

Washington Township High School IMC
 Monthly Report
 April 2009

Teaching and Learning

Statistics

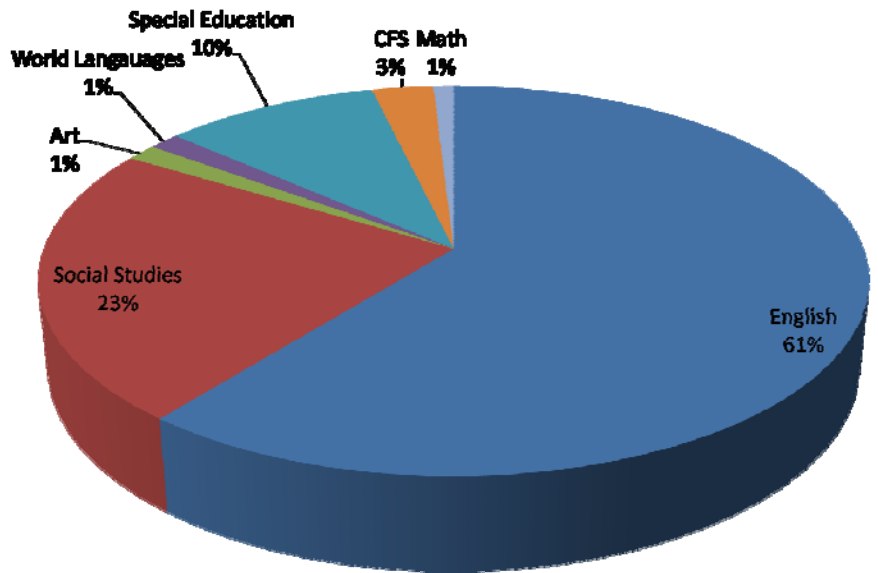
Classes

Consumer & Family Science	6
English	13
Math	2
Social Studies	49
Special Education	21
World Language	3

Total Number of Classes 214

Total number of students	6,238
Students with classes	4,066
Students with passes	1,845
Students after school	327

April Classes by Subject



Information Skills

April Highlights

The IMC gave students and staff many reasons to come to the library. The book sale, which featured books donated by faculty, staff, and students, attracted hundreds of book lovers who were looking to expand their own libraries. Conducted by the Student Book Club, the event raised over \$500 for First Book, an organization which provides books to underprivileged children.



Another crowd pleaser was a day-long discussion of the book *Twilight* by Stephanie Meyer which attracted hundreds of students throughout the day, including entire classes that came down to talk about this best-seller. Students were thrilled to be able to discuss this popular tome with fellow students and several different group leaders. Teachers, guidance counselors, librarians, and even students took turns at leading the discussions.



Information Literacy Lessons

Art

- The librarians guided Mrs. Cohen's Art classes in their search for paintings by 19th and 20th century artists. The students selected a painting to make into a weaving.

Consumer and Family Science

- Ms. Beck's classes researched genetic disorders by using the Pathfinder developed by the librarians.

English

- Mrs. Muscelli's English 9 classes researched the Elizabethan age for their class project. The librarians discussed search terms with them and explained how to use the Elizabethan Pathfinder, which the librarians developed, to find information about this time in history.
- Ms. Salvatore's English 9 classes selected a book for independent reading. The librarians pulled books of high interest and led the classes in a "Round Robin" to select those that they might want to read.
- Mr. Cullen and Mrs. McFadden's CPB 11 classes began work on their research papers. The librarians showed them how to find articles about controversial issues to support their thesis.



Librarians and teachers do not just collaborate in the classroom and IMC. Here Ms. Hill and Mrs. McFadden practice together for Washington Township Night at the Phillies when they will be throwing out the first ball. Not seen in these pictures is their coach, English teacher Jerry Cullen.

Social Studies

- The librarians guided Mr. Callaway's U.S. History II classes in using the Twentieth Century Pathfinder to locate images and information for their group presentations. They created collages which highlighted the important events in sports, entertainment, and history for the decade which they were assigned.
- Mrs. Carchidi's History classes used IMC resources, including video tapes, to research a particular decade of the 20th century. They then worked in teams to create a video project spotlighting the important events of that decade.
- Mrs. Valerio

Science

Special Education

- The librarians showed Mrs. McFadden’s Literature and Composition 12 classes how to create a PowerPoint combining their own personal history with research they found about the day they were born.

