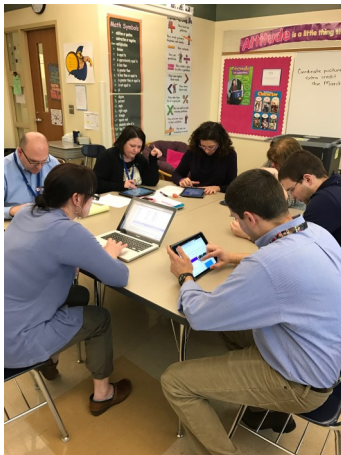




Wyomissing Area School District

Insight

iPad Implementation Begins at WREC



Professional Development for teachers.

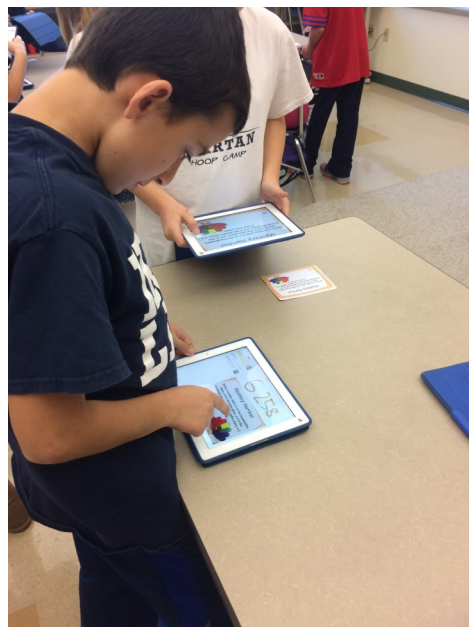
Over the course of the 2016-17 school year, the staff at West Reading Elementary has been preparing both themselves and students for the implementation of iPads into all science and mathematics classrooms. Preparations began this summer, as all teachers received their own iPads and started a strategic series of professional development opportunities focused on enhancing classroom instruction through the use of these devices. Morning “tech meetings,” professional development days built into the school calendar, Apple Teacher online

trainings, and a workshop with Apple trainers have all been utilized to train teachers on specific iPad applications. Mrs. Shana Matz, a math teacher and building technology coach, formed a building-wide Technology Committee that has met monthly and framed out much of the professional development activities for this school year. While we feel our instructional practice has been strong, we are using this as an opportunity to take our instructional practice to the “next level” and better meet the learning needs of today’s tech-savvy students.

At the same time that WREC staff have been preparing for the iPad implementation, students have been learning about the importance of digital citizenship and the responsible use of the actual device in school. They have also experienced a number of iPad applications across subject areas as our teachers began using their iPads and relevant applications to enhance their current classroom instruction. In the meantime, our tech department has worked diligently behind-the-scenes to ensure a smooth iPad rollout to our classrooms during the month of March.

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Task cards



Math graphing



WHEC Walk with Wyo Supports PTA

The Wyomissing Area PTA will be hosting a new fundraiser this spring at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. Family and friends of the Wyomissing Area PTA are invited to join them in raising money for the many activities and programs that the PTA sponsors for the entire district, grades K-12.

Friday, April 7, 2017, will be an exciting day at the Hills! All K-4 students will be able to participate in yoga, a fun

walk around the school and a dance party with Principal Bobst and their teachers. A healthy snack will also be enjoyed! It's an exciting and healthy way for students to raise money for the PTA.

Unlike many selling-based fundraisers, the PTA is able to keep 100% of the profits earned from the Walk with Wyo. They have set a goal of \$15,000 so that they may continue to provide support through funding and pro-

gramming to enhance the instructional integrity that the school district provides.

For additional information, visit the website, www.wyoareapta.org or support the Walk with Wyo and the PTA directly online at www.youcaring.com/WalkwithWyo. On behalf of the Wyomissing Area PTA, teachers and students, we thank you for your thoughtful and generous support!

Buddy Benches Foster Friendships

In January, two additions were made to the playgrounds at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. Thanks to a generous PTA grant requested by Patti Armstrong, Kate Aurentz, Caitlin Bambrick, Meredith Caldwell, Kelly McClennan, Amy Miller-Cush and Amy Stewart-Himes, General Recreation, Inc. was able to install a Buddy Bench at each of the WHEC playgrounds.

The Buddy Bench is a tool to promote friendships and decrease exclusion and bullying. Students who don't have a friend to play with at recess can sit on the bench and wait

for a friend to invite them to play. Use of the bench can help to foster new friendships, strengthen social skills, and create empathy in students.

