

Superintendent's Weekly Wrap-Up - April 30 - May 6, 2011

National Teacher Appreciation Week - This past week, and yearly during the first week in May, we celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week.

We celebrate the dedication and hard work of the great individuals who are teaching in classrooms throughout our excellent district. Our 187 hard working teachers work many hours beyond the last school bell every day in classrooms across our school district.

Our teachers are quietly changing lives and shaping futures. We sincerely thank them for a wonderful year!

On Wednesday, May 18, the district will provide a Staff Appreciation Breakfast during our student late arrival. Our Board of Education will be providing breakfast for all District employees, from teachers to support staff and administration.

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HAMILTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

LifeTrack Surveys - As part of our HS Postsecondary Action Planning to: *Help more students pursue postsecondary education through local college access programs, financial aid advising, scholarship and grant availability advising, career guidance, and other services*, the first round of Life Track Services surveys have been completed by 100% of all HTHS seniors and sent off to the company for an analysis of the data. The surveys will guide HTHS staff to better plan and prepare for upcoming graduates, and keep track of their post graduation progress and success.

HTHS Staff Member of the Month - Ms. Marjorie Hill

"I feel that Marjorie should be voted as Staff Member of the Month due to her dedication to a higher level of learning. Marjorie holds a level of expectation that is uncompromising and most students rise to this challenge. When students finish her classes they have a true sense of accomplishment and self worth." - HS Teacher

"Marjorie Hill never stops. I'm not in the Science Department so I can't imagine her involvement there, but from what I see, she is involved in everything else. I recommend her for Staff Member of the Month." - HS Teacher

"Ms. Hill has made a huge impact on countless numbers of students. Most times during my conversations with students, I hear how Ms. Hill has helped

them be a better student and better person." HS Teacher

Miller wrote to Ms. Hill and asked her to send any info regarding how she makes a positive impact on HTHS Students. It was then, that Mr. Miller had a new understanding of what it means to, "***love to Teach Students.***"

Ms. Hill wrote - "*I love Hamilton and have dedicated myself to its outstanding students and staff. I feel honored and privileged to be considered HTHS Staff Member of the Month. In addition to teaching, showing demos, and leading students in chemistry labs, I have completed the following projects so far this school year:*"

- spoke at the 2011 Science Education Council of Ohio Conference in Akron, Ohio
- empowered and supervised 12 NHS students to prepare for and speak at the 2011 NHS State Conference at Ohio Dominican University
- arranged for Dr. Abby Tyson, a local pharmacist, to speak to our science students about her career
- arranged for Dr. Kenneth Hill, Jr, an award-winning published neurosurgeon, to speak to our science students about careers in medicine
- arranged for Mike Johnston, a physical therapist from the Sports Medicine Unit at Grant Hospital, to speak to our science students about the variety of careers in physical therapy
- arranged for a LaDona Brady, a local nurse, to speak to our science students about her career
- arranged for Dr. Steve Hertzler, Ph. D., a performance nutrition chemist from Abbott Laboratories who makes EAS supplements, to speak to our science students about his career
- arranged for Brandon Werry, a forensic chemist with the State Highway Patrol, to speak to our science students about his career
- arranged for a coroner from the Franklin County Coroner's Office to speak to our science students about his career
- arranged for our science students to speak with Dr. Josh Witten in Cambridge, England via a real-time skype call about careers in scientific research
- arranged for our science students to speak with Dr. Jennifer Taylor in Cambridge, England via a real-time skype call about careers in science research and science education
- arranged for Phil Langston of the Ohio Department of Safety to speak with our students about interview tips and the choices that they make now which will affect them on future interviews
- arranged for two recent HTHS honors alumni (Artasia Brown and Xavier Shelton) to speak to our students about their college experience

