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Curriculum Night
We had a great turnout at Curriculum Night this year! It was wonderful to meet so many of you and for you to see what our teachers have planned for your children this year! We even had our Project Lead the Way teacher, Mr. Moger, run presentations about PLTW. We have an exciting year ahead, and the staff and I are thrilled to be working in partnership with you and your children! Go Huskies!

Parking Lot (Drop Off and Pick Up)
Everyone has been doing a fabulous job at drop off and pick up! I’ve been receiving a lot of good feedback about how smooth arrival and dismissal has been, and that’s in large part to all of you! Thank you so much for contributing to a smooth and safe arrival and dismissal. We’ve seen an increase in traffic in the Kiss and Drop lane through these rainy days, and as it begins to get colder we anticipate more families using the Kiss and Drop lane. We’re ready to help! As we see the traffic increase, we’ll begin using walkie-talkies to help speed up the process of getting your younger children to you (who may not be ready to walk to the Kiss and Drop lane on their own) when you pull up. There will be two staff members, usually Mr. Moger and I, at the Kiss and Drop lane who will radio to K-2 teachers which students need to be brought over for pick up. Staff or safeties will walk your child(ren) over so you can stay warm and dry in your car.

A Little Bit About Me
I’ve been able to meet and connect with many of you over the last few weeks, and getting to know you and your children (and staff) has been the best part of my start at Haisley! I hope to continue spending time getting to know each and every one of you over the course of this year and would love suggestions on other socializing events we could have (aside from Coffee With the Principal) that would allow us to get to know each other more! Here’s a small start with a few things about me:

Haisley Calendar

10/4 4:30-5:30 5th Grade Camp meeting
10/5 Picture Day
10/5 7:00-8:30 PTO Mtg. Media center
10/11 9:00-9:45 Coffee with the Principal
10/17 Young 5s (Koutoulas) to the apple orchard
10/21 Box Tops are due!
10/24 Green Team Mtg. Conference room
10/26 Early release day. Students will be dismissed at 11:53
10/28 9:30-12:30 Weindorf to 826 Michigan
10/31 Halloween Parade
**Professional**

- I have 9 years of teaching experience (grades K, 2, 3, 5, and technology K-5). I’ve taught in Atlanta, Detroit, and Ann Arbor.
- I’ve been trained in Responsive Classroom, a proactive approach to classroom and school management that centers on developing social-emotional skills. Responsive Classroom has been an embedded part of my practice for 8 years.
- I’ve been trained in the International Baccalaureate framework for teaching and learning.
- I’m a consultant for the Ann Arbor Community Center and work to create partnerships and opportunities for schools and kids.
- I established the Foster Grandparent Program, a national program funded locally through Washtenaw County, at several school locations and coordinated the program at those sites.
- I’ve been a working member of district problem solving teams, including the district’s Assessment Advisory and Teacher Evaluation Advisory, and have been trained through TregoED in decision-making and problem solving processes.
- I’ve been a working member of several district curriculum teams, including the Balanced Literacy Team as a Literacy Specialist and the Curriculum and Instruction Specialist Team.
- I’ve done consulting and coaching work for several districts in implementing literacy frameworks and improving instructional practices for reading and writing.

**Personal**

- I grew up in Troy, MI and played several years of lacrosse there. I also played 8 years of soccer on travel teams.
- I went to Michigan State University (UofM fans insert a “gasp” here)! I have my B.A. from MSU and a masters in Educational Leadership from Grand Valley State University.
- I’m a coffee fanatic! It may even be considered my main food group!
- I love to read, write, and watch movies. If it’s fantasy or science fiction, I’ll read it or watch it! I have a particular love of dystopian novels/movies!
- I LOVE to go fishing. My parents live on a lake, and I get out there as much as I can on the weekends to fish with them and my sisters.
- One of my favorite ways to unwind is to go for hikes or walks on nature trails. There is something so rejuvenating about being in nature!
- I’m a dog lover; through and through. When my family is together, there are 8 dogs between all of us! I don’t have a dog of my own, but hopefully in the future that will change!
- I come from a family of 4 girls (don’t feel bad for my dad, he wanted all girls!)
- I have a twin sister (we’re fraternal, but everyone says we have the same mannerisms and speech patterns).

Here are some family pictures

Me and my twin sister, Kate
I was the Literacy Coordinator for Ann Arbor Public School’s Summer Learning Institute, which involved writing curriculum for two grade levels, developing and delivering professional development for staff and parent workshops, and coaching teachers.

As the Data Coach at a previous school, I developed a school data team and collaborated with colleagues through the process by periodically analyzing data to inform and evaluate instructional decisions.

I’ve developed and delivered professional development and presentations at the school, district, and state level. Many of my presentations center on literacy practices, reading and writing structures, data, assessment, and differentiation.

