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NASSET (National Association of Special Education Teachers) School of Excellence

Maryville Jen School

Spring Issue

March/April 2019

Principal's Address:

Greetings and Happy Spring,

The signs of spring are finally showing all around Jen School after a long and very cold winter. The Polar Vortex is history for another year and the perennials are sneaking a peak out into the sunlight.

While students are eagerly awaiting spring break, they have been busily engaged in 4th quarter academics, vocational skills training and physical education classes. Instructional activities include kitchen invasions, critical literary reviews, world and US political sciences, geometry, physical fitness, poetry writing, fine arts projects, garden and greenhouse preparation projects, team building, virtual reality expeditions, problem solving on the job and resume writing, to name just a few.

The faculty has also been in "class". In addition to the numerous individual workshops and trainings attended by faculty members, the entire faculty have recently received additional training in suicide prevention, antibullying, trauma informed care and A.L.I.C.E. safety model. Students and faculty will continue the A.L.I.C.E. safety training into the spring and summer.

The administrative team has also been busy working on creating a Jen School Advisory Council. The council will focus on ways to help Jen School to continue to grow existing and new programs. A special thank you to these individuals for their dedication to furthering the Jen School mission.

As you can see the fourth quarter is well underway with many exciting opportunities.
Important dates to remember:

March 25th - 29th - Spring break
April 9th - Ed Block Courage Award Lunch
April 16th - Jen School/ Sexton Institute Training - "Hot Topics in Special Education Law."
April 9th - Spring SAT testing begins
April 15th - PSAT testing begins
April 16th - 8th grade and 9th grade PSAT testing begins

Have a happy and safe spring break.

Ann M. Craig
Director of Educational Services/Principal

Social Media

Like Jen School on
Facebook!



Follow @jenschool on Instagram!



Tweet @jenschooleagles on
Twitter!



CAAEL

By: Moissette McNerney – Teacher

The Jen School hosted and participated in the Chicago Area Alternative Education League (CAAEL) Spelling Bee on February 28th. Five schools competed for the trophy. Wraycinn Griffin, Jaylin Kelly, and Gabe Murphy represented Jen School. Words included archipelago, alleviate, spectrum, and pernicious, to name a few. The students were required to not only correctly spell the word but also use it in a sentence.



Health Beat: The Healing Power of Sleep

By: Tracy Mullen – School Nurse

March 3rd-10th was The National Sleep Foundation's annual "Sleep awareness week." This campaign celebrates the benefits of sleep. Most of us know the importance of a good night's sleep especially when we experience the effects that can be associated with lack of sleep: fatigue, bad mood, lack of focus, irritability, etc. However, many people don't realize that there is research that reveals lack of sleep, on a regular basis, may have long term health consequences. Some of these health consequences include: diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, obesity and depression.

Teens should get at least the recommended 8 hours of sleep and 10 hours of sleep a night if they are involved in sports and activities. Consistent regular sleep will help with concentration in class and performance in sports/activities.

Contact your physician if you have any questions or concerns regarding sleeping difficulties.



CLASSROOM

By: Kaleem Nazir - Teacher

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While studying World Geography and Cultures, Room 600 embarked on an immersive world safari. The students utilized the Jen School's new virtual reality goggles to explore faraway sites like the Great Wall of China. They were regaled with tales of exploit from their teacher's backpacking trips through Europe, complete with a Running of the Bulls costume! Last, but certainly not least, they brought culinary delights from around the world back to the Jen School. The class observed tea time with scones in honor of the once omnipresent British Empire, created chocolate chip cannolis from the island of Sicily, and feasted on Argentinian steak with chimichurri sauce from the pampas of Patagonia. Of course, being the beneficent young gentlemen that they are, Room 600 also treated the school to three kitchen invasions. They created savory dishes such as Chicken Shawarma and hummus from the Levant, Tandoori Chicken and Saffron Rice from South Asia, and Greek Pork Chops with Baklava from the legendary Greek Isles.



