



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Crossroads School	Report Date: February 25, 2022
---	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment: 45	Intake:
Acceptances:	Disenrollments: 0
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: 2/14/22	Other (Specify Type): 2/28/22
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<p>Cristina Witte’s Middle School Classroom: Students and staff started this month celebrating the Chinese New Year by learning about the customs and traditions within Chinese Culture. We went on a treasure hunt to find Chinese good luck symbols and then to interpret their meaning. We also explored Black History Month and Valentine’s Day. We read about the impact famous people, such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks had on the Civil Rights movement. We also read the book “Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt” and made a classroom quilt.</p> <p>In preparation of Valentine’s Day, we learned about the origins of Valentine’s Day Cards and our students wrote letters to their parents. They chose kind words to describe their parents and how they make them feel. We also learned about sharing and giving. Each student gave a Valentine’s Note to another student.</p> <p>We celebrated our 100’s day of school with different activities counting by 10’s, all the way to 100. Throughout the day we did 10 sets of exercises and then counted them by 10. At the end of the day, we all did 100 exercises. We also baked 10 cookies and put 10 heart sprinkles on each cookie.</p> <p>Allison Gebler’s Classroom:</p> <p>The thematic unit focused on the many different February holidays and events: Black History Month, Dental Health Month, Groundhogs Day, Superbowl, Valentine’s Day, and President’s Day.</p> <p>In the area of Language Arts, students worked on their individual communication or language arts programs (ProloQuo2Go, core language boards, SRA, Edmark, and Webber Language/Communication). Our SRA group continues to grow and incorporate new students at different levels. This month we began teaching two groups simultaneously in two separate rooms. A huge thank you goes out to our para, Miss Dallas, for learning and implementing initial SRA lessons involving following directions and listener responding skills!</p> <p>In the area of Math, students practiced math concepts during activity schedules (counting objects, sequencing, matching, and identifying numbers). Weekly cooking lessons incorporated measurement, one-to-one correspondence, and the overall idea of cardinality during task completion. We were all very excited to celebrate the 100th day and Lyla has done an amazing job learning to count by 10s to 100 when informing her peers how many days we have been in school.</p> <p>In the areas of Science / Social Studies, students were introduced to Black History Month Heroes, during daily Morning Meeting. Related crafts were completed using step by step visual directions: Mae Jemison’s rocket, Billie</p>	

Holiday's microphone, Louis Armstrong's trumpet, and a bus for Rosa Parks. Students participated in real life uses of some great inventions of Black Americans.

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:

Special Events:

Staff and students participated in a multitude of student-centered Valentine's Day activities!

Staff and students actively participated in the 100th day of school celebration!

Black History Month was celebrated by students, families and staff as all parties created student videos and artistic demonstrations.

The Chinese New Year recognition and celebration was highlighted by multiple classrooms and therapy teams as a point of focus for the month of February.

Professional Development:



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Hillcrest Academy North	Report Date: February 25, 2022
---	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment: 86 Acceptances: 0	Intakes: 0 Disenrollments: 5 (EPS/Attendance)
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: 2/25/22	Other: Lockdown: 2/25/22

Curriculum and Instruction:
<p>Art returned to Hillcrest Academy North for the first time in a year. Students began with a construction project in bookmaking. Each was to design for needs according to the purpose and function of their books. The art history associated with the project included pages from the personal diary of Frida Kahlo, Da Vinci and Ed Hopper. Each utilized their personal journal for different ideas and mediums. Students chose specific papers that would suit their needs. For instance, if they planned to write, looseleaf was used. Those who preferred drawing or watercolor filled their books with the appropriate paper. Students modeled their books in the Japanese style, accordion or spiral. Bookmaking was a great introductory project because it was new to everyone, and served as a review of measuring, gluing and the process of design.</p> <p>Later in the month students began drawing still life. Still life helps develop observation skills and learn about composition or planning out where things go on your paper. This skill will be important in all future projects. Students were shown several ways in which to create underdrawings, how to use a viewfinder and will be refining, painting/shading their final drawings. Students are encouraged to work in their preferred style which could be anything from close to realistic to abstract.</p> <p>Algebra students working through the chapter of Systems of Linear Equations gave a lot of opportunity to solve realistic word problems and truly prevent a customer from being taken advantage of. Together as a class they explored when is best to use specific coupons, how many tickets need to be sold for fundraisers, gave advice as a financial consultant to new startup businesses and much more. The students used handmade graphs and Desmos.com to represent each situation graphically. Every graph was worth 1,000 words, providing enough information to be analyzed for the best calculated decision making. Overall, students have applied their Algebra skills to avoid being taken advantage of.</p> <p>In English, students started the month of February by learning four different types of conflicts. Students were really engaged in the lesson because of the use of relevant examples from movies and TV shows to illustrate different conflicts. Students demonstrated their understanding of conflict by choosing to complete either a Frayer model, draw a picture, or write a very short story based on one of the four conflict types. They then dove further into narrative elements by teaching setting, plot, point of view, symbolism, and the difference between the protagonist and antagonist</p>

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:

We have had a strong start to Semester 2! Through advocate meetings, we have identified students of concern and have followed up with these students through meetings and phone calls home. Additionally, we are in the process of having meetings with each senior to discuss their current status as well as planning for their future. The social worker will continue to follow up with these students to work on college applications and the financial aid process. The social worker has continued to have SEL groups weekly with all students– this month’s topics include social skills, time management, and goal setting. Additionally, the social worker checks the daily reflection forms and follows up with students as appropriate.

Professional Development:

HAN continues to train in integrating social-emotional learning activities into the classroom to help revitalize student commitment to math and ELA skills. Lessons in Success Seminar for this month continued to focus on the importance of self-reflection and how to effectively answer self-reflective questions. Our ScIP is facilitating our Advocate Program during PLC time once a week and has been successful with strengthening this program.



