

Choice and Career Options

Engage, Educate, Empower

3308 Forest Hill Boulevard • C-124 • West Palm Beach FL 33406

First Semester 2011-2012

Cooperation Makes It Happen! West Boca Raton High Earns Fourth "National Model" Academy

Both "Sesame Street," the iconic children's television series, and the Career Academy Model have two important things in common. They both debut forty-two years ago, Sesame Street began in New York City and the Career Academy Model began in Philadelphia, Pa. They both follow the motto, "Cooperation Makes It Happen!"

President Angie Grasberger of the National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC), the reviewing body for academy programs, announced that West Boca Raton Community High School has earned the unprecedented 4th National Model through an intensive evaluation of the Academy of Information Technology. In 2007, West Boca High was awarded its first model, the Academy of Culinary Arts. In 2009, the school earned its second model, the Academy of Medical Sciences. In 2010, it achieved its third model, the Academy of Drafting and Design.

According to Principal Mark L. Stenner, cooperation is the key word. "The dynamic relationships between students, faculty, staff, business partners, and higher education officials are the secret to our academy success. A special thank you to Academy Coordinator, Susan Bantang, who was responsible for coordinating all four of the academy reviews."

The following members of the Information Technology Academy Team worked together to earn the National Model status: School Assistant Principals Jack Clutter, Lynne Weissing, Arturo Bicknell, Luke Owens and Lyle Agnew. Information Technology Chairperson Robert Bantang and IT Instructors Breyn Fish, Mark Graulich, Adam Romer and Debbie Corona prepared interdisciplinary lessons with their Cohort Social Studies Instructors Charles Tolliver and Joseph Delise and English Instructors Dayami Escobar, Allison Jaffe, Pam McDonough and Krista Hierholzer. The Academy of Culinary Arts and the Academy of Drafting and Design, provided the Information Technology Academy's hospitality and printing needs.

The school's support staff led by Guidance Coordinator John Cunningham, ESE Coordinator Debbie Ganguzza, and Office Manager Rita Barbieri provided professional assistance. IT Academy students Justin Block, Derek Davis, Alex Kalter, John O'Connor, Alec Solaski, Lauren Guili, Courtney King, Gabriel Franco, and Alana O'Brien did an excellent job representing their Academy during the review process. The school's Community Academy Advisory Board (CAAB) is comprised of members of both the business and higher education community. Senior Vice President of U.S.Trust and CAAB Chairman J.C. Perrin, FAU Athletics Representative and Vice Chairman Brenda Coto, Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce President Troy McLellan, 3CInteractive CEO John Duffy, Aplicor CEO Scott Creighton, Citibank Vice President Katherine Van Brocklin, Johnson & Wales University Director of Community Relations Barbara Weiss, and IT Alumnus Andrew Perrin provided NCAC with testimonials to support the group's involvement in securing work-based learning experiences for the IT Academy students



Cooperation Makes It Happen...as West Boca High's Academy Team prepares students today for the careers of tomorrow.

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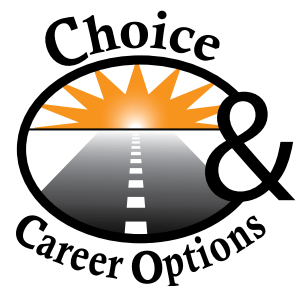
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Happy New Year

2012

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Target Donates \$500 To The U. B. Kinsey/ Palmview Elementary School Of The Arts Media Center



Ms. Jana Grounds, Executive Team Leader of the Human Resources Department of the Palm Beach Lakes Target store, along with Mr. Ashlyn Parker, Executive Team Leader-Assets Protection, brought a check for \$500 to Ms. Adrienne Harrell, the Media Specialist at U.B. Kinsey/

Palmview Elementary for the purchase of new books for their Media Center.

While presenting the check, both Grounds and Parker talked to the students about their college careers and their job responsibilities at Target. "It was so encouraging to see young people talk about the value of hard work and starting on the ground level at Target and now having positions of leadership" stated Mrs. Sharon Campbell, Choice Coordinator.

