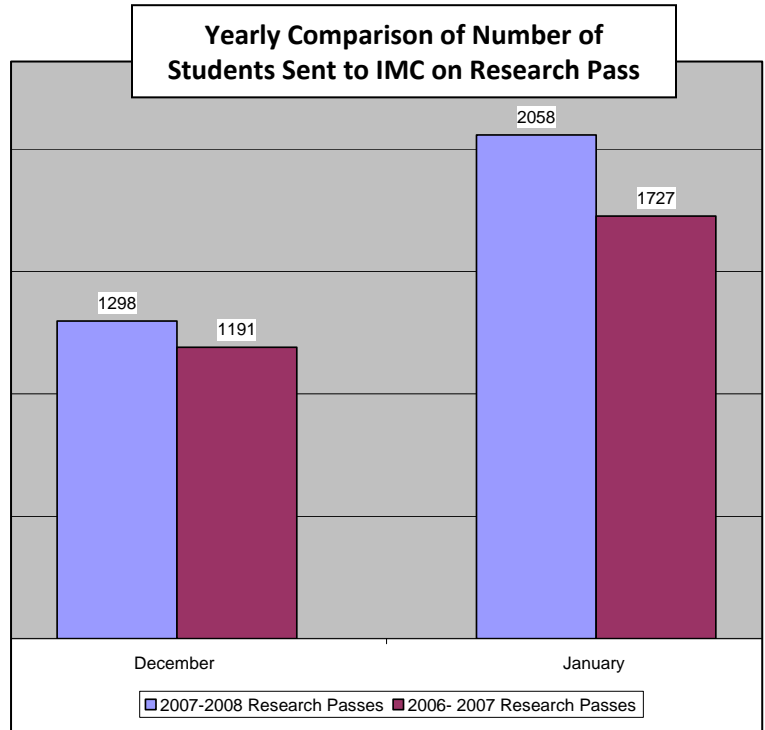


**Washington Township High School IMC
Monthly Report
January 2008**

Teaching and Learning

Statistics

Classes	196
Consumer/ Family Science	2
English	101
Physical Education	21
Science	16
Social Studies	50
Special Education	5
Visual/Performing Arts	1
Total Number of Students	6, 955
Students with classes	4, 348
Students with passes	2, 058
Students after school	549



January Highlights

Reading promotion was a big success this past month. The Nineteen Minutes book discussion included a record number of students and staff. This book about a school shooting and the effects it has on the town and its occupants, especially the students, was the basis of a lively and insightful dialogue. The topics ranged from teen bullying to parent involvement in their children’s lives to school and teacher responsibility to know what is happening in the school. The librarians are planning to have more of these joint discussions in the 2008-09 school year.



Information Skills

The newly purchased mobile laptop carts (COWs) to be shared with the English department have been a definite asset. In addition to being used by several English teachers in the classroom, the laptops have been a welcome addition to teaching in the IMC. The use of these computers in the IMC classroom has allowed students to work simultaneously with the librarian as a lesson is being taught. This hands-on approach is very beneficial to students and a time saver for the teachers and librarians. We are able to provide more one-on-one assistance which helps the students be more successful in their research projects.

Information Literacy Lessons

Family/Consumer Science

- Apparel students used the IMC resources to research a fashion designer for a presentation. The librarians demonstrated the use of Web Collection Plus and appropriate databases to gather information.

English

- English 9 students completed the wiki on Great Expectations. Students used the laptops to create and edit the wiki pages as the librarians guided the process.
- A variety of projects got underway in the English 10 classes. Some students used IMC resources for a Round Robin to choose an independent reading book. Others chose a book to read in order to set up a wiki for a book review. Research was done by still other students involved in a “music is poetry” Power Point project. Librarians showed the students how to use search strategies in appropriate databases to find information, and they also reviewed the various techniques of a Power Point presentation. Brochures and storyboards were provided.
- English 11 and 12 classes continued the research paper process.

Physical Education

- Health classes researched several topics. Power Point presentations were required for some students while others developed brochures. The librarians demonstrated resources needed for each topic and showed how to use Publisher or Power Point depending on the assignment.

Science

- The librarians demonstrated Publisher to the Astronomy students. Each student was then able to create a brochure on the satellite he/she had designed.
- Biology classes researched genetic diseases. The students were shown the Pathfinder on the IMC home page, and the librarians reviewed search strategies for the databases.
- Physical Science students created posters or trading cards on specific elements. Demonstrations were provided for Virtual Reference Library as a research tool and for Publisher as a tool for making the trading card.

Social Studies

- Crime was researched by the Sociology classes. The librarians directed students to the Pathfinder on the IMC home page and demonstrated the use of Historical Statistics of the United States database. Web Collection Plus was also reviewed.
- U. S. History I students used the IMC resources to find information on various genocides over the past 150 years. Web Collection Plus and appropriate databases were shown to the students as well as the MLA link on the IMC home page.
- U. S. History II classes created a newspaper based on the 1920s. In addition to the relevant resources needed to research the information, the librarians demonstrated Publisher.

Special Education

- English students participated in Round Robins to select a book for independent reading. Each student will work on a wiki after the book has been read.