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Hillcrest Academy South	Report Date: February 28, 2022
---	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment: 77	Intakes: tba
Acceptances: 12	Disenrollments: 10 (9-refused to attend & 1 dropped out of high school)
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drills: 2/11/22 (10:45am)	Other: Lockdown Internal Threat 2/12/22 (10:30am)
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<p>Ms. Fernandez-Seajack's Algebra 2: Students were able to work on factoring polynomials. They first began with factoring regular trinomials into two binomials. Next, they were able to factor out the GCF before factoring completely. Then students were able to factor special cases like Difference of Two Squares, Perfect Square Trinomials, and Sum/Difference of Two Cubes. Lastly, students were able to divide polynomials using the Synthetic Division. Consumer Math began working with Borrowing money. Students worked with learning different types of borrowing like layaway, loans, and credit. Then students worked specifically on loans and the different rates, payment plans, and interests accumulated. Lastly students were able to compare and contrast different loan plans and were able to pick the plan that would best fit the situation.</p> <p>Ms. Ferrari's Mathematics: Students worked on utilizing the computer and scrap paper to solve algebra and geometry problems in preparation for state testing. They began with a Do Now that is a real-life word problem. The second was the day's lesson in which several examples were modeled for the students. Lastly the students completed practice problems about the day's lesson. The Do Now worksheets and lessons came directly from the concepts listed on the Consensus Map.</p> <p>Mr. Mah Essiet's Biology and Forensics: Students shared the topic of cell transport because it explained how materials are transported across the cell membrane to maintain homeostasis in humans and all other organisms. Students covered concepts in different areas of cell transport including passive, active, and bulk transport. On passive transport, experiments were conducted with food coloring and water, to demonstrate the process of diffusion of molecules from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration. It was easy to track the movement of food coloring molecules from the beginning of the experiment until an even distribution of the molecules was obtained at equilibrium. PowerPoint presentations and animated video clips from study.com and ck12.org were utilized to analyze the processes of facilitated diffusion, and osmosis. Students read passages from ck12.org and study.com on passive transport and completed all reviewed and practiced questions on each topic. Active transport resources from explorelearning.com, study.com, ck12.org, and PowerPoint presentations were used to analyze protein pump-assisted and ATP-dependent movement of ions and molecules against concentration gradients. Some concepts on the mechanisms of bulk transport were covered (steps of vesicle formation in endocytosis).</p>	

Ms. Arora's Forensic Science and Environmental Science:

Students first did a virtual lab on Microscope, and they learned parts of Microscope, how to use the microscope, set up the slides on 4x, 10x, 40x, and 100x. After that they made their own slide of an onion peel and cheek cells then set them up on a microscope successfully. In Forensic science students studied forensic entomology. In that unit they learned how insects can help in solving the mystery of death. They also watched Forensic files videos of detectives who solved the mysteries by just looking at the insects on the dead body. In Environmental Science, students researched different types of tides in the ocean and how they are impacted by the position of the moon.

Ms. Cioffi's English:

Courses focused on the following skills: theme, citing textual evidence, analyzing texts, and comparing two artistic mediums. Students first learned about themes, how to identify themes in videos, short passages, and a short story. To demonstrate their knowledge of the theme, students completed both a writing assignment and project. For the writing project, students read a short story and wrote a written response analyzing the theme by using the RACE writing method where they cited textual evidence, used transitional words and phrases, and analysis in their writing. English classes then worked on a children's book theme project where students created a theme of their choice and wrote and illustrated a children's book displaying that theme. Students then completed a final culminating theme writing assignment that also celebrated Black History Month and addressed SEL skills. Students read the poem *East 149th Street (Symphony of a Black Girl)* and watched the Oscar nominated short film *Hair Love*. Students then reflected on the similarities and differences in the two mediums. Lastly, students analyzed in a written response how both artistic mediums conveyed the theme of self-love using the R.A.C.E. writing method where they cited textual evidence, used transitions, academic sentence starters, and analysis in their writing.

Ms. Holden's classes:

In recognition of Black History Month, students in enjoyed reading and analyzing the poetry of two famous African Americans, Langston Hughes, and Maya Angelou. Students also read excerpts and viewed clips from *Gifted Hands*, the story of Dr. Ben Carson. In addition, students worked on either a slide presentation or a poster presentation dealing with a famous African American. Students continued to work on the content and skills of the curriculum for Unit 2. Students learned how to analyze characterization as well as determine the theme and author's purpose.

Ms. Wrzesinski's U.S. History I and Modern World History:

Classes demonstrated critical thinking and analytical skills through the evaluation of primary and secondary sources. Sources included artwork, primary and secondary texts, and audio/video elements. U.S. History I classes finished their unit about the Revolutionary War. Students examined the lives of Revolutionary War soldiers, the key battles and the impact/outcome of the war. Students then started their American government unit. Thus far, students have learned about the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Amendments, Bill of Rights, your rights as an American citizen, key Supreme Court cases, the branches of government and the idea of democracy and checks/ balances. Modern World History students completed their imperialism unit and started their WWI/ Russian Revolution unit. Students have learned about trench warfare, technological advancements, advantages/ disadvantages, causes of WWI: Militarism, Alliances, Nationalism, Imperialism, Assassination (MANIA). Criminal Justice started on 2/2/22 and students defined the different types of crime, the different motives for crimes and analyzed a "crime scene" by stating the type of crime, motive and what the criminal proceedings would be for that person.

Ms. Duarte's Economics:

Students began new units of study within their respective classes. In were able to understand the importance of budgeting through a budget project where they were given different incomes and had to make various decisions regarding housing, transportation, shopping, and so on. Students were able to walk away understanding the importance of staying within a budget as well as balancing one's wants versus their needs. In USII students began to explore the origins of WWII, the rise of dictators, and the spread of Nazism. These lessons served as a starting point to discussing current issues taking place with Russia and the Ukraine. In all, the subject matter has lent itself to real-life application and students are making great connections.