While working in Ann Arbor, I’ve been a part of several other teams and committees:
- International Baccalaureate Leadership Team
- School Improvement Teams
- Technology Committee
- Teacher Leadership Team

While working in Detroit, I held several positions within the district:
- District Technology Chair
- District Council Representative
- Director of Summer School
- Lead Teacher

5th Grade Furniture Pilot

It’s going to be an exciting few weeks for the fifth grade classes! Haisley has been chosen as one of four schools in AAPS to participate in a furniture pilot. That means our fifth grade classrooms will be completely outfitted with new furniture from top of the line vendors! The newly designed spaces will feature a variety of seating options, movable desks and tables that lend themselves to collaborative work and that allow for flexibility in grouping structures, and a slew of other features! Teachers and students will be providing input on the usability, ease, and comfort of the furniture for district consideration. Below you’ll find renderings of the design for each of the fifth grade rooms (1st rendering: Mrs. Knorr’s classroom, 2nd rendering: Mr. Carnegie’s classroom).
Mrs. Knorr’s Fifth Grade Classroom (rendering- installation to occur on October 8th)

Mr. Carnegie’s Fifth Grade Classroom (rendering- installation complete!)
From Your PTO Board

Can you believe it? September has come and gone and we are well into the swing of things! We hope your family has found your “school groove” and that everyone is off to a great start.

It Takes a Village

In keeping with our ongoing theme, we want to remind you that the PTO Board is here to serve and represent your interests. Please do not hesitate to call on us. You can also visit www.haisleypto.org for more information.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6th at 7PM in the Media Center. Some of our agenda items include:

- Enrichment update
- A capital campaign proposal
- Project Lead The Way Funding info

We hope to see you there!

Funding That Enriches Our Kids’ Lives

Coming up—The Silent Auction! Have you purchased your tickets yet? You won’t want to miss out on this annual event. Save the date—Friday, November 11th at the Polo Fields Country Club. It’s a casual, adult-only event where you can get to know your Haisley community and raise money for your kids all while having fun.

The PTO continues to rely on our community’s financial support, as well as volunteers. While there are many ways to contribute, the vast majority of our operating budget is established through three events: an envelope drive, the fall auction and the spring walk-a-thon. This year, we are budgeted to spend close to $200 per student. These are activities the district does not fund. We hope you will continue to support the PTO.

Grab a form, fill it out, and let us know what your idea is!

- Please note, once the board moves funds into the capital account they are not available to the general operating budget. That's why it's critical for each year's PTO to initiate new fund raising campaigns. Our current capital fund is not enough to cover the annual budget. Do not consider this fund a reason to abstain from the envelope drive or auction, or any other fund raising campaign.

Thank you EVERYONE!

Jen DeCapua
PTO President
Hello Parents,

Below are some brief descriptions about what we’re doing in Project Lead The Way, the project-based science curriculum that all elementary students will be taking part in over the course of the year. Here are the modules that we’re currently doing at Haisley:

**Second Grade**

**Materials Science: Properties of Matter** In this exploration of materials science, students investigate and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties, including color, texture, and heat conduction. After analyzing data from materials testing, students apply their knowledge and skills to determine the best material to solve a design problem. Students analyze how well the model solved the problem and determine improvements that could be made to their designs.

**Fourth Grade**

**Energy: Collisions** Student exploration of mechanisms includes investigations of how mechanisms change energy by transferring direction, speed, type of movement, and force. Students discover a variety of ways potential energy can be stored and released as kinetic energy. Citing evidence, students explain the relationship between the speed of an object and the energy of that object. They also predict the transfer of energy as a result of a collision between two objects. As students solve the problem for this module, they apply their knowledge and skills related to energy transfer in collisions to develop a vehicle restraint system.

**Fifth Grade**

**Robotics and Automation** Student exploration of robotics includes ways that robots are used in today’s world and the impact of their use on society and the environment. Students learn about a variety of robotic components as they build and test mobile robots that may be controlled remotely. The design problem provides an opportunity for students to apply their robotic skills and knowledge to solve a real-world problem related to environmental disaster cleanup.

**Vocal Music**

To start of the school year, all classes began with procedures so that we can have more time for music interactions each lesson. Second through fifth grade students worked on setting up classroom stools, retrieving textbooks, and setting up instruments when we have group work. Young 5s through first grade learned how to walk in and find a seat, where to find our class schedule, how to find safe spaces around the classroom for movement and how to treat classroom instruments. We are off to a great start! Our composer for the month of September was Carlos Chavez, and we were all exposed to his Sinfonia India.

**Kindergarten** – Listening is key in this music, so we started off with a fun song called “I’m So Glad to be Here!” Using our music ears, we discovered what fun actions our song asked us to do. We started our composition process by creating new lyrics for the song “If You’re Happy and You Know It.” There are some excellent composers in our classes. Learning how to play new instruments like rhythm sticks were fun, especially when we got to create our own rhythm patterns.

continued on page 4
**Vocal Music continued**

**First Grade** – We reviewed what a steady beat is and how it relates to all of our music. We practiced saying our own names to the beat and then played pat-a-cake with a partner while singing “Miss Mary Mack.” Echo clapping started our rhythm component. Our next few classes are focusing on high to low sounds.

