

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Glassboro High School

April, 2015

Dr. Danielle F. Sneathen

INSTRUCTION (EDUCATIONAL PLANNING, STUDENTS' ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES)

- A total of 25 observations completed for the year.
- Award ceremonies have been rescheduled for the following dates: **June 4th @ 7 pm.**
- The Tri-County Conference approved Clayton & Glassboro schools to develop a Co-op tennis programs for boys and girls for the 2015-2016 school year. Glassboro will submit the proper request to the NJSIAA for final approval.
- Andrew Bernard will represent Glassboro at the NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Scholarship Luncheon in Edison, NJ on May 17, 2015.
- Mr. Neilio will complete his cycle on teaching health education (Tobacco, Alcohol & Narcotics unit). Mr. Enuco will start teaching Driver's Education on April 14, 2015.

ADMINISTRATION (PERSONNEL)

- Posted the fall cheerleading position. No applications so far.
- Requesting permission to post all coaching and co-curricular activity positions internally.
- All evaluations of head coaches have been completed and I am scheduling post season meetings this week. All Winter Head Coaches will be recommended to return for 2015-2016 school year.

OPERATIONS (FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION)

- Two scoreboards have been ordered from Nevco. They are LED numbers and the control panel is wireless. The old scoreboards will be removed and new scoreboards purchased and installed for \$12,000.00
- Rowan University Track & Field coaches will use our **field event** areas to conduct two home track meets, and the Rowan Open Girls Track & Field Meet (May 1, 2. Coach Ringo Adamson has submitted the proper paperwork and will allow our girls team to enter the Rowan Open free of charge.

TRANSPORTATION

No issues to report.

FACILITIES

The roof continues to leak in multiple areas of the building, especially in the main hallway.

TECHNOLOGY

No issues to report.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Sneathen attended the After Prom meeting and a Referendum Information Session on 3.9.15. Dr. Sneathen stopped in at the Senior Dinner Dance on 3.12.15 and attended Glassboro's Got Talent on 3.13.15. Dr. Sneathen attended the Winter Sports Awards night on 3.16.15. This night has been revived after a Fall hiatus and was successful. Dr. Sneathen attended the Art Show and the Music In Our Schools Month Concert on 3.17.15. Both of these events were very well attended and were quite successful at showcasing our talented students.

MATH/SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS

Biology – The current unit deals with genetics. Student learn about DNA, its role in heredity, & how it gives instructions for cell processes. We are currently discussing how traits are passed to offspring. Students are completing and analyzing Punnett squares to trace the path of certain traits in organisms. Students will also complete the first of two performance tasks for this unit. This task has students analyze the genetic characteristics of some hypothetical seeds. They work through a scenario in which a seed company sold bags of seeds that guaranteed a specific trait. They have to determine if that is true and also to determine if the next generation of plants from those seeds would contain the trait.

Human Anatomy – We just completed the performance task for the Support & Movement unit. The purpose was to create a jumpy doll that exhibits at least 3 joints that produce movement with a single pull on a string. No pattern was provided, nor directions as to how to make the joints or where to place the insertion points, etc. This was part of the challenge. Students were free to select the shape of your doll and the way to design the joints. The task was to create a puppet that could perform at least five jumping jacks by pulling a single string. Students then answered follow-up questions and wrote an essay explaining the similarities between their jumpy doll and the human body.

Nine additional students have been cleared for graduation, based on previous HSPA administrations and the January, 2015 AHSA results.

There is now one student who has not been cleared for graduation, based on all HSPA administrations, including the January, 2015 AHSA. This student had cleared in three of the four clusters in mathematics. The student has cleared number sense, algebra, and geometry, but not data analysis. This student is looking at the following timeline:

- Participating in the second AHSA round, between the dates of 3/23 and 4/17, results on May 29, 2015.

- Receiving March 2015 HSPA results on May 29, 2015.
- Participating in a third AHSA round, between the dates of 6/15 and 6/26, results on August 7, 2015. In this case, this student would not be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies.

STEM – The STEM Committee met and decided to select all qualified applicants to the Academy with the condition that they will need to qualify to go to Rowan due to the NJDOE CAP. Due to the CAP, not all STEM students will be eligible to attend Rowan in their junior and senior year. To qualify, students must have superior STEM grades, GPA, PSAT scores, involvement in STEM clubs (Science, JETS or Engineering) before being selected to attend Rowan. The STEM committee is holding a Q&A session to address all parental concerns on 4/16 @ 6:30 PM in the GHS Library.

