

West Ottawa Public Schools

3700 140th Ave
Holland, Michigan 49424
Phone: 616.786.2000
Fax: 616.786.2091



Macatawa Bay

Mike Fine, Principal—616.786.2099 Email: finem@westottawa.net
Linda Pinkham, Asst. Principal—616.786.2019 Email: pinkhaml@westottawa.net

January 13, 2012

Notes from the Principal

The A, B, and 3 Cs of Social, Emotional, and Academic Growth

What teens need for social, emotional, and academic growth and the development of sound character is well known and within the reach of parents to provide. These needs can easily be remembered as A, B, and the 3 Cs: Appreciation, Belonging, Confidence, Competencies, and Contributions.

Appreciation: Do not underestimate the importance of small gestures of appreciation to adolescents. Parents should give teens clear praise for trying new things and taking care of even small household responsibilities.

Belonging: Adolescents have a strong interest in belonging to groups in which they are able to be relaxed and do not feel pressured to perform under stressful situations. Parents should help their teens participate in local teams and take classes to build hobbies, but avoid overload.

Confidence: Teenagers' confidence can be eroded when they feel humiliated, either by real or exaggerated issues related to their appearance or relationships, or because teasing and belittling is a part of the culture of their school or peer group. Parents should encourage effort and follow-through to build teenager's confidence.

Competence: Doing well on assignments and projects, exercising leadership skills, initiating one's own actions, and working effectively in groups are important signs of social, emotional, and academic growth. To nurture teenagers' competencies, parents should help their teens build study skills and planning skills for projects, assignments, and household and family responsibilities.

Contributions: While teens appear to be self-centered, that does not mean they are selfish. Teenagers are eager to make contributions to the world that are meaningful and noteworthy, but few have a clear sense of how to take advantage of opportunities for doing this. Parents can involve teens in family charity decisions by encouraging gift-giving to those in greater need, and by modeling and encouraging community service.

This excerpt was taken from "The ABC's of Coping With Adolescence" by Maurice J. Elias, Rutgers University, Roger P. Weissberg and Evanthia N. Patrikakou, University of Illinois at Chicago

1/2 day of School Thursday, January 26

No School Friday, January 27

Calendar of Events

January

13—Anchor Function Night
23—Music Booster Meeting 6 pm
26—1/2 day of School Dismissal
11:07 am
27—No School

February

8—Student Count Day
10—Anchor Function Night
13—Music Booster Meeting 6 pm
14—Happy Valentine's Day
15—BBYA at HL
17—Anchor Function Night
21—Band & Orchestra Pre-festival
28—Choir Pre-festival Concert 7pm
28—BBYA at MB
29—Late Start Day
29—MSBOA MS Band Festival

Student Count Day

Student Count Day will be on Wednesday, February 8, 2012. Please be sure your child attends school on this day. If it's necessary for your child to be absent, please be sure to call the attendance line at 786-2009 to excuse the absence.

Lost and Found

The lost and found table is overflowing with sweatshirts, shirts, shorts, coats and other misc. items. Please feel free to come in anytime during the school day to look through the items. Any items left will be donated at the end of January.

Counselors Corner

We've been cruising in 8th grade, career cruising that is...

It's the time of year when we are wrapping up the 1st semester and beginning to think about high school registration. Part of the process includes going back to the Educational Development Plans (EDPs) which were started last year in 7th grade. This year we began the career cruising activity by going over the Michigan Career Pathways and then on to an interest inventory. Students were to choose at least 3 careers which connect to their interests. At the same time, the students viewed the careers for which they showed interest last year. On the career cruising website, information about education is available. Helping students think about their future assists them in planning such as choosing classes in high school.

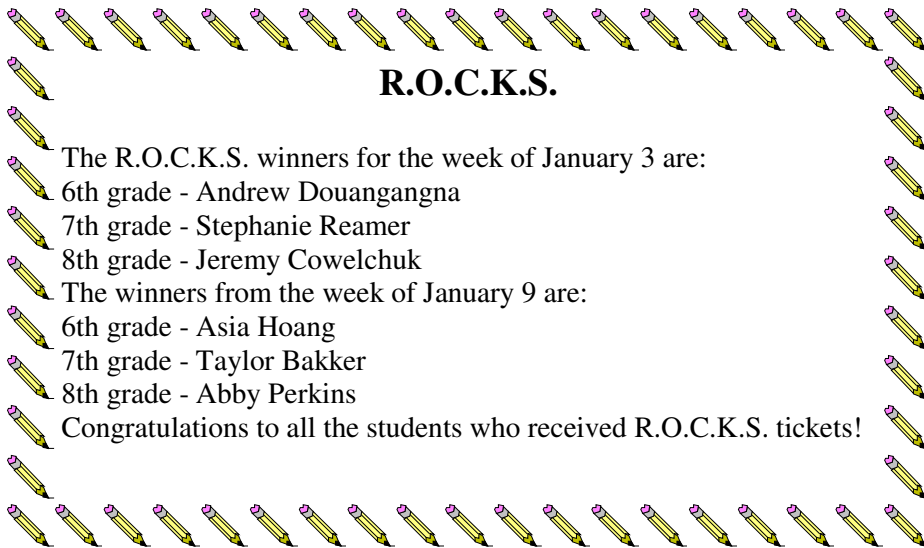
On day 2 of our cruising, students set both short term and long term goals. The students were able to view more careers, add information to their account, check education required for their careers and even take a learning styles inventory. Career cruising allows our students to focus on themselves and their future planning. It is a great tool to keep track of planning activities, volunteerism, jobs and information that can be used in high school. Check out what your 8th grade student has in their profile at www.careercruising.com.

