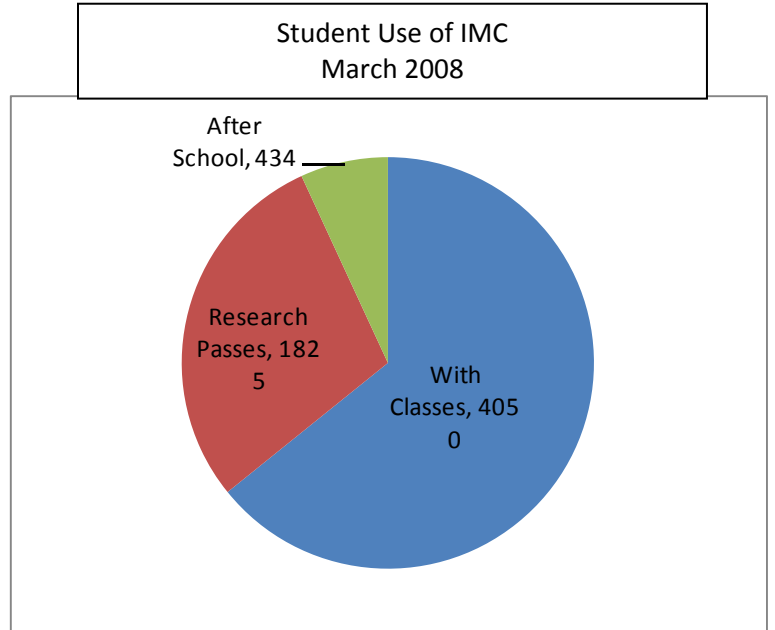


**Washington Township High School IMC
Monthly Report
March 2008**

Teaching and Learning

Statistics

Classes	191
English	109
Family/Consumer Science	4
Physical Education	10
Science	15
Social Studies	43
Special Education	7
Visual/Performing Arts	3
Total Number of Students	6, 309
Students with classes	4, 050
Students with passes	1, 825
Students after school	434



March Highlights



The IMC celebrated Read Across America with an author visit from Sam Carchidi, author of Miracle in the Making: The Adam Taliaferro Story and Bill Campbell: The Voice of Philadelphia Sports. Spellbound students listened intently to Carchidi's presentation the time and effort involved in writing a book as well as the mental and emotional elements that go into getting to know the subjects and their personal journeys. Afterwards, the audience got a chance to ask Carchidi questions and hear his comments on various topics related to writing. Many students commented that they thoroughly enjoyed the presentations and got a lot of useful information in an entertaining format. Lauren Finneran, a senior, emailed the following comment. "I just

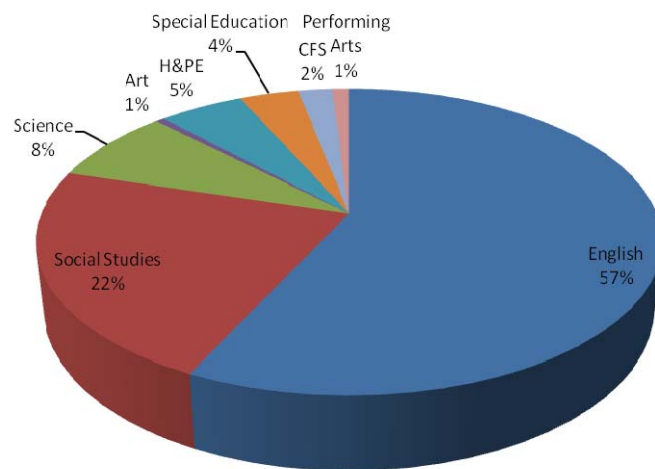
wanted to say that I really enjoyed Sam Carchidi's presentation. As a fellow journalist, it was really interesting to hear his stories and about the things that he has written. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to see his presentation and hear what he had to say!" We look forward to having more such visits.



Information Skills

Research papers continue to be the focus on classes visiting the IMC. Traditionally, English and Social Studies classes are the primary disciplines involved in academic research writing. This past month has seen a dramatic increase in other areas assigning such papers. Visual/Performing Arts classes and Family/Consumer Science classes joined the collaborative teaching process in this area. The students who have gotten the additional practice will definitely be better prepared for the rigors of college courses.