Mrs. Keating registered the current 10th and 11th grade STEM students for Fall 2015 Rowan courses.

Our department has been busy with professional workshops and meetings. Mrs. Keating attended a valuable STEM workshop at EIRC. Mrs. Memis attended a LIVE surgery at EIRC with the AP Biology students. Ms. Memis attended the GCC STEM Fair for Women with 7 girls. Mr. Beaver, Ms. Spadafora, Mrs. Keating, Mr. Rulon attended a PARCC workshop at Rowan. Mrs. Powers chaperoned 2 STEM students who spoke before the NJDOE Senate Budget Committee at GCC.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

School Days in Month: 20

Total Number of Students Seen (Individual Sessions): Began Scheduling Process

Total number of Parent Contacts- By Phone: 105
 By Email: 96
 Parent sessions: 14

Total Number of Consultations with Teachers, Administrators and Child Study Team Members: 63

Total Number of Conferences with Teachers, Administrators and Child Study Team Members: 32

Total Number of Contacts with outside Services, Agencies, School: 21

Meetings Attended: I&RS, SLT, GCPCA, Rachel's Challenge, Rowan Mentor, PARCC

Trainings Attended:

Attended PARCC training session/PARCC Prep

Additional Activities:

Met with attendance students

Completed March SAT Prep Classes

Started preparing Class Night

RCGC Get on the Bus Event
Meeting with students for Course Selection
Rachel's Challenge
PARCC Prep/Testing
HSPA- Grade 12
Champion School Meeting

BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY/FCS DEPARTMENTS

Financial Literacy Classes are researching college costs and scholarships. They are also planning for their future by calculating the true cost of paying for college and researching alternative ways to fund their education.

Ms. Syvertsen has started a new needle work group here at GHS She reports: we are in the very early learning stages of crocheting and knitting. We meet during unit lunch a few times a week, so our progress is slow and steady, but our hearts are hoping the little hats and afghan we donated to *Hearts United Against Cancer* will bring some relieve and love to the recipients. *Hearts United Against Cancer* is a charity that is organized by Mrs. Beth Elwood, mother of GHS student Juliana Elwood.

DECA members have been working throughout the month preparing the 2015 Six Flags Great Adventure Business and Marketing Challenge. This year the competition is planning a sports festival at the park. Students will be visiting the park on April 30th to see how they placed in the competition.

WORLD LANGUAGE/MUSIC/ART DEPARTMENTS

French:

Madame 's French 3 classes have completed their plane unit and are working on their hotel unit now. Madame's French 1 classes have completed their greetings unit and are working on their school unit.

Madame spent the month of March working on the planning of the trip to France. There are 14 students traveling this year. Madame has been meeting with students during unit lunch and/or after school checking on their passports, reviewing French, safety guidelines, and all other important information. The final departure meeting two weeks ago was attended by all participants and all the students had one or both parents attend. Parents and students are well prepared for the trip which departs April 6, 2015.

Madame and Mr. Beaver work together as advisors to the Class of 2016. We have met with Dr. Sneathen about prom details for this year. We organized a yoga night which raised money as well as our weekly bake sale after school on Wednesdays which raises a bit of money every week. The officers and senators met during Unit Lunch weekly and afterschool. With needing to pay for the venue, catering, photo booth, favors, chaperone meals, making of centerpieces, decorations, and more—everything raised helps.

Madame held Glassboro's Got Talent on March 13th. Between the months of planning the details of the show, organizing the acts, programs, flyers, promotion, etc. and the first two weeks of March here long hours helping the finalists/working with stage crew on expectations for the show, Madame was kept busy. Madame was pleased that in the end the show was well attended as in the past and also went smoothly. This year's show raised money for both the France trip and the Class of 2016's prom expenses.

Madame continues to coordinate the dual credit program with CCC. She held a meeting with Martine Howard from CCC here in late March and also submitted our GHS spring applicants' registrations.

