

Foreign Language Honor Society Newsletter



Meet the NEW SUPERINTENDENT! Dr. Kenneth Graham

As the second largest school district on Long Island, Sachem needs a strong, capable leader. We have found those qualities along with passion, dedication, and understanding in the new Superintendent, Dr. Ken Graham.

Dr. Graham started off his career in education as a science teacher. His experience in the classroom taught him the importance of designing lesson plans to engage students. Science is especially hands on, so he encourages interactive lessons. "There is a place for lecture," he says, but he also believes other ways of learning are just as significant.

After several years of teaching, Dr. Graham progressed to Director of Science and then to Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for Long Beach School District. There, he oversaw programs that prepared students for AP and IB classes from as early as sixth grade. He also worked with the district in its partnership with Farmingdale College. This collaboration gave students the opportunity to try hands on manufacturing and production. Now that Dr. Graham has become Sachem Superintendent, he hopes to bring these types of programs to our district to prepare students for college and a multitude of careers.

But Graham realizes that learning the core subjects isn't a complete education. He believes in "education of the whole child." This means creativity, social/emotional development, innovativeness, wellness, citizenship, and community engagement are just as important as assessment and standardized test scores. They are all pieces of the puzzle which lead to student success.

Despite just beginning his career in the district, Dr. Graham already lauds the strong sense of community here at Sachem. He noted how all of Samoset came together and won the "The Band Perry" contest. He was also impressed by the loud cheers of support from the large crowd at the East vs. North volleyball game. When asked what our strength as a district seemed to be, he answered without hesitation, "the people." He has met with several student groups and attended many school events, and noticed we are happy to see him around and we all want to work together.

But when asked about Sachem's weaknesses, he preferred to call them "challenges." Dr. Graham is a leader who believes we can overcome the obstacles before us. One of the most notable hurdles for Sachem has been our budget. But Dr. Graham has reforms in mind which will make room for improvements, such as addressing the current inadequate technology. He hopes to eventually establish a wireless district so students and teachers can connect on any device they have.

Dr. Graham knows the magnitude of his position, but has kept his platform relevant to each and every member of the Sachem family. All of his programs aim to unify the district, lead students toward bright futures, and keep everyone feeling safe. As for his plans for the first year, Dr. Graham says he will continue observing and collecting information in order to determine what the district needs to work on, how to get it done, and who comprises the team who will make everything happen.

Jason Ennis and Marissa Volkman

Janvier/
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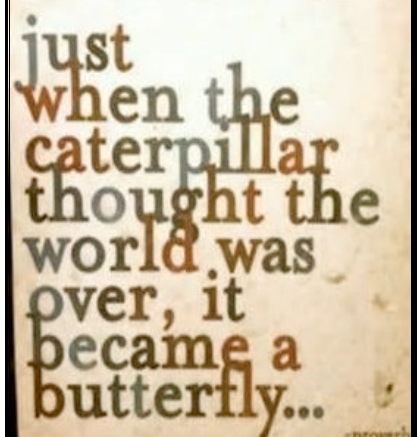
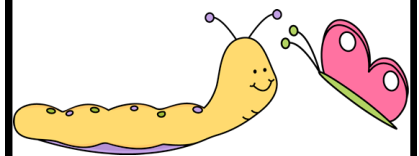
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FLHS Advisor: Dr. M. Scricco

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Haussner



Developing Skills Necessary for Success: Foreign Language Honor Society & Interact Club Working Together

The FLHS and the Interact Club have been collaborating on a myriad of activities. The purpose is simple — engagement. Students today need a skill set which requires an attitude of a life-long learner. Students need to think, be problem solvers, be flexible, work with others and perhaps, most importantly, continually explore new learning opportunities to keep them competitive beyond the classroom.

For more info:

The 8 Skills Students Must Have For The Future by Michael Sledd

<<http://www.edudemic.com/new-skills-world-looking/>>

or scan the QR code



Skills necessary for ...



- ♦ Leadership
- ♦ Digital Literacy
- ♦ Communication
- ♦ Emotional Intelligence
- ♦ Entrepreneurship
- ♦ Global Citizenship
- ♦ Problem—Solving
- ♦ Team Work



What's Your Skill Set for Success?

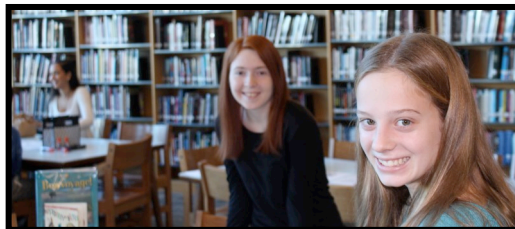
WORLD LANGUAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL WORKSHOP ...choosing a second language to learn!

