

Wider Horizons School

More Biography Fair

DATES TO REMEMBER:

11/10 Veterans Songfest 9am
11/11 Veterans Day (no school)
11/12 George Washington's Tent Museum at WHS
11/21 Thanksgiving Lunch for students

National Education Week parent visits.
Coral shows her mother one of the new comprehensive math activities in Primary class.



Junior and Senior High students take an end of quarter trip to Chick-fil-A for lunch.

They learned to pay with cash, get change, and learned about using a credit card that did not work.

These life lessons are necessary but hard to do in school.



AN OVER-ACHIEVER IS NOW STIGMATIZED

By Domenick J. Maglio PhD.

Throughout history there have always been people who take pride in their work and others who just get by with as little effort as possible. The ones who want to be recognized for their effort see their production as a reflection of themselves. Many others needed incentives to get them to do the simplest tasks. It is the percentage of the doers versus the takers that determines the vitality of the nation.

At different stages of history nations went through periods of rewarding merit and others rewarded family status. Family name, wealth and powerful connections were the deciding factors in being chosen into the ranks of the privileged few. These different economic approaches have been going on for centuries. In stagnant economic societies the affluent, connected families did not have to concern themselves with the children's future opportunities. Their influence insured their children top government positions regardless of their training and abilities. Achievement was of little value to advancement. It was all about family and political connections not production. In a free market economy there is competition that rewards hard work. Cut off from the opportunity for advancement, competition ceases and the nation's economy withers.

Continued on last page



PRIMARY 1
Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Tejeda

This week, students have been busy practicing songs for Veteran's Day, which is next Monday. We hope to see everyone there.

In language, students continue to read their Bob Books. Congratulations to Yvan, Remington, Henry, and Landon for finishing their Bob Books. The students also wrote a small "Thank You" poem for the Veterans. They have been practicing their sight and spelling words.

In math, students continue to learn different addition and subtraction lessons. Some students are challenging their minds with the 45 layout.

Students enjoy their music class on Wednesday afternoons. They are currently learning about different instruments, along with different music genres.

We would also like to thank all the parents that came out to see their children work during National Education Week.

In culture and science, students are learning about woodland animals and how they live in the fall and get ready for winter. Students are also learning about Native American customs as we start talking about Thanksgiving next week.

We hope you have a great weekend!

PRIMARY 2
Miss Finnerty and Mrs. Nieves

This week, the primary students learned about Veterans Day. We are also discussing fall and the time change. Students are receiving lessons on autumnal items and celebrations. We would like to say how proud we are of our students for all of their hard work on the Biography Fair.

Everyone did a great job. Good job, primary!

In math this week, we introduced the large number cards. During this lesson, students learn to recognize the symbols for each category of the decimal system. This allows them to be able to put out the 45-layout. A small group lesson was given on the stamp game. This is used to teach addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; as well as the decimal system.

For language, students wrote a poem for Veterans Day. Students learned what Veterans Day is and why it is important. We also have been practicing several songs that will be sung for the Veterans Day Songfest.

Thank you to all parents who were able to come to visit our classroom this week. The students were excited to show you their work, and we hope the benefits of a Montessori classroom and hands-on materials made more sense.

Congratulations to Theia, Coral, and Noah for passing the Bob Books and beginning the Big Books and comprehension work!

Have a great weekend!

LO'WER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Urbanek, Mr. Garrand, and Mrs. Morpew

Congratulations to Annabelle for having a perfect reading sheet this week. Congratulations to Wendy, Nathan, and Grace for moving up to the next time tables. Congratulations to Wendy for mastering her subtraction facts 1—20.

STUDENT EDITOR

Gia Betz

Last Friday was the Biography Fair. We would like to thank the judges for donating their time. The students all looked great dressed up as their characters. It was amazing how hard most of the students worked to remember their story and learn about the person they chose. We would also like to thank all the parents who joined us out on the lawn for the parade. It was a great success!

In math this week, the students learned about greater than, less than, and equal to.

In spelling this week, the students worked in their packets. Next week, they will have a definition test.

In language arts, the students learned the different between which and witch.

The students have learned a new type of poem. They now know about haiku and acrostic poems. They have started to write their own haiku poems about Thanksgiving.

In history, the students are completing learning about California, the Great Plains, the northwest region, and other regions in Native America.

In geography, the students are working hard on completing the solar system and have just added two more states to their list. They will be memorizing the first ten states, capitals, and abbreviations. They will also be tested on the states. Please do not remove the states paper from their homework folder.

In science, the students are working on part two of the mammal, bird, and fish. Students also had a lesson about the amphibian.

Last week, the students helped vote on a face to carve into the pumpkin. The students pulled out the seeds, and we baked them for each student to try.

Have a safe weekend!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Gutierrez, Miss Bandini, and Mrs. Russell

Everyone did a wonderful job presenting this week for the Biography Fair, but we would like to mention Milana, Kinsley, Joemanuel, Molly, Alice, Hadley, Hely, and Xavier for receiving a perfect ten on their presentations! Congratulations!

With the Biography Fair over, now it is time to focus on the Veteran Tribute which will take place on Monday, November 10th. The Upper Elementary is working very hard on practicing songs and writing letters of appreciation to our veterans. They will also make posters to welcome their guests.

