

Insight

Wyoming Public Schools

Winter 2007

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Snowman by Alayna Tuttle, age 4, Michigan School Readiness Program Preschooler from West Elementary

Superintendent Felske is excited to announce that no millage increase will be needed to support the Tuesday, February 27th Bond Election. Learn more at www.wyoming.k12.mi.us

Important Bond Election News

A Message from Superintendent Felske

I am pleased to inform our community members that due to the healthy growth of the district's collective tax base, the Wyoming Public School District is now able to borrow the total cost of the bond election within the already existing voter approved years and annual revenues generated by our community.



Superintendent
Jon A. Felske

The purpose of the bond election is to address district-wide needs for improving infrastructure, technology, transportation, safety and security needs. Every building in the district will receive improvements! A few of the major purchases include:

- *Purchase thirteen (13) new buses for student transportation.*
 - *Replace all classroom furniture district-wide.*
 - *Install energy efficient lighting district-wide.*
 - *Provide digital video surveillance systems in all buildings.*
 - *Resurface parking lots district-wide.*
- I encourage you to visit your child's school and meet with the principal to learn more about the exciting improvements that will take place district-wide.
- A complete building-by-building budget for the Bond issue is available by visiting our District website at www.wyoming.k12.mi.us and accessing the **2007 Bond Election Information link** or by contacting me at 530-7555. ☎
- *Replacing every computer through the district.*
 - *Provide multi-media technology in every classroom.*

WPS Participate in FIRST Robotics Competition

by Bruce Klemm

Wyoming Public Schools is again participating in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition to be held at Grand Valley University on March 29-31 in Grand Rapids. Students will also travel to Chicago March 15-17 for the Midwest competition.

The FIRST Robotics competition is an exciting, multinational competition that teams professionals and young people to solve engineering design problems in an intense and competitive way. The program is a life-changing, career molding experience and a lot of fun!

The 2007 event will reach over 30,000 high school aged people in over 1,300 teams in 37 regional events. Teams are represented from Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Israel, Mexico, the United Kingdom and almost every state in the United States.

The competitions are high-tech spectator sporting events, the result of lots of focused brainstorming, real world teamwork, dedicated mentoring, project timelines, and deadlines.

Colleges, universities, corporations, businesses and individuals provide scholarships to our participants. Involved engineers again experience many of the reasons they chose engineering as a profession, and the companies they work for contribute to the community while they prepare and create their future workforce. The competition shows students that the technological fields hold many opportunities, and that the basic concepts of science, math, engineering and invention can be exciting and interesting. ☺



Rogers Lane students Chloe Ellison, Abby Buchan, Ernesto Gomez and Josh Ryan show off their new Paper Gator.

Feed the Paper Gator to Help Raise Money for Rogers Lane Field Trip

by Lysa Buchan

Rogers Lane Elementary has a "Paper Gator" in their parking lot that needs to be fed! What is he hungry for? Paper, newspaper, catalogs, magazines, phone books, notebooks and box board (cereal

boxes for example). No cardboard please.

All money from this paper drive will go towards the 4th Grade Mackinac Island field trip. Thank you for your support! ☺

Wyoming Park Students Study Elections

by Thom VanderKlay

This past fall, the government classes at Wyoming Park organized into political parties, had class elections and contributed to the national "mock" elections held online.

Class Presidents included Pookie Mohamed and Laquetta Buggs and Vice Presidents were Jeff Leonard and Rey Medina.

After the conventions where students created their political platform, the presidential primaries prepared the classes for debates and eventually the Electoral College vote on Election Day.

Students who were not elected as part of the executive branch, were members of Congress from

states such as Texas, California, Ohio and Michigan. A bill was written to be debated in committee and potentially to be debated and voted on by the House of Representatives and Senate. Leah Ficeli and James Scurry were the Speakers of the House and guided eight pieces of legislation through Congress and to the President's desk. Seven of those were signed into law.

In December and January, many students will be simulating foreign policy decisions as members of the State Department. Simulations such as "Bread or Bombs" and "War" help students understand the complications of foreign policy and that national interests need to be protected to preserve democracy and human rights. ☺

West ES Pre-schoolers Learn About Fire Safety

by Karen Dunn

The Wyoming Fire Department conducted a fire safety program for the pre-schoolers at West Elementary last October.

They talked about “stop, drop and roll”, crawling on the ground in a smoke covered area, smoke detectors and calling 911 in an emergency.

A big thank you to our firemen in Wyoming! 🇺🇸



(Above) Michigan School Readiness Program Pre-schoolers from West Elementary pose with members of the Wyoming Fire Department on “the big truck”.



(Far left) Students practice “stop, drop and roll”.



