



Insight

1:1 Initiative Launched at JSHS

The 2014-15 school year brings the introduction of an exciting and innovative learning tool for the students of the Wyomissing Area JSHS. Through the refinancing of existing equipment leases and at no additional cost to the District each student in grades 7- 12 will have the opportunity to participate in the WASD's 1:1 Initiative. The initiative is the result of several years of research, a pilot program, and continuing staff development. Why 1:1?

- Research studies show that school districts with a student to computer ratio of 1:1 out-perform districts that do not.
- The 1:1 Initiative will em-

power teachers to integrate technology into the curriculum helping to facilitate student growth and achievement.

- The 1:1 Initiative will provide students with the same software and hardware they have access to during the school day allowing educational opportunities to extend beyond the normal school hours 24/7.
- The 1:1 Initiative will better prepare students for higher education with exposure to online textbooks, blended course management, and emerging learning technologies.

- The 1:1 Initiative will better prepare students for a career in the competitive 21st century workplace.

During deployment which began September 17, each student participant was issued a new Asus T100 hybrid tablet with a removable keyboard, Windows 8.1, Office 2013, and curriculum based software applications. Students also have access to a custom software distribution Kiosk that will allow installation of District approved applications. Parents paid a one-time fee for insurance to protect against damage and theft of the device.

The Students Say...

"I can't wait to type my English essays on my new 1:1 device."

- Steven Ernst , gr. 12

"It will make it easier for me to get my homework done, because I don't have a computer at home."

- Nicole Dunbar , gr. 12

"I'll be able to look things up on Google a lot faster."

- Emily Guilbe , gr. 11

"I'll be able to do a lot more research for my papers."

- Yonai Colon , gr. 12

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Spencer Barbera is all smiles as he receives his device during the 1:1 deployment.



Romalo Bridges, Elke Cacchione, and Isabella Abrams demonstrate how the tablet detaches from the keyboard.

May We Introduce You To...

Wyomissing Area School District extends a warm welcome to Scott Arnst as the Director of Information Technology. Arnst holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Millersville University. He has done graduate work at Penn State University, Immaculata University, and Saint Joseph's University.

Arnst's previous experience includes 15 years with the Chester County Intermediate Unit working in technology integration, technology support, and teaching. At the CCIU, he gained extensive experience managing student

information systems, online course management systems, and the design/ deployment of 1:1 initiatives. He also has development experience with data aggregation, analysis, and creating applications/ dashboards for student information. He has participated in presentations at statewide conferences on designing a successful 1:1 laptop initiative and regional conferences on integrating technology in alternative education.

Arnst said, "I'm proud to be part of the Wyomissing leadership team during an exciting time of vision and innovation. I believe the integra-

tion of technology into the instructional process will play a critical role in preparing students for their post secondary education and their competitive 21st century careers. "

He and his wife Tammy, who also has worked in public education for 10 years, reside in Strasburg with their two children Taylor and Benjamin.

He also serves on the Board of Managers for the Lancaster YMCA and the Lampeter-Strasburg School Board.



Scott Arnst
Director of Technology

The Wyomissing Area School District is pleased to welcome Michael Cafoncelli as our Director of Buildings and Grounds. Cafoncelli will graduate in December 2014, with a degree in Business Administration from Albright College. His past experience includes seven years working for Albright College in the Facilities Services and Oper-

ations Department. Cafoncelli held several positions of increasing responsibility within the Facilities Department and most recently was the Operations Manager responsible for all day-to-day facilities operations for the College and directly managing the grounds crew, custodial staff, and carpenters.

"I am excited about joining the Wyomissing community and serving the students and faculty of the Wyomissing Area School District."

Cafoncelli lives in Muhlenberg with his girlfriend Molly and in his spare time enjoys spending time with family, watching Philadelphia sports teams, and playing ice and roller hockey.



Michael Cafoncelli
Director of Buildings & Grounds

While not new to the District, WASD is pleased to welcome Jessica Lengle to the administrative team as the Supervisor of Special Education. She began her career at Wyomissing Area in 2007 as a Learning Support Teacher serving in both elementary buildings before becoming the Transition Coordinator at the JSHS and Special Educa-

tion Department Chairperson. Lengle received a B.S. in Psychobiology and her certifications in elementary and special education at Albright College, and her Master's in Education from Kutztown University. Before joining Wyomissing Area, she was a teacher in the Boyertown Area School District.

Lengle and her husband Jeff, a school psychologist for the Wilson School District, reside in Lincoln Park. They have two sons, Timothy, age 6 and Patrick, age 3. She enjoys spending time with friends and family, day trips to Longwood Gardens and watching baseball. Go Phillies!