BAND

The GHS Music Department presented its annual Music in Our Schools Month Concert on March 17th. The directors and ensembles collaborated on several performances, including the finale selection which featured all three ensembles together. This year's theme was YESTERDAY: Music of the 1960's. In addition to performing, students were involved in creating concert posters, setting up a 1960's display in the trophy case, creating an advocacy video and creating an accompanying Powerpoint.

The GHS Jazz Ensemble performed in three jazz festivals

- February 13th - Rowan University Jazz Festival - performed and worked with clinicians
- March 20th - Schalick HS Jazz Festival - earned a rating of OUTSTANDING
- March 28th - NJ Jazz Regional Championship - earned a rating of OUTSTANDING in performance and sight reading. Kaitlin Kortonic earned a BEST SOLO award for our division. The GHS sax section earned the BEST SAXES award for our division. Sriram Mohanakanthan earned an HONORABLE MENTION solo award.

ART

Ms. Abrams and her students are continuing to work on the large mosaic at the local senior center. It is nearing completion.

ENGLISH/SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENTS

Ninth graders in M. Morrison's College Prep English class worked in small groups to create mini presentations/lessons for designated books from *The Odyssey*. The unit culminated with group presentations consisting of diary entries from characters, a book summary, visual representation, and an assessment.

ACCESS testing for English Language Learners has begun and should be completed by the second week of April.

Mr. Wood's Honors English I had a busy month. Students first completed their study of mythology by writing literary analysis essays then prepared for "The Great Heroes Debate," an activity which divided the class and pitted their wits against one another. Mr. Robert Preston was a guest moderator for the event and students enjoyed dressing professionally and delivering rebuttals. The winning team argued that Penelope was more of an epic hero than Odysseus!

Mr. Wood's English II produced ancient Greek theatre masks. Using plaster casts, molds, and paint, students got messy recreating Antigone, Creon, Eurydice and other tragic Greek characters. Students then wrote about how the colors and facial expressions of their masks represented the motivations and emotions of characters in the play. Students also completed Literature Circle Projects. Popular titles included *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *World War Z*.

Mrs. Baldissero's College Prep English I classes read *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up For Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*. The students did a wonderful job gathering textual evidence to analyze development of theme and motivation of Malala and her father's actions. For Part Two of *I Am Malala* the students participated in an activity called "Jigsawing" the text. Each student was assigned a chapter to become an "expert" in. During their time becoming "experts" in their chapters the students created presentations that required them to create a visual, verbal analysis, and a quiz based on their presentation. The day of presentations teachers, administrators, and parents were present creating a professional environment for the students. Artifacts from each student's presentation can be found on the bulletin board next to Mrs. Baldissero's classroom (A106).

In March, Mrs. Baldissero's English Language Arts class completed a short story unit. Students read fictional short stories and tracked the development of emerging themes and literary elements present in the writing. Students were required to analyze character motivation and development of theme through close read sections from each short story. The students also tracked the development of plot to create a deeper understanding of the structure of a short story and the necessary literature elements required to write a successful short story. At the end of the Unit the students prepared to take the Short Story Exam which required them to use high order thinking skills to perform a close read on passages.

Honors English III students studied the rhetorical strategies of Emerson, Steve Jobs and Anna Quindlen in preparation for writing a rhetorical analysis on the 4th of July speech Frederick Douglass. They also read *Sold*, a fictional narrative of human trafficking set in India and used it as a mentor text to try some of the creative writing styles of its author Patricia McCormick.