(Left) Fireman Chris Velzen shows students what he would look like if he had to come and rescue them from a fire.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Wyoming Kicks Off

by Kimberly Cousineau

Are you ready to Relay? Wyoming residents will kick off the 4th Annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Wyoming at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, 2007, at West Elementary. Residents are invited to attend to learn more about the Relay For Life and how they can become a part of a fun-filled, exciting 24 hours!

Relay For Life is the Society’s signature event, dedicated to increasing awareness and raising funds to fight cancer. Teams of

family, friends and co-workers participate in an overnight community celebration where individuals and teams camp out for 24 hours and take turns walking the track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times, a reminder that cancer never sleeps.

The event includes 24 hours of entertainment and family activities, an inspiring Victory Lap by survivors and a poignant Luminaria Ceremony at dusk that remembers those that have faced cancer.

Relay For Life brings together cancer survivors, caregivers, families and friends to celebrate life while honoring those who have lost their cancer battle.

This year’s Relay For Life of Wyoming will take place May 18th and 19th at Lamar Park. If you would like to make a donation, form a team or if you need information, please contact Kim Cousineau at 828-6177 or mom2max1990@sbcglobal.net. 🇺🇸




Wyoming Park Girl's Varsity Golf Team Earns All-State Honors

by Jason Heerema

The 2006 Girl's Varsity Golf Team from Wyoming Park High School earned Academic All-State honors for achieving a team GPA of 3.53 last spring.

Wyoming Park is especially proud of its student-athletes that give an "A" effort both on the course and in the classroom.

The team has made great strides, and we look forward to continued athletic and academic success in the future.

The 2006 Boy's Varsity Golf team narrowly missed earning All-state honors, achieving a 3.4 team GPA, needing a 3.5 for the award. An excellent effort from a program on the rise. 



Back row: Vanessa Hernandez, Leah Ficeli, Coach David Kugler, Kim Freiburger, Stephanie Levalley, Middle row: Janel Rivera, Theresa Vo, Diane Umoh, Kristin Weide, Tiffany Pahn
Front row: Lauren DeYoung, Casi French




Back row: Jordan Haynes, David Jones, Gary Von Myhr, Jimmy Chan, Wyatt Dewitt, Nick Finkbeiner, Jeff Yang, Coach Jon Bushen, Middle row: Eric Dressel, Andrew Kim, Brad Thompson, Nick Rivera, David Otte, Jonny Vitale, Steve Barnes, Henry Benitez, Front row: Brian Bonzheim, Ali Reza, Alex Chan, Nhat Lam, Dennis Garcia, Kristopher Bottrall

Wyoming Park Boy's Tennis Team Takes All-State Academic Honors

by Jason Heerema

Wyoming Park Coach Bushen and his outstanding Boy's Tennis team followed up their OK Blue Conference Championship in 2006 with another impressive accomplishment - Wyoming Park was selected as a All-State Academic team for Division III, one of only 8 Division III schools in the state to win this award.

This team and their coach are a tribute to the Park, demonstrating a tremendous combination of athleticism and academic prowess. 



Front Row: Lasana Keita, Angel Rodriguz, Derek Spooner, Kramer Jefferson, Middle Row: Abel Arreguin, Tenderi Mujeni, Spencer Choi, Dennis Garcia, Eric Angus, Back Row: Coach Romer Carrasco, Scott Ziomkowski, Adam Gruszczynski, Kelvin Galvez, Steve Merritt, Ben Kamps, Head Coach Brett Harring

Wyoming Park Boy's Soccer Team Wins Third Conference Title

by Jason Heerema

Congratulations to first year coach Brett Harring and the Wyoming Park Boy's Soccer team in winning their third conference

title in a row. Senior Scott Ziomkowski also was awarded Honorable Mention All-State for his performance this season. 🏆

Lady Vikings Win Second Conference Title

by Jason Heerema

Congratulations are also in order to first-year Varsity coach Kirk Kambestad and our Lady Vikings Basketball team in winning their second conference title in a row and achieving a 17-4 record.

Junior Cheritee Green was awarded 1st Team All-State and junior Jasmin Padin was awarded Honorable Mention All-State. Jasmin also placed herself in the MHSAA record books with a 15 assist performance v. Sparta on Sept. 14 this year and dishing out 159 assists in a season. 🏆



Front Row: Brittany Richmond, Chula Vasquez, Middle Row: Jasmine Padin, Jessica Morales, Katie Baarda, Kayley Nollar, Casey Ketchum, Back Row: Deandra Russell, Amber Popma, Charity Green, Erika Witherspoon, Jessica Sikorski, Coach Kirk Kambestad

Wyoming Park Student Sets High Jump Record



Wyoming Park's Samantha Quist sets the bar higher for other student athletes.

by Jason Heerema

Samantha Quist, a senior at Wyoming Park, set a school and conference record for her jump of 5' 6 1/2". Sam went on to earn 4th place at State and All-State honors.