The date set for an evening parent high school meeting at the south building is Feb. 23. More information will be coming. High school counselors and the principal will be meeting with our 8th grade students on Feb. 20 and scheduling will occur in March in our building with the counselors.

Cash for Class

Please shop at Family Fare and D&W on the following dates and raise money for Macatawa Bay. Use your YES rewards card and your purchase will automatically be credited to the school account. Thank you for your continued support.

Weeks of:
January 15, 2012
February 5, 2012
February 18, 2012



R.O.C.K.S.

The R.O.C.K.S. winners for the week of January 3 are:

6th grade - Andrew Douangangna

7th grade - Stephanie Reamer

8th grade - Jeremy Cowelchuk

The winners from the week of January 9 are:

6th grade - Asia Hoang

7th grade - Taylor Bakker

8th grade - Abby Perkins

Congratulations to all the students who received R.O.C.K.S. tickets!

Late Start Days

New this year to the West Ottawa schedule are Late Start Days. The last date for the school year is **February 29**. Teachers will use this time for Professional Development. On these days school will start at 9:50 am and classes will run a 2 hour delay schedule.

What does it mean to be an MYP IB candidate school?

IB is an acronym for International Baccalaureate and MYP is an acronym standing for Middle Years Program. The IB MYP program is designed to develop well – rounded middle school aged students who are academically, socially, and internationally minded. Macatawa Bay Middle School is proud to be an IB candidate school at the current time. This means that we are in the process of implementing the IB MYP components and structure within our school. Once we have the components and structure in place, we will become an authorized IB World School! The process of becoming an IB MYP school involves a lot of work by teachers and administrators and usually takes several years to achieve. Macatawa Bay is in the third year of implementation and will be visited by an IB MYP authorization team this Spring.

Check out this website if you would like more details: <http://www.ibo.org/>

Watch for more information to follow in upcoming newsletters and feel free to contact our IB Coordinator Mr. Olson (786-2117 olsont@westottawa.net) or our Principal Mr. Fine (786-2099 finem@westottawa.net) if you have any questions.

SECOND WINTER SEASON SPORTS

7TH & 8TH BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

When: January 23

Where: Harbor Lights Pool

7TH & 8TH BOYS WRESTLING

When: January 18

Where: Harbor Lights Balcony

7TH & 8TH GIRLS BASKETBALL

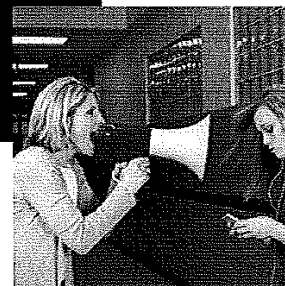
When: January 23

Where: Macatawa Bay Gym

A sports physical MUST be on file at the receptionist's desk BEFORE you can tryout or participate in a sport.

Calling all families with
pre-teens (10-14 yrs)

Are you struggling with communication?
Want to improve respect in your home?



Learn and practice being a strong family unit at the
**Strengthening Families
Program 2012**

Sessions for teens and parents, as well as family sessions!

FREE DINNER and activities for children ages 3-9

7 week Program

When: Thursdays, March 8, 15, 22, 29 April 12, 19 & 26

Time: 5:30-8:00pm

Where: Community Reformed Church

10376 Felch St, Zeeland, MI 49464



CALL NOW TO REGISTER!

Contact Julie Leeson @
616-396-2301 ext 145 OR
jleeson@pathwaysmi.org

"Recipients of substance abuse services have rights protected by state and federal law and promulgated rules. For information contact (Jeanette Hoyer at jhoeyer@pathwaysmi.org or 616-396-2301) or the Bureau of Health Systems, Division of Licensing and Certification, Substance Abuse Licensing Section, Recipient Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 30664, Lansing, Michigan 48909."