Award Winning Jazz Lab Delivers Special Message To Western High Students

Western High School continued its Freshman Focus program with a musical performance by the Michigan Tech University Jazz Lab Band. On Jan. 5, 2017, MTU's Jazz Band presented their "JAZZ: No Drugs, No Guns" presentation which is a positive theme approach emphasizing involvement in music. The MTU Jazz band emphasized music as a way to provide students with a rich and rewarding common experience in a safe environment. The band's performance promoted music as a method of self-expression and creativity in a healthy, non-violent way. The award-winning Michigan Tech Jazz Lab Band, under the direction of Mike Irish, is made up of 20 musicians from throughout the country, and features a broad repertoire of music ranging from the Big Band Era to today's contemporary sounds and original compositions. Special thanks to WHS Band Director Mr. Craig Heydenberg for arranging this performance.

American Foundry Society Presents “Foundry in a Box” at Handy Middle School

The Saginaw Valley Chapter of the American Foundry Society (AFS) presented an educational, hands-on activity called "Foundry in a Box" to Handy Middle School students on Monday, January 9th. All of Mrs. Kokaly's 7th grade Science students participated in this activity. "Foundry in a Box" was created to get the next generation of engineers and technicians excited about Science Technology and Math (STEM), specifically emphasizing one associated career called "casting." Students had fun learning about foundry and metal melting and were even able to design their own unique casts.

Thank You to the volunteers from the Saginaw Valley Chapter of the American Foundry Society for taking time to educate our students on STEM careers and exposing them to such an engaging, hands-on learning experience. We look forward to more visits this winter for all 7th grade students in BCPS as part of the district's common STEM plan.
Handy Middle School and Western Middle School Enjoy Friendly Rivalry in the 4th Annual Pajama Game

Handy Middle School’s Student Council is proud to announce the 4th annual Pajama Game for Charity on Wednesday, January 18th: 6:00pm and 7:15 in the Handy Middle School Gym (parking available in the Alp Street lot). This friendly, in-district rival game between Handy Middle School and Western Middle School will not only draw good crowds, but they will be doing it for a good cause: The Bay Area Women’s Center. Thanks to the Center, Bay County women and their children have a safe haven in times of domestic struggle and access to basic necessities in times of need. Handy Student Council and Western Middle School will be helping the Women’s Center to replenish some much-needed items of personal care, diapers, twin sized sheets and pillowcases, and pajamas from sizes newborn to teen.

Admission to the game is normally $3 ($2 with student ID), but with a donation – entry is free! We invite everyone to wear PJ’s to the game in support of the comfort that the Bay Area Women’s Center provides.

Monetary donations will also be accepted, or you can forward a donation to:
Bay Area Women’s Center, 3411 E. Midland Rd., Bay City, MI 48706  (989) 686-4551

News from Our Partners at the Dow Bay Area Family YMCA ymcbaycity.org

HEAVE-HO! DODGEBALL BATTLE
February 4, 2017
Dow Bay Area Family YMCA

Teams of All Ages
Players’ Lounge for adult teams with food and refreshments
Team Shirts
Prizes for the Champions
Free Guest Passes for Youth Players

ADULT TEAMS $250 NEW LOW PRICE!
High School & Older
10 Players Maximum

YOUTH TEAMS $100
4th/5th & 6th/7th/8th
Grade 9 Players & Adult Chaperone

EARLY REGISTRATION
Now until January 21

LATE REGISTRATION
January 22 until February 4
$25 Late Fee will be added.
Shirts are not guaranteed.

Make a Difference Award
Nominations Are Open!

The Make a Difference Award recognizes BCPS staff members who provide extraordinary service and make an effort to go above and beyond their job responsibilities to make a difference for our students, staff and our community. Any BCPS staff member may nominate another staff member. The nomination link can be found under staff services on our District website.
Western HS Staff Challenges  
Earn Delicious Rewards  
Western High School kicked off 2017 with a few staff challenges. Challenges included sharing their 2017 slogan, sharing an instructional strategy with a colleague, greeting colleagues outside of their department to name a few. The winner of each challenge received a yummy salad made by our own WHS cafe! Staff shared a few pics of them enjoying the delicious salad!

Washington, McAlear, Hampton & MacGregor PE Teachers Receive Training from the United Dairy Industry & NFL/Detroit Lions  
Seth Kelly, P.E. Teacher at Washington and McAlear, and Jenny Maciejewski, P.E. Teacher at Hampton and MacGregor, had the opportunity to hang out with Jason Hansen at the United Dairy Industry of Michigan and NFL/Detroit Lions Essential Flag Kit Training in Schwartz Creek. Seth and Jenny were trained on the kits that each school will receive and they were given a ball signed by Jason Hansen. Both teachers are excited to bring these lessons into their classrooms.

MacGregor 3rd Graders Enjoy Making Gingerbread Houses  
MacGregor Elementary third grade students and families had a great afternoon making gingerbread houses before winter break. The cafeteria was filled with students and parents who made adorable creations to kick off their winter break in a festive fashion. Parents donated tons of goodies to use as decorations and the kids really made some awesome houses. They were very excited to take these home and share with their family. Way to go 3rd grade teachers, parents and students!

Linsday Students Celebrated as “Ultimate Bobcats”  
Each month at Linsday, a student from each class is awarded with the “Ultimate Bobcat” Award. Students are selected on multiple criteria including their efforts in daily work, showing improvement, positive character traits, attendance, and overall behavior. The students are awarded with a special lunch with the principal. This month our students enjoyed Burger King for lunch! Keep up that great work students!