This workshop, held on Saturday, November 19th, was created in an effort to help middle schoolers explore the different world languages offered to them. They were able to come to this event and interact with students currently enrolled in Spanish, Italian, and French to see what they could be learning next year.

The students were able to learn cultural traditions, simple phrases, and English cognates in each of the languages. This allowed them to get a glimpse at what learning the language would be like. As the creator of this event and one of the FLHS members who worked with the seventh graders, I was able to see how beneficial the event was. After a musical performance and some videos, the students were able to work with groups of people from the same language.

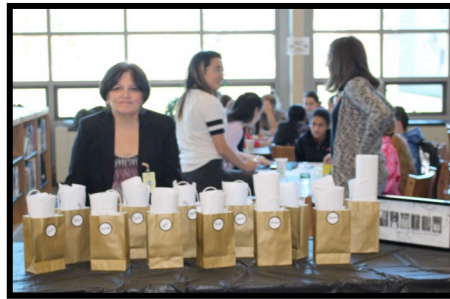
Each student was focused and determined when learning about each new language. They all showed genuine interest in the languages. Since a foreign language is one of the first times students are able to choose what they learn, they all seemed very interested in finding the specific language they might enjoy. At the end of the workshop, we played a game where the students had to match questions and answers together in the different languages. It was amazing to see how much information was retained and how intrigued they were. This workshop did not only open the eyes of the seventh graders, it opened my eyes as well to the beauty of learning a foreign language.

Felicia Coursen



**Amazing things happen when students help other students....
participation, fun, communication and LEARNING!**

World Language Workshop: Teachers and Parents Working Together!



Today I observed the wonderful language outreach workshop organized by Dr. Scricco. This workshop served as a way to give students their first experiences learning a second language before they have to choose one to study in school.

Upon arrival, the participating students (and parents) were welcomed to breakfast and coffee while waiting for the event to begin. Dr. Scricco gave a nice introduction to the workshop followed by a performance by a high school singing group singing a song in French. The musical performance was very entertaining and offered a nice auditory outlet for hearing a foreign language. Dr. Scricco then gave a quick presentation using the Smart Board to introduce each of the three languages including videos and music. The students were divided among three tables, each with a designated language and set of activities. The high school helpers were also divided among the tables based on which language they currently take, so they can then help teach the middle school student about the language. The activities included: learning basic introductions from a question and answer prompt, a cultural text in English about an interesting cultural detail, and a guessing game with list of words in the foreign language, many of which were cognates, which students would throw a bead and whichever word it landed on the student would guess its English equivalent. Finally, students played a matching vocabulary game to synthesize the information learned. Students switched tables at regular intervals, spending equal time at each table.

I found the most effective part of this workshop was the interaction between high school language students and the middle school students, teaching them a small introduction for each language while also interacting with their peers. I think this workshop would benefit all middle school students and should be made available to all 7th graders. Dr. Scricco did a wonderful job organizing and directing this workshop and I'm so glad I could be there to volunteer and observe it. It is a valued resource of my observation repertoire.

Bianca Palucci, Stony Brook Graduate Student (ESL/Spanish)

A Great Learning Opportunity for All!

Be a Thinker, Be a Doer, Be a Leader, Follow Those Who Do Not Harm or Malign, Be a Helper...

Society taught them how to think.
Not to think on their own of course,
But to think with the minds of society's values.

Not to think about the beauty of their plump body,
But to instead suppress their aching hunger,
That was devouring them from within their stomach and their minds,
In order to become healthy and beautiful.

Not to think about how those little boys are mean to everyone not just them,
But to instead fool themselves into complacency
Because all little boys who rip at small girls' ponytails
Really just want them to know how much they care.

Not to think about treasuring what they have,
But to instead yearn for more
Because the more things that you have,
The better you are.

Not to think about how those other kids felt as they taunted them on the swingset,
But to instead think that it is funny
Because those kids are outcasts
And they do not deserve friends.

Not to think about how those two boys kissing have just as much of a right as everyone else,
But to instead find it sinful
To have love in their hearts
And find it necessary to stop them from kissing.

Not to think how hateful they actually are and how they are selfish and ignorant
But to accept everything that they say
Because you are wrong and they are right
Because you are fat and should not eat
Because you are loved by that mean boy
Because you are lacking and need more stuff
Because you are better than those weird kids
Because you are following the words that God might have said

Because they are your parents and the media
And what they say goes.