Mrs. Adrienne Howard, U. B. Kinsey/Palmview Elementary School of the Arts Principal, told the guests and students, "It is an honor to have a business partner like Target at our school. We will be able to purchase two hundred books for our Media Center. Reading is such a valuable part of child's education. One day, you can grow up to be college graduates like these young people and contribute to your community."

Santaluces High School Students To Create And Produce An Original Musical

Under the instruction of Mark Fetterly and Richard Andreacchio, the Drama and Music Directors at Santaluces High School in Lantana, and with the support of Broadway veterans Jacqueline Bayne Gillman (*South Pacific, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Ragtime*), and Jason Gillman (*Legally Blonde The Musical, Chicago, Thoroughly Modern Millie*), 30 students will create and produce *Lift Up Your Voice*, an original musical exploring the same themes of poverty and oppression that are found in *LES MISÉRABLES*.

The two talented Gillmans will collaborate with the school's creative team to work with the students from the end of March through late May as they create and rehearse *Lift Up Your Voice*, culminating in performances before fellow students, family and friends at both Santaluces High School and the Kravis Center.

Eagles Landing Pre-Culinary Academy Incorporates Skills Learned In Their First Year

Mrs. Leonard's 6th grade Pre-Culinary Academy class had a "spooky" good time making Funfetti sugar cookies for their friends and family. The students are incorporating many of the skills learned in the first year of the 3 year program which started this school year at Eagles Landing Middle School. Some of



the topics discussed in class so far this semester have been learning how to read and follow recipes, measuring ingredients accurately, learning about different kitchen utensils and using different cooking techniques. Many of these topics were incorporated into the cookie lab as well so students could have "hands on" experience in a real kitchen and practice time management, teamwork and kitchen safety. The students enjoyed decorating and eating their cookies and a few cookies actually made it home.

Forest Park Elementary IB/PYP Word School Engaging Students

Forest Park Elementary, an IB/PYP World School in Boynton Beach, has some very engaged students. Currently, Kindergartners are inquiring about their roles and responsibilities in families both their own and from cultures around the world. First grade students are inquiring into peace and conflict resolution, while second grade students are inquiring into parts of the human body and how the parts are interdependent. Third grade students are engaged in finding out about the physical and chemical properties, as well as human uses of matter. Fourth grade students are inquiring into biodiversity and the interdependence of organisms within ecosystems. Fifth grade students are currently deepening their understanding of matter through hands-on learning engagements. The learning and inquiring at Forest Park IB World School never stops.

Forest Park Elementary is also fortunate to have a tremendous amount of technology for students and teachers to use in their learning. Current technology includes an Apple Mobile Laptop Lab for each grade level, fifty flip cameras, and two computer labs. The newest additions to developing digital learners are seventy-five iPad 2's. The Technology Team is currently receiving training and browsing the many educational applications that will be used by the Forest Park learning community as they strive to develop learners ready for the 21st Century.

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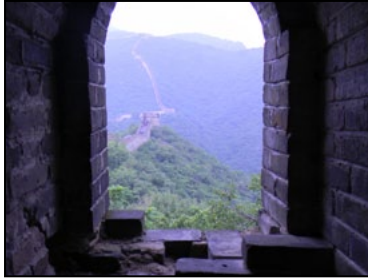
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China 2011, A Short Glimpse Of Beijing, Xi'an, And Shanghai

By Britt Feingold, Art Director, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary

During the summer of 2011 I participated in a Category 3 level IB workshop to China. I have always wanted to visit China and the deal was just too good to pass up. I visited Beijing to see the Great Wall, Xi'an to visit the Terracotta Soldiers, and Shanghai to visit the Jade Buddha Temple and the World Financial District. While I was in China, I was exposed to so much more than just the world famous tourist spots. I was exposed to the everyday culture of a foreign country. I was able to see and experience firsthand the wonder of China.