Mr. Barone's Physical/ Health Education:

Classes have continued learning about body systems, updates regarding the coronavirus pandemic and also were introduced to a unit at the Winter Olympics. Students learned about the history of the Olympic games, the history of specific sports and also some historical and cultural information about Beijing. The students really enjoyed the daily discussions and also enjoyed viewing some of the highlights and live events when we were able to view them. In addition, the students were able to participate in a Bean Bag Toss game against their classmates. Students now understand the rules of the game and also that strategy is a vital part of the game as well.

Mr. Peter's Physical/ Health Education:

students were shown multiple avenues to participate in activities to increase strength, increase flexibility, and take part in cardiovascular exercises. Students participated in workouts such as yoga, Pilates, meditation, cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility. All workouts were between 5-15 minutes in length and students answered a self-assessment at the end to score their efforts. Students also participated in leisure activities while in the building such as Cornhole, Ladder ball, and Kan Jam. We also had the luxury of learning about and watching the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Students learned about the culture of China as well as the multiple sports involved with the Winter Olympics. In Health, we continued to concentrate on the coronavirus pandemic. Students were kept up to date with current trends and events that were affecting us all. Everyone was constantly reviewing proper hand-washing techniques, proper face mask wearing, personal responsibility, how the virus is transmitted, and the social and emotional issues caused by the virus. Students also reviewed vaccines that are currently available and the multiple variants of the virus.

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:

Mrs. Schulhafer, the shared Hillcrest guidance counselor, continued to meet with students to review their credits and graduation concerns. February marked the change of the second semester, so schedules were modified for students who received a new semester course. The guidance counselor conducted numerous intakes for new students at Hillcrest South. She met with the students and their families to complete paperwork and review their transcripts. Mrs. Schulhafer also met with administration to prepare for the spring administration of state testing. Mrs. Schulhafer will continue to meet with students and address any academic or SEL concerns.

Mrs. Rubin, the school nurse, has been assisting with morning entry procedures, ensuring students are wearing masks correctly. One of our new students has diabetes and Mrs. Rubin is working with the student, the physician, the family and dietary to make sure that the student is getting appropriate meals and treatment. She provided the teachers with information regarding hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia. Mrs. Rubin has been calling the absent students daily to keep track of any illness, including Covid-19 related symptoms for reporting, and contact tracing. She has also provided the families with resources to get tested and vaccinated for Covid-19 in Union County. Mrs. Rubin keeps a spreadsheet to follow up with students who are excluded from school due to Covid-19 or Covid-compatible symptoms. Mrs. Rubin has been assisting with Covid-19 testing for the HAS staff who choose to be tested that takes place twice a week.

The HAS Community Service program (HASCSP) celebrated Black History Month and in recognition of this, held a food drive to benefit the Holy Trinity's food pantry in Westfield, NJ. This organization serves families in need throughout Union County and HAS students felt it important to help others that are struggling during this very difficult time. The HASCSP hosted its 10th annual Black History Month celebration to cap off our school's month of projects and activities. Both students and staff were able to enjoy a festive dessert and music, while reflecting on all that they had accomplished.

February's Overall Student of the Month-Jhosel Ciudad; Citizenship-Anthony Piedrasanta; Respect-Cris Osorio; Science Ms. Arora-Miguel Valencia; Science Mr. Mah Essiet-Heavenlii Romero; Health Mr. Barone-Jhosel Ciudad; Health Mr. Peters-Savannah Godoy; English Ms. Cioffi-Jaydin Freeman; English Ms. Holden-Heavenlii Romero; Social Studies Ms. Duarte-Kayla Mercedes; Social Studies Ms. Wrzesinski-Valerie Chacon; Mathematics Ms. Fernandez Siejack-Kamori Bray; Mathematics Ms. Ferrari-Jason Chumbiauca;

Professional Development:

Training was provided by Ms. Schulhafer at the faculty meeting on 2/24/22 pertaining to the upcoming state testing. There is a district professional development day planned for 3/18/22 and additional information will be provided at that time.



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Lamberts Mill Academy	Report Date: February 28, 2022
---	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment: 39 LMA Campus: 29 New Point: 10 New Point at LMA: 1	Intakes: 5 Acceptances: 3 Disenrollments: 2
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: 2/11/22	Other: Lockdown Drill: 2/15/22
Curriculum and Instruction:	
Administration:	
<p>LMA continues to see an increase in student enrollment</p>	
English Language Arts & Literacy:	
<p>We continue to work in our Unit II Narrative unit by exploring the various skills necessary to create and better comprehend narratives. With a focus on characterization, we viewed an array of short Pixar clips and described the various character traits throughout them in conjunction with written text as well. We practiced close reading with annotation and were able to see the theme and support it with textual evidence. Next, we have progressed with our writing through adding peer critiques based on the criteria we have been working on thus far this school year. We celebrated Black History month by learning about Maya Angelou and participating in a close reading of Langston Hughes' "Thank you Ma'am".</p>	
Social Studies:	
<p>World History has continued to explore the impact of the Renaissance looking at the Great Thinkers as well as the huge amounts of ideas and inventions of thought that changed many facets of society. A voting activity was held to rank the important thinkers and ideas - and how they might still impact our communities of today. History of the Arts has moved on to the works and ideas of ancient China. We have looked at the geography and lifestyles to learn how the art represented the people. WE also began our look at governing and the importance of the dynasty leadership.</p> <p>US History I started to look at the development of a middle class and the changes it caused in societies. Surrounded on by the Industrial Revolution it created a group of people who enjoyed a more improved lifestyle, while at the same time fearful that their position in society might weaken if their economy changed. Us History II completed its review of the New Deal - those programs put in place by Franklin Roosevelt to turn around the consequences of the Great Depression. Students were interested to note all the projects that still remain useful in our country even today.</p>	

Black History month was highlighted with two events. The first was a pair of learning days about the Tuskegee Airmen as we explored their birth and involvement in WWII. We evaluated the motivation to have a group of pilots of color, how they were trained, and the success they enjoyed in their bomber escort missions. A follow-up for the students was the watching and discussing of the movie about them - the Red Tails. The second event was a live presentation by NJ NAACP Council's State Education Chair, Tom Puryear. He reviewed the work of the organization, their local successes and plans for the organization going forward.

