sufrimiento de la familias del soldado cuando él o ella muere
- Tener espíritu de entrega para con los demás
- Firmar un tratado de paz para terminar la Guerra
- Tomar en cuenta el amor que los soldados tienen por la patria y brindarles amor cuando regresan)
- Recibir amor y entregarlo a todos por doquier)

Pastelillos de Paz por Kiara Fernandez

Ingredients: amor, paciencia, comprensión, amistad y compartir

Direcciones:

- Hornear 2 tazas de amor in ponerlas en tu Corazón
- Agregar dos tazas de paciencia
- Mezclar taza y media de comprensión
- Agregue 1 taza de amistad a la mezcla
- Licuarlo hasta que la mezcla este completa
- Rociar por encima dos cucharadas de compartir
- Server a todos una ayudita para la paz

Hazen Paper

El Mundo Es Nuestra Salon de Clase



Estudiantes meten mano hacienda papel.

Estudiantes del 5to grado de la Escuela Intermedia Peck y Michael Jackowski, maestro de cabecera del *World Is Our Classroom, Inc.* (El Mundo Es Nuestra Salón de Clase) participan en una “competencia de diseño” en una visita reciente a la compañía *Hazen Paper*. Los estudiantes fabricaron papel con desechos, como parte de la Iniciativa de Educación sobre la Industria Manufacturera de Holyoke en la compañía *Hazen Paper*, y patrocinada por el *World Is Our Classroom*. Los estudiantes de la escuela Peck, de izquierda a derecha son: Yakub Mohamed, Grace Casanova, Kiara Sanchez, and Nashaly Santiago.

Llevada a cabo en las instalaciones de la Compañía *Hazen Paper*, la Iniciativa de Educación sobre la Industria Manufacturera de Holyoke ofrece oportunidades de emplear las ciencias y la tecnología en demostraciones prácticas y reales que están conectadas tanto al currículo de enseñanza



escolar como a la industria manufacturera local. Ya en su quinto año en la Compañía *Hazen Paper*, más de 2000 estudiantes del 5to grado de las Escuelas Públicas de Holyoke han participado en este programa.

World Is Our Classroom es una corporación no-lucrativa con designación 501 (c) (3) que procura ofrecer a la comunidad educativa de la región una variedad de programas innovadores de experiencias practicas enfocadas en las ciencias, tecnología, ingeniería, matemáticas y la manufactura.

Fotos de Deportes

Composición Literaria Gana Premio

Durante dos años seguidos padres y madres en el programa "Pathways to Family Success" han logrado publicar sus escritos en la revista "Women Perspectives" de la organización llamada WE LEARN (Women Expanding/Literacy Education Action Resource Network). Nos hemos enterado recientemente que el escrito de otro de nuestros estudiantes será publicado en dicha revista. Iris Tavares escribió su composición con el tema "Transiciones/Transformaciones". Es posible incluso que ella asista a la conferencia nacional de esa organización en Rhode Island y leer su composición a los asistentes. Estamos muy entusiasmados por ella y le damos nuestras felicitaciones por un trabajo bien hecho.

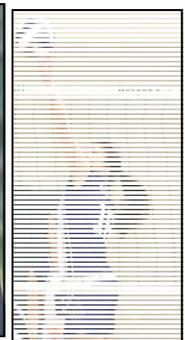
El programa "PFS" recibió recientemente el financiamiento para continuar ofreciendo clases de alfabetización familiar hasta finales de este año escolar. El programa de alfabetización familiar trabaja con toda la familia: mientras los adultos toman clases de GED en el Centro de Padres de Familia del MSPCC cada martes y jueves de 4:00 a 7:00 pm, los menores trabajan en sus tareas y disfrutan de otras actividades educativas apropiadas a su edad. Las familias también disfrutaron de una cena juntos. El programa ofrece también conserjería académica y referidos a otras agencias de servicios sociales. Para más información, comuníquese con Jody Spitz en el 534-2026.



Earvin Hernandez



Ben Mann



Karelisse Lopez



Dominique Padilla



Javier Rodriguez #46

El Programa CONEXIONES se rejuvenece

Los nuevos programas en las escuelas Peck y EN White están estructurados de la misma manera que los programas de CONEXIONES en la escuela superior de Holyoke. Hay una lista de espera de participantes en ambos sitios debido a los altos niveles de participación y el entusiasmo. Todos los días, los estudiantes reciben una merienda, tiempo para disfrutar con los amigos, ayuda con las tareas escolares y una variedad de clubes activos. Al igual que todos los diferentes programas de CONEXIONES, estos dos nuevos sitios cuentan con la labor de maestros de las Escuelas Publicas y de profesionales afiliados a una variedad de organizaciones comunitarias, incluyendo estudiantes de colegios y escuelas superiores que ofrecen tutoría. Muchas de las actividades de los clubes son similares en ambas escuelas. Por ejemplo, tanto en la EN White como en la Peck, los estudiantes aprenden a cocinar, a plantar un jardín escolar, a compartir aventuras de campo, a entrenarse como Girl Scouts, a practicar las artes desde el teatro hasta las artesanías, a tocar un instrumento musical, y a llevar una vida activa y de buen estado físico.

Un maestra de ciencias ayudará a los participantes con el "CLUB VERDE (GO GREEN Club) para explorar maneras de mejorar el programa de reciclaje de las escuelas y de ahorrar energía, a

vez que la asociación local *Trustees of Reservation* ofrecerá a los niños la oportunidad de actuar, dibujar, escribir, medir y explorar la vida de los dinosaurios. Mientras tanto en la escuela Peck, un estudiante de la escuela superior enseñará a bailar salsa a estudiantes del 4to y 5to grado, pero otros decidirán invertir su tiempo en ingeniería construyendo varios objetos tales como edificios de cartón, cohetes de paja, grúas, yoyos y perinolas (trompos) en el Club Diseño!

Para más información, favor de contactar a la Sra. Eileen Cavanaugh, Directora del Programa CONEXIONES en (413) 534-2168, o escribirle a su correo electrónico ecavanaugh@hps.holyoke.ma.us.



El Club Naturaleza

La Celebración de los Tres Reyes Magos Fue Todo Un Éxito

La Celebración de los Tres Reyes Magos Fue Todo Un Éxito. El intenso frío no impidió que cerca de mil personas asistieran a la celebración de los Tres Reyes Magos en la Escuela Superior de Holyoke el pasado viernes 9 de Enero. La tarde comenzó con una deliciosa cena puertorriqueña preparada por estudiantes y personal del programa de Artes Culinarias de la Escuela Vocacional Dean. Las familias luego salieron de la cafetería para visitar las más de 20 mesas informativas que agencias de servicios sociales y educativos tuvieron en el pasillo como parte de la Feria Educativa. Padres de familia e hijos colectaron una variedad de folletos informativos, bolígrafos y lápices, bolsas y bultos, cepillos de dientes y mucho más. La noche concluyó con presentaciones artísticas y culturales que fueron introducidas por el Superintendente de Escuelas, Dr. Eduardo Carballo. Niños de kindergarten presentaron una obra teatral representando la historia de los reyes. Estudiantes representando a los Tres Reyes Magos entregaron regalos a los niños asistentes. Este es el 5to año que las escuelas publicas de Holyoke patrocinan la celebración, y cada año resulta más grande y mejor. Una buena cantidad de personal y estudiantes de las escuelas, además de muchos voluntarios de la comunidad hicieron posible la organización de este evento. Un grandioso saludo de agradecimiento para todos y cada uno de ellos por su ayuda.



Los Tres Reyes



Connections

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