Congratulations, Sam! We can't wait for your senior season! 🏆

Wyoming Park Blood Drive a Success

by Katherine Sluiter

The Wyoming Park Student Council enjoys helping others as much as helping their school!

The school year was started by sponsoring a blood drive in October with the Michigan Community Blood Centers. Sixty people willingly donated 44 pints of blood for this event. Each pint can possibly be used to save up to four lives - thank you to all who participated. ☺

In the Spirit of Giving...

by Kellie Harmsen

For the second year, the staff and students at Rogers High School donated and assembled holiday baskets for ten families from Rogers.

Included in the baskets were personal care items ranging from toothpaste and soap to laundry detergent and blankets, as well as a generous-sized turkey and all of the fixings for a bountiful holiday meal.

The Rogers chemistry students were provided an opportunity to reach out to their fellow classmates and donate food items to provide a delicious holiday meal. Over 300 food items were collected and donated by free will. In addition, the Student Congress utilized a portion of the school day shopping for clothing to provide for these families.

We would especially like to thank Meijer stores for providing a \$1,000 donation. A huge thank you also goes out to all of the staff and students who were involved in brightening the holiday season for these families. ☺



Rogers Bands Plan Exciting Year

by Jon Nichols

After a successful marching performance year, the Wyoming Rogers Symphony and Jazz Bands anticipate an exciting and rewarding concert season of performances both on campus and away from school settings.

December 10th marked the annual Holiday Concert, featuring the Bands and Rogers Choirs at the Dan Heintzleman Fine Arts Center. Also occurring in the fall were Jazz Band and Choir performances on November 9th at the DHFAC and on November 21st at Wesley Park United Methodist Church.

Band members will be hard at work for the March 20th "Anniversary" Concert, which will celebrate Directors Jon and Janet Nichols' 20th year at Rogers High School. Wyoming Mayor Carol Sheets will be featured, reciting a patriotic poem entitled, I Am the Nation, as the Symphony Band plays America the Beautiful. This narrative version was used for many years by the United States Navy Band. Also appearing on the program will be David Catron, Professor Emeritus of Music at Michigan State University and retired conductor of the Spartan Marching Band. Making a return visit to Wyoming will be local music personality Tom Hagen. Mr. Hagen will perform with the Jazz Band as piano soloist.

The annual All School Band Concert will be held on May 8th in the Rogers Gymnasium. Honors and awards will be announced for senior band members and scholarship recipients from both Rogers and Jackson Park Bands. Featured guest conductor will be David L. Cogswell, Director Emeritus of Music at Jackson Park Middle School.

The final performances of the 2006-2007 school year will be at Rogers Commencement Exercises and at Festival 2007 in downtown Grand Rapids. The Jazz Band has been performing in Festival for over 30 years.

The Band program at Rogers and Jackson Park welcomes Mr. Brian Ambrose from Central Michigan University and Oklahoma City University as its student teacher for the entire school year. Mr. Ambrose has been fully involved in the program and will assume a major role in preparing the large and small ensembles for performances throughout the remainder of the school year. Mr. Ambrose is a native of Kentwood and graduated from East Kentwood High School.

Dr. and Mrs. Nichols will retire from the Rogers/Jackson Park music department faculty in June of 2007, marking the conclusion of a teaching career that has lasted for 34 years. ☺

Wyoming Park students collected 1,624 items!



Jackson Park Assistant Principal Bobbi Bentley sits amidst a sea of groceries collected during Care Week.



Jackson Park students collected 5,231 items!

“Care Week” Food Drive a Huge Success

by Sharon Wolfe

Wyoming Public School students and staff proved once again to be extremely generous during Care Week - November 13-17. The food collected goes to feed families in our own communities in and around Grand Rapids.

Wyoming Park’s Student Council sponsored a food drive and collected 1,624 items. Mrs. Rathsack’s first hour Anatomy class came in first by collecting 391 items of food for a total of 14.48 cans per student!

Every year Rogers and Wyoming have a friendly competition to see who can collect the most items. This year, Rogers High School (sponsored by the National Honor Society and the Rogers HS community) came out ahead with 1,963 items. The items from Rogers High School went to Access West Michigan, an organization that helps stock local food banks.

Oriole Park had a very successful food drive by collecting 25 boxes of food!

Jackson Park collected 5,231 items in a friendly competition between classrooms. Staff and students donated frozen turkeys as well and then used the donations to assemble food baskets to give away for Thanksgiving. A special thanks to Bobbi Bentley, assistant principal, who donated 900 food items herself!

Rogers Lane and TEAM 21 partnered up to do a canned food drive, which brought in 2,318 items. There was a contest between grade levels and staff. Laura Zamiski, TEAM 21 Site Coordinator stated, “I am overwhelmed with pride for all the generosity that the



The promise of a “crazy hair day” encouraged Huntington Woods students to donate 248 canned goods!