**Second Grade** – This is our first year where we are using our own textbooks. We are spending time in learning how to read music lyrics for different songs. Our first song was “Dance! Dance! Dance!” and we had a blast adding movement. Reviewing quarter and eighth notes, along with the quarter rest, was our focus while performing “Bate Bate.” Using a fun song from Mary Poppins got us going while we sang and move around to the beat!

**Third Grade** – “Billy” was a fun song for us to use to practice keeping time and reviewing how to read our music lyrics. Rhythm patterns were practiced with instruments and we are moving forward with learning new intervals for sight singing. We practiced setting up the classroom with instruments for group work and reviewed the names of some of those unfamiliar instruments (tone circle, guiro).

**Fourth Grade** – “My Town, My World” was a great song to help with learning time signatures and conducting patterns. Students were taught how to conduct with do’s and don’ts of basic conducting. After we became more familiar with the song, we practiced conducting in front of our peers. Basic rhythms were reviewed, along with solfege learned from last school year (D-R-M; S-L next month).

**Fifth Grade** – We are starting off with “This Land is Your Land” with our end goal to result in accompanying ourselves with xylophones and other percussion instruments. We are learning about chords and how to build them. This will allow us to play the correct chord tone while following the song.

**Cech** – Students are exploring what they love about music class. Some enjoy playing music games on the iPad, while others love playing the piano and other percussion instruments. We are having fun!

**Caballeros and Addison** – We follow the 4th Grade curriculum this year for both classes. We listened and practiced showing different movements for verses and refrains. Exploring new instruments are always fun! We listen to a variety of music and move with Go Noodle activities.

Thank you,

*Tiffanie Waldron*
**PE News**

Happy start of the school year! I am very excited to be back at Haisley and ready to meet any new Huskies this year. Before coming to Haisley, I was at Logan Elementary and Skyline High School. Before teaching I worked in the Sports Medicine field as a Certified Athletic Trainer. I have great expectations for this year and the years to come. I hope I can inspire your child to find enjoyment in keeping active and healthy.

Our PE program here in Ann Arbor emphasizes a well-rounded and developmentally appropriate curriculum. We encourage and expect all students to participate in physical activity in the classroom, outside the classroom, and throughout their lifetime! In the gym, students are expected to follow our PE expectations:

**Be RESPONSIBLE, Be RESPECTFUL, Be READY:**

1. **GYM SHOES** must be worn at all times. They must tie, zip, Velcro, or fasten in some way and have non-marking soles. They need to enclose and support the ankle, and protect/cover toes. Shoes that are not safe or acceptable in the gym include; sandals/flip flops, boots, heels/dress shoes, cleats, Keens, or Crocs/clogs.

2. **APPROPRIATE CLOTHING** should be worn to school on PE days. This should allow for freedom of movement and full participation in physical education activities. Please consider shorts or leggings under dresses and skirts.

3. **CANDY, GUM, and FOOD** is not allowed inside the gymnasium at any time.

4. **NO JEWELRY** that dangles or hangs will be allowed. This includes, but is not limited to hoop earrings, necklaces, rings, anklets, key chains, and purses. Further, if the item poses a threat to any child in the gym, it will be removed before the children are allowed to begin their activity for the day. It’s best to wear no jewelry on gym days, for your child's and others’ safety.

5. A parent note/email/phone call is needed for **ANY MEDICAL ISSUE** or injury affecting PE participation. **In the event of serious illness/injury, a doctor's note will need to be provided in order to clear your child for participation.** Please make sure you thoroughly read through and sign the concussion information provided in your opening day packet, as this is now a state mandate for all students, K-12, participating in PE or athletics.

Due to the physical activity expected in PE classes, I would like to be aware of any medical condition(s) that may affect your child’s participation in class. Please contact me via email at garciaj@aaps.k12.mi.us to discuss any concerns at any time during the school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Garcia
Haisley Physical Education
Here is what is happening in Hailsey art classes.

The Young 5’s & Kindergartens, have been exploring and experimenting with lines and shapes. They learned how to combine triangles to create more complex shapes like these fish. They added warm and cool colors to complete their work.

The 1st Graders are working on line and color patterns to create a textured drawing.

The 2nd graders have started a unit on Color. They learned how color comes from light and are exploring how to mix and organize colors in a color wheel.

The 3rd graders are working on showing depth and perspective in a drawing by using One Point Perspective.

The 4th graders have been learning about the proportions of the human head. This is the beginning of their big self-portrait projects:

The 5th graders have been examining and discussing the Preamble of the Constitution and will be working in groups to create a visual Preamble.

Wish list:
Towels and washcloths, Art Calendars, News papers (no glossy adds please), Magazines (no fashion magazines please), Plastic containers with lids, Styrofoam takeout boxes or other flat Styrofoam  (clean please)

If you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to volunteer during art please email me at vintera@aaps.k12.mi.us Thank you.
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