Visual/Performing Arts

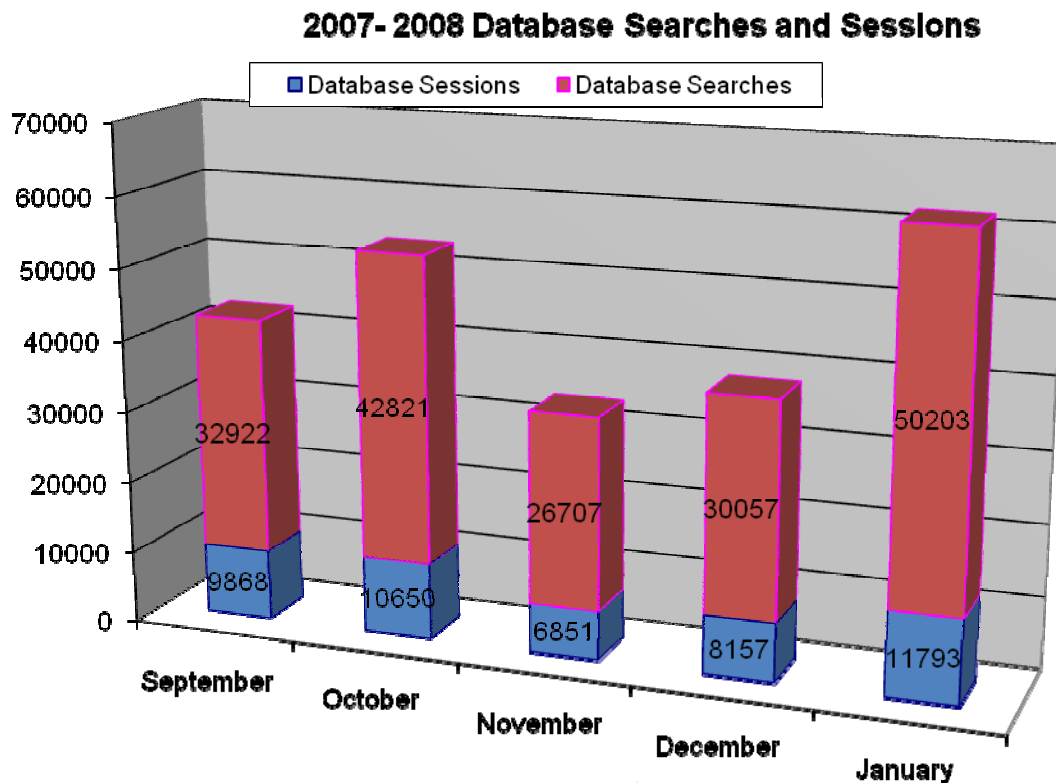
- Public speaking students used the IMC resources to find a speech for presentation. The librarians directed them to Web Collection Plus as well as online sources.

Information Access and Delivery

Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	2, 189
Magazines/articles requested	73
Interlibrary loans requested	35
Interlibrary loans returned	20
Online Database Sessions	11793*
Online Database Searches	50203*

* Numbers do not reflect at home access of online databases



January statistics show a sharp increase in the Database Searches conducted by WTHS staff and students. Databases are an integral tool for research for the 21st Century student since they provide the convenience of the Internet and the reliability of print resources. Students are taught search strategies for these databases during each IMC information literacy lesson.

Technology Update

- Placed monthly reports and the newsletters on IMC web page
- Updated Pathfinders for a variety of lessons
- Ordered Camtasia software, a program that will be used to create tutorials that will assist staff and students with the use of our online resources.
- Added additional ebooks and digital audio books to the collection and catalog.

Reading Promotion/IMC Displays

- Designed a “Give the Gift of Sight” bulletin board to promote the collection of eye glasses as part of the student book club project
- Displayed books promoting fantasy literature
- Created a video advertisement for the morning announcements publicizing the book discussion on Nineteen Minutes
- Sent invitations to the faculty and staff for the Nineteen Minutes discussion

Student Book Club

- Met with faculty book club to discuss Nineteen Minutes
- Organized fund raiser for author visit
- Discussed One Book Township, The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things by Carolyn Mackler, and set up pre-visit discussion dates before the author visit in May
- Distributed Book Bytes, the book club’s newsletter, to English classes and sent it for publication in the Principal’s Newsletter

Faculty Book Club

- Met with student book club to discuss Nineteen Minutes
- Set next discussion date (May 1) for the book Water for Elephants
-

Program Administration

- Ann Hill and Stephanie Gaughan attended a workshop on Microsoft Front Page.

- Stephanie Gaughan met with the English teachers to go over mobile laptop cart procedures.
- 2008-2009 IMC Budget was reviewed and submitted for approval
- The annual weeding of the collection for out of date print material is in progress.
- A notice about the “I Love My School Librarians Campaign” was sent to Social Studies teachers.
- The January Newsletter was distributed. This issue highlighted the Cambridge Collection Online database and spotlighted the new book and video arrivals. Articles on Sam Carchidi, the guest author for Read Across America, and the eyeglass collection campaign were also included.