



# School District of West De Pere

## Board Update

*A Vision of Pride and Excellence*

March 2024

### HS Students Attend Workshop

In celebration of Black History Month, many of our students had the opportunity to attend the African Heritage Emerging Student Leaders Institute with their teacher Mrs. Dear. Our students were able to interact with college recruiters, explore career opportunities, and attend workshops on leadership and community engagement.



### Golden Apple

Carly Shier, Special Education Teacher at Hemlock Creek Elementary School, has been named a 2024 Golden Apple Recipient. Congratulations!



### HC Field Trip

Mrs. Roth's first grade class explored space and geology at the Barlow Planetarium.



### MS Basketball Tournament

Student-athletes from Syble Hopp and the Middle School came together for a fun, unified game of basketball. Many fans came to watch them play 3-on-3 basketball for a shot at a trophy.



### IS Creative Designs

During their library classes, 5th graders have been reading about insects and their surprising behaviors. They then used Hexbugs and created playgrounds for them.



### MS Dust Sparks and Smarts Club

The club participated in the Brown County Home Builders 2024 Backyard Getaway Contest. They took first in the people's choice category and second overall and received new tools as their prizes.



### HS FFA (Future Farmers of America)

National FFA Week was February 19-23. To celebrate FFA had themed dress up days and activities for staff and students. Such as; pajama day, dress like a cowpoke, flannel friday, free root beer floats, a teacher breakfast, and movie night.



### HC- American Heart Association

Congratulations to Liam M from Mrs. Hebl's 3rd grade class. His name was drawn to win a Warmie from the American Heart Association for raising \$100 during our recent Kids Heart Challenge. Liam was also our top fundraiser school wide raising over \$1200.



### Knights of Columbus Knowledge Contest

Every year the Knights of Columbus hold a Knowledge Contest in the areas of Spelling and Math for grades 5-8 throughout participating Brown County Schools. Two Middle School students placed in the top 5. Congratulations to David for his 3rd place in Math and 4th place in Spelling finish, and to Isaac for his 1st place finish in Math.



## DECA AWARD

High School teacher and DECA Advisor, Damian Uchendu has been selected to receive the Red Apple Advisor Award. He was one of eight top advisors. This award is to recognize chapter advisors for their dedication and commitment to students. Congratulations!



## Polar Plunge

19 HS DECA members participated in the Polar Plunge. It was cold but well worth it. In total they raised \$2500 for Special Olympics Wisconsin!



## Westwood/Syble Hopp Buddies

Morgan Vande Hey's classroom at Westwood Elementary School went to visit Syble Hopp School. While there, they made new friends at Syble Hopp, played in the Sensory Courtyard and explored different areas of the building.



## Safety Grant

The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of School Safety has awarded the district a digital mapping grant in the amount of \$16,600. Funds will be used to create a digital map of each building which is then shared with law enforcement.



## Stronger Connections Grant

The district has been awarded the Stronger Connections Grant in the amount of \$373,754. This grant is designed to support safe and healthy opportunities and environments district wide.



## Tundra Tool Slam

On Feb. 28 some of our district Library Media/Technology Integration Specialists presented at the Tundra Tool Slam at the Neville Public Museum. Area tech leaders shared technology tips and tools with teachers from over 20 area districts. Jen Wathke shared on Brisk, and Ashley Knapp and Nicci Verbeten shared tips on Canva. It was a sold-out event and a great night of collaboration!



## WEMTA Presentations and Administrator of the Year Award

Several members of our West De Pere Library Team presented at the Wisconsin Educational Media



& Technology Association (WEMTA) Conference in March. Presentations included: Secondary Library Passive Programming, The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Education, Creating a Family District Digital Safety Night, and Beyond the Bookshelf: Exploring Author Encounters. In addition, Dr. Jason Lau was recognized as the WEMTA Administrator of the Year for being a champion of school libraries. Congratulations, Dr. Lau!

## Freedom House

A group of West De Pere staff members have been working closely with the Freedom House to give them literacy support. Four teachers visited the Freedom House on February 26th to kick off their monthly visits. Mrs. Lutz, Mrs. Houlihan-Allen, Mrs. Kempen and Mrs. Wathke met with children and guardians to read books, play games, and simply build relationships with the Freedom House Community.



## Upcoming Events

- March 14- 5-6:30 PM- Westwood Math Carnival
- March 19- 6-6:45 PM Middle School Art Show in the commons
- April 18-20 MS Musical, *High School Musical* in the High School Auditorium
- April 22- 4:30PM- Westwood Student Extravaganza

