



CLEARVIEW Curriculum Connection

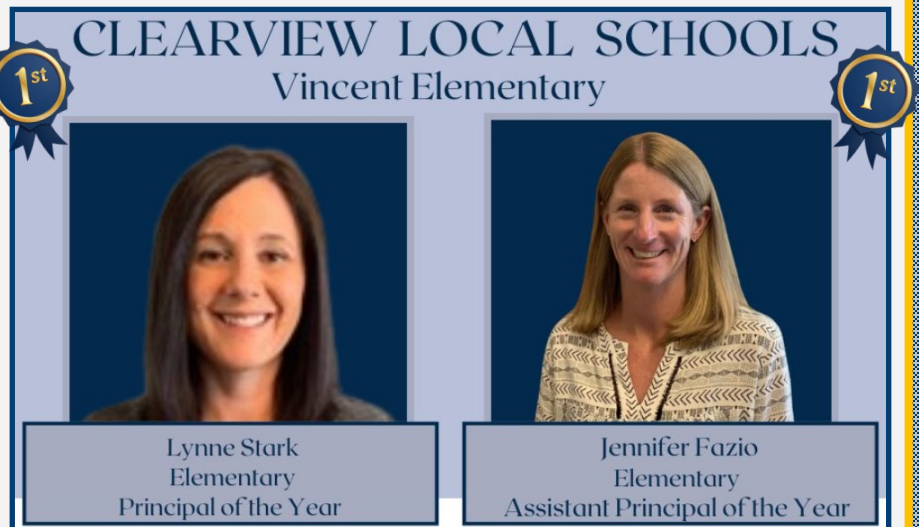
Volume 6; Issue 214

April 12, 2024

Clearview Claims the 2024 Ohio Elementary Principal and Assistant Principal of the Year!!

Great news for the Clearview Local Schools was announced during spring break. The Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators has announced that our very own **Lynne Stark**, principal of Vincent Elementary, has been awarded the 2024 **Elementary Principal of the Year** in the state of Ohio. Also, in unprecedented fashion, Vincent Elementary Assistant Principal **Jennifer Fazio** has been awarded the 2024 **Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year** in the state of Ohio by the OAESA. Congratulations to both Lynne and Jennifer!! This is the first time in the history of the awards that both have come from the same school district.

This is well deserved and a testament to the hard work, collaboration, and positive school climate that exists at Vincent. Student progress is evident in many areas. The attention to detail, structured interventions, dedication to PBIS, and instructional leadership practices are just some of the main reasons for the awards. The award committees did extensive research that also included visiting VES to see their programs and initiatives in action. All VES staff share in the honors. This is great news for the Clearview Local Schools and also exemplifies the collaboration and support that exists district wide. All Clearview shares in the honor as a result. Both Lynne and Jen will represent Clearview to receive the awards this summer at the 2024 OAESA state conference.



Even the most challenging students and staff need us to believe in them. Believe they care. Believe they can. Believe they will.

~Jimmy Casas

Upcoming Dates:

- ◆ 4/15: DMS OST ELA
- ◆ 4/16: DMS OST ELA
- ◆ 4/16: VES OST ELA Gr3&4
- ◆ 4/16: CHS OST Geometry
- ◆ 4/17: DMS OST Math
- ◆ 4/17: CHS OST ELA II
- ◆ 4/18: CHS OST ELA II
- ◆ 4/18: VES OST ELA Gr3&4

Clearview Value Added Roster Verification Duties

The second phase of the Value Added Roster Verification process is now open. Teachers are to login to the LINK system for the duties listed below:

TEACHER LINKAGE PERIOD

April 10 – April 30

- ◆ Verify classes and tests taken;
- ◆ Review your class rosters;
- ◆ Include student membership in you classes; and
- ◆ Assign the percentage of instruction that you provided each student.

Need Assistance? Let me know.

Value Added Teachers:

- ◆ Grades 4-8 ELA
- ◆ Grades 4-8 Math
- ◆ Grades 5 & 8 Science
- ◆ Algebra I
- ◆ American Government
- ◆ American History
- ◆ Biology
- ◆ English II
- ◆ Geometry

LINK: Roster Verification Access

Ohio State Testing Spring 2024 Preparation: Finalized State Testing Schedule

Each issue of the Curriculum Connection from now until Spring will contain a section on Ohio State Testing Preparation. I will include details about test scheduling, test preparation, and test background. In this issue I am sharing the finalized 2024 spring state testing schedule for the district. This includes all of the dates associated with the various testing requirements.

All students have been entered into the TIDE system, the state's testing portal. Special thanks to the principals and school counselors for organizing the testing logistics and for confirming student test participation. This is no small task and in order to create the proper testing environment the accuracy of student uploads must be a priority. This also includes the organization and communication of state testing bell schedules. Building principals will communicate these details so that all staff are on the same page with testing expectations and duties assigned. **The better our testing organization the better our students will perform!!**

VINCENT ELEMENTARY:

ELA GR3: APRIL 16TH & 18TH

ELA GR4: APRIL 16TH & 18TH

MATH GR3: APRIL 23RD & 24TH

MATH GR4: APRIL 23RD & 24TH

DURLING MIDDLE SCHOOL:

ELA: APRIL 15TH & 16TH

MATH: APRIL 17TH

SCIENCE: APRIL 30TH

CLEARVIEW HIGH SCHOOL:

ENG II: APRIL 17 & 18TH

GEOMETRY: APRIL 16TH

ALGEBRA: APRIL 25TH

BIOLOGY: APRIL 24TH

US HIST: APRIL 23RD

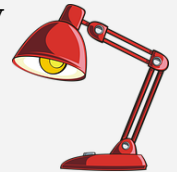
GOVT: APRIL 30TH

**Best of
Luck
to All!**

Clearview Classrooms - Why Are the Classroom Lights Out?