Felicia Coursen



***Our global world needs 'thinkers' ...
we need to persistently & consistently see ourselves in others.***

Mi mundo mágico ... es un lugar de experiencias felices



mi mundo mágico
Happy New Year
sueños y esperanzas

"Mi mundo mágico tiene mucha comida porque a mí me gusta comida mucho. También no hay escuela tradicional y no hay tarea. Quiero tener animales porque me gustan mucho." **Alexis Cariello**

"En mi mundo mágico hay más días de vacaciones y menos días de escuela. Yo puedo estar en la casa jugando deportes afuera y mirando la televisión. Aquí en este mundo estoy con mis amigos y no tengo ningunos problemas escolares." **Derek Gutierrez**

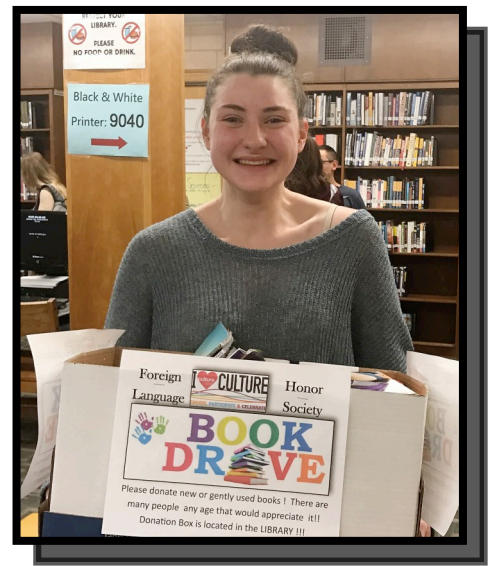
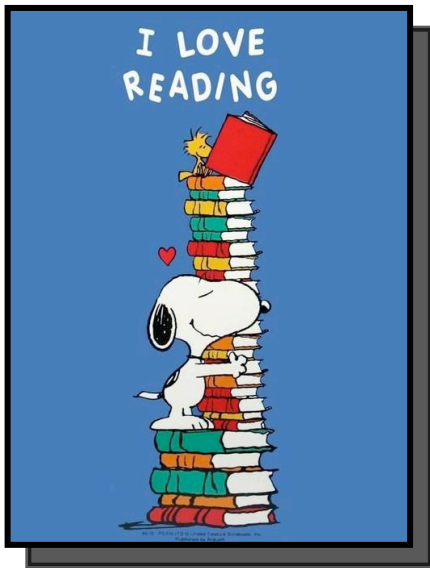
"Todas las personas están felices y no hay problemas en mi mundo mágico. Nadie es pobre y hay suficiente comida. También, todas las personas se ayudan uno al otro." **Irfa Qureshi**

"En mi mundo mágico no hay escuela y no hay exámenes. Hay, sin embargo muchas oportunidades para aprender diariamente. En mi mundo mágico hay mucha comida y muchas amigas. En mi mundo mágico cada día hace frío y brilla el sol. En mi mundo mágico hay muchas personas jugando lacrosse y field hockey. En mi mundo mágico cada persona es simpática. En mi mundo mágico las personas se ayudan."
Grace Lipponer

"Yo tengo una casa grande con tres perros. También tengo dinero. El mundo es feliz y no hay problemas. La vida es fácil. La gente es inteligente y todos tienen imaginación y hay mucha libertad." **Stephanie Lodato**

"En mi mundo mágico no hay escuela cada día. Hace siempre mucho sol. También hay muchas personas cariñosas y todas están felices." **Gabriella Lazar**

FLHS Giving Back with a Book Drive



There is a Chinese Proverb; "*Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime.*" In April of 2015, after being inducted into the Foreign Language Honor Society, I thought about this quote and the youth who live in our community, faced with learning and living in a foreign land, daily. They are surrounded by spoken and written words, which are strange to them. I can not relate because, like most of you, barely remember being taught to speak and read the language I use everyday.

We can help these ELL students when they don't understand by explaining it to them, or by doing it for them (*they will eat for a day*), or we can help teach them what they need to know so that they no longer feel foreign (*they will eat for a lifetime*). I wanted to help, and had an idea - then realized the FLHS, an organization of students learning a second language, was a group who could tackle the mission of helping our ELL students acquire the English language. The idea of collecting resources for English Language Learners seemed like a no brainer to me. With the help and support of Dr. Scricco and the librarians at my school, I decided to organize a book drive. Ms. Berthold and Mrs. Haussner helped organize the book drive through our library. We could not think of a better place to collect books. I am proud to say that we collected over 175 books to be donated to children in need. With these resources in their homes, we are not only helping the students learn to read but we are helping their entire families as well.

As an officer in the FLHS I have made it my mission this year to continue this book drive throughout my senior year. Books provide a means for young children to learn, imagine and go anywhere they choose!

Ally Moscatelli

