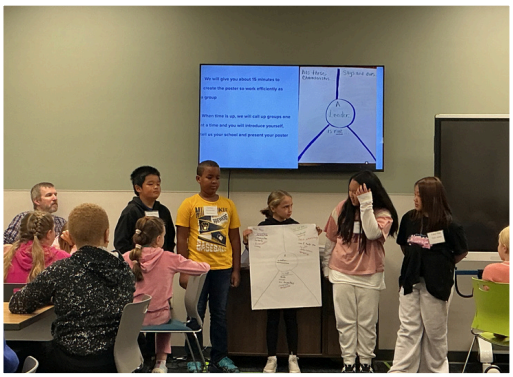
WSD GIFTED AND TALENTED

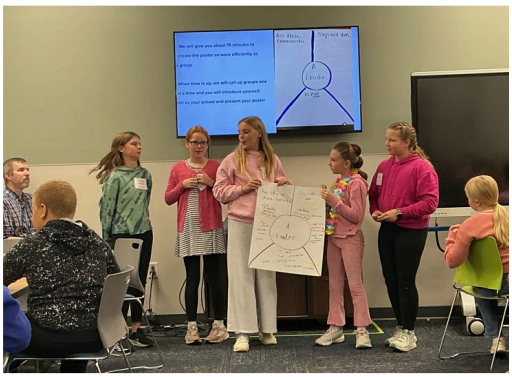
2026

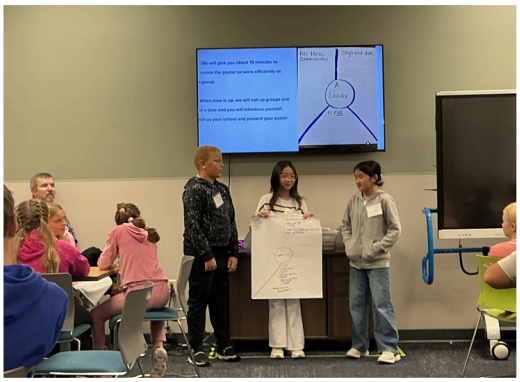
ELEMENTARY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

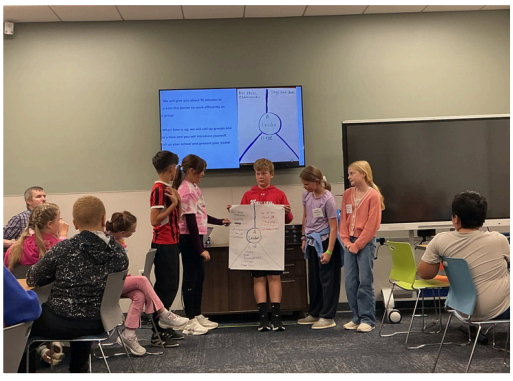
Eighty 4th and 5th graders were invited to the three-day WSD Elementary Gifted and Talented (GT) Leadership Conference held on October 5th, 12th, and 20th.

The GT Leadership Conference is designed to bring together some of our most talented fourth and fifth grade leaders from across the district for three days of enrichment leadership training. The sessions were held at the Boys and Girls Club of Wausau.