There were amazing gardens everywhere I traveled to on the trip. Public art was displayed in all places. As a foreigner I was the person getting stared at. The Chinese people were curious about me and loved the United States. Many people would ask if they could take a picture with me, perhaps because of my blonde hair and blue eyes. The Chinese people were so friendly and respectful, and everyone I met was so happy. The older Chinese people would wake up in the morning, perform Tai Chi exercises, and socialize in the Temple of Heaven Park. There were so many games that people participated in. Everyone seemed so content and happy with their lives.

The Great Wall of China was one of the main reasons I decided to travel to China. So when I arrived atop the Great Wall, it was overwhelming and amazing. It took several minutes for it to sink in that I was actually standing on the wall and not looking at it in a book or online. The view was breathtaking and I could not get enough pictures. Every shot seemed just as important and different than the previous one. A lot of my photographs feature the Great Wall and its magnificent history.

The second favorite part of my visit to China was exploring Beijing and Shanghai on my own. With other teachers, I explored the Hutong of Beijing, and the Bund of Shanghai. While out walking the streets, I really felt like a part of the local scene. Individually, I was experiencing Beijing and Shanghai as just another ordinary person, not a tourist. While on these streets, there were book stores, tea shops, souvenir shops, food shops (chocolate covered cricket and larvae on a stick), restaurants, and many other "downtown" stores. In Beijing and Shanghai, I had the opportunity to visit an IB World School as well as public school.

Essentially, China was a great place to witness culture unfolding before you. Everything from the clothing, to the transportation, to the buildings, to the signs, and nature itself was so intriguing and interesting. I have visited many other countries and China by far was

the best cultural journey I have had the pleasure of experiencing. This is the reason that I decided to exhibit photographs from China in a show at the Armory Art Center. The show is a Members Exhibition hosted by the Palm Beach County Art Teachers Association. The Armory Art Center is the perfect place to display what I discovered on my trip abroad.

Poinciana Elementary School Health Fair Promotes Healthy Food Choices

In an effort to promote healthy food choices through the increased consumption of fruits and vegetables the School Food Service Department organized an Education Health Fair at Poinciana (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Elementary School on November 8, 2011.

Each grade level of students contributed to the Health Fair. All of the kindergarteners performed by singing and signing "Apples and Bananas". Other performances included a third grade class singing "Oats, Peas, Beans and Barley Grow" and a fifth grade class singing "Shake The Papaya Down". The first graders demonstrated "Fit Kid Exercises" in a video and created books on healthy choices. The second graders put together a slideshow of the students eating fruits and vegetables that was shown the day of the event. Students wrote persuasive essays about eating healthy, created and performed skits about the benefits and risks of eating healthy, and wrote poems. The PTA sponsored "A Picture of Health" poster contest. The top three students for each grade level received ribbons. All posters entered into the contest were displayed in galleries for each grade level and the First Place winners were displayed in our café the day of the event.



A variety of educational booths were set up to target specific aspects of health and wellness including Safe Kids Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation Aquatic Division, Environmental Health & Engineering Air Pollution Program, UF/IFAS Extension Agency, The DeVos-Blum Family YMCA of Boynton Beach, Caridad Center, Campbell's North America, Erneston & Sons Produce, Inc., R.C. Hatton Farms, Inc., District Employee Wellness, Poinciana's PTA, the Physical Education Teacher and School Health Nurse. The Palm Beach County Oral Health Coalition in collaboration with the Dental Assisting Program from Palm Beach State College provided dental screenings for our students and fluoride varnishes which were donated by Business Partner, Fara Bender, DMD, P.A.

The event provided the students the opportunity to view exciting health and wellness displays, receive educational materials, prizes, as well as free samples of colorful tasty fruits and vegetables.

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The Well-Rounded Education At Watson B. Duncan Middle School

For some students, school is a place where they attend classes, take tests, and talk to friends. However, more than ever, Watson B. Duncan Middle School is a place where young adults can pursue their passion. For the last six years, Duncan has been cultivating the next generation of polished professionals in the Pre-Academy of Finance. With their new Literary and Fine Arts Academy, Duncan is balancing the scales between business and the arts.



