

MAKING WAVES AT DCS



Working for Change: Mill Creek Students Create Legislation Passed at Michigan Youth in Government Conference

In late November, a delegation of 12 Mill Creek students attended a three-day Michigan Youth in Government (MYIG) conference in Lansing with great success. Of the nearly 400 legislative bills presented at the conference, 27 were signed by the youth governor and 4 of them were written by Mill Creek students!

Michigan Youth in Government is a student-run mock government program that takes place in Lansing with students from around the state. Starting in September, Dexter students met each Thursday after school with Mill Creek history teacher Steve Wincent to learn about the legislative process and create their own bills for presentation on the capitol floor. The following student-created bills were signed by the student governor at the MYIG Conference:

- HB 222 (Amelia Stinnett): A bill to require that the Michigan government provides back-to-school supplies for low-income families.
- HB 626 (Eva Petrinko): A bill to ban the use of oil pipelines that go underwater, through wildlife habitats, and any area where life could be threatened.
- SB 215 (Dane & Andrew Barbaro): A bill that will mandate all new cars and passenger trucks sold in the state of Michigan will be zero-emission.
- HB 224 (Addison Allen-Grubb): A bill to ban all types of animal testing in the state of Michigan.

The conference featured aspects of government such as campaigning for office, the election process, committee hearings, special interest groups and general assemblies. And, though they worked hard, students also had the opportunity for fun, bonding activities after the closing banquet with a talent show, trivia, movie and games.

Mr. Wincent praised the students' leadership skills and their positive representation of Dexter Schools:

"Our students represented our community well as they interacted with hundreds of students from around the state while they participated in this mock government experience and enhanced their leadership skills. In particular, Aspen Taylor was selected to be a committee chair and led a group of students through bill debate and discussion. Also, Dane Barbaro won the award for Outstanding Senator in the White Senate!"

Congratulations and well done to these future leaders!