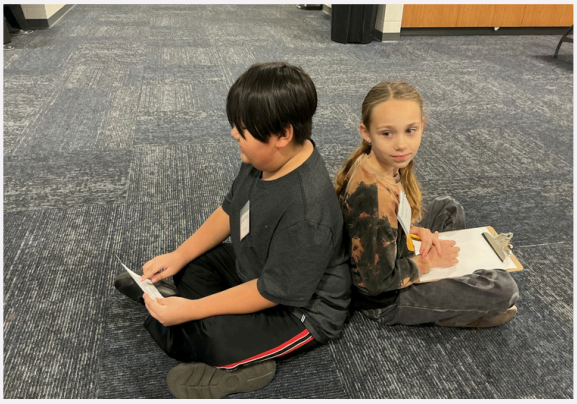


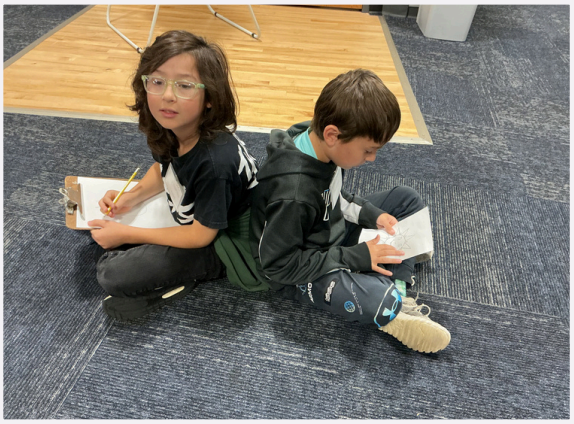


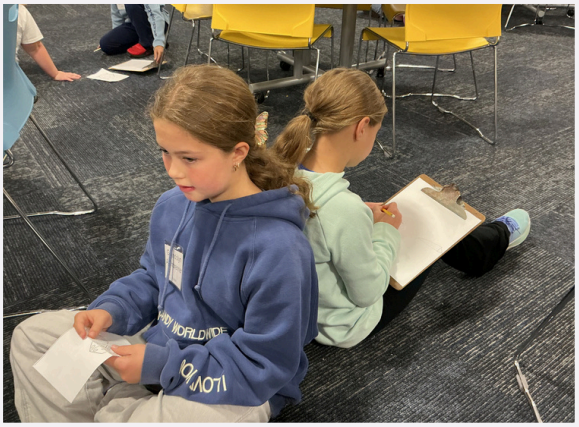


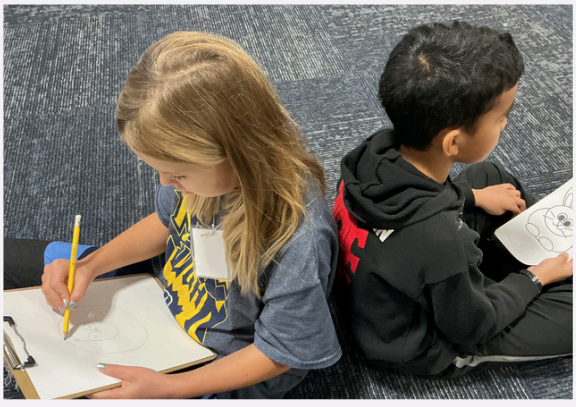
The students engaged in various leadership activities involving problem solving, risk taking, decision making, planning, communicating and conflict resolution. Students also visited local community mentors.

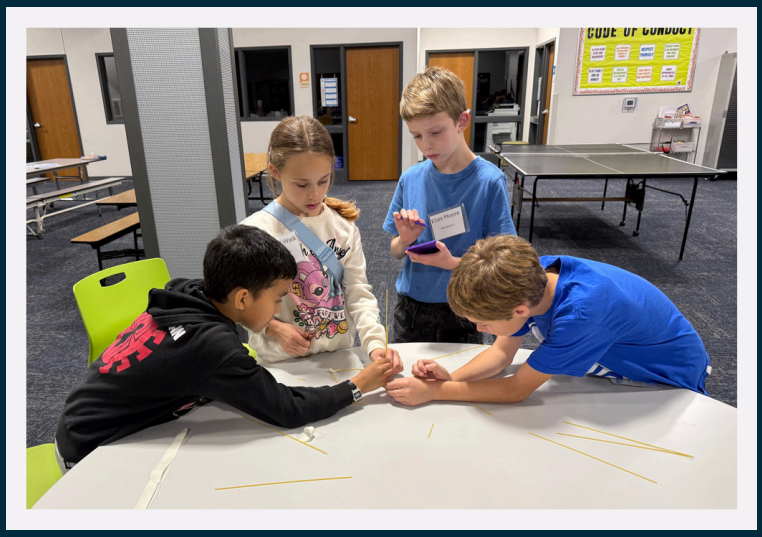
4TH GRADE COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY









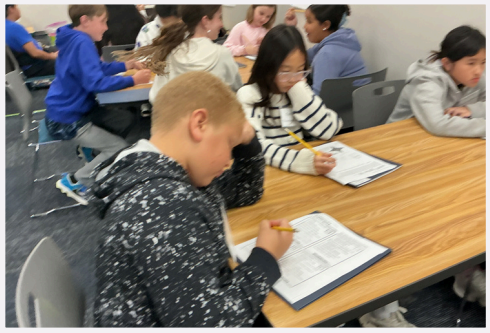

CODE OF CONDUCT

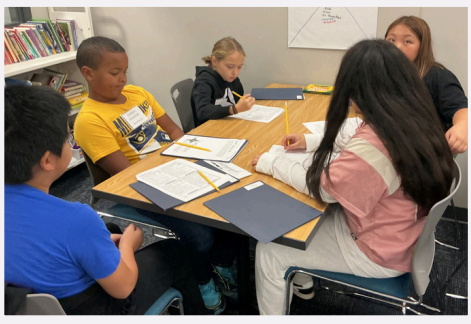
Communication
Great leaders communicate and great
communicators lead"
Phoenix Vue

4TH GRADE TOUR OF ATHLETIC PARK

Jim and Abby give leadership lessons and how they apply to the Wausau Woodchucks organization and our community