With the guidance of Caitlin Bambrick and Amy Miller-Cush, a group of 4th graders worked together to create a training video for the benches. During lessons throughout the month of February, the training video was shown to all WHEC students. Students learned the purpose of the buddy bench, as well as how to properly utilize the tool. Students engaged in role play to practice this skill before applying it on the playground.

Several students voiced their excitement about the addition of the benches:

"The buddy bench is a great idea because it's an easier way to make new friends."
—Alexis H.

"If you're a shy person and you want to make new friends, I think the buddy bench is for you!"
—Roman P.

Thanks to the PTA and General Recreation, Inc. the children were provided with the opportunity to make friends and help others!



May We Introduce You to...

The Wyomissing Area School District welcomed Matthew Redcay as the Assistant Principal for the Junior/Senior High School in December.

Redcay received a B.S. in Elementary Education from Alvernia University and his M. Ed. from Cabrini College. He has 13 years in education as a classroom teacher and administrator, most recently serving as an Assistant Principal in the Intermediate

School of the Reading School District.

Currently living in Cumru Township with his wife Cassie, daughter Charlotte and two dogs Eddie and Ellie, he is actively involved with the Animal Rescue League.

Redcay is looking forward to meeting the staff, students and families of the Wyomissing community and is excited to be part of the Spartan family.



Matthew Redcay
Assistant Principal, Jr./Sr. High School

A New Coordinator for Registration of Students

Marcia Guinther is very excited to join Wyomissing Area School District as the Child Accounting & Central Registration Coordinator, replacing Linda Bentz who retired in January.

Marcia has been working in education for several years as a Building Technology Assistant, Paraprofessional, Substitute Secretary, and 1st Level IT Support. Most recently,

she was a Data Management Secretary in the Schuylkill Valley School District for three years.

Mrs. Guinther currently lives in Ontelaunee Township with her husband, Scott and son Kyle. Kyle will graduate this May from Full Sail University with a Bachelor's degree in Game Design. Her husband Scott is President of Berks Computer Solutions in

Sinking Spring and her daughter Alisa, is an Early Childhood Teacher.

Marcia enjoys attending Calvary Bible Fellowship Church in Sinking Spring, reading, coloring, counted cross stitching, and taking walks with her dog JoJo.



Marcia Guinther
Child Accounting & Central Registration Coordinator

WHEC Announces Step Up Day

A new teacher, a new classroom, and new expectations for learning can cause nervousness and a bit of panic in elementary students. The faculty and staff at WHEC are hoping to alleviate that by holding *Step Up Day* on Wednesday, June 7.

Rostering will be done earlier this year so on that date stu-

dents will meet their new teachers in their new classroom. Teachers will welcome them with a game or activity and answer any questions they might have about the teacher and the upcoming grade level.



Carnival Themed Mini-THON Exceeds Expectations



Jerry Brown, the Monkey Man, and Django stroll through the crowd.

The carnival theme for this year's Mini-THON was a huge success! The JSHS was a-hoppin' with excitement and activity. From the scent of hot buttered popcorn greeting folks at the front door to the sugary sweetness of freshly spun cotton candy and favorite carnival games scattered throughout the gym, complete with a bounce house ... the building was indeed "Too Legit to Sit"!!!

An added twist this year was inviting the community in for the first couple hours! What

a great turn out! So many students (and their parents) from WHEC and WREC turned out to be a part of the fun! Who could resist the Monkey Man?!? It was a terrific way to introduce the event to the greater community and younger students who will hopefully want to be a part of THON when they reach the JSHS.

The goal to meet this year was \$50,000 and that was easily exceeded by the tremendous support of students, staff, parents and the commu-

nity! CONGRATULATIONS to the JSHS students who raised \$57,815.37!!!

It takes the dedication and commitment of many to make this such a special event to raise funds in the hope of finding a cure for pediatric cancer. All of the money raised goes to Four Diamonds, which helps families and children affected by pediatric cancer.

Additional funds raised through *The Taste of Wyo* on April 20, 2017 will also benefit Mini-THON.



We are so blessed to be a part of a district in which our staff mindfully teaches our students the importance of giving to others through valuable opportunities and experiences such as Mini THON.