- arranged for Dr. Jason Calhoun, MD, FACS, Chair of the Department of Orthopaedics at The Ohio State University, to speak to our science students about careers in surgery
- arranged for Shawna Fletcher and Kerrie Kirkpatrick of The Ohio State University College of Engineering to speak to our science students about the many, high paying options in engineering
- brought OSU's Honors College Girls Circle Program to our school to help 10 girls learn successful ways to handle issues such as body image, stress from school, family issues, etc.
- worked with the Omega Psi Phi, Inc, a fraternity of college educated African American men, to set up a mentoring program for our African American male population
- restructured the science department so that our students can take a higher number of advanced science courses leading to a number of high ACT overall and ACT science scores (Lea Moss, Brandon Muller, Aimmie Calhoun)
- secured donations from local businessmen for the NHS pins
- targeted and assigned mentors for our most at-risk demographic African-American males who may or may not be in my class including a surgeon and credit specialist at the Ohio Attorney General Office
- secured donations and lead students in fundraising projects for three years for the Class of 2012 including painting driveways on Saturdays in the fall
- secured donations and leaded students in fundraising projects for three years for the Class of 2012 including cleaning the football stadium twice a week during the whole football season
- applied for a grants for the school district including the \$7,500 Martha Holden Jennings Foundation 2011 Arthur S. Holden Teacher Award for Excellence in Science Education
- applied for grants from various organizations for projects such as the NHS science magic show
- trained students to perform fun science demos for a science magic show for the middle school and preschool students
- created a number of alternative assessments to help our students who have text anxiety to be successful including videos, songs, poems, Smartboard lessons, and Prezi presentations
- encouraged my colleagues to apply for and earn admittance alongside me at the 2011 ASM Material Science Camp for Teachers at The Ohio State University
- established further connections with universities and other local teachers so that we can teach in a more STEM based manner to better educate our science students
- developed the character and leadership abilities of our NHS students through the following projects

- 3 NHS Red Cross Blood Drives that have provided blood for over 300 central Ohio residents
- speaking at the 2011 NHS State Conference at Ohio Dominican University in March
- 'Pennies for Peru' a fundraiser to build a school in rural community in Peru
- decorating over 60 holiday baskets for Meals on Wheels clients
- cooking and serving dinner for the teachers at parent-teacher conferences
- traveling classroom to classroom to serve coffee to the teachers and parents during parent teacher conferences
- performing a science magic show for the middle school students
- collecting coats and canned goods for Hamilton residents
- establishing after school tutoring for HTHS students
- working with HLS elementary students after school to help them prepare for their OATs

"A typical day for me can be rather varied but is quite enjoyable because I have the opportunity to work at a great place with friendly colleagues and polite students. I work hard to push our science students to perform on a level above that which they have previously operated. In addition, I seek to open their minds to the wonderful, high paying career options in science by arranging for professionals to speak at HTHS including a pharmacist, two surgeons, a physical therapist, a dentist, a forensic chemist, a performance nutrition (food and sports) chemist, 2 Ph. D. research scientists, a nurse, etc. In my classroom, I work to help students enjoy learning science through many experiments, science demos, cooperative learning projects, the use of current technology, and varied assignments. With that, I work to help all students shine via many alternative assessments such as videos, Smartboard/Notebook lessons, pamphlets, posters, and Prezi presentations. After school, I typically am helping the NHS students to further develop their character by accomplishing community service projects that they value. Some projects we have accomplished this year are fundraising to build a school in Peru ("Pennies for Peru"), providing thank you dinners for the staff at parent-teacher conferences, tutoring after school at HTHS and the elementary school, preparing to speak at the State NHS Conference, etc. If I'm not with NHS, I am often with the members of Girls Circle as they learn ways to successfully deal with stress from school, family, the media, etc. If I am not doing that, I am constantly trying to push myself further by seeking funding, establishing solid community connections, preparing to speak at large conferences, etc. in order to set up further programs better meet the needs of the students at Hamilton. My theory is that if you care about the students, show the multiple advantages to careers that require a college

education, and empower them to believe in themselves that they will rise to the high expectations we set for them. Having this shared vision with you will help us continue to reach new heights at HTHS." - Ms. Hill

Congratulations Ms. Hill for earning HTHS Staff Member of the Month - Miller

Ohio Lottery Teacher of the Month - Mr. Mike Morbitzer, the March HTHS Staff Member of the Month was just recently selected as the Ohio Lottery Teacher of the Month. Mr. Morbitzer will be recognized at an upcoming Columbus sporting event.