Jessica Lengle
Supervisor of
Special Education

Our New Administrators

The Wyomissing Area School District would like to welcome Andrew Kuhn as Principal of the Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. He grew up in West Reading and is a 1990 graduate of Wyomissing Area High School.

Kuhn earned his bachelor's degree from Franklin and Marshall College and then joined Teach For America, getting placed to teach in Houston, Texas. He complet-

ed a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Texas at Austin and is in the process of completing his Ed.D. in educational administration through Temple University. Kuhn is in his 21st year in public education and his sixth year as principal. He spent the last 11 years in the Cheltenham School District in Montgomery County. His wife Tonya is a child and adolescent psychiatrist. They

have two children: Cole, age 5, and Gavin, who will soon be 2.

Kuhn would like to thank the Wyomissing Area community for the warm welcome in his return home. He is truly enjoying his daily work with the wonderful faculty, staff and students at the Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center.



Andrew Kuhn
Principal WHEC

Ginger Johnson, Dean of Students, was first introduced to the Wyomissing Area School District as a long-term substitute Guidance Counselor at the JSHS in January of 2014.

With a B.A. in Psychology, M.A. in Counseling Services and a Master's in Education, she brings a strong educational background with an emphasis on communication, counseling and leadership.

Her strengths include strong interpersonal skills; she is adept at fostering strong working relationships with school personnel and the community. She understands the importance of cultivating a supportive learning environment and continually nurturing that throughout the school year. She has observed teachers, applied curriculum and implemented successful academic workshops while working for the Reading School District.

Johnson looks forward to broadening her knowledge and passion for education as well as nurturing that passion in students and teachers.

Her husband, Charles, is the Associate Director of Clinical Data Management and Bio Statistics at Daiichi Sankyo. They have two children Jaron, 7 and Benjamin, 5.

"Be the change you want to see in the world."— *Mahatma Gandhi.*



Ginger Johnson
Dean of Students, JSHS

National Merit Scholarship

The Wyomissing Area School District is pleased to announce that **Alan Lu** was named as a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. In addition, the following students received letters of commendation: **Alex Bonino, James Brugger, Brett Driben, and Zachary Miller.**

Inspiring Excellence

Meet our New Teachers



Back Row Left to Right: Catherine DeSantis, Allison Lowry, Greta Jones and Jennifer Ninetto.
Front Row: Jennifer Yetter, Thomas McGee, and Amy Latourelle.

Catherine DeSantis

Extended Substitute, Spanish, JSHS

DeSantis is a certified teacher through the PA Department of Education in Spanish K-12. Her experience includes long term substitute Spanish teacher assignments, as well as Spanish Club Advisor, in multiple school districts in Berks County. She is filling in for Danielle Gingrich.

Greta Jones

Life Skills Teacher, JSHS

Jones acquired her Bachelor of Science Degree from Albright University. Her PA Department of Education certifications include: Special Education N-12, Middle School English 7-9, English 7-12, and Elementary Education K-6. She previously was a substitute in the District.

Allison Lowry

LTS Guidance Counselor, JSHS

Lowry received her Master of Science Degree in Secondary School Counseling from Villanova University. She holds a PA Department of Education Certification as an Educational Specialist Secondary School counselor 7-12. Her ex-

perience includes guidance counseling in the high school setting. She is filling in for Dana Quinnivan.

Jennifer Ninetto

Emotional Support Teacher, JSHS

Jennifer received her Master's Degree from Albright College. She is certified by the PA Department of Education Special Education N-12, Mid-Level Mathematics 7-9, and Elementary K-6. She previously served as a Special Education Instructional Aide.

Meghan Tierney

Math Teacher, JSHS

Tierney holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Albright College and has acquired her Secondary Mathematics (Grade 7-12) through the PA Department of Education.

Jennifer Yetter

6 English Teacher, JSHS

Yetter received her Bachelor of Science degree from Millersville

University. She holds a PA Department of Education Teaching Certification in English 7-12, Mid-Level English 6-9, and Elementary K-6.

Amy Latourelle

Nurse, WREC

Latourelle received her BSN from the University of Rochester and is a Registered Nurse through the Commonwealth of PA. She has extensive background and experience as an RN in the field of Pediatrics. She previously substituted for the District.

Thomas McGee

LTS Grade 4, WHEC

McGee is certified through the PA Department of Education in the areas of Elementary K-6 and Educational Specialist Instructional Technology. His previous experience includes 7 years of experience teaching 4th Grade. He is filling in for Brittany Siggins.



Meghan Tierney

One Spartan at a Time

Congratulations

to the following employees who have earned service pins for their years of service...