Jen Events: Third Quarter Awards

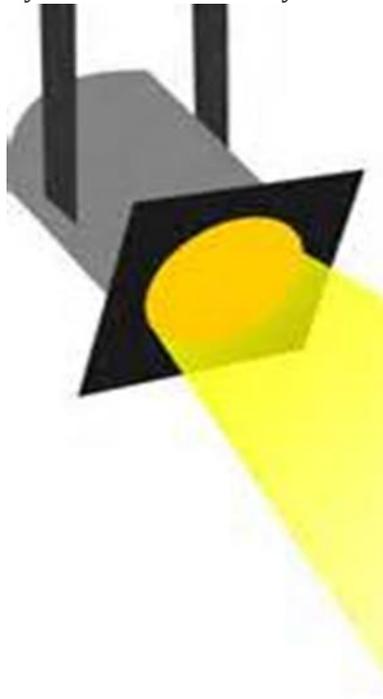
By: Mark Trerotola - Teacher

Three quarters down, one to go. Jen School just completed the third marking period of the 2018-19 school year Friday, February 22. We are happy to announce that we had five recipients for the B Honor Roll. Unfortunately, the long, cold winter was too much for anyone to attain the A Honor Roll. The after school INVEST program honored a student for being the most improved. Now that the weather seems to agree more with the calendar, we are optimistic for more students to be recognized for their success in each category.



Staff Spotlight

By: Moissette McNerney – Teacher



Jen School is pleased to welcome Tanya Horton to the Jen School team. Ms. Tanya comes to us with many years' experience in the Maryville residential programs. She has an A.A. in Culinary Arts from the Illinois Institute of Art in Chicago. Ms. Tanya is



an experienced chef who will be putting her accomplished culinary skills to use in the Transition Classroom and Jen School Kitchen. Ms. Tanya is joining Ms. Moissette, Mr. Yaeger, and Mr. Hostetter as a paraprofessional in the Transition Classroom. Additionally, she will be joining the INVEST crew as a job coach. Welcome, Tanya! We are happy to have you!

Jen School is pleased to present:

April 16, 2019

Hot Topics in Special Education Law

**Darcy Kriha and
Mohammed Lakhani**

The world of education law has seen many changes in the last year. To explain these changes, Darcy Kriha and Mohammed Lakhani, partners at Kriha Law, will overview the legislation passed in 2018 and 2019 affecting schools. The presentation will include a discussion of foundational topics like student record requests, DCFS reporting and IEP best practices.

Kriha Law is a K-12 boutique education law firm, representing boards of education, special education cooperatives, charter schools, and private schools in Illinois and across the Midwest. **Darcy Kriha** has over 25 years' experience in the area of education law, specializing in issues related to general education law, special education, board governance, collective bargaining, employment, student rights and responsibilities. She is a graduate of The John Marshall Law School and Mundelein College Chicago. **Mohammed Lakhani** is recognized for his counsel with school districts in contracts, compliance, labor, employment and student matters. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law and Northern Illinois University.



Maryville

Caring for Children. Strengthening Families.

**From the Stephen
Sexton Training
Institute in
cooperation with
Jen School**

**Tuesday, April 16
9:00AM – Noon
Doors open at 8:30**

**CEU's will be
provided
Lessons to learn and
use now!**

**Registration:
Call Gloria at
847-294-5402**

brownleeg@maryvilleacademy.org

Maryville Stevens center

**1150 N River Rd
Des Plaines. IL 60016**



ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Policy Reminder

If for any reason you need to change the time of your student's scheduled transportation, please contact your child's home school district transportation personnel. Do NOT call the transportation companies directly. Jen School is unable to make these arrangements as they do not contract with the transportation companies, but they should be notified once transportation changes have been confirmed by the district. If you are unsure who to contact, please inquire with your student's social worker/counselor and they will be happy to provide that information. Thank you!

Digital Media Lab Partners

Jen School's Assistant Principal, Heather Lischett, and Teacher, Mark Treratola, shared Jen School's digital media lab with the directors of Maryville Academy's various programs on Thursday, February 21. The purpose of this mini demonstration was to make the directors aware of the media lab and to encourage them to think of ways that the lab could be used to benefit their programs, as well as creating opportunities for Jen students to utilize the lab for various vocational related tasks. Some ideas that were shared were to make promotional videos of the various programs and to create videos for staff trainings. Jen School has already assisted Sister Catherine Ryan in recording two video podcasts for the Maryville social media pages, and they look forward to partnering with other programs in the future.