Science Goes To COSI - On April 15th, 54 Hamilton Township HS students accompanied the Science Department on an enrichment day at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI). Attendees were chosen from over 100 students who wrote persuasive letters indicating why they should be allowed to attend. Those students who did attend participated in a grade level indicator standard-based scavenger hunt that led them through the many displays with an emphasis on biology, space, environmental sciences and physics. Students worked cooperatively in groups applying their knowledge to hands-on activities in order to complete the many tasks. As in previous years, a portion of the expenses was covered through a grant from the COSI Community Access Program.

HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Teacher-on-the-Town - On April 27th, second grade teachers Mrs. Case and Mr. Koehler hosted the first ever "Teacher on the Town" Event. "Teacher on the Town" was created for students, families and teachers to have a shared experience outside of the classroom. The idea was simple - teachers attend an event or activity in the community and invite students and their families to meet up with them at the event to share a fun time together. The hope was to continue strengthening the relationships between teachers, students, and their families by interacting outside of the typical school or conference setting.

For this inaugural event, teachers and families viewed the new Disney Nature film *African Cats* at the AMC Lennox. An extension of the school's year-long theme of "Around the World" and a recent study of the continents, *African Cats* offered an opportunity to visually experience the African savanna. Best of all, teachers, families, and students had the opportunity to connect with each other in a casual environment.

"I just wanted to take a few and say thanks to you for a great family

experience. We had so much fun. It was such a great thing that the two of you take so much interest in your students. [Our daughter] had such a great time. She loved seeing the two of you outside the school setting and she really loved seeing her friends." -E-Mail from a Second Grade Parent

Many families attended from both of the teachers' homerooms. Mr. Tyler brought his son, and computer teacher Mrs. Griffiths joined in the fun. Mrs. Case & Mr. Koehler would like to thank all who attended for their support! Be sure to check their teacher web sites for more information about the next "Teacher on the Town", which will be in May!

Dictionary Donation - Dictionary use and reference is a skill that is always tested on the 3rd Grade OAA Test. Third grade teacher Katie Forrest realized that not every 3rd grade language arts classroom had a class set of dictionaries. Mrs. Forrest researched an organization that organizes the donation of dictionaries to 3rd grade classrooms. After writing to *The Dictionary Project* (www.dictionaryproject.org), a class set for each 3rd Grade language arts room was donated. Students are learning how to use guide words to find entry words and that words have multiple definitions. Students have been very excited about their new classroom tool!

Chicks and Ducks Visit HES - In the spring the kindergartners at Hamilton Elementary study the life cycles of many different animals. Classes have been focusing on the life cycle of a chicken. Recently students had the opportunity to observe live chicks and ducklings. The students were able to compare and contrast the animals and have a wonderful hands-on experience.

OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY

Edmodo - An Edmodo district domain has been setup for Hamilton Local Schools!

<http://hls.edmodo.com/>

**Please refer to details posted in the building conferences of Ranger Connection for details and signup codes.*

What is Edmodo?

Edmodo is the leading social learning network for K12 education.

Edmodo is a free and secure social learning network for teachers, students and schools. Edmodo provides classrooms a safe and easy way to connect and collaborate, offering a real-time platform to exchange ideas, share content, and access homework, grades and school notices. *(HOWEVER, Hamilton teachers should only use PROGRESS BOOK for*

homework/grades, so it will be easily visible to parents via "Parent Access".)

Accessible online and from any mobile device via free smart phone applications, Edmodo has grown from a teacher tool into a district-wide resource as word of the free online service spreads through schools around the world.