- Mary Katherine Bogert
- Richard Cosgrave
- James Delp
- Michael Hasara
- Patricia Magrann
- Annemarie Melcher



- Kendall Babiarz
- Shana Bellairs
- Barbara Brehony
- Karen Conklin
- Stephanie Heffner
- Mariel Jordan
- Mary Rebecca Keller
- Mary Lieberman
- Jane Lim
- Christine Ross
- Tetiana Sklepkovych
- Ellen Weaver
- Lauren Yelinek
- Laura Zamperini



- Laurie Balatgek
- Jennifer Bowe
- Benito Diaz
- William Dramby
- Michelle Filippini
- Donna Fischer
- Michele Hetrich
- Karen Houck
- Chris Kersikoski
- Michael Miller
- Mary Muir
- Todd Zechman



- Corbett Babb
- Shirley Gashi
- Daniel Giesen
- Dawn Main



Regina Hart, Amy Stewart-Himes and Mary Hollinger



WASD is Committed to Excellence



Administrative Team



Jodi Wirebach and Joe Ayala



Erin Tyrrell

WASD administration, faculty, and staff are embracing this year's District theme of "Committed to Excellence" by wearing T-shirts they received opening day on designated days throughout the year.



District Office Staff



JSHS Food Service Staff



Top Left: Robin Kline, Erika Homan, Keith Arnold, Dan Smith, and Kristin Allen at WREC.

Top Right: Steph Myers, Lauren Yelinek, Linda Wynne, Kathy Rohm, and Elba Beltran del Rio at WHEC.

Middle Left: JSHS teachers Andrew Siggins, Todd Zechman, and Valerie Knauer

Middle Right: Jeremiah Kozlowski, Patti Armstrong, Sue Larkin, Nancy Schlegel, and Jane Lim at WHEC.

Bottom Left: Cara Frederick, Dottie Brandt, Andrea Bensusan, Jennifer Littlefield, and Regina Hart at WHEC.

Advanced Placement Scholars

AP Scholar—Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Jakim Aaron
Mikayla Ambarian
Tierney Banco
Adrianna Bates
Madison Bickel
Danielle Carabello
James Cardi
Bennett Conlin
Cody Cox
Finnegan Daly
Grant Davis
Sam Debelle-Mitton
Nicholas Dennis
Jake Devos
Peter DiCarlo
Andre Fick
Peter Geyer
Logan Jones
Matthew Kaufmann
Jacob Kennedy
Greta Koch
Michael Kovach
Megan Leagans
John Masano
Lily Moran
Derek Moser
Tracy Nguyen
Rohan Rai
Brian Walters
Abigail Wells
Jonathan Wertz
Austin Wondowski

AP Scholar with Honor—Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

James Bamberger
Christina Bowers
Julia Crozier-Christy
Michael Delucas
Paul Gehret
Mark Goldberg
James Harris
Lisa Le
Zachary Miller
Mitchell Norris
Joshua Pappas
Wade Stallone
Dylan Thomas

AP Scholars
CollegeBoard

National AP Scholar—Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Ryan Babb	James Brugger	Caroline Pattillo
Samuel Blanchet	Christopher Eaton	Robert Pattillo
Peter Bonino	Caroline Edelman	
Ian Brackbill	David Link	

AP Scholar with Distinction—Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of three or higher on five or more of these exams.

Gavin Babb
Ryan Babb
Emma Bittner
Samuel Blanchet
Alexander Bonino
Peter Bonino
Ian Brackbill
James Brugger
Christine Chau
Katie Cush
Brett Driben
Christopher Eaton
Caroline Edelman
Sarah Ellington
Alex Fisher
Emma Fogel
Anita Gabriely
Erica Gleason
David Knauer
Austin Kuhn
Allen Lau
David Link
Alan Lu
Scott McAvoy
Rachel Ohnsman
Nishtha Patel
Caroline Pattillo
Robert Pattillo
Samantha Ross
Rodrigo Saad-Berreta
Alexander Shields
Daniel Sweitzer
Elizabeth Tonneslan
Abigail Waxler
Katherine Weidner
Andrew Wert
Patrick White
Yi Zeng

Staying Smart Over Summer



Summer academy students put pictures in the correct sequence before writing a story.

This summer proved to be a great opportunity for students in grades K-7 to continue making strides in their reading development. WASD hosted a four-week Summer Reading Academy to give students the opportunity to practice reading skills in a small group environment. The program had 88 students enrolled with nine teachers. Several students made enough progress to “graduate” from their current intervention program and move onto the next level, and six students reached the benchmark goal and no longer require interventions this school year. This was very rewarding for teachers

and students alike! Kindergarten, first and second graders met at Wyomissing Hills and were engaged with word work, writing, read alouds, independent reading and art. Students in grades 3-7 continued the programs they had started the previous year and had the opportunity to complete their summer reading assignments for the upcoming year. The District runs this program each year, so flyers will be sent home in the Spring. Questions in the meantime, may be directed to Michele Hetrich at mhetrich@woyarea.org.