HW Teacher Diane Busch in her crazy hair



Oriole Park students collected 25 boxes of food!

students and staff have displayed for this event.”

Huntington Woods teachers Diane Busch, Julie Merrill and student teacher, Beth Wright promised students a “crazy hair” day if they made a 200 can goal. One week prior to the drive, the food started pouring in. All students contributed something and those that forgot did a job for their teacher to earn a can to give. The total for the classroom was 248 canned goods! ☺

Wyoming Public Schools Education Foundation Celebrates Third Anniversary, Awards Scholarships

by Rose Pratt

The Wyoming Public Schools Education Foundation has entered into its third year of operation. The Wyoming staff and community have generously supported the foundation to continue to grow and prosper. Truly, our entire Wyoming community can take pride in our mission.

Annually, the Foundation Board reviews the past year's revenue sources for better and more successful methods. The solicitation of revenue is an ongoing process of Wyoming Public Schools employee's donations, State or other grants, numerous fund raising events, local

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Wyoming Public Schools Education Foundation to solicit and accept funds for the sole purpose of supplementing and enriching the educational programs and opportunities of the students and staff of the Wyoming Public Schools.

churches and business solicitations.

All revenue goes directly to the improvement and betterment of our student's success. If anyone wishes to contribute, please feel free to contact Marc Faber at the Wyoming Administration Building at 530-7552. The foundation's board members consist of the following: Pam Osborn, Tom Spaak, Marc Faber, Jeff Cousins, Honorable Steve Timmers, Sandy Scharphorn, J.D. Hayes,

Dr. Jim Elliott and Rose Pratt.

The 2005-2006 Scholarship winners were given to:

Yanisleidy Castro
Horizons

Keenan Martin
Wyoming Park

Felicia Arnold
Rogers

Christopher Harris
Omega

Enhance Your Parenting Confidence and Build Family Harmony by Attending the Love and Logic Parenting Classes

The classes will offer positive solutions to both common and unique discipline problems that parents encounter with their children.

Thursday Evenings • February 1 - March 1 • 7-9 p.m.
Huntington Woods Elementary

4334 Byron Center Road SW • Wyoming, MI 49519

Course participation is provided by Wyoming Public Schools and participants pay only \$10 for the Becoming a Love and Logic Parent Workbook. Daycare and light snacks will be provided.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent is a special program designed by Jim Fay, Foster Cline, M.D. and Charles Fay, Ph.D., which focuses on how to become a firm but loving parent. Sarah Knapp an experienced parent trainer will conduct the course.

Among the techniques parents will learn are: how to avoid power struggles, effective listening, setting positive parameters, the art and science of control, keeping cool in hot situations, using encouragement and more. Videotape presentations, short lecture bursts and discussion will be used for training.

About the Parenting Workshop Leaders

Sarah Knapp, M.S.W. & Lillian Cummings-Pulliams, Ph.D., LLP

Sarah is a former school social worker who now devotes her time and expertise to helping educators and parents relate to children in positive and highly effective ways. Her workshops contain numerous strategies for promoting healthy self-esteem, developing interpersonal skills and encouraging responsible behavior in youth of all ages.

Lillian is a full-time school psychologist with Wyoming Public Schools and coordinator of the Early Childhood Special Education Program (ECSE). She has facilitated parent training groups that focused on toilet training in a day, creating healthy sleep patterns and bedtime routines, and the importance of reading to young children.

Parent Education Registration Form

Please reserve a space for me/us at the parenting classes held at Huntington Woods Elementary.

Classes will be held on Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m. beginning February 1.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please complete and return to:

Lillian Cummings-Pulliams, 4334 Byron Center Road SW, Wyoming, Michigan 49519.
For information, call Lillian at 293-6516 or email: lillian_cummings@wyoming.k12.mi.us.
If a workbook is desired, please include \$10.00 with your registration form.



Teacher Cynthia Fongers helps with a “hands-on” activity during Gladiola’s Science Night.

Gladiola’s Science Night Entertains the Brain

by April Vanderkolk and Chanetelle Berles

On Tuesday, October 3, 2006, Gladiola Elementary held its annual Science Night. This night was a wonderful experience with hands-on science experiments for students of all ages to enjoy.

The science activities were provided by Grand Valley State University’s Elementary Science Olympiad Program and align with the science standards being taught in the district. Student volunteers from Grand Valley were also available to help with many

of the activities.

The science activities focused on such themes as sink and float, magnets, physics, metrics, estimation and sound.

