

We Are Thankful for You!

November is a time to be thankful and we are thankful for you! Every staff member in Bay City Public Schools plays a key role in educating our students and we are thankful for the time you spend ensuring our students have the opportunity to learn in a safe, caring environment. For every kind word you speak; we are thankful. For every child you make feel visible; we are thankful. For every moment you take to listen; we are thankful. For making our students feel safe; we are thankful. Our district is changing for the better and huge part of this is because of you!

Thank you! What are you thankful for? Click [here](#) to take a moment to tell us and you could be a *Navigator* Winner!



Rachel Pfundt
3rd Grade
MacGregor Elem.



Erin Czerwinski
ELA
Western MS



Kari McCulloch
Teacher Consultant
Western HS

Congratulations to the winners of the October Navigator contest! That Guy's BBQ located in City Market sponsored our October edition and each winner received a \$10.00 gift card to That Guy's BBQ! **Thank you That Guy's BBQ!!** Keep reading every month for your chance to win!



Pre-School

Did you know BCPS has ten full-day preschool rooms that work with 172 children and their families?

Our Great Start Readiness preschool programs provide a developmentally-appropriate program in a safe and nurturing environment which promotes social, emotional, physical, and cognitive growth. Our goals foster a positive self-concept and develop socialization and school readiness skills. Various developmentally-appropriate experiences are provided and tailored to the individual needs of each child. Long-lasting partnerships between school, family, and the community are initiated.

Our Pre-School Programs are located at Hampton (1), Kolb (1), Lindsay (1), MacGregor (3), McAlear-Sawden (2), and Washington (2).



MAISA Writing Units

Watching students' progress and grow is a rewarding perk to our jobs in education. MAISA writing units have provided a solid structure for teaching writing and facilitating our students' growth.

As we strive to be consistent as a district, it is important that we are implementing the MAISA Units K-8 as they were intended. Following the guideline with fidelity with facilitate growth in our students and eliminate gaps in their writing abilities.

If you have questions about the MAISA units or implementation of the MAISA units, please ask the coach in your building or contact Lori France ext. 8155.

Mathematical Discourse



As a teacher, we spend a lot of time preparing engaging lessons, grading student work, and attending professional development. Rarely do we take the time to think about the questions we are asking our students. At the November 6th PD Day, K-5 teachers had a chance to think about their Math Instruction and share ideas with one another. Asking good questions and promoting discourse came up in every grade-level session! It is an integral part of the teaching and learning in a classroom, and extends well beyond the Math class.

Can the questions you're asking in the mathematics classroom be answered with a simple “yes” or “no,” or do they invite students to deepen their understanding?

Asking better questions can open new doors for students, helping to promote mathematical thinking and encouraging classroom discourse. Such questions help students:

- Work together to make sense of mathematics.
- Rely more on themselves to determine whether something is mathematically correct.
- Learn to reason mathematically.
- Evaluate their own processes and engage in productive peer interaction.
- Discover and seek help with problems in their comprehension.
- Learn to conjecture, invent and solve problems.
- Learn to connect mathematics, its ideas and its applications.
- Focus on the mathematical skills embedded within activities.



To help you encourage deeper discussions, [here are 100 questions](#) to incorporate into your instruction by Dr. Gladis Kersaint, mathematics expert and advisor for “Ready Mathematics”. *(Contributed by Connie Kennedy)*



Illuminate Update

We hope Illuminate is starting to be familiar to you and it is making your life easier! Please take a moment to complete this one question survey that will help us determine what we can offer to meet your needs in the future!

<https://goo.gl/forms/FEfd9VkyAYceDkc62>

Important Dates

November 21-23, 2018 Thanksgiving Break

December 3, 2018 Science Kit Post Test (Earth) Grade K-5

December 6, 2018 Science Kit Pre Test (Phys) Grade K – 5

December 24-January 2, 2018 Winter Break



The Curriculum Department would like to give a shout out to everyone who presented for the Professional Development Day on November 6, 2018! Your leadership is greatly appreciated! It's not always easy to stand in front of your peers and our presenters rocked it out!

Thank you to everyone that attended and made this a successful day!

The day was packed with learning, conversations with colleagues, and professional reflections.