The Literary and Fine Arts Academy will cultivate creativity, and develop artistic talent, while enriching students' knowledge and fostering a love of literature and reading. Students will intensely focus on a chosen art area and explore the connection between literature and fine arts. The Literary Arts component will act as the unifying element of the Academy, with all students participating in Advanced Language Arts with Literary Infusion. The program challenges students to achieve a high standard of artistic professionalism, literary understanding and analysis, and academic excellence.

The Academy will nourish the creative instincts of its students by providing exposure to professional artists and an array of artistic performances. Most uniquely, the Literary and Fine Arts Academy will be partnering with the well-established, well-traveled Pre-Academy of Finance in future group travel. The globe-trotting school boasts tours of China, France, Spain, New York, Chicago, and Boston. These rare opportunities provide students with insight into historical works of art while inspiring their own creative endeavors. Duncan's faculty and administration are proud of the marriage of these two phenomenal programs. Duncan is not simply adding a second academy to their school, but is partnering the programs to provide a school-wide concept of an enriched learning environment. As this year's yearbook states, "DMS is a unique place where you can travel abroad, lead the drum line, explore the coral reefs, learn a new language, get the lead role, anchor the midday news, make life-lasting friendships, score the winning goal, inspire an audience, or paint your own picture." In short, DMS is a place where you can love to learn.

FBLA District 20 Fall Rally

On October 5 the FBLA District 20 started off the school year with their Annual Fall Rally held at the Palm Beach Convention Center. Over five hundred fifty members from Palm Beach County High Schools and Middle Schools were in attendance. This year's state FBLA theme is "Ignite the Light!"

The FBLA Rally began with the opening general session. The keynote speaker Robert Fisch, who is the Founding Partner of EMPIRE International and a noted guest lecturer on cultural awareness specially Chinese customs.

The following District Officers were then installed for the 2011-12 school year:

- President– Jared Baker from Palm Beach Central High
- Vice President– Takeiya Lynch from Park Vista High
- Secretary– Lindsay Franks from Palm Beach Central High
- Parliamentarian– Katie Pischke from Dwyer High

Following the opening session, members attended workshops on topics such as "Applying for College: Do's and Don'ts", "Money Skills You Need for Life", and "Online Actions with Offline Consequences" led by business professionals."

After lunch, teams from the schools participated in the Battle of the Chapters competition. This year's winner was Palm Beach Central High. Winners of the Brochure competition were:

- 1st place- Olympic Heights High
- 2nd place- William T. Dwyer High
- 3rd place- Palm Beach Gardens High

Winners of the Display Board were:

- 1st place- William T. Dwyer High
- 2nd place- Olympic Heights High
- 3rd place- Watson B. Duncan Middle

A welcome to two new FBLA chapters this year: Boynton Beach High School and Eagles Landing Middle School.

Department of Choice and Career Options

Visit us online: www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

Barbara Terembes, Director.....	629-8518
Pam Paikai, Secretary to Director.....	629-8518
Miguel Benavente, M.D., Specialist.....	969-5827
Joanne Cannavo, Technician NCLB.....	357-5967
James Cooper, Specialist.....	357-5942
Beth Gillespie, Program Planner.....	434-7458
Fanny Johnson, Analyst.....	434-8123
Tara Kobel, Specialist.....	432-6336
Jeraline Marsh, Ed.D.....	434-8880
Michelle Martin, Tech Accounting Senior.....	434-7371
Lizzy Montgomery, Analyst.....	434-8853
Denell Nelson, Secretary I.....	357-7552
Mireille Petit-Frere, Technician.....	434-7327
Jim Politis, Specialist.....	629-8534
Ben Ramos, Analyst Technical II.....	434-8290
Alicia Salvador, Analyst.....	434-8180
Robin Shanak, Secretary I.....	434-8052
Elizabeth Shapiro, Resource Teacher.....	629-8535
Nicole Smith, Specialist.....	357-1177
Dr. Sylvia Tricarico, Specialist.....	434-8631
Jennifer Velez, Secretary II.....	434-8359
Sandra Wesson, Manager.....	357-7639

Have news, events or comments to include in the next Career Connections?

Send your article to:

Ben Ramos, Analyst-Technical II
ben.ramos@palmbeachschools.org