Why are the classroom lights out?? A trend I noticed as I visit many classrooms in the district is the teacher strategy to turn the classroom lights off during instruction and learning activity. This trend may be due to the use of chromebooks and perhaps screens can be seen easier. But this is a strategy being used even when laptops/projectors are not being used. Student reading and writing activity are even taking place in dimly lit classrooms. When I ask about the strategy I am informed that lights out creates a calming effect and relaxed atmosphere. Kids may even prefer lights out. However, it is more difficult to see and research states lighting was shown to be a major factor in the brain's ability to focus. Students that attended class in brightly lit rooms performed better than students in dimly lit rooms. Even though students may not voice their opinion, many may have a hard time seeing and focusing during lesson activity - especially when attempting to read and write. Have an alternative opinion? Let me know; I would like to learn more. Check the article link below:

LINK: [How Does Lighting Affect Learning?](#)



Instructional Strategies Review: 27 Teacher Tested Lesson Closure Activities

In each issue of the Connection I will review a particular instructional strategy: 27 Teacher Tested Lesson Closure Activities. In a prior Connection newsletter I had discussed the importance of the first 10 minutes of a lesson and the last 10 minutes of a lesson. Often, educators focus on the middle, the learning activity covering most of the time during a class period. However, according to research, it is the beginning time and ending time that packs the most punch with student retention of information. Therefore, plan wisely. I gave ideas from an article on lesson starters or anticipatory sets. The article below provides 27 awesome ideas for lesson closure activities. When students "abruptly go onto the next class" without a moment to make sense of what they just learned, teachers miss a valuable opportunity to reinforce newly acquired learning. Provide the concept of reflection. This is when teachers provide an opportunity to surface and correct misunderstandings, emphasize key points, and consolidate recently learned content. It takes planning but the reward for learning can be huge. Review the article, and if conducting one, send an invite!!

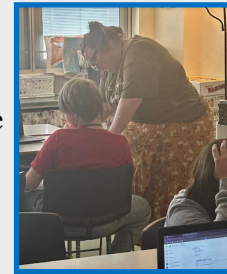
Check the link for Quick (and fun) strategies to check for understanding, reinforce learning, and identify misconceptions in the last moments of class.

LINK: [27 Teacher Tested Lesson Closure Activities](#)

Active, Engaged, and Innovative Classroom Learning in Clearview!

Each issue of Curriculum Connection will include reports from our classrooms around the district. We want to do our best to promote active, engaged, and innovative lesson plans. What are your colleagues doing to engage Clearview students? The idea is to show appreciation for the hard work it takes to plan and develop such lessons.

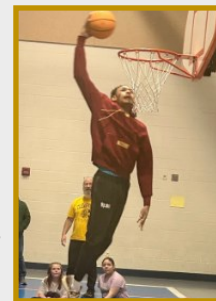
I stopped by **Brianna Potts'** fifth grade ELA classroom this past week. Brianna had her class engaged in a reading comprehension activity. This served as great practice for the Ohio State Tests. Kids had to read a passage titled, "Without a Map" and answer several questions that were provided based on identified literacy elements. Co-teaching was **Heidi Ward** using the One Teach One Assist Model. Brianna had the class do a whole group reading where kids were assigned particular paragraphs to read aloud. Then they had to answer questions on a graphic organizer asking about the selection's theme, inferences, connections to prior learning, paraphrasing, plot, climax, and sensory details. Nice work by all!!



I made a visit to **Joe Strader's** grade 9 World History class this past week. Joe was teaching a lesson on the origins of World War II. He started class with a journal entry assignment asking, "Should you give people what they want in order to avoid conflict?" Then he reviewed the concept of appeasement and how it related to Europe during the time prior to the start of the war. Joe's classes read graphic novels as a main resource for key units of study. The comic book type of style provides visuals and puts details of the time period into a story format. During my visit kids engaged in whole group reading then they also watched a music video parody of an Ariana Grande song regarding appeasement related to Europe's actions. Joe even sang a little ha! Great lesson!!



Let's Go Cavs!! Vincent Elementary hosted an event for their upcoming state test takers this past Wednesday. Members of the **Cleveland Cavaliers** Youth Sports organization came to VES and put on quite a show! The Cavs reps motivated 3rd and 4th graders to do their very best and to take pride in their efforts for the OSTs. They conducted several skills competitions that included both student and staff participation (**Dianna Dane** went 3 for 3 in her shooting contest - impressive). Clearview had applied online for the event and we were luckily chosen to host the program in our district. Lot's of fun and energy were displayed at the event. Slam dunks and Alley-oops with the Cavs at VES!!



Molly Streator conducted an awesome state test prep activity with her 5th graders this past week. Molly created Google Slide game activities for each major science standard covered on the exam. On the day of my visit she covered Forces and Motion. The class was divided into two teams and each had to come up with a team name. Molly then posted a slide with a question that the team had to collaborate to answer. If the team answered correctly then they got the opportunity to spin the big wheel to acquire points. Molly collected, organized, then utilized several years worth of OST practice test questions and put them all together in a google slide format to create the game; awesome work Molly!! The competition was Fun and Informative for all!!