In late 2008, Nic Borg and Jeff O'Hara, believing we need to evolve our school environment to reflect the unique needs of today's learners (an idea with which a whole lot of teachers out there seemed to agree), set out to create a tool that would engage students with the technology that has become an integral part of their lives while keeping them safe and protected.

Edmodo promotes anytime, anyplace learning. Functionally, it allows teachers to post messages, discuss classroom topics, assign and grade classwork, share content and materials, and network and exchange ideas with their peers - but in reality, it is so much more than that.

<http://www.edmodo.com/about>

HAMILTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Rangers Run In The Rain - Students from Hamilton Intermediate School participated in the 3rd Annual Ranger Youth Track Meet on Monday, May 2nd. Despite a constant downpour of rain many track club members produced amazing times. The Varsity Track and Field coaching staff would like to congratulate all of the Intermediate School athletes who participated this past month in the club. They would also like to thank the 26 varsity track athletes, and Mr. Cryder and Mr. Meade at the Intermediate school, who volunteered their time for the youth teams success.

Outstanding Performances Include:

Christine Shaw (4th Grade): 400m Dash in 1:22.0

Bethany Robinson (4th Grade): 400m Dash in 1:25.2

Aaliyah Solis (6th Grade): 100 Hurdles in 22.5 seconds

Isaac Gray (6th Grade): Long Jump 13'1"

Dondre Jackson (4th Grade): 50m in 9.1 seconds

Full results can be found on the Hamilton Township Athletics/Track and Field website, or you can use the link below.

<http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us/Downloads/2011%20Ranger%20Youth%20Track%20Club%20Results.pdf>

Students, Staff, and Parents Enjoyed Cinco de Mayo Fiesta - On Wednesday, May 4th, the 5th grade Foreign Language Club hosted a Cinco de Mayo Fiesta! Family and friends gathered to celebrate and enjoy food, music, and culture. Students worked very hard at planning this event, and learned a lot about different languages and cultures. At the conclusion of this event students reported feeling very proud, and pleasantly surprised at how many people came to celebrate - the fiesta was a real hit! According to 5th grade student, Jazlyn Simons, her favorite part of the fiesta was, "when we broke open the pinadas that we made!" A special thanks to Mrs. Hunley, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Enright, Mrs. Laing, Mr. Eaton, Mrs. Siegel, Mr. Meade, Mrs. Kirk, and all of the parents for their help in making our fiesta such a success.

Students Receive Prizes For Effort On The OAA Tests - Intermediate students earned tickets this week during their OAA testing. They received a ticket for being here on time each day of testing. They earned additional tickets for every 30 minutes that they were working on their test. Based on the large number of tickets that were collected, our students put forth great effort on their OAA tests! During lunch periods on Wednesday over fifty students received a prize. The prizes they won included pizza parties, razor scooters, basketballs, footballs, tents, and keyboards.

Math Tutoring Helping Students - A number of fourth grade students were selected to join an after school math tutoring program. These students received extra assistance to help them with the fourth grade math indicators as well as helping them prepare for the upcoming OAA. They really enjoyed the program and hated to see it come to an end. What they enjoyed most was the small group support and solving lengthy multi-step questions. Having the small group and extra time helped them better understand concepts. It helped students master skills they were weak in and also overcome some issues of concepts they misunderstood.

OFFICE OF ATHLETICS

Mr. Meade Accepts MPV Award - Mr. Meade, Principal of The Hamilton Intermediate School accepts the Most Perfect Volunteer award from Youth Track Club Champions, Quantre' Merchant and Christine Shaw. The girls presented Mr. Meade the award for volunteering to work the YTC meet on a rainy evening. Meet results can be reviewed on the Athletic Web site under Outdoor Track. Click on outdoor track and look on the right hand side of the page and click on youth track 2011. A special thank you to our Head Track Coach Adam Beggrow, his staff and the athletes on the high school track team for providing our kids a great experience.

