

District Happenings
Gifted Program
Fall 2017

Elementary:

Thursday, October 12 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

McCarter Elementary School located at [5512 SW 16th St, Topeka, KS 66604](#).

Facilitator classrooms are:

Mr. Campbell – Science #103

Ms. Soyland – Language Arts #102

Ms. Harkness – Math #99

Middle Schools:

Robinson--Jasmine Puderbaugh

Battle of the Brains

Students in all 3 grade levels are working to complete a proposal for the Battle of the Brains competition put on by Burns and McDonnell in conjunction with Science City. Students must design an interactive exhibit for Science City, and the best idea gets built! We are currently in the research and idea generation phase of the project, but will soon begin writing our proposals.

You Can Do the Cube! Mosaic Contest

6th grade students learned how to solve Rubik's Cubes, then designed mosaics made out of the cubes, using the individual colors as pixels to create art. We used 36 cubes to make each mosaic and have entered our designs into the annual mosaic contest that YCDTC sponsors.

3D Printers

The art teacher (Ms. Atkins) and Jasmine Puderbaugh received a grant last year to purchase 3D printers. They are now in the stage of deciding how to incorporate their use into their classes. Students in Jasmine's class will begin using them as part of their Battle of the Brains projects.

NEA Learning and Leadership Grant

Jasmine recently received a \$2000 grant to attend the National Association for Gifted Children annual conference through the NEA Learning and Leadership program. Only 32 educators in the United States earned this grant. She is looking forward to learning about identifying and serving Gifted students in poverty as the main focus of her grant.

Chase--JoAnn Bock

The Chase Middle School Gifted class toured the Air National Guard at Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas on Thursday September 14, 2017, as a career focus field trip. Students were guided through a simulator and allowed get in the position of a boomer operator for a refueling mission. This was a very interesting and informative trip and all of the students were very grateful that they were able to do so much in such a short time.

Landon---Cheryl McPherson

Students were given a scholarship to visit Science City as part of our work in the Battle of the Brains competition. They visited the museum on September 21.

Sommer Loehr has won a scholarship to have one on one tutoring from a professional choreographer through Johnson County Community College and the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission. She is one of 5 accepted. She aspires to a career in professional dance and this is wonderful news for her....

HPHS--Peter Muraski

This past summer, I took two burgeoning teachers and nine eager students to St. Paul/Minneapolis, Duluth and Madeline Island on Lake Superior. The students were so impressed with the Twin Cities that we stayed there an extra half-day before venturing North. Please peruse the profiles and links below with the final link being a video synopsis of the trip, created by the students.

[Highland Park Summer Adventure 2017](#)

https://youtu.be/8pvu_KFS_iM

TWHS--Christine Steinkuehler

October 3rd—West will be giving an ACT for free for Seniors.
October 3rd--seminar--Libby Rosen on Nursing careers and Baker Univ. --in the library
October 5th—seminar—Evelyn Eubanks on the TCALC robotics program--in the library
October 11th—PSAT
October 12th--seminar--KU Engineering --in the library
October 17th--seminar--Paul Renyer with Restore Physical Therapy
October 18th--seminar--WSU Engineering--in the library

October 25th—seminar—KSU Call Me Mister Scholarship program--in the library
(African American students interested in going into teaching, must be PELL eligible,
tuition, room/board, tutoring, mentoring and placement programs free ride for
sophomores, juniors and seniors)

November 1st—seminar—Financial Literacy for College Students--in the library

November 16th--seminar--Sarah Fizell w/Arts Connect and the Topeka Mural Project--in
the library

November 30th--seminar--WU Game Design program--in the library