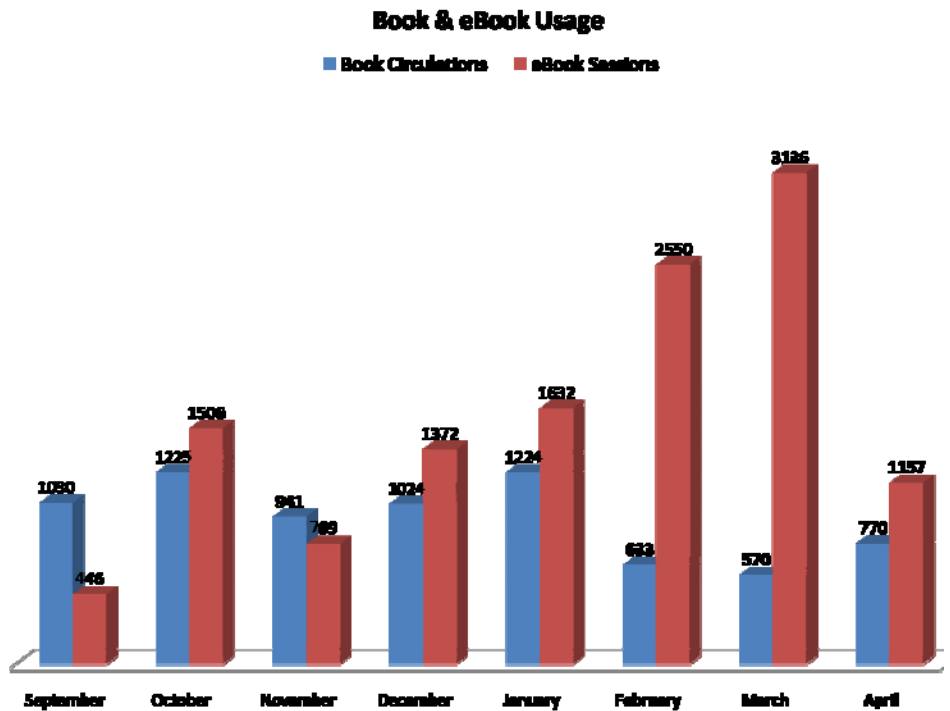
World Language

Information Access and Delivery Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out
2,027
Magazines/articles requested
98
Interlibrary loans requested
40
Interlibrary loans returned
26

Technology Update

Google Book Search was added to the catalog page because it allows students to search for books that are out of copyright that Google has scanned and added to its web site. The chart above shows how valuable eBooks have become to research conducted in the IMC and from home computers. The convenience of being able to print only the pages students deem necessary and the fact that multiple students can access each book simultaneously have made our collection of eBooks an important research tool.



Reading Promotion

The WTHS “Poet-tree,” which Library Aide Diane Hackett drew to celebrate National Poetry Month in April came to life as students and staff decorated it with leaves containing passages from both original and published poems. The poetry ranged from the whimsical to the serious, the inspirational to the comedic. All, however, reflected the interest that poetry that so many at WTHS enjoy.

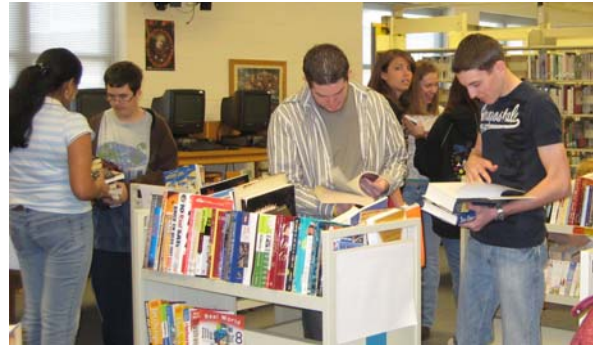


Diane Hackett, Library Aide, is shown drawing the Poet-tree which burst into bloom with student and staff musings.



Student Book Club

As stated in the highlights section, the Book Club began the month by hosting a Used Book Sale which raised \$500 for the non-profit organization First Book. The book club has been donating money to this charity that provides books for underprivileged children for the past few years, but \$500 exceeded all of their expectations.



The Book Club also met to discuss the April book *Sold* by Patricia McCormick. The book was written in free verse and tells the story of a young Indian girl who was sold into slavery. During this meeting the club selected officers and finalized the book schedule for the next school year. This schedule is now posted on the IMC homepage with a list of additional titles that have a similar theme.

Program Administration

- Stephanie attended the board meeting of the GCAVA where the commission discussed allowing schools to join the AVA individually instead of by district. This will allow larger districts such as Washington Township to select schools that use the services provided without paying for each individual student in the district.
- The monthly IMC newsletter was distributed to all WTHS staff to make them aware of the various programs that occurred in the IMC during the month. The newsletter also featured an article on Web 2.0 educational tools and on a website that provides access to documentary films.