— Julia R. Vicente



Honor Societies Induct New Members

National Junior Honor Society Grade 9

Alexandra Amin
Derek Arneson
Arthur Auchenbach
Rachel Dick
Corinne Ellington
Thomas Foster
Serafina France-Tribe
Kristina Heliodoro
Rebecca Kotula
Kylee Loeb
Anna McIntyre
Alexandria Messenger
Sarah Mitchell
Ciera Ponton
Elizabeth Ramirez
Lily Reck
Spencer Renenger
Sofia Romano
John Sachenic
Rachel Shirk
Corrinne Snyder
Simon Wang
Dayne Yourkavitch
Kathryn Ziolkowski

Grade 8

Jordan Auman
Nina Botvin
Allison Brower
Ainsley Butler
Camille Croft
Isabella D'Addesi
Ashley Dasika
Riley Dauber
Ava Gehman
Jennifer Gentry
Gavyn Green
Brooke Herb
Alexandra Hoffman
Emily Kowalski
James Mahon
Summer Mirigliano
Felicia Nawa
Maher Salha
Owen Scargle
Calvin Scott
Lily Seyfert
Gracie Simmons
Chenin Soffer
Sara Steber
Cerys Stratton-Brown
Lilly Tollin
Jasmine Wang
Harrison Weiss
Morgan Welliver
Zachary Zechman



National Honor Society Seniors

Kristin Hafer
Shelby Hinsey
Carter Moll
Emma Nugent
Charles Schroder
Nina Soffer
Catherine Stanko

Juniors

Sidney Barrer
Julia Bell
Kristy Bell
Matthew Blanchet
Lauren Bonino
Samuel Botterbusch
Vanessa Camille
Nina Cardi
Joseph Cullen
Karissa Dialectos
Owen Scargle
Matthew Driben
Amy Endy
Nicholas Fischetti
Ke'ana Flowers
Lauren Gechter
Jessica Geosits
Elaina Gleason
Abby Goldberg
Samantha Heliodoro
Julia Herb
Chiara Huber



Jade Kowalski
Sydney Lentz
Patrick Mahon
Leah McAvoy
Collin Messenger
Hana Mitchell
Sophia Ortiz
Christopher Poon
Connor Quinter
Sophia Reck
Lauren Schrufer
Tylor Smock
Carly Tomczak
Nathan Wang
Anna Williams
Andrew Zhou
Claire Ziolkowski

National Wrestling Hall of Fame to Induct Alumnus

John C. Thomas, Class of 1977, will be inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame as an Outstanding American on April 30, at Hershey, PA. The Hall of Outstanding Americans demonstrates wrestling's pride in those who have used the disciplines of the sport to launch notable careers in other walks of life, such as science and technology, business and industry, government and the military, and the arts and humanities.

John was a successful stu-

dent, athlete, and was Wyoming's first qualifier to the PIAA State Championship Tournament. He amassed over 200 wins in high school and college and has spent more than 50 years in wrestling as a competitor and coach.

John is recognized nationwide by corporate management, labor unions, and the federal government as an expert in labor law, dispute resolution, environmental law, and other significant workplace matters.

John joins his father John D. Thomas as only the fourth father and son honorees in the history of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. John D. Thomas, a former Wyo Area wrestling coach and employee, was inducted in 2008 for Lifetime Service to wrestling. The Lifetime Service to Wrestling is given in recognition of years of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship in young people through the sport of wrestling.



John D. Thomas



John C. Thomas, '77

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Our Mission:

Inspiring Excellence One Spartan at a Time

Our Vision:

The Wyomissing Area School District aspires to be the preeminent public educational institution; as we:

- *Prepare students to excel in a highly complex global community*
- *Offer rigorous academics, cutting-edge technology and enriching extra-curricular opportunities*
- *Attract and retain the best team of administrators and staff; and*
- *Create a culture built on respect, trust and integrity.*

Local Concert Featured WASHD Participants

The *Little Matchgirl Passion* was presented at First Presbyterian Church, Reading, on January 21.

Professional vocal ensemble, Bricolage, in collaboration with Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, brought David Lang's Pulitzer-Prize winning work, based on the classic tale by Hans-Christian Andersen, to life. Featured was artwork by students from the Lycoming College Art Department and Wyomissing Area High School Public Art students who were inspired by the music and text. The concert and artwork were given to raise awareness about homelessness in our communities, and benefitted the local shelter Opportunity House.

The concert also featured local group Vox Philia Chamber Choir. WHEC teachers Amy Stewart-Himes and Karen Tripolitis are members of the group.



Public Art Workshop students display their work for the *Little Matchgirl Passion*.