

PLATnM B Press - March 2019

Physical Education, Library, Art, Technology, Music, and Bilingual/ESL

P.E. (Physical Education):

In March all students will be offered the Chicago Public Schools Sexual Health Education curriculum. It is a state law and CPS mandate that it be offered to all students from grades K-12. Any parent or guardian who does not want their child to participate in these health classes needs to send me a letter indicating their desire to withdraw from it. Alternative assignments in a different setting will be offered. The curriculum topics for each grade level were listed on the back of the letter that was sent home in early February. A copy can also be found on the school's website.

The third through eighth grade students worked hard during their badminton unit on different types of serves and strikes. I am always amazed at the skill level our students demonstrate, and this year was no exception. The older students focused on strategy while the younger students worked on volleying and control. Primary students in grades K-2 worked on overhand and underhand throwing techniques. Ask them to show you their "muscle" when throwing overhand and help them to remember to step with the opposite foot. After the health lessons are completed, the students will begin a volleyball and striking unit.

Healthfully yours,

Mr. Hennessy

cmhennessy@cps.edu

Library:

The Kindergarten through third grade students will vote for their favorite book from the Monarch list next week. Second and third graders created posters for each book to help our younger students remember what we read. The students will pick their favorite, I will tally the votes for our school and send them to AISLE to compile with other students in Illinois. We will be anxiously awaiting the results.

Fourth and seventh graders are working on using the Chicago Public School's Databases to research people. The fourth graders created a Google Slideshow to present their information and seventh graders created a mock Facebook profile to demonstrate being able to access information and present it. Students can access these databases from any location by visiting library.cps.edu and using the username: cps and password: cps.

After completing *No Small Plans*, the eighth grade students worked in groups to design a map of an ideal city. They needed to include housing, recreation, and decide together what other structures or locations are necessary to have a successful city. There were some very interesting maps!

Have a great March! Please contact me at rmrdowling@cps.edu if you ever need to reach me.

Mrs. Dowling

Art:

March is Youth Art Month (YAM). YAM “emphasizes the value of art education for all children, encourages support for quality school art programs, and promotes art material safety. Youth Art Month also provides a forum for recognizing skills developed through visual arts experiences that are not possible in other curriculum subjects.” March is also Music in Our Schools month, so Ms. Kia and I will join forces to celebrate the arts program at Haines!

In March, eighth grade students will be exploring art as activism and creating prints about important social issues. Sixth and seventh grade are diving into the world of sculpture. Fourth graders are working tirelessly on their embroidery samplers. Seriously, the students are so focused, I can hear a pin drop! Third grade is tackling one of the most difficult skills in art, figure proportion. Primary artists continue to explore the art elements while focusing on painting, drawing, cutting, and glueing skills.

Does your child ever complain that he/she is bored? This time of year, cabin fever is high as the cold weather keeps kids indoors. If you are looking for a new way to engage your child at home, consider setting up an art space. Haines has many skilled young artists, and artists need to practice! Dedicating a place in your house as a creative space is a great way to encourage your child to make art. It doesn't need to be a large area. A small table with some baskets of markers, crayons, glue, scissors, paper, paint, or other supplies tucked into a corner will suffice. Children can practice the skills they learn at school, exercise their creativity, and have fun in the art space. Art spaces help kids learn to stay tidy (cleaning up after ourselves is one important skill we practice in the art room EVERY DAY), and confines the creative mess to one place. Best of all, it gets kids away from the computer and the TV!

Feel free to contact me via email or Class Dojo with any questions or concerns. You may follow art and music on Instagram @JCHainesart.

Artistically yours,
Ms. Hawkins Smith
kahawkins1@cps.edu

Technology:

In March, students from 6th through 8th grades will focus on learning new tinkering skills and techniques for commemorating Women's History Month. Students can work individually or collaboratively to create physical or digital media that celebrate stories of women. For instance,

students can choose to create audio documentaries, music videos, Scratch programs, 3D printed objects, paper craft, etc. about a female role model in their lives.

Fifth grade students are going to practice basic digital photography techniques in March and create simple stop motion animations. Third grade students are going to explore the virtual world of Minecraft to learn about design and construction with resources that have different properties. At the same time, students in small groups are going to continue with Nintendo Switch and Labo Toy-Cons such as piano and motorbike.

Nerding Out,
Mr. Tang
rytang@cps.edu



Above: Seventh Graders Creating a Stop Motion Animation for the expo title “The Great Migration” as a Pre-test / Interim Assessment

Music:

Spring is in the air and that tells us it’s “Music In Our Schools Month.” For over 30 years, March has been officially designated by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) for the observance of Music In Our Schools Month, a time of year when music education becomes the focus of schools across the nation. The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music.

To celebrate MIOSM, we are taking music outside of the music room and spreading it across our classrooms. Our very own talented eighth graders will perform for Kindergarten through third grade in their classrooms. This performance will not only brings joy to our younger students, but also sets a great example of how dedication and focused practice can make someone a life-long music maker.



This year the theme of MIOSM is “All Music All People”. You can support music in our schools during the month of March by changing your social media profile photos! Use the hashtags #MIOSM and #AllMusicAllPeople in your posts!

Download the logo here:

<https://nafme.org/programs/miosm/change-profile-picture-music-schools-month/>

Musically yours,

Ms. Kia

fmehrabkhan@cps.edu

Bilingual/ESL:

The ACCESS 2.0 assessments began at the end of January, and the testing window ended on February 21. A total of 194 students took the ACCESS assessments. Thanks to all the ACCESS administrators and the technology coordinator who assisted in the assessment process.

We will have our 4th Bilingual Advisory Council meeting (BAC) on Thursday, March 14, at 4:45-6:00 PM in the multi-purpose room. All bilingual students and their families are welcome to join us for a variety of Math activities.

Special thanks to Ms. C. Moy, Mr. Scherquist, Ms. Ruan, Mrs. Lei, Ms. Mei, Ms. Cheung, Ms. Liu, Ms. H. Moy, friends, lion dancers, students, and parents who represented Haines School in the *Chinatown Parade* that took place in Chinatown on Sunday, Feb. 10.



Linguistically yours,

Ms. Cheung

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