Students in fourth grade continued to learn about verbs, particularly action, bring, and linking verbs. Many students are progressing nicely through the language tower and will have a test on verbs once all lessons are given. In math, we reviewed fractions and were able to identify mixed numbers on a number line.

Fifth graders are reviewing plurals and nouns in language and are working on converting mixed numbers to improper fractions in math. After completing the plant cell booklets, fifth graders are creating models out of clay and beads in Botany. Fifth graders have completed the mapping skills book, therefore they will be moving on to making a map of North America and all of its special regions.

This week in Physical Science sixth graders continued to explore the periodic table and were

introduced to different classifications of atomic bonding. In geography, students are still presenting on native cultures around the world. Next week's spelling test will be on Thursday instead of Friday because of our field trip that day.

HIGHSCHOOL

Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Youse, and Miss Wheeler

This week in the junior and senior high classroom, students continued working through their regular coursework while also practicing for the upcoming Veterans Day presentation. We encourage everyone who is able to join us Monday morning at 9:00 AM for the program.

The seventh graders have been learning about plate tectonics and the forces that shape our planet. The eighth graders have been studying how the United States government is structured and how it functions. The ninth graders began a chapter in science covering acids and bases and the differences between them, while the tenth graders have been focusing on identifying and understanding different types of verbs and how they function in writing.

In addition to academic work, high school students—along with the rest of the school—will have the exciting opportunity to participate in a Sons of the American Revolution event on Wednesday. Students will meet professional reenactors and view a replica of the tent used by George Washington, providing a valuable hands-on learning experience and a meaningful highlight to include in future college applications.

IN CASE OF A STORM OR STATE OF EMERGENCY WHERE THERE IS NO POWER - SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED

AFTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Russell

This week during circle time, we read a book about all kinds of insects. The students' job was to see if they could find the insect we were discussing at the time on the page.

The first insect we discussed was the monarch butterfly. The children had to look very carefully because one was male and one was female. They almost look identical, but the male has a black spot on each wing. Most of the children had a bit of trouble finding the "walking stick".

We also had a chance to welcome in the autumn season. We discussed what changes we expect during fall, such as leaves changing their color and eventually falling off and the weather becoming cooler. The birds also begin to migrate and the animals start storing food for winter.

While on the playground, some children enjoyed playing "Hide and Seek", while others pretended to be zoo keepers. Once inside, some worked on their homework, while others played with different activities.

Continued from first page...

In the United States our economy is transitioning into a planned, centrally controlled economy. Too many are entitled to the wealth of others, which is desensitizing our people to the importance of competing with others. The economy has been devalued by affirmative action decrees written into law. Certain groups of people are given preferential treatment for selection in college and employment even if they do not merit it. These laws are being forced by the loss of government funds and federal discrimination suits. This fear motivates states and big business to go along with this government intrusion into their affairs. We are turning towards a national socialistic model of government that chooses winners and losers rather than have them compete in the free market of opportunity.

In public schools, achievement is being deemphasized by rewarding everyone equally in academics and extra curricular activities. The millennium generation and a large portion of the welfare recipients are turning towards the false promises of large government Marxist ideals. This naïve reliance on government to compensate for a person's laziness is becoming fashionable in higher education.

Over achieving is defined as any person who performs better than their IQ would indicate. These people have a high drive to overcome obstacles through hard work to be the best they can be. The quality students who have been the backbone of our educational system and free enterprise are currently being viewed as mentally and emotionally odd individuals. They are not being valued for their dedication and discipline rather as disrupters of social engineering of a less competitive more inclusive lowest common denominator educational system.

Any hard working individuals are supposedly striving too much to compensate for their feelings of inadequacy. These so called chronic neurotics' "fear of failure" are seen as obsessive, compulsive. They are often called workaholics, pleasers who can't say "no" to authority figures. These driven people are less sociable and culturally influenced by the latest fads. They are often disliked because they make others feel inadequate and jealous of their achievements. They are demeaned at every turn. Stigmatizing a producer may make the parasites feel better but it does not get the job done.

Yet these energetic doers are the driving force of a free market economy. High performing over achievers are the strength of any business in small mom and pop endeavors. They have to be performing at a high level or they will fail. Those who do the work of several people in any business will keep the labor force down increasing the odds of being a successful business. The same strong work ethic in larger, lean and mean businesses creates more rapid advancement, higher benefits and a successful future.

Destroying the individual who sets high standards is killing "the goose that lays the golden eggs." Our national educational and economic system is lowering the bar to accommodate the incompetent. Setting low baselines for performance is a catastrophic policy that needs to be reversed to restore our excellence. The millennial generation is the product of deemphasizing the family, education and work standards. These young adult underachievers are not prepared for the reality of striving to climb the socioeconomic ladder.

More than ever we need focused doers that are over achievers for our country to once again prosper.

Domenick Maglio, PhD. is a columnist carried by various newspapers, an author of several books and owner/director of Wider Horizons School, a college prep program. Dr. Maglio is an author of weekly newspaper articles, *INVASION WITHIN* and a new just published book, entitled, *IN CHARGE PARENTING* In a PC World. You can visit Dr. Maglio at www.drmaglio.blogspot.com.