Science:

As the second marking period comes to a close, LMA students continue to adapt to meet their daily classroom expectations. Social and emotional learning forms continue to be incorporated at the start and end of class to enhance students' self-awareness of their ability to participate and/or what could stand in their way. Writing prompt activities with the support of videos to promote their opinion is another instructional approach to Do Nows. Science classes continue to utilize Newsela as a platform for SGO's and students are reading passages related to their study of science. Their reading comprehension is assessed with a multiple-choice quiz; it consists of four questions and their performance is documented. Current events in the field of science are also incorporated as an instructional piece to encourage students' interest in our evolving world. In honor of Black History Month, science students were exposed to a variety of scientists and inventors through videos and reading passages; both with writing activities.

In environmental science, posters created by the students were shared with their peers of a nonrenewable or renewable resource of their choice. The focus of the research is not limited to the following: but includes, how the resource is formed, how it is used, advantages, disadvantages, interesting facts, and their opinion of the resource based on what was learned. In biology, students completed a cereal project showcasing an African American inventor. For this project, an outline was also provided of the required information to research and display it in different ways on the cereal box. Students had to include graphics, a catchy slogan, a clever cereal name, games to represent interactive games to convey content about the inventor. In lieu of nutritional facts, students had to research childhood, career achievements, and education. A student also created a 'rap' which exhibited each student's scientist's contributions to society and a video was created. The chemistry students have been learning about nuclear chemistry and Marie Curie, a famous scientist in the field of radioactivity and the first female and only recipient of the Nobel Prize in two different sciences. The marine biology students have been learning about Alfred Wegner and his contributions to prove his continental drift theory.

Mathematics:

Students in all mathematics classes celebrated Black History Month by learning about the famous mathematicians working for NASA during the 1960's "Space Race" outlined in the film, *Hidden Figures*. Students saw firsthand what it was like to work at NASA as an African American woman, and talked about how it made them feel, along with their contributions to NASA and society. This discussion, and film will also serve as a transition into next month for Women's History month.

Consumer Mathematics students continue to learn about different types of investments including savings accounts, certificates of deposits, and just started to learn about the stock market. Students in Consumer Mathematics are continuing to get real world experience by planning their futures and learning about different investments for both short- and long-term goals in their life.

Students in Geometry spent the month of February learning about different types of transformations in the coordinate plane system. Learning how to rotate, reflect, dilate, and translate different points, and shapes on the coordinate plane has been the core of the month. Students have enjoyed using art to perform different transformations to different shapes and images on the coordinate plane, along with determining rules for different transformations to preimages and post images.

Finally, students in Algebra classes have been learning the multiple steps of factoring different types of

polynomials, and how to keep track of a multiple-step problem. Students have been getting practice using different types of visual strategies including ‘chunking’ the problems into smaller steps to help check their work, and to check the steps of their work.

Spanish:

This month students in Spanish class have been getting experience by researching “Afro-Latinos” celebrating Black History Month and working on finding Latinos who made big contributions in the United States who have African descendants, like “Celia Cruz”, along with using different Spanish vocabulary to write stories about their findings. Students took a Pre-assessment about the family unit to measure what students know and what they need to accomplish at the end of the unit to enhance their learning. Individuals enrolled in Spanish have been spending time working on “Duolingo”, the online language learning platform helps the students to practice different learning techniques to make the language experience more fun and effective in addition to what is being taught in Spanish. Students are learning how to practice vocabulary, listening, reading, and writing along with all the different pronunciations associated with them. While students are practicing vocabulary, having them work on reading and writing has shown them how creative they can be on their stories. Finally, in the area of social emotional learning, students have been exploring the reading and writing process working on sentence structure about different families in Spanish, using the “Que tal” magazines.

Physical Education and Health:

In Physical Education, students are still getting the opportunity to get their sweat on thanks to the wonders of the internet. Students are being shown multiple avenues to participate in activities to increase strength, increase flexibility, and take part in cardiovascular exercises. Students are participating in workouts such as yoga, Pilates, meditation, cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility. All workouts are between 5-15 minutes in length and students answer a self-assessment at the end to score their efforts. Students also participate in leisure activities while in the building such as Cornhole, Ladder ball, and Kan Jam.

We also had the luxury of learning about and watching the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Students learned about the culture of China as well as the multiple sports involved with the Winter Olympics.

In Health, we continue to concentrate on the coronavirus pandemic. Students are being kept up to date with current trends and events that are affecting us all. We are constantly reviewing proper hand-washing techniques, proper face mask wearing, personal responsibility, how the virus is transmitted, and the social and emotional issues caused by the virus. Students are also being educated about the vaccines that are currently available and the multiple variants of the virus.

LMA Clinical Department

The month of February was a great month for staff and students at LMA. This month in Life skills we targeted the theme of cooperation and Black History Month. Our students have immersed themselves in this topic and were very enthusiastic during discussions and group topics.

With Black History Month and cooperation as the focus students engaged in a schoolwide project where we explored leaders, storytellers, performers, and modern-day heroes. Students worked collaboratively and were encouraged to share the works and stories of the individuals/group of individuals of their choice. Additionally, students have been encouraged to participate in any way they feel comfortable such as submitting a photo, video, poem or story that embodies the importance of Black History Month. Each life skills group proved to be quite successful with this collaborative project!

