

Selected as a 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018
NASSET (National Association of Special Education Teachers) School of Excellence

Maryville Jen School

March 2018

Principal's Address:

Greetings,

As school safety remains headline news in the mainstream and across all social media platforms, it is also in the forefront of conversation at Maryville Jen School.

The conversations taking place regarding gun control, what new gun control laws should contain, and arming teachers, however, are not the conversations taking place at Jen School.

The conversations taking place amongst the Jen School faculty include how do we integrate our founding principles of being trauma informed with enhanced safety checks? Do we want to install metal detectors, if so, how does that fit into our philosophy and how do we pay for them? If a student brings something dangerous to school, what is the real reason? Does that student feel at risk at school, at home, in the community or is something else going on?

School safety is our priority. We will continue to work with our partners in law enforcement, mental health fields and of course our families to ensure Jen School remains a safe and nurturing learning environment for all.

Be Safe,

Ann M. Craig

Director of Educational Services/ Principal

Social Media

Like Jen School on
Facebook!



Follow @jenschool on Instagram!



Tweet @jenschooleagles on
Twitter!



Jen Events

Want to know what's next on the calendar for Jen School students, staff, and friends? Look no further...

March 23:

Pinewood Derby Race

Jen School Talent Show

3rd Quarter Awards Ceremony

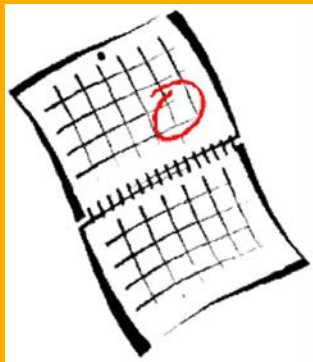
Early Dismissal

March 26-30:

Spring Break

April 2:

Classes Resume



April 6:

Ladies Pallet Painting Fundraiser

*See attached flyer for details

Health Beat: What is Mindfulness?

By: Tracy Mullen – School Nurse

Mindfulness means maintaining a moment-by-moment awareness of our thoughts, feelings, bodily sensations, and surrounding environment.

Mindfulness also involves acceptance, meaning that we pay attention to our thoughts and feelings without judging them and without believing that there's a right or wrong way to think or feel in a given moment. When we practice mindfulness, our thoughts tune into what we're sensing in the present moment rather than rehashing the past or imagining the future.

Practicing mindful meditation can boost our immune system and improve sleep quality. Mindfulness can reduce negative emotions and stress, and one study suggests it may be as good as antidepressants in fighting depression. Research has found that it changes our brain in regions linked to learning, memory, emotion regulation, and empathy.

So, I challenge you to start taking 5 minutes a day to just sit and think about the moment. Let's see where this takes us.

Namaste!!!

Reading Corner

By: Hannah Lederman – Teacher

For the month of March the administrative team, Ms. Craig, Ms. Heather, and Ms. Barbara, along with school chef, Ms. Toni have honored Dr. Seuss's birthday with a barrage of Seuss-y goofiness. Dr. Seuss' beloved books have been available throughout the building for reading and fun class activities. A Seuss Quote has been shared daily and read by students over the school radios. One classroom created a Dr. Seuss themed bulletin board outside their classroom and the junior high did Dr. Seuss book reports and also did film analysis of the movies that have been inspired by these famous stories. It has been a month full of tongue-twisty words, strung together with rhythm and rhyme that is unparalleled.



Check back to see what Ms. Moissette and the Transition Class have in store for us in April. We hope our efforts to improve our students' literacy skills not only improves their scores, but helps foster a love for reading!



What's Happening at Jen?

Field Trips

By: Mark Trerotola - Teacher



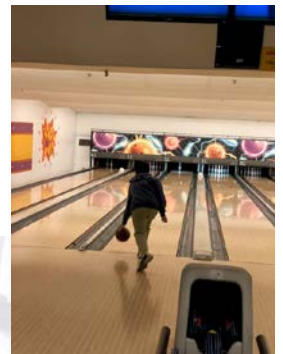
Several Jen high school students went on a field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry last week. They were applying information that they have been learning in their physical science class to the many different exhibits on hand. Although the day went by quickly, we were able to add to our lesson by visiting the plastinated human specimens—real human specimens from the creators of BODY WORLDS— that are permanently on display as a part of its dramatic health and wellness exhibit. Seeing the students' reactions as they processed how their own bodies function was well worth it. The specimens include healthy and diseased organs, a full vascular system, a leg with a knee replacement and a full “expanded” body that highlights the relationships among the body's various organs and structures. All of the specimens have been voluntarily donated by individuals who willed that, upon their death, their bodies could be used for the education of others. The specimens have been meticulously preserved using special plastics and a technique called “plastination.”

Sports Page

By: Vincent Irvin – IA and Job Coach

Jen School will be hosting its last basketball game of the season on March 16. To round off the season, we will close with the annual CAAEL basketball tournament. The event will be held on Saturday and Sunday, the 17th & 18th of March, at Forest View Education Center in Arlington Heights. Although the Jen Eagles will not be participating in the tournament this year, we encourage everyone to stop by and cheer on all the students who worked so hard to be eligible, and thank all the volunteers who make CAAEL possible year after year. The CAAEL Art Fair is also held every year in conjunction with the basketball tournament. The fair gives students a chance to exhibit their paintings, sculptures and more, and Jen students have submitted some wonderful pieces for the fair this year.

Jen School has been having an excellent bowling season as well. The most recent match was held on March 13, and there will be three more matches to finish out the season on April 2, 9 and 16. By engaging in bowling, it allows the students to relieve daily stressors and get out of the building. Bowling allows opportunities for socialization across grade levels, and it also gets the blood flowing.



Vocational Opportunities: Jen School Garden

By: Graigory Tertulien – IA and Job Coach

Production in the garden has begun! A member from the Master Gardeners group came to Jen during INVEST and worked with students on pruning fruit trees in preparation for the growing season.

In the greenhouse, flowers for Mother's Day have been planted. The flowers are expected to be sold at the Jen School coffee cart a couple weeks prior to Mother's day. The various flowers that are growing are blue flax, 4 types of zinnia, vinca, cosmos, Chinese lantern, and calendula flowers. These flowers were planted at various times according to their growth rates and optimal growing conditions so multiple students were able to assist and learn. This was also done in order to make sure that there will be flowers in good shape for Mother's Day and was a good lesson in planning. Flowers planted earlier will be set on display at the coffee cart at the time of purchase.

Additional plants have also been added to the greenhouse this month. The new additions are eggplants, parsley, carmen sweet peppers, lettuce, and broccoli. As the weather gets warmer the plants will then be transplanted to the garden for production this summer.

Students during the day and in INVEST having been going out to the greenhouse to water and look after the plants through the growing process. This has been a great way for students to learn about planting and also extends the learning beyond the physical boundaries of the classroom.

Join us for
Pallets of Fun!



Jen School
Ladies' Painting Party

A Friendraiser to benefit

Maryville Jen School

Friday, April 6, 2018

6 to 9:30 pm

Maryville Stevens Center

1150 N. River Rd.

Des Plaines

\$45 per person

BYOB

Instruction and materials provided
6 to 7 Heavy appetizers and Welcome
7 to 9 Pallet Painting Party
8:30 to 9 Coffee and Dessert

Space is limited. Please RSVP to Tina Restivo-Hock by Monday, April 2, at 847-294-1982 or restivo-hockt@maryvilleacademy.org.



Maryville

Caring for Children. Strengthening Families.