Varsity Baseball Beats Division's Top Team - The varsity baseball team defeated current Division leaders, Bloom Carroll Friday night by a score of 7-4. The Rangers played the best game of their season beating the best team in our league. The Rangers bats came alive and Kameron Wright did a good job of keeping the Bulldog hitters off balance. The Rangers also swept Central Crossing in a double header this past Saturday.

Ranger Invitational Track Results - The Ranger Invitational was the most exciting track meet of the year with the boys track team finishing second place by one point and battling Columbus Academy all the way to the last race of the day. The girls team placed 6th of 8 teams and was only 6 points out of fourth. Both teams set season bests in many relays and personal events. 32 Season Bests were set by Ranger athletes

8th Grade Boys Baseball - The Hamilton Boys 8th grade Baseball team pulled out a victory against Fairfield Union. The final score was 8 to 6. The boys never lost focus and never gave up! We were down and battled back for the win

Athletic Physicals Offered - Athletic physicals will be provided on May 16th at the High School in the Gymnasium beginning at 6:00 pm for potential athletes in current grades six through eleven. The cost of the physical will be \$10.00 for those students that have completed their height/weight and blood pressure with the school nurse prior to the night of the physicals. The cost is \$15.00 at the door. Please check the Athletic Web page for more information beginning Monday, May 9th.

MSL Middle School Track Championships - The Middle School Ranger Track & Field squads had another impressive showing in the MSL Buckeye Championship meet at Fairfield Union High School. The boys team placed second in the league and the girls improved from their eighth place finish in 2010 to fourth place in 2011. Brandon Marable was 1st team MSL in the 100m and the Long Jump events. Congratulations to Coach Wills and the Middle School Track Team on a successful season.

Boys Event Medalists:

Aaron Johnson - Runner-Up Discus, 3rd Shot Put

Aaron Williams - Runner-Up High Jump & 100m

Greg Jankowski - 3rd 1600m & 800m

Boys 4x100 Relay - Runner-Up (Thomas Wilson, Brandon Marable, Dashawn Nelms, Aaron Williams)

Isaiah Mattingly - Runner-Up 400m

Boys 4x100 Relay - Runner-Up (Thomas Wilson, Tyler Maynard, Wesley Payne, Josh Gregory)

Josh Gregory - 3rd 200m Hurdles
Deric Phouthavong - Runner-Up 200m

Girls Event Medalists:

Zadei Williams - Runner-Up Long Jump & 100m

Girls 4x100 Relay - Runner-Up (Delaney Jacob, Tatiana Jordan, Sierra Green, Zadei Edwards)

Girls 4x200 Relay - 3rd (Delaney Jacob, Tatiana Jordan, Sierra Green, Cydney Simon)

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Social Competence Webinar Series beginning May 2nd

Sign up at http://www.ocali.org/view.php?nav_id=202

OCALI, with funding from the Ohio Department of Education's Office for Exceptional Children (OEC), is pleased to announce a 4-part webinar series for those working and living with individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and low incidence disabilities.

This 4-part series will address SOCIAL COMPETENCE. Being able to develop the ability to interact socially can be one of the most challenging aspects of life for individuals with ASD. This series will share ideas about (a) the assessment of social competence, (b) how to acquire and build social competence, (c) the influence of play and recreation on social interactions, and (d) interventions that can help develop social competence and relationships.

Each webinar in the series will be available for viewing on two dates.

May 2 or May 12 - 3:00-4:00 Webinar 1: Social Competence Overview

May 9 or May 19 - 3:00-4:00 Webinar 2: Social Competence Assessment

May 16 or June 2- 3:00-4:00 Webinar 3: Play and Friendship

May 23 or June 9- 3:00-4:00 Webinar 4: Strategies for Social Competence and Other Relationships

For more information about each Webinar and to sign up go to:

http://www.ocali.org/view.php?nav_id=202

A residential campus experience for high school and college students with disabilities - Are you a high school student planning to attend college or a college freshmen or sophomore? Do you need help exploring careers to determine your major? Are you interested in learning about Assistive and Universal Technology that is available to you and can support your learning needs? Are you currently receiving or eligible to receive services from the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (ORSC) Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR) Bureau of Services to the Visually Impaired (BSVI)? Would you like to improve your skills to live and succeed on a college campus?