--

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:
--

--

Professional Development:

--



Union County Educational Services Commission Superintendent Report

School/Department: Nonpublic Services	Report Date: February 25, 2022
--	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment as February 25, 2022:	
Total Comp Ed Services: 1071	Acceptances: N/A
Total Supplemental Instruction Services: 494	Intakes: N/A
Total Speech Services: 183	Disenrollments: N/A
Fire Drill: N/A	Other: N/A
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nonpublic Services Department continues to process orders for the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools program (EANS). Nonpublic School Textbook, Security and Technology orders are being reviewed and processed. The Nonpublic Nurses are assisting in maintaining student health records (A-45) and completing specific screens for students' grades k-12. 	
Community Based Instruction and Special Events:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to monitor the nonpublic schools our staff are assigned to ensure that each nonpublic school is adhering to the health and safety guidelines as outlined by the NJDOE in <i>The Road Forward</i>. 	
Professional Development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonpublic staff completed shared activities for chapter five of the PLC book, <i>I Wish My Teacher Knew</i>, by Kyle Schwartz. 	



Union County Educational Services Commission Superintendent Report

School/Department: Technology	Report Date: February 28, 2022
--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
N/A	
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: N/A	Other: N/A
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with DVP, HBC & Structured Network Solutions on L&T network infrastructure - Apple environment planning for Crossroads - Jamf planning - Incident IQ planning - VMWare reconstruction vs cloud server model planning - Alyssa Law implementation for new sites - Ring doorbell installation and configuration - E-Rate form 470 creation and certification - Wireless network troubleshooting @ L&T - VoIP procurement for L&T - L&T IT infrastructure build - VoIP replacement planning - Peripheral (projectors, wireless adapters, phones) procurement for L&T - Phone administration for LMA, HAS 	
Community Based Instruction and Special Events:	
Professional Development:	



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Transportation	Report Date: March 2, 2022
--	-----------------------------------

Enrollment:	
N/A	
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: N/A	Other: N/A
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<p>Nonpublic school transportation applications (B6T's) are due in the student's resident district by March 10, 2022. The nonpublic schools are responsible for the timely submission of the application to each student's resident district. Reminder notices were sent to each nonpublic school by the Transportation Office on February 23, 2022.</p> <p>The next on-site school bus inspection is scheduled for March 11 & 14, 2022. The inspection team feels that two days are needed for inspection. The second day allows for re-inspection and a higher approval rate.</p>	
Community Based Instruction and Special Events:	
Professional Development	



Union County Educational Services Commission Superintendent Report

School/Department: Westlake School	Report Date: February 28, 2022
---	---------------------------------------

Enrollment:	
Current Enrollment: 54 Acceptances: 0	Intakes: 4 Disenrollments: 0
Emergency Drills:	
Fire Drill: 2/28/22	Other Shelter in Place: 2/9/22
Curriculum and Instruction:	
<p>Mr. Carten's Class: Math: Group A students are on number identification. Group B students are working on multiplication. Currently students are working on the 5 times table. Functional money skills are being developed for true life experiences. Science: The students are very excited to start a science unit discussing the Digestive system. Students watched a video showing how the digestive systems worked. The food was put in the mouth then chewed up. The saliva in the mouth helps to push the food down into the stomach. Special juices help mash up the food. Next, the mashed food goes into the small intestine. This is where the food mixes with more juices from the liver and pancreas. Language Arts: Students have started a new novel called the Secret Lake, by Karen Inglis. The plot starts out with a brother and sister duo Tom and Stella. The story is set in current day London, England. Their home is located in a section of London where the homes share a community garden. The gardener is a very mean-spirited man named Charlie Green. He does not allow the children to play or dig up the garden. In Food Prep students participate in making healthy snacks. This month along with Mrs. Palmer's class we made homemade pancakes, scrambled egg wraps, and French toast. The students follow the recipe and measure out all the ingredients necessary to make the project a success. The students are given questions to complete from the recipe of the week. Social Studies, the students are covering a unit on current events. The students are doing research on famous Black Americans discussing all the wonderful contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and society. We continue to study the US States. This month we covered the states of Idaho, Illinois, and Indiana.</p>	
<p>Mrs. Convery's Class: This month, we have been studying Black History by researching famous African American inventors, such as Garret Morgan and George Washington Carver. The holidays of Groundhog Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, the 100th Day of School and President's Day were also covered. February is a very busy month! We have</p>	

utilized print material, online Scholastic magazines, audio books, videos and google slides presentations to learn something new about each topic we studied. Students continue their study of sign language and money skills for SGO's. Students have made progress in both of these areas. We have purchased and utilized new task boxes for our vocational class. Students have gotten right to work on these more complex jobs. The students have also done two outside packaging jobs in collaboration with the Workplace Readiness program. The first job consisted of preparing orientation folders for Children's Specialized Hospital. For the Sharing Network, students count and package lip balm in sets of 25 and tissue packets in sets of 20. Our class also helped prepare and deliver the over one hundred and fifty candygram orders taken by our own vocational program. These jobs provide variety, help to expand the students' skills and give them a sense of pride in being able to help others. Our classroom vocational program continues to make dog biscuits to sell to the staff here at school. Mrs. Palmer also brought them to the Commission offices for the Valentine's Day sale. Our personalized chocolate bar business is back and running. Perhaps there is a chocolate bar in your future!

Mrs. Fernandez's Class:

In Language Arts, students are learning to use different prepositions and how to identify them. In math students continue facts of ten and how to solve problems based on previous knowledge. They are also learning what "one more" and "one less" means and using number lines to answer different math related questions. Individually, students have continued to work on their specific programs such as: 1:1 correspondence, touch math, money skills, matching, and sorting. In Social Studies students are learning about influential African American musicians. Students are studying music through the decades and comparing and contrasting different music from different time periods. In science students are learning how to create and problem solve like an inventor. They are studying African American Inventors whose inventions have changed our lives and how we live. SEL students are viewing different problem scenarios and discussing how they would feel in those situations and how they would effectively problem solve. Our dance team shined in our Valentine's Day performance. Students worked so hard organizing practice times, inventing choreography, and putting together a beautiful performance at the school dance.

