



FALL 2011
Issue 9

LYON @ BLOW

News and Views from the Students
and Staff of Lyon @ Blow

The 2011-20012 School Year finds Lyon @ Blow with its beautiful garden and with new and returning staff and students ready for a great academic year. Look here and in the following pages for faces, new and familiar, in the Lyon @ Blow Community!



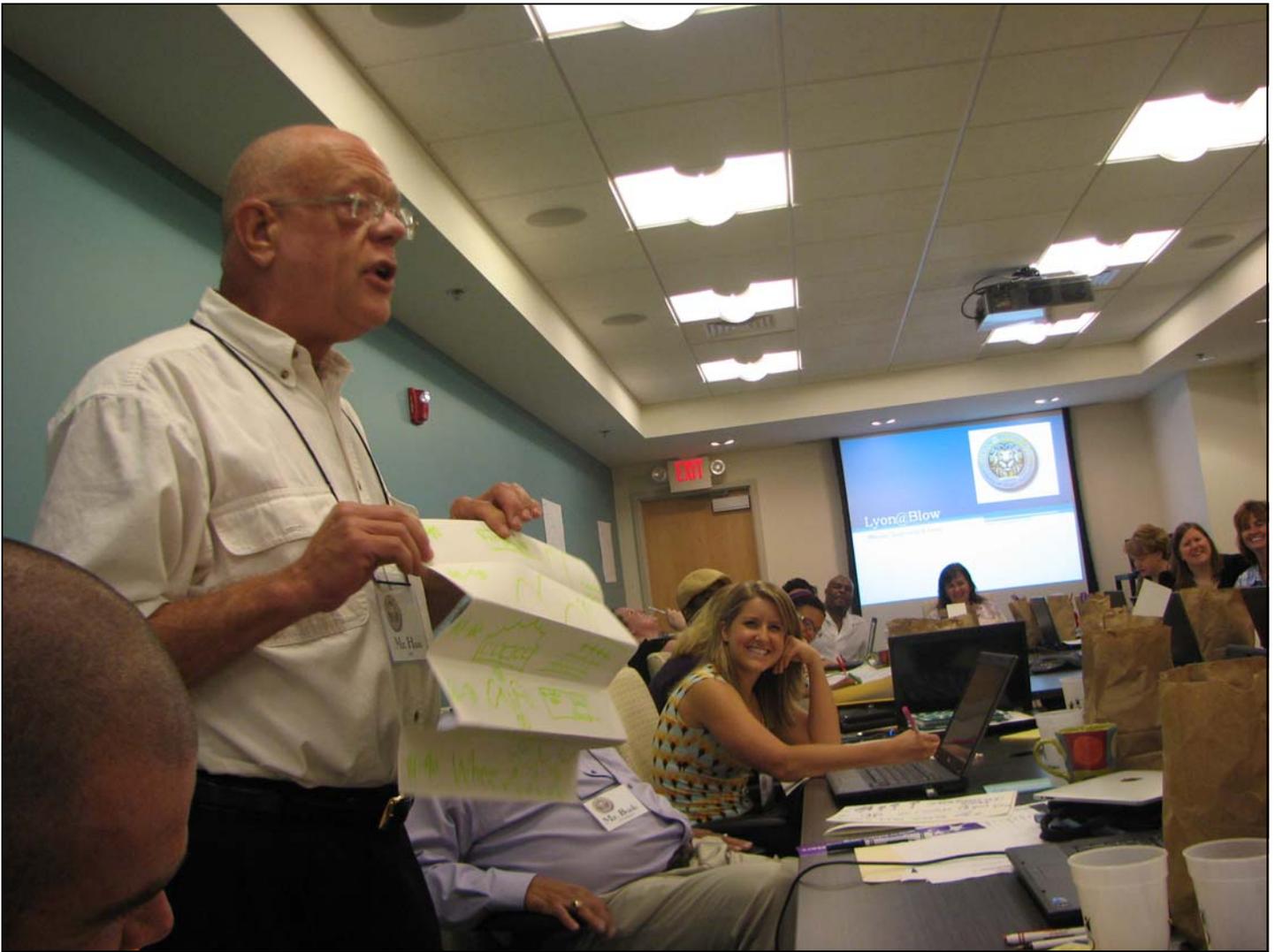
Before meeting at the building, faculty and staff met at the offices of Big Brothers