Information Skills Lessons by Subject
March 2008



Information Literacy Lessons

English

- English 9 students used IMC resources to research a song and its artist for a Power Point presentation. The librarians developed a Music as Poetry brochure and gave a presentation on the best web sites as well as the biography and magazine databases. Search strategies and MLA format were also discussed. The finer details of Power Point were reviewed.
- English 10 classes worked on wikis. The brochure Creating a Wiki was distributed, and the librarians modeled the process. The students were able to follow the process and create their own wikis using the laptops.
- English 11 students continued the research paper process

Family/Consumer Science

- Child care classes researched genetic disorders for a paper. After showing the students the Pathfinder on the IMC home page, the librarians demonstrated the Gale Virtual Reference Library to access ebooks. Also, the various types of resources were pointed out using Science Resource Center.
- Foods classes used the IMC to work on a recipe book.

Physical Education

- Drugs and alcohol brochures were the focus of health classes. Several relevant health databases were demonstrated as well as ebooks. Also, students were shown how to access and save photographs from AP Multimedia Archives. Librarians distributed Creating a Brochure and reviewed key points.

Science

- Chemistry students researched various topics to gather visual materials and lab experiments for a packet. In addition to demonstrating the various materials available on science databases, the librarians distributed a Science brochure.

- The Environmental Issues classes gathered information on genetic disorders for a paper. The students were reminded of the Pathfinder on the IMC home page and shown specific links.

Social Studies

- U. S. History I students were involved in Power Point presentations as well as research for Civil War portfolios. Presentations involving the Power Point included United Streaming, Learn 360, and saving versions for compatibility. Students completing the portfolio were shown the Civil War Pathfinder, and relevant Social Studies databases as well as ebooks were demonstrated. A Research Journal worksheet was also provided.
- U. S. History II classes researched the atomic bomb and World War II. The atomic bomb debate project involved demonstrating Opposing Viewpoints database and ebooks. Magazine databases were also reviewed. The United States at War database was shown to the students gathering information for presentations on World War II . Some classes conducted a Cold War scavenger hunt using IMC resources.
- World History classes researched specific countries for research papers. The librarians reviewed biography and magazine databases and gave demonstrations on the world history databases from ABC-CLIO and Facts on File. Students were provided with a World History brochure.

Special Education

- Special education students continued working on wikis for their book reports.

Visual/Performing Arts

- Art students used the IMC resources to find reproductions of Georgia O'Keefe paintings. Students were shown the Art Pathfinder, and the librarians demonstrated Gove Art Online.
- Guitar classes researched famous guitarists. After distributing the Guitarists brochure, librarians reviewed biography databases and the power search function of Web Collection Plus.

Information Access and Delivery

Statistics

Books/audio-visual checked out	1, 787
Magazines/articles requested	95
Interlibrary loans requested	27
Interlibrary loans returned	38

Magazine Articles

Each month, the IMC assistants email WTHS staff the table of contents from a variety of professional magazines then email the full text of articles that are requested to each individual teacher. This is a great service



that allows teachers to stay up to date with the most current news in education and their subject matters.

Technology Update

- Added new titles to the audio book collection with approximately 50 Playaways
- Began evaluation of video-on-demand programs

Reading Promotion/IMC Displays

- Celebrated Women's History Month with a display of books highlighting the careers of outstanding women throughout history
- Ran a contest for Women's History Month-Debbie Carchidi was winner
- Posted Leigh Anne Hall as winner of the Dr. Seuss Trivia Contest
- Showcased Playaways and Audio Books of popular titles
- Began organization of April 24 after school discussion of A Child Called "It" by David Pelzer as an activity in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Publicized a contest sponsored by the America Library of Poetry in honor of April as National Poetry Month

Student Book Club

- Discussed Looking for Alaska by John Green
- Organized discussion questions for April meetings on The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things in preparation for after school discussions taking place in April before Carolyn Mackler's May 9th visit.

Staff Book Club

- Publicized the May 1 discussion of Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen-check out the Book Clubs on the IMC web page for information about book and the discussion guide

Program Administration

- The March Newsletter was distributed. Social Studies web sites and new book arrivals were highlighted along with an article about high school graduates being prepared for college.
- A list of audio cassettes, CDs, and Playaways was provided to each staff member.
- An informational brochure on child abuse was distributed in preparation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Ann Hill, Stephanie Gaughan, and Karin Partridge attended the 2.0 Office workshop sponsored by the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative. This workshop demonstrated the integration of the Office software into library programs.