Mrs. Pajewski's Class:

During our morning meeting, we review the calendar, reading/language, writing and math skills. Some skills we touched upon have been long o, counting by 5's and 10's and problem solving. In math the students are separated into small groups according to ability. JM and AG are currently working on higher level skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication). **AG** has been introduced to 2-digit multiplication and single digit division. **JA** has been introduced to touch points to help him with addition and subtraction. The other students are working on basic skills of (counting, sorting, classifying and number identification). **WA** has been doing well counting to 10. Together we have focused on tally marks/graphing and identifying/counting money. All students seem to be doing well identifying coins and/or counting coins. In reading AG and JM are focusing on comprehension skills (Edmark level 2 and Reading for Comprehension series) WA, JG, CV & GR are familiar with the first 6 words from Edmark Functional word series. JA and GR have completed the first 11 lessons in Edmark level 1 and are doing well. Together we have read the story The Mixed-up Chameleon and Rainbow Fish using Edpuzzle.com. Social Studies topics have focused on holidays and Scholastic magazine. Our magazine topics have included Inventors (Black History), House Made of Snow (igloos) and Young George (Presidents' Day). For science we continue to use Mystery Science. We have completed the topic Animal Superpowers and a mini unit for Valentine's Day The heart. Students have participated through videos (with our guide Doug) experiments and worksheets. This month students enjoyed a Valentine's Dance.

Mrs. Palmer's Class:

We have had a busy and very productive month. The students are happily delivering the lunches. It makes them feel important. Several of them could set up the lunches without my assistance. The class went to the Commission to sell valentine candy and really enjoyed being out of the building. OR finally got his vaccination so he can come next time we go. The students have also gone around the school to sell candy and we sold all our valentine candy. On Valentine's Day the students learned how to make edible arrangements. We dipped strawberries in chocolate and placed them on the cupcakes. The students are getting ready for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. They have started to make the candy for those holidays. Since it is Black History month the students have read about famous black Americans and watched several very interesting videos. In science they finished a unit on the circulatory system. They made valentines to their heart and counted their own heart beats. In Language Arts the students are reading the book Report to the Principal's Office.

Ms. Porchetta's Class:

This month has been very busy so far. With so many holidays within it, February leaves no shortage of celebrations. We also welcomed the return of our vocational program. Our students are working on various activities in the Bead Shop. We continue to add new materials and will soon produce products for sale. In reading and math students have been working on their individual programs. Progress is picking up now that materials have been created and student attendance is more consistent. In social studies we learned about why we celebrate Black History Month. Our students and staff had a chance to choose a person they admire and tell us why. This was an amazing activity as we all learned something new. In science students learned about the needs of living things with a special focus on the groundhog. In order to maintain our skills in the community, we took a virtual trip to Super Target. We toured the aisles, completed a shopping checklist and discussed safety in the store as well as walking to and from our car or bus. This lesson was highly motivating for our class.

Mrs. Robles's Class:

The students all enjoyed the Valentine's Day dance. They had a lot of fun both listening and dancing to the music and seeing some of their peers. The students are also enjoying pizza lunch Fridays. The pizza is a vast improvement on the lunches that are sent on the other days of the week. The students all enjoy the ADL activities with Ms. Alison 4 mornings a week. There is always something interesting to do; following picture directions to make a sandwich, use a picture list to match grocery store items, practice pouring from a pitcher into a cup and many other practical daily living skills. The class continues to work on shapes by completing a number of art projects. We also work on shapes with a bingo game printed from the internet. The students enjoy cooperatively playing bingo games. A new one that is becoming a favorite is an insect bingo game. The students enjoy watching stories on the smart board screen. This allows them to come up to the board to use the pictures to answer questions.

Mrs. Shaw's Class:

Reading / Language Art:

By celebrating Black History Month, the students read a story about legendary baseball icon Jackie Robinson and learned about his life and his role in the Civil Rights Movement by completing activities. The students enjoyed reading the story of Love Monster and the Last Chocolate and worked on how to summarize a story using a SWBS (Someone, Wanted, But So) organizer. Math: The students are working hard on their math goal this month. TP started understanding the concept of subtraction with borrowing. NA also started showing improvement on counting sums of coins and bills. JA and JN made great progress on addition and subtraction using Touch Math strategy this month. Social Studies: Students had a great discussion on the Winter Olympic and learned about the Chinese / Lunar New Year. The students started off learning geography of China and learned how traditional ceremonies are held where people get together and welcome the new year with customs that shall bring good luck, good fortune, wealth, prosperity, and happiness.

Science: Students worked on how animals adapt in cold winter. The students learned that adaptations are any behavioral or physical characteristics of an animal that help it to survive in its environment and also learned that various animals such as polar bears, arctic foxes, walruses, arctic hare, and snowy owls have many different ways of trying to stay alive in their environment.

Vocational:

This month, the vocational department has been busy with special projects. Several students made photocopies and prepared folders for the volunteers at the Children's Specialized hospital. Students had to remain organized and work as a team to prepare the packets correctly. Some of the pages were stapled together and had to be placed in a specified order. Our second service activity was to package Chapstick and tissues for the Sharing Network. Students were required to pay attention to detail to package the items correctly. We will continue this project during the month of March. We had a very successful candy gram sale this month for Valentine's Day. This task involved a variety of work levels. Students were able to help design the candy gram and make photocopies. The copies were stapled together and counted out for each staff member and student. Students then counted and packaged 10 chocolate kisses in a bag. The candy gram cards were cut out, hole punched, and tied to the bags. Students separated by classroom and then delivered them on Valentine's Day. Students collected, made change, counted, and organized the money.