5TH GRADE ACTIVITIES



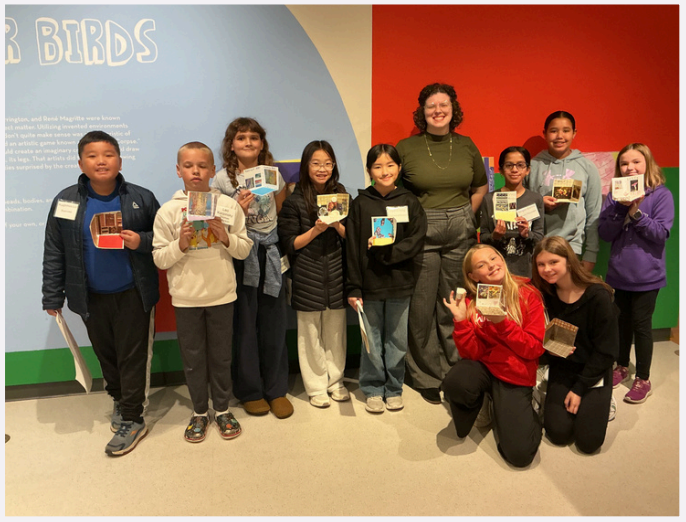


5TH GRADE MENTOR TRIPS

5TH GRADE STUDENTS VISITED LOCAL LEADERS AT THEIR PLACES OF BUSINESS FOR THE MORNING. THEY LEARNED FIRST HAND ABOUT LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN THE REAL WORLD. UPON THEIR RETURN, THE STUDENTS PRESENTED AND SHARED WHAT THEY LEARNED AT THEIR MENTOR TRIP.

LOCAL MENTORS WHO VOLUNTEERED TIME FOR STUDENTS THIS YEAR WERE:

MELISSA WELLER - 3M, EMILY WESENICK - LEIGH YAWKEY WOODSON ART MUSEUM, SHERIFF CHAD BILLEB- MARATHON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, JULIE BOLLMAN-THE IMAGINARIUM



LEIGH YAWKEY ART MUSEUM WITH MS. EMILY AND MS. AMALIA

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WITH CHAD BILLEB

3M QUARRY WITH MELISSA WELLER

THE IMAGINARIUM
WITH JULIE BOLLMAN AND STAFF

THANK YOU COMMUNITY MENTORS!

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS' WILLINGNESS TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH THE WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT'S STUDENTS DURING THEIR BUSY WORK AND SCHOOL SCHEDULES. WE ALSO THANK ALL OF THE ASSOCIATES AT THE WORKPLACES OF THE MENTORS WHO WELCOMED STUDENTS AND SPOKE WITH THEM AT THEIR JOB SITES.

THANK YOU WEST AND EAST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR YOUR VISIT AND MENTORING!

ADEE BEVERSDORF, STELLA OLSON, SOPHIA NGO, AYLEE MOUA, ELLI VANZO, ETHAN STRASSER, AIDYN NEMAC-DUMS

CONFERENCE TEACHING STAFF

TEACHERS FOR THE FOURTH GRADE CONFERENCE WERE MRS. SHERI FOCHS (4TH GRADE TEACHER, JEFFERSON) AND MRS. STACY LUCHT (4TH GRADE TEACHER, JEFFERSON). TEACHERS FOR THE FIFTH GRADE CONFERENCE WERE MR. MATT ADAMS (GT TEACHER- WSD), AND MRS. CHERYL BORTA (GT TEACHER-WSD AND GT LEADERSHIP COORDINATOR). ADDITIONAL HELP FROM ANDY REICHE, GT COORDINATOR, AND SADIE TRAPP, GT SECRETARY, WAS MUCH APPRECIATED.

WHO CAN ATTEND THE 4/5 TH GT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE?

BY STATE MANDATE, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WISCONSIN IS REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS WITH HIGH LEADERSHIP ABILITY AS PART OF THEIR GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM, AND TO PROVIDE "SYSTEMATIC AND CONTINUOUS" PROGRAMMING THAT WILL ENABLE THESE STUDENTS TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP ABILITIES TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. CLASSROOM TEACHERS IN GRADES 3-5 COMPLETED OBSERVATION CHECKLISTS TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS WITH HIGH LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL. STUDENTS FROM EACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHO MET THE CRITERIA FOR THE GT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WERE INVITED TO ATTEND.

The District does not discriminate based on the Protected Classes of race, color, national origin, age, sex (including transgender status, change of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity), pregnancy, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, military service (as defined in 111.32, Wis. Stats.), ancestry, arrest record, conviction record, use or non-use of lawful products off the District's premises during non-working hours, declining to attend a meeting or to participate in any communication about religious matters or political matters, or any other characteristic protected by law in its practices. (Updated 10.08.24)