We had a great turn out and many positive comments about the evening. This was a great time for both families and staff at the elementary school! Gladiola’s staff, families, and students are looking forward to next year’s Science Night and hope to have even more science stations and skills to entertain our minds! ☺

Memorial Scholarship Established

Cpl. Ross A. Smith, a 2002 graduate of Wyoming Park, joined the Marine Corp after graduation because he wanted to serve his country. Cpl. Smith lost his life on February 9, 2006 serving his 3rd tour of duty in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

A scholarship was set up at Wyoming Park in his name and the first scholarship was given to Kevin Klemmer, a 2006 Wyoming Park graduate. ☺

“Giving Back”

by Abbey Czarniecki

In 6th grade Social Studies, Newhall Middle students study the Core Democratic Values that are the foundation of our government. A value that they relate to well is Common Good, doing something kind, thoughtful or caring for others.

On November 13, 2006, the Blue Pod put this value in action. We were invited to the Black Hills Community to help rake those “wonderful fall leaves”. Rakes, bags, and gloves were distributed and groups were formed to go to selected homes. Students worked very hard to give each person who requested our services a clean yard. Students came away from this trip with a feeling of service and pride that they had helped others by doing something most of us take for granted.

Special thanks go to parent volunteers, Pam Norton, Angela Halas, Elieen Jakubczak, Michelle Kerkstra, and Christine Wolters for their time and leadership of groups. Also all the Blue Pod students for a job WELL DONE! ☺

Insight is Online

The Insight newsletter will be primarily available to district residents on our website: www.wyoming.k12.mi.us. Just click on “Insight Online” to view and print our latest issue full of useful and interesting information about our schools. If you would like to continue to receive the Insight by mail, please fill out this form and mail to:

Wyoming Community Education c/o Sharon Wolfe
2950 Clyde Park, SW • Wyoming, MI 49509

Yes, I would like to continue to receive the Insight by mail.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Wyoming Park Theater Company Enchants Audiences with Classic Christmas Tale

by Sherrie Davis

For over thirteen years the Wyoming Park Theater Company has been a seminal part of the Wyoming community. The company is celebrated for its dedication to exceptional productions continuously throughout its history. Under the electrifying direction of Mr. Jeremy Schnotala, this school year has brought an adventurous new season to all its members.

This artistic journey began in September and, by the end of the school year, will have culminated in not just one, but also two different, yet equally sensational, productions. With over 700 people in attendance, the Wyoming Park Theater Company experienced large success and received much praise for its first production of the year, *A Christmas Carol*, which was performed November 30th, December 2nd and 3rd.

The Wyoming Park Theater Company presented an enchanted performance that took audience members back to that cold winter's night in the nineteenth century where the infamous Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge was discovered. Most known for his hatred of the Christmas spirit and the avid use of the dismal expression "Bah Humbug," Scrooge was a miserable old man who lived in his own world of secluded pessimism and gloom after his partner and only friend in life, Jacob Marley, died. In an attempt to change Scrooge's gloomy outlook on life, he was visited first by the ghost of his dear old friend Marley. Warning



Students bring "A Christmas Carol" to life through the Wyoming Park Theater Company. Preparations are already beginning for the next production in March.



Scrooge to change his ways or be doomed to the same devastating fate that now surrounds him, Marley, enlightened Scrooge of the night that was to come. Three more ghosts that showed him what he was missing from Christmas then visited him. He then rediscovered the joy that he once felt about the festive holiday so long ago.

The performances by the students blended both the humor and gravity of Scrooge's life. Each student performed to the delight of the audience. The chorus of carolers captivated the audience from the very moment the curtain opened to the very end when everyone was surprised to see it snow!

The Wyoming Park Theater

Company was also pleased to perform for the middle school and elementary students on December 15.

We are very proud of all the students who have worked very hard to create a great performance that could be enjoyed by many community members. The Company would also like to thank all the parents and patrons who enabled this production to happen.

We hope to see you at our next production. In March, the Wyoming Park Theater Company will be presenting a musical, which has just recently been released to allow high schools to perform it. Wyoming Park Theater Company will be one of the first high school theater programs in the state to perform one of the longest running Broadway musicals. But we don't want to let the cat out of the bag, yet, so stay tuned to find out what show we will be creating! 🎭



Watch your local television stations or listen to your local radio stations for information about school cancellations due to severe weather.

Severe Weather Reminder

The Superintendent's office continuously monitors weather advisories and alerts each school in the event of approaching severe weather.

If students are in school when a tornado watch or thunderstorm warning is issued, students and staff will remain in school, taking shelter in designated areas. Tornado drills are held in each school to instruct students in the procedures to follow during a tornado warning.

To protect the safety of both students and parents, we discourage parents from picking up students during a severe weather watch. We also ask parents to refrain from calling school during severe weather warnings unless there is a particularly serious problem. It is important that phone lines remain open. Announcements will be made on local radio and television stations when severe weather forces school cancellations. ☺

Cabin Fever?

Sign up for an enrichment class!

Several classes are offered in the evening through Wyoming Community Education.