Mrs. Sandrock – Counseling:

Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness and Social Skills comprise the four core skill areas of emotional intelligence (EQ). In an effort to raise these levels among our student population, social and emotional group lessons continue to be presented weekly to each class. Utilizing projected read aloud books to better understand one's own brain function and mood, such as "Your Fantastic Elastic Brain" by Joann Deak, & cut and paste worksheets about the human brain to learn where emotions come from, while other students continue to build upon their competencies by utilizing flashcard to identify facial expressions and body language. IEP meetings have been held with Districts and parents. Communication with teachers and support staff has been ongoing to assure student needs are met when planning ahead. Parental, as well as District level concerns have been focused on securing a timeline for increasing CBI programming and vocational opportunities for students in order to apply their emerging skills outside of their classrooms and school building. Districts and parents are anxious for their students to return to the 1571 Lamberts Mill site for the vocational programming previously offered there. Individual counseling sessions mandated by their IEP are held to improve school functioning. With a number of school-based supports some students have increased their daily attendance since returning to in-person learning. Many students have some degree of difficulty with interpersonal peer relationships which can interfere with school functioning. Giving students the opportunity to express themselves often helps deescalate potential situations. Numerous families are being assisted by the social worker with Perform Care and DDD applications. Many parents report feeling overwhelmed when faced with additional paperwork that requests timely documentation for application consideration. Several families are in the process of securing legal guardianship and turn to the school for assistance with the matter. In addition, QBS behavioral "Safety Care" training was attended in-person for certification on Feb 7, 2022 in an all-day workshop at the Lord and Taylor site. The UCESC Social Worker meeting was attended. "SEL Day" assignment due for next month is in progress.

Mrs. Caputo – Art:

February is a busy month for art class! We began the month by making painted papers to be used in artwork throughout the rest of the year. Students turned a corner of the Cafegymnasium into a true art studio as they freely painted with tempera on paper. There were three stations (warm, cool, and neutral) that students could rotate through. Each station had a variety of paintbrushes, rollers, cookie cutters for stamping, scrapers, and bubble wrap. Students were encouraged to experiment with color mixing and textures as they made their papers. The following week, students used these papers to create Jim Dine inspired heart collages. They selected two painted papers. On one paper, students traced large, medium, and small hearts. They then glued them onto another paper and added marks with construction paper crayons. This assignment reinforced the idea of repetition, texture, and layering in art. Westlake students were then inspired to make a "Beautiful Blackbird" like the author/illustrator Ashley Bryan as a way to celebrate Black History Month. They watched a video of the artist as he spoke about his technique and the meaning of his artwork. Each student made a beautiful blackbird collage of their own. Students finished out the month with a snowflake painting. They looked at the photography of Wilson Bentley as they made geometric snowflake drawings. Students then completed their crayon resist paintings by using cool colored watercolors over their drawings.

Mr. Shanfield – Physical Education & Health:

February is full of learning opportunities and activities for the students to engage in. This month, during Physical Education class the students were introduced to a new pattern/schedule structure for class. The students come into PE, and we have a "check in" conversation to see how everyone is doing/feeling including the staff. It is important for me to know where everyone is so we can be mindful of possible motivators or distractors that are happening in their lives. After we do the mindfulness "check in" discussion I then gauge if we should do some guided meditation, or we should go into our PE daily routine. The daily routine this past month has been walking/jogging/gross motor movements around the track, then the students meet in the middle of the class for an exercise/stretching routine. Once the exercise and stretching routine is over, we have been playing variations of kickball, hula hoop tag, cone field, frisbee baseball and scooter activities. At the end of class, we always participate in a team cheer! Black History Month: During Health class the students have been engaging in learning about Athletes who have and had a positive impact on social equality along with performing exercises that would increase their cognitive abilities to answer questions based on information in the videos. Valentine's Day Dance: We had an amazing Valentine's Day Dance in two sessions. The students had the opportunity to help make the playlist for the dance. Lauren Fernandez coordinated the dance team, and they performed an amazing dance for Westlake during both dances. Then we had students have us perform in a sing along, which was amazing!!! Boy Scouts Update: We are in the process of having the Pinewood Derby in March. The cars are

already designed for them. Once the cars are dropped off at Westlake the Boy Scouts from Troop 1571 will be able to paint and design them.

Behavior Department:

This month, assessment, and program assistance of teachers, as well as observation of students and creation of new behavior strategies and interventions has begun to pick up at the end of the month, as staff absences and coverage constraints have decreased. RBT Jen has been attempting to collect data sheets and input as time allows, when not assigned to a student. Behaviorists developed and carried out Professional Development training on the AFLS online program for all Westlake staff. This training occurred on February 7 and was done remotely. In addition, RBT Jenn Pavlik (along with Tim Fitzgerald) trained Westlake's new staff as well as assisting with LMA staff alongside Anna Kuzdraj. All staff updates have now also been inputted into both QBS and district records from trainings that have occurred this year. Behaviorists were allowed the opportunity to complete a ½ day remote training to earn needed CEUs to maintain BCBA certification. This training was on Autism, stereotypy, and Anxiety—supporting adaptive behavior. Crisis support as well as additional assistance/strategy implementation has continued to be needed for several students this month: AF, AR, WL, OB, RS, and MM. Additionally, Behavior Intervention Plans have been updated for students SS and AF who had annual IEPs this month. 1:1 rationale were written after requested by Edison case manager, AY-C, for DVO & AL. Behaviorists have participated in several intakes this month, and have begun pulling potential students to observe, assess and work with the student while the Principal or SOI meets and tours with family and case manager. This has been effective in two ways: allowing for additional information on the student to gage his/her ability and appropriateness for Westlake, as well as to provide the parent with an opportunity to participate in the intake without having to monitor his/her child simultaneously. Parent contacts, via remote, in-person and via phone continued this month as needed both via phone and via email, including with parents AR, WL, BW, AL and AF.