The Ohio State University Nisonger Center and the Office for Disability Services is recruiting college and high school students who are eligible for services from the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission who are interested in participating in a Student Learning Community (SLC) and/or a week long residential experience July 25 – 29th on the Ohio State University Campus.

The Residential SLC kicks off on Monday, July 25th with registration at 10:00 a.m. and check out on July 29th at 2:00 p.m.

Students can receive universal or assistive technology for completing this program.

For more information, please contact the program coordinator at graham-day.1@osu.edu or 614-599-8901.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Building Operations - Mr. Morrison is working with SHP, Leading Design to secure quotes from roofing contractors. We are investigating the possibility of making repairs to the roof of our Education Center this summer.

Mr. Morrison is working on a summer floor care schedule. We expect to bring an epoxy floor surface to our elementary, intermediate and middle schools.

Kleingers has started initial surveying for upgrading our access roads from Rathmell and Parsons. This work will focus on repairing and sealing areas of road running through the main campus.

Ohio Fire and Safety inspected our backflow preventers at our high school on Tuesday. This is a regular inspection required by the Ohio Department of Health.

Campus and Athletic Grounds - Heiberger Paving will begin work on an access walk at the high school baseball field. This walk will be located between the home dugout and the athletic barn.

Maintenance - Ohio Education Matters placed our maintenance department in the top 5% for our ODE typology in regards to effectiveness and efficiency. A savings of \$254,725.56 was associated with Hamilton's maintenance team. This led all district's in our typology.

Transportation - Our transportation department will continue to look for local drivers to join our team. If interested, please contact Mrs. Barbara Haughn at 491-8044 ext. 1238.

Health and Safety - Mr. Morrison has completed a grant request to the Ohio Department of Education for safety and violence prevention training programs. Our school district currently uses PublicSchoolWorks for our staff training needs, and this grant will reimburse the district for the cost of our state mandated safety and violence training (ORC 3319.073).

Food Services - Mr. Morrison was notified this week that Ohio Education Matters, a subsidiary of KnowledgeWorks Foundation, conducted a benchmarking study of Ohio's school districts examining non-instructional areas of education spending - food services, maintenance/operations, administration and transportation. Hamilton Local was the top scoring district within our typology. This also identified Hamilton as a "best in class" school district.

OFFICE OF ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

A Day in the Life of the Alternative Academy Instructors - Each day Mr. Benton and Mr. O'Reilly work hard to maintain over 125 students in the Alternative Academy in addition to helping support Hamilton Township High School CBI and Credit Recovery students. Here is just a glimpse into their day:

1. Process student work turned in over night
2. Maintain and update attendance records
3. Document, copy, file, mail out student exams
4. Communicate with staff members across the district via email & phone about student progress, work, attendance, needs etc.
5. Deliver and pick up work to/from Hamilton Elementary, Hamilton Intermediate, Hamilton Middle School, and Hamilton Township High School
6. Instruct students K-12 on all subjects

7. Communicate with parents & students regarding attendance, work, new books etc.
8. Guide students in course of study and academic & post-secondary goals
9. Prepare students for OAA's and OGT's
10. Administer OAA's and OGT's
11. Grade student work
12. Prepare coursework for students
13. Monitor student progress
14. Continually look to improve effectiveness by using technology
15. Review curriculum and look for improvements
16. Weekly meetings with HAA Director

PRESCHOOL

Teacher Appreciation - Weekly Newsome put together a great week of fun, food, and prizes for the staff. Gyun started planning in February for this week and contacted many local businesses for donations to help make this week successful. Lunch was provided each day-Caines, Olive Garden, Flyers Pizza, and Subway all pitched in to help. Teachers also received a special treat in their mailbox each day. The final activity was an evening event with a drawing for prizes. The prizes included: a tanning package, Zoombezi Bay tickets, Movie coupons, Barnes and Nobel gift card, Cloak and Dagger Dinner Theater, and several other great items. It was a great week for the preschool staff!