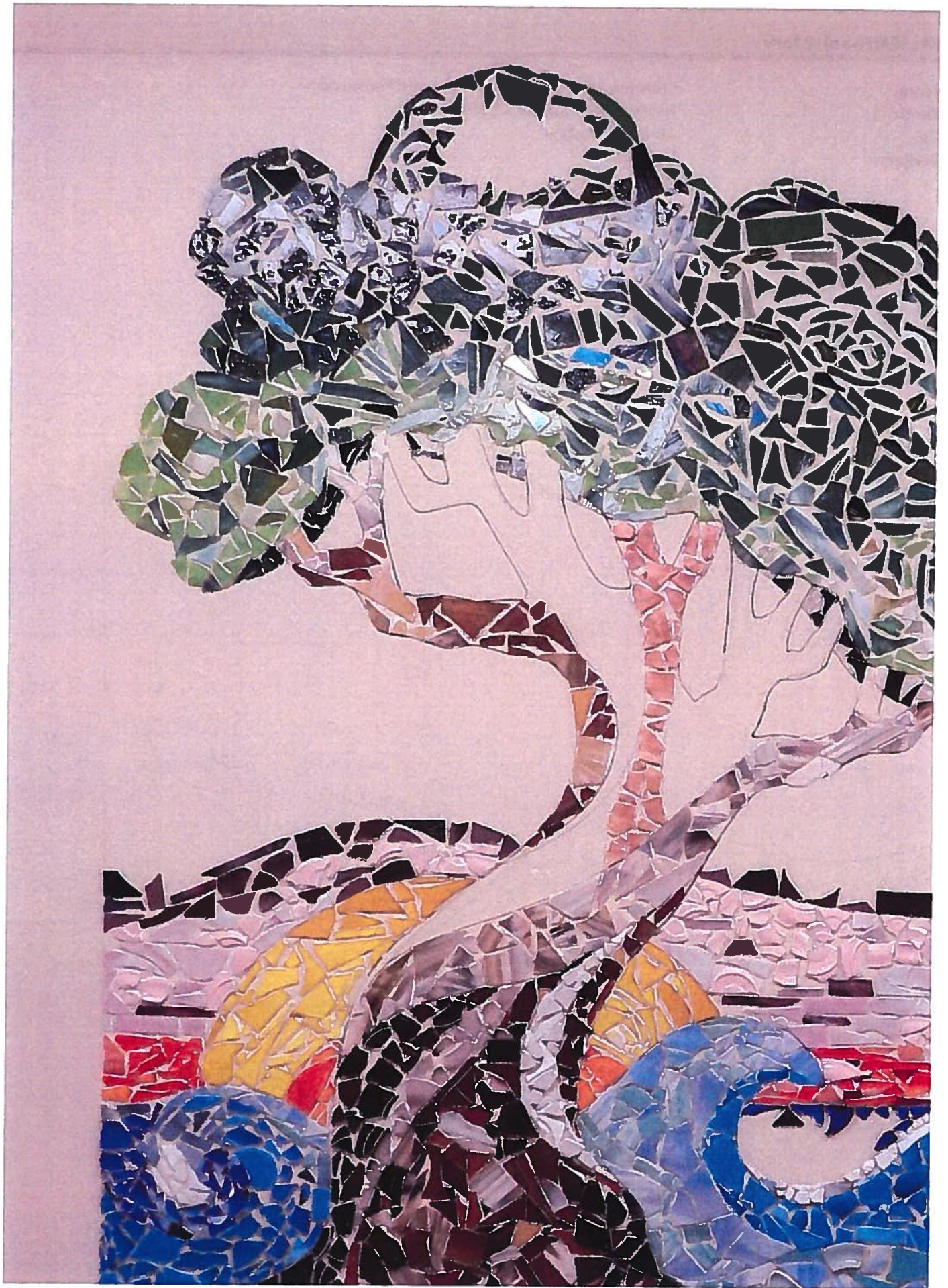
CP English III students completed a study of personal narratives using a variety of mentor texts to identify effective narrative techniques. Students have been responding to their partner's own narrative drafts using google docs and started a unit on slavery and human trafficking.

Mr. Preston's students in AP Composition have been hard at work writing argumentative papers on Government and Justice (the second and third units respectively). Their aim is to write papers using three distinctive argumentative writing forms: Toulmin, Rogerian, and Classical.

Students in AP Literature have studied topics such as Existentialism, Nihilism, and Absurdism. They've read plays and novels from absurdist's and postmodernists such as Sartre, Camus and Beckett, and have completed a study on Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. We've also spent some time reading the poetry of T.S. Eliot.

Students in CP English IV just completed a unit on Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. During the unit, students were expected to perform a complete act, which turned out to be highly successful. Students worked in teams to bring Shakespeare's play to life, the way it was meant to be read and portrayed.

Rob Preston is enrolled in EDUC 650: Technology and Cognition at The University of Delaware and in the process of conducting research on student attitudes towards educational technologies, specifically a program called WISE. Students have also provided feedback to him through the use of the web-based software Newsela, that provides current events articles scaffolded by Lexile levels. He will be using this research to write literature reviews and to inform a larger executive position paper which aims at understanding why teachers enter the profession and why they stay or leave.









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