Occupational Therapy:

February has been an exciting month in occupational therapy. We are busy assessing and getting to know students new to Westlake School. We are so happy to have them. We are also working to increase independence in our students by addressing sensory needs. We are incorporating obstacles courses for bilateral coordination, deep pressure for calming, and sensory diets in order to access the sensory system throughout the day. Students are working on activities of daily living in order to take care of their hygiene and safety needs. Students also used their fine motor skills to make Valentine's Day Cards for people they care about and were encouraged to show kindness to those around them. Students also cut and pasted booklets about Groundhog Day. They were happy that the majority of the students were correct and voted that spring was on its way based on the NJ groundhog. We are looking forward to warmer weather and the spring bloom!

Speech Therapy:

This month we continued to collect data to ensure students will meet their SGO. We conducted speech groups to address students' pragmatic goals. We worked on maintaining conversations by asking questions, making follow up comments and giving compliments. We spoke about diversity and acceptance and discussed influential black individuals for black history month. Other thematic units that were addressed this month revolved around Valentine's Day the Lunar New Year and Groundhog Day. Students worked on making predictions when discussing Groundhog Day, tried new foods, and talked about various traditions when discussing the lunar new year and socialized at the Valentine's Day dance. As a department, we also watched two webinars relevant to our field on our professional development day.

Physical Therapy:

Currently we have one physical therapist working three days a week at Westlake School with sixteen students receiving physical therapy services (21 individual sessions and two group sessions). Our students continue to progress with their PT goals this month. T.B. has been working on keeping his crutches closer to his body to improve his gait. In addition, he is diligently practicing how to negotiate the two steps into the building with more control using his crutches. A.F. is doing a great job staying on task and performing all of his stretches and exercises during his PT sessions. This used to be much more challenging however even his teachers are happy to see how attentive he is during PT. One of our physical therapy groups is performing yoga once weekly. These students are doing a great job sequencing the various yoga poses and it is a nice calming break during the afternoon. This month, the physical therapist participated in Safety Care recertification and Dyslexia training as

professional development.

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:

Professional Development Day on February 7th – Safety Care Training, DLM Training, AFLLS online assessment training and Paraprofessional training for working in the classroom.

Monthly Virtual Yoga – February 3rd

Monthly Pet Therapy – February 25th

Holiday Sale for Valentine’s Day at the Commission – Mrs. Palmer’s Class

Professional Development:

GCN Training – Dyslexia Training Part 1 and Part 2



**Union County Educational Services Commission
Superintendent Report**

School/Department: Work Readiness Academy	Report Date: February 2022
--	-----------------------------------

Enrollment:		
<table> <tr> <td>Current Enrollment: 21 (includes WRA & Project SEARCH) Acceptances: 0</td> <td>Intakes: 0 Disenrollments: 0</td> </tr> </table>	Current Enrollment: 21 (includes WRA & Project SEARCH) Acceptances: 0	Intakes: 0 Disenrollments: 0
Current Enrollment: 21 (includes WRA & Project SEARCH) Acceptances: 0	Intakes: 0 Disenrollments: 0	
Emergency Drills:		
<table> <tr> <td>Fire Drill: 2/27/22</td> <td>Other (Specify Type): 2/4/22 (Shelter in Place)</td> </tr> </table>	Fire Drill: 2/27/22	Other (Specify Type): 2/4/22 (Shelter in Place)
Fire Drill: 2/27/22	Other (Specify Type): 2/4/22 (Shelter in Place)	
Curriculum and Instruction:		
<p>Highlights from the month of February at the Work Readiness Academy included:</p> <p>WRA Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This month our students wrapped up their Semester #1 internship experiences. Beginning the first week in March, students will be rotating to new experiences for the balance of the school year. • Students participated in a virtual workshop entitled <i>Independent Travel Using New Jersey Transit</i> host by the team at the New Jersey Travel Independence Program (NJTIP) at Rutgers. The program is planning to take the students on two “community-based” traveling experiences later this Spring. • The WRA school-based business held a flavored popcorn sale this month. The students were responsible for shopping for the ingredients, making the popcorn, establishing pricing, advertising the product, and handling all aspects of the sales. They also designed and distributed a customer satisfaction survey related to the popcorn sale. • Other instructional topics this month included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Time Management, including Prioritizing ○ Fixed vs. Variable Expenses ○ Accepting Feedback <p>Project SEARCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project SEARCH program was able to maintain normal operations despite the Omicron surge, thanks to continued adherence to strict COVID-19 protocols across Overlook Medical Center. • During the month of February, the interns continued to participate in their second internship rotation. We are excited to have added a new experience in the Radiology department. • Instructional highlights this month included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using the internet to search for jobs 		

- Preparing for a job interview
- Person-centered-planning
- Healthy Relationships

Community Based Instruction and Special Events:

- The WRA students visited ShopRite and Walmart this month to shop for supplies for their flavored popcorn sale.

Monthly SEL Theme: Responsible Decision-Making; students continued to learned about the importance of making constructive choices about personal behavior and social interactions based on ethical standards, safety concerns, and social norms; the realistic evaluation of consequences of various actions; and a consideration of the well-being of oneself and others. They viewed several episodes from the television show “What Would You Do” and participated in facilitated discussions about the decisions they would have made in each situation.

Professional Development:

- Staff participated in a full day of professional development on Monday, February 7th
 - During the morning sessions all staff completed the “Trusted Adult Workshop” training from Sandy Hook Promise, a national non-profit organization whose mission is to help prevent gun violence in schools by helping adults recognize warning signs of budding mental health issues.
 -

In the afternoon, staff from the WRA spent time learning more about “Customized Job Development”; staff from Trinitas Hospital focused on “De-Escalation Strategies”.