WREC'S Shana Bellairs to Present at PETE & C

Why code? Learning to code can help develop higher level problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. By covering STEM standards, writing code encourages students to be both consumers of technology as well as creators. Learning how students become quickly engaged in coding through various programs, apps, and resources will be the focus of Shana Bellairs' presentation at the PETE & C Conference.

The Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference (PETE & C) runs February 8-11, 2015 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. As the main state conference for technology, attendees are teachers, administrators, college and university representatives, business representatives such as software

companies, technology resource companies, etc. from all over the state. Presenters, however, are chosen from applicants from all over the country. To become a presenter, Bellairs had to have previously attended the conference and prepared the majority of her proposed presentation. She completed a multiple question application before the final selection process this summer.



Teddy Bear Picnic at WHEC

First grade students at the Hills have already had their first experiences with ‘Comparative Literature’! The Fall unit on BEARS included an extensive study of nonfiction resources describing the habits, characteristics and most interesting facts surrounding these fascinating mammals. Concurrent with this focus on informational text and fascinating facts youngsters dipped into the many rich, amazing and endearing stories that exist about fictional bears.

Students compared and contrasted the classic stories of *Corduroy*, *Paddington Bear*, *Little Bear* and *Winnie the Pooh*. These beloved characters were the springboard for many lively discussions of how these characters vary from their real-life counterparts as well as investigations into why these stories are so very endearing and meaningful to young readers.

First graders also read and studied some of the many versions of *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*. This most basic of children’s

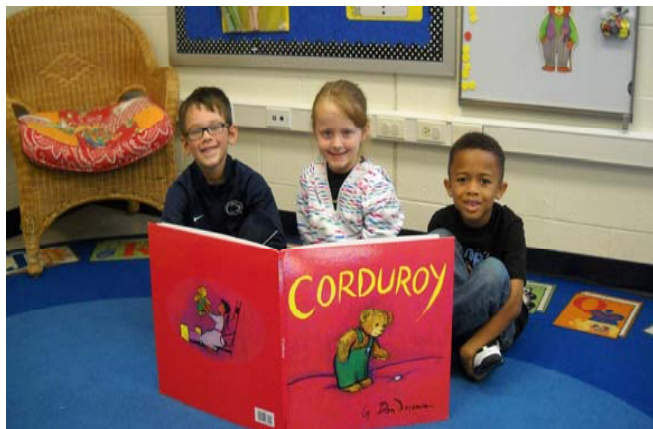
tales has been translated into virtually every language of the globe and has been the origin of over 300 sequels, translations and variations. No matter how many versions were read, students always uncovered something different and exciting and there was inevitably an ‘UH-OH’ uttered each time those unsuspecting bears were about to discover Goldie asleep in Baby Bear’s bed!

The culminating activity for the special unit was the annual **Teddy Bear Picnic**. As always, Mother Nature smiled on this special day with sunshine and warmth for the outdoor activities. On this exciting day students introduced and shared facts about their special teddy guests, wrote stories about the picnic, snacked on marmalade, honey and gummy bears and danced and marched to many renditions of *The Teddy Bear Picnic* song.

This wonderful unit is always a very special and memorable part of the first grade year!



Jacob George, A J. Choi, and Emanuel Cruz squeeze their teddy bears.



Patrick Babiarz, Addison Lecher, and Marqus Speakes share a *Corduroy* big story book.



First grade classes spread out on the lawn at WHEC for the annual Teddy Bear Picnic.



Miguel Roque and Ema Ramaj take their teddy bears to the playground.

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Our Mission:

The Wyomissing Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, is committed to:

- ◆ educate all students to their fullest potential
- ◆ provide all students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in the 21st century
- ◆ encourage all students to be productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners.

Stay Connected

Between issues of *Insight*, keep up to date on District happenings by checking the “Press Releases” page on the website at www.wyoarea.org and follow WASD on Twitter and Facebook.

Summer Safari 2014

For a week in July, a high school computer lab was filled with elementary students eagerly learning to write code with the help of a half dozen computer science students and Mr. Curt Minich. The youngsters designed and wrote computer programs that respond to clicks, voice commands, and even hand movements. The mix of girls and boys designed their own Flappy Wings apps and applied logic and problem-solving skills to help an angry bird catch the pig. By the end of the computer camp, the students were driving robots with computer controls, flying quadcopters, and translating messages written in binary, a computer’s native language. The workshop had an



unprecedented span of students working and learning together. Students entering third grade (7 or 8 years old) took the workshop and a former graduate in his sophomore year in college served as a teaching assistant.