Aerobics, Sign Language, Ballroom Dancing, Chinese Watercolor, Dog Training, Computer classes, Spanish and Volleyball are just a few of many classes offered.

If you would like to receive a brochure that lists all of the classes held at Wyoming Community Education, call 530-7500 and one will be mailed to you. ☺

Did You Know?

Young people who participate in the arts for at least three hours on three days each week through at least one full year are:

- 4 times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- 3 times more likely to be elected to class office within their schools
- 4 times more likely to participate in a math and science fair
- 3 times more likely to win an award for school attendance
- 4 times more likely to win an award for writing an essay or poem

The facts are that arts education...

- makes a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and has proven to help level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries.

(Involvement in the Arts and Success in Secondary School, James S. Catterall, The UCLA Imagination Project, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, UCLA, Americans for the Arts Monograph, January 1998)

- has a measurable impact on youth at risk in deterring delinquent behavior and truancy problems while also increasing overall academic performance among those youth engaged in after school and summer arts programs targeted toward delinquency prevention.

(YouthARTS Development Project, 1996, U.S. Department of Justice, National Endowment for the Arts, and Americans for the Arts) ☺

Rogers High School Athletic Hall of Fame 2006

The following people were inducted into the RHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Congratulations!

Harry Hudson

Coach and Administrator

Tom Hudson

Athlete and Coach

Ross Blackport

Athlete

Wyoming Park Inaugural Hall of Fame 2006

Congratulations to the following who were inducted into the WHS Hall of Fame!

Pete Rusticus

Frank Grimm

Anne Dykstra (Bentley)

Dr. Marian Fuller (Bentley)

Mike Ball

Bob Przybyz

Jessica Locke

Dick Locke

Ron Engels

Jack VerDuin

Rich Pullen

Save Energy, Money with CFL Bulbs

by Don Hebler

Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) last about ten times longer than incandescent bulbs. If every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with a CFL, it would prevent enough pollution to equal removing one million cars from the road. It would also save enough energy to light 7 million homes and save \$600 million in utility bills.

If you would like more information on energy-saving opportunities, go to www.powerisinyourhands.org ☺

Virtual High School Offers Online Courses to Wyoming Students

by Cheryl Small

Due to the ever-changing needs of our students, Wyoming Public Schools is offering courses via Michigan Virtual High School, otherwise known as MIVHS.

MIVHS enriches the WPS curriculum with course offerings in the areas of foreign languages, science, health, business, fine arts, math, English, and many others. Some of the foreign language courses available are German, Latin, and Mandarin Chinese. Two exciting new courses just now available are film survey, where students watch classical movies and critique the director's point of view, and forensic science, a course offering in the science area.

Students that take MIVHS courses work on their homework during class. Students are also allowed to work on their coursework after school from any internet connection.

The benefits of this type of class are three-fold. First, MIVHS

courses are one way of fulfilling the State requirement of an online experience, required for graduation. Second, MIVHS allows students to work on their coursework from home where parents can view the curriculum and grades online. Third, many colleges offer online courses. MIVHS teaches students how to handle an online course as well as how to better manage their time.

Rogers High School has enrolled over 240 students in MIVHS. The success rate over the past two years is greater than 90%.

To view all MIVHS courses offered go to www.mivhs.org and click on the courses link at the top of the page.

Currently, WPS covers the cost of the course and the books. If classes are offered in a traditional classroom, students must take the courses in the traditional setting. Other restrictions may apply, please contact the counseling office for more details. ☺

Saturday Morning Basketball a Fun Way to Get Kids Moving

by Thom Vanderklay

The Wyoming Park Basketball Program wants to see kids in the gym on Saturday mornings!

All 3rd through 6th grade boys and girls are invited to come starting January 13 and continuing January 20, February 3, 17 and 24. Time is 9:00 a.m. for instruction by high school coaches and players and then full court basketball will be played from 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Show up January 13 (or any

Saturday we meet) at 8:45 a.m. in the North gym lobby (between the gyms) and sign up. Cost is \$20.00 for the five sessions and includes the new Park basketball t-shirt for each player. (Checks to Wyoming Public Schools).

Any questions, contact Tom VanderKlay, head basketball coach, at 530-7560, or e-mail vandert2@wyoming.k12.mi.us.

Come and join the fun! ☺

Rogers National Art Honor Society Members Stay Busy with Local, International Projects

by Liz Duffield-Brown

This year the Rogers High School Chapter of the National Art Honor Society has gotten off to a very productive start.

First, students participated in Operation Pillow Talk. For this project, students decorated travel size pillows for soldiers in the Armed Forces. Soldiers are not issued pillows and otherwise would have none.


