

Building Highlights – Spring 2012

Student Achievements

- Video club created the 5th grade farewell video for the first time (in place of parents).
- Student Council sponsored Spirit Week with pajama day, crazy hair day, twin day, and hat day.
- Odyssey of the Mind teams competed in Regionals and advanced three teams to the state level competition.
- Wealthy Running Club involved hundreds of students during recess by encouraging them to run laps around the building and get a card punched for each lap.
- Young Five students took their pictures so it looked like they were standing in their shoes like The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe. These pictures were then used to help students learn the writing process.
- First Grade students created "Zoo" projects and presented them to their peers and the school.
- First Grade students studied and dissected owl pellets.
- Each student researched and wrote a report on a famous person.
- Two students were inspired to each write and publish their own 60+ page book through Lulu.com under the guidance of their teacher. These original works by ten year olds are really stunning.
- Students completed a Read Around Michigan (RAM) for March is Reading Month. Students read from city-to-city around Michigan with one mile equaling one minute of reading, several students in each class completed multiple trips making this the most successful RAM ever. A total of 1944 hours of reading were completed in March.

Student Activities

- Wealthy School Musical *The Rockin' Tale of Snow White* had 120 student participants.
- PBIS TEAM celebrations to-date include grade-level Zumba lessons, pumpkin relays, 50's style sock hop, and yoga. The final TEAM Celebration will be Field Day.
- Variety Show highlighted many student talents in music, dance, and more.
- Wealthy student swimming classes were offered for students in grades 1-5 in the Wealthy Pool.
- Wealthy Technology Night highlighting 1:1 classrooms and instruction.
- Wealthy Family Movie Night with over 200 attendants enjoying *Cars 2*.
- Curriculum enhancements including John Ball Zoo animal classroom visits, Brainstormers writing projects and assemblies, Irish Step Dancer presentation, and Bright Start theatre troupe.
- Kindergarten students read Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* to learn about healthy food and eating. Every food the caterpillar ate was studied and sampled by the students.
- Young Five students dressed like Wee Willie Winkie and took turns trying to trick our classmates with different o'clock bedtimes on the Judy clock.
- In February Kindergarten students celebrated our "Patriotism" unit and the first 100 days.
- In March was the Ocean Unit and Kindergarten students finished the unit with a "Search Rap".
- April includes a celebration of Earth Day.
- May is time for the farm and a field trip to the Critter Barn.
- In June Kindergarten will have their own Field Day.
- First graders experienced their first outside lunch. A long-awaited privilege!

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Educating and inspiring each student to navigate successfully in a global community

- Mrs. Sawade's classroom produced and presented the play "Billy Goat's".
- First graders have demonstrated their amazing reading and writing growth since Kindergarten.
- Each second grade classroom, as part of their science unit on land and water, built a model of a community (with wells) and observed how various pollutants affect the groundwater and other sources of water.
- Second grade students traveled on a field trip to the Grand Rapids Public Museum to view the exhibition *Grand Rapids – Then and Now* as part of the communities unit in Social Studies.
- Students viewed the film *Chimpanzee* in 3D to recognize Earth Day.
- A science unit was presented as an interactive game (Matter Quest) with high student engagement. The unit highlighted the use of the 1:1 program and how 1:1 is balanced with a mix of digital and analog (hands-on) activities.
- Annual Mackinac Island trip on May 31 and June 1.
- Students are researching and crafting their 20th Century Project.
- Fifth grade went to see the Grand Rapids Symphony.
- Fifth grade had a Tug of War to demonstrate various elements for their Revolutionary War Unit.
- Students completed a Read Around the Midwest for March is Reading Month.

Partnerships/Collaborations

- Green Week to highlight environmental awareness with events such as a PaperGator competition, lunchroom waste tracking, pack-it-in/pack-it-out promotion, used children's book drive, and Recycled Art Prize. Over six hundred used children's books were collected and donated to another elementary school in the Grand Rapids area.
- Children book author Jerry Pallota visits Wealthy to highlight reading and writing.
- Successful Scholastic Book Fair.
- Wealthy Choir participated in Melodies in March and other community outreach events at Clark Retirement Community and God's Kitchen.
- Young Five students collected and sorted cans, boxes, and bags of food when we learned about Old Mother Hubbard and then donated the goods to a local food bank.
- The journey and reports back from each Second grade student's Travelmate (a stuffed animals sent with a world traveler) from around the globe continues to excite and engage students.
- Clark Retirement Community monthly reading visits continue. Second graders will also participate with the choir in a culminating concert under Mrs. Schmieder's direction in late May.
- Habitat for Humanity birdhouse painting project where Second Grade students are painting birdhouses to be used as a fundraiser centerpiece and then given to new homes built by Habitat for Humanity.
- Iditarod Musher and Sled dogs visit and present to Third Grade students.
- Mrs. Anderson interviews in Alaska for the Iditarod Teacher on the Trail for 2013. Mrs. Anderson Skyped with her Third Grade students while in Alaska.
- Mackinac Troupe visited and presented to Fourth Grade students about early life at Mackinaw City and on Mackinac Island. Presenters wore traditional clothing and involved the students in much of their presentation.