Big Playground - The sun came out on Thursday and the kids were ready for an adventure! The Elementary School was the destination for a day of play. The kids enjoyed the walk and loved the big playground. Thanks to the Elementary Staff for inviting us over. The Kids will go over one more time to play and take a tour of the building.

Mother's Day Tea - The third annual Mother's Day Tea was held on Friday, May 6, 2011 for all the moms, aunts, grandmas, or special lady to a preschool student. This year's theme was "Your My Cup of Tea". The special lady helped make a craft, enjoyed a treat, and had their picture taken with their little one. It was a day of smiles and cheer for all.

Mark Your Calendar - Preschool Graduation will take place on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 10:00am and 2:00pm in the High School Auditorium. All staff members that are able to come are invited to attend this event. We are so proud of the class of 2024!

HAMILTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

OAA Week Runs Smoothly - The spring administration of the Ohio Achievement Assessments ran very smoothly at Hamilton Middle School. Students and staff alike were focused and ready for the challenge of the tests. Student attendance was at 99% for the testing period and staff was at 100% during the tests. As of Friday morning, all students that could be tested have completed all of their tests. It was a great week at the Middle School. Special thanks go out to Mrs. Betsy Carfagna, as she led the building in the testing process.

Middle School 8th Graders Measure Up! - After testing, the 8th graders at Hamilton Middle School have been busy measuring the math classrooms. The students have been asked to find the total surface area of the room for what will need to be painted. To do this activity, the students needed to find the total surface area of all of the walls and the area of anything that is attached to the wall using a yardstick. As a group, we have assumed that they will not need to paint behind those fixtures. After all measurements have been taken, the area of the fixtures needed to be subtracted from the total surface area to find the number of square feet of wall that will be painted. Finding the square footage of the wall was not the only task! The students also had to find how many gallons of paint were needed as well as the total cost of the paint. Below are a couple of photos of the measurements being taken.

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

State Is Under Budget For First Nine Months Of The Year - The State budget from July 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 is under budget by \$183 million. During the first nine months of the fiscal year, the State has received \$513 million more than expected in revenue. On the spending side, the State also has spent \$330 million more than expected. As a result, the bottom line (after rounding) now stands at a positive \$183 million. The bottom line, just for March, was that the State spent a lot more money in March to the tune of \$487 million over budget in March alone. But, the receipts were \$526 million more received for the month. With the budget crisis that is ahead, we desperately need this year's budget to come in under budget and show some savings, which it is now showing.

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Testing Update - Ohio Achievement Assessments have gone smoothly and all but two students were able to complete testing this week. Thank you to: our building test coordinators, Collett Hayes, Kelli Lester, and Betsy Carfagna for their diligence and hard work: all the building staff members who support the process and the children; our families who made sure their children were at school and ready for testing; and our students who did their very best.

Art Show Attendees Vote for Best of Show - During the opening night of the district art show, those attending could purchase tickets to vote for their favorite. Money raised from the voting will help support future exhibitions and will also be used to award the artists who received the most votes at each grade level. The grade-level winners are:

PK Ameerah Osman

K Christopher Fegan

1 Mallory Murmaw

2 Shane Powell

3 Sarah Montgomery

4 Kyler Fosco

5 Ashley Hamilton

6 Brooke Porter

7 Marcus McKinley

8 Devyn Stevens

9 Rachel Crumley

10 Jacob Goings

11 Cris Dotson

12 Whitney Mair

UPCOMING EVENTS –

<http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us/protected/mastercalendar.aspx>