At the completion of this project, students began painting a



Members of Rogers' Chapter of the National Art Honor Society show off their pillows for Operation Pillow Talk. Pictured: (front row) Kassie Gort, Katie Bennett, Gen Longoria, (middle row) Jenny Hinkley, Ruben Omelas, Hailey Bush, Rhiannon Hewitt, Cassie Cisler, Tiffany Cook, (back row) Linda Truong, Sammantha Nyberg, Sonia Garcia, Shelby VanZalen, Kristen Hagy, and the club's sponsor, Liz Duffield-Brown. Not picture: Ethan Mann and Shelley Dunbar.

mural at Rogers Plaza. The theme of the mural is community.

One of the purposes of the NAHS is to bring art into the


community, and the students at Rogers High School are proud to increase art awareness in Wyoming. 

Gladiola Students Perform at Barnes & Noble

by Dawn Judge

On Saturday, December 9th, Gladiola students performed a reader's theater on the stage at the Rivertown Crossings Barnes & Noble Book Store.

The students' performance was based on a book called "I Want It All!" By Barbara Ciletti. The story takes place during the holidays, and a little boy is making a very large wish list. He is reminded of the true meaning of the holidays by an annoying "bug" called a "Moresy Bug". This bug only bothers children who want more, more, more! The students did a terrific job entertaining the customers as part of the Wyoming Public Schools Day at Barnes & Noble.

A portion of the profits from the day's sales will go to Wyoming Public Schools to support the R.I.E. Program. 



Mikayla St. John, Megan Brooks, Courtney Leal, Olivia Chivis and Spencer Pratt read "I Want It All!" at Barnes & Noble Book Store in Rivertown Crossings Mall in December. Joey Schimmelman (inset) plays the part of the bug featured in the story.



New Grad Requirements Passed for Class of 2011 and Beyond

by Dr. Thomas Reeder

Wyoming Public Schools Board of Education has passed new requirements for high school graduation as required by the Michigan Legislators and Michigan Department of Education in Spring of 2006.

These requirements are already beginning to be put in place this year as current students at Jackson Park and Newhall Middle Schools are being provided the opportunity to acquire one credit in each of

the areas of Science (Integrated Science) and Mathematics (Pre-Algebra and Algebra) this school year. This will not only allow 8th grade students to get an academic jump on high school, but allow more flexibility in their schedules during their junior or senior year.

Much work is currently being done in all content areas by staff to assure that all requirements are in place as the students of the Class of 2011 work their way through their high school experience. Many new

requirements are to be in place, by course names and the content of each of the courses. The new curriculum guide will have much more detail; the chart below helps explain the expectations of the new requirements.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call your child's school. We will continue to keep our students, parents and community informed as decisions are made with regard to these graduation requirements. ☺

WYOMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (beginning class of 2011)

- I. Students who graduate from high school must satisfactorily complete the minimum of 22 units of credit in classes in grade levels 8-12. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of six units of credit in each grade from 9-12 not to exceed seven enrolled courses in a single year. One credit equals one class hour for one school year or successful completion of learning requirements through testing out.
- II. Students graduating from the district shall satisfactorily complete the following minimum specific requirements:

<u>Areas of Study</u>	<u>Credits Required</u>
English Language Arts (Literacy Skills)	4.0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All students will be enrolled in English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12. b. Some English Electives (noted as Language Arts credit) may be utilized to fulfill unsatisfactory completion of one semester of English 9, 10, 11, and 12 courses and additional requirements to reach the four English credit requirement. 	
Social Studies (must include the following):.....	3.0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. one credit in World History/Geography (in 9th grade) b. one credit in U.S. History/Geography (in 10th grade) c. one credit of Civics (Government)/Economics (in 11th grade) 	
Mathematics	4.0
(Students with high school pre-algebra or algebra credit from the MS will enroll in higher level math courses.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. one credit for Algebra b. one credit for Geometry c. one credit in Advanced Algebra d. one credit of a math elective 	
	<i>(math must be taken in the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade years, and an additional math or math related course in the senior year)</i>
Science	3.0
(Students with high school science explorative credit from the M.S. will enroll in Biology in their Freshman year.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. one credit in Biology b. one credit in Chemistry and/or Physics c. one credit of science elective 	
	<i>(science must be taken in the 8th, 9th, 10th, and, if necessary, the 11th grade year or until 3 credits are obtained)</i>
Physical Education/Health	1.0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. .5 credit in a physical education activity class <i>(An additional core or language class may be taken for this .5 credit.)</i> b. .5 credit in Health 	
Visual/Performing/Fine Arts	1.0
(Currently this includes art, vocal, drama and instrumental music courses. <i>An additional core or language class may be taken for this credit.</i>)	
Computer Education (online learning experience)	0

TOTAL CREDITS required for graduation **22.0***
 *A student is required to fully participate (with a “good-faith” effort) in the Michigan Merit Exam (MME)
 *Participation in a computer education on-line learning experience

The grade point average (GPA) will be awarded as follows:

A = 4.0	B- = 2.7	D+ = 1.3
A- = 3.7	C+ = 2.3	D = 1.0
B+ = 3.3	C = 2.0	D- = .7
B = 3.0	C- = 1.7	

Adopted November 13, 2006

TENTATIVE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

beginning Class of 2011

EIGHTH GRADE (*MIDDLE SCHOOL courses which are for high school credit)

First Semester

1. ENGLISH
2. PRE-ALGEBRA/ALGEBRA*
3. INTEGRATED SCIENCE*
4. US HISTORY
5. _____
6. _____

Second Semester

1. ENGLISH
2. PRE-ALGEBRA/ALGEBRA*
3. INTEGRATED SCIENCE*
4. US HISTORY
5. _____
6. _____

NINTH GRADE

First Semester

1. ENGLISH 9
2. PRE-ALGEBRA/ALGEBRA/GEOMETRY
3. EARTH SCIENCE/BIOLOGY
4. WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY
5. _____
6. _____

Second Semester

1. ENGLISH 9
2. PRE-ALGEBRA/ALGEBRA/GEOMETRY
3. EARTH SCIENCE/BIOLOGY
4. WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY
5. _____
6. _____

TENTH GRADE

First Semester

1. ENGLISH 10
2. GEOMETRY/ADV ALGEBRA
3. BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY/PHYSICS
4. U.S. HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY
5. _____
6. _____

Second Semester

1. ENGLISH 10
2. GEOMETRY/ADV ALGEBRA
3. BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY/PHYSICS
4. U.S. HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY
5. _____
6. _____

ELEVENTH GRADE

First Semester

1. ENGLISH 11
2. GEOMETRY/ALGEBRA II/MATH ELEC
3. CHEMISTRY or PHYSICS
4. CIVICS (GOVERNMENT) (either)
5. _____
6. _____

Second Semester

1. ENGLISH 11
2. GEOMETRY/ALGEBRA II/MATH ELEC
3. CHEMISTRY or PHYSICS
4. ECONOMICS
5. _____
6. _____

TWELFTH GRADE

First Semester

1. ENGLISH 12
2. ADV ALGEBRA/MATH ELECTIVE
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Second Semester

1. ENGLISH 12
2. ADV ALGEBRA/MATH ELECTIVE
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Additional Requirements: 1 credit of P.E./Health (a .5 credit from a core or language area may be substituted for PE)
 1 credit of Fine Arts (a credit from a core or language area may be substituted)
 Participation in an on-line learning experience and taking of the Michigan Merit Exam

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

- Freshman _____ Students with less than 5 credits
 Sophomore _____ Students with at least 5 but less than 10 credits
 Juniors _____ Students with at least 10 but less than 15 credits
 Seniors _____ Students with at least 15 credits, who will meet graduation requirements by June

Wyoming Public Schools
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Please visit us at www.wyoming.k12.mi.us

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Insight is published by the Wyoming Board of Education as the official newsletter for residents of the Wyoming School District.

Sharon G. Wolfe, Editor

Items for publication in the *Insight* should be sent to the following address:

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A Good Reminder for Everyone

Rogers Sportsmanship Message Encourages Respect, Win or Lose

by David Price

This past October, the MHSAA sponsored its annual high school sportsmanship summit. Over 500 students from West Michigan attended which included Rogers High School students, Hillary Holt, Amy Crysler, Samantha Johnson, Bit Bosker, Whitney Hudson, Emily Holt, Colin McCasland and Sarah Crysler.

One of the results of the student sportsmanship summit was the Rogers High School Sportsman Statement which reads:

Rogers High School students, athletes, coaches and staff believe

in the value of interscholastic competition. For all of us to derive the benefits of wholesome competition, we ask that we all follow and practice a few basic principles of sportsmanship...

- Treat our opponents and officials with respect.
- Do not chant nor yell negative cheers aimed at the opponent, an individual or the officials.
- Be positive in all we do.
- Whether Rogers wins or loses, be respectful of all. Do it with class. ☺

IMPORTANT NOTE

Due to the holiday break, the January Board Meetings have been changed. The new dates and times are listed below. Hope to see you there!

Wyoming Public Schools REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2007

January 15, 2007 7:00 p.m.	April 16, 2007 7:00 p.m.
January 29, 2007 7:00 a.m.	May 14, 2007 7:00 p.m. (At Gladiola Elementary)
February 12, 2007 7:00 p.m.	May 21, 2007 5:00 p.m. (Budget Hearing)
February 26, 2007 7:00 a.m.	June 11, 2007 7:00 p.m.
March 12, 2007 7:00 p.m.	June 25, 2007 7:00 a.m.
March 26, 2007 7:00 a.m.	

The 2nd Monday of the month, meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.
The 4th Monday of the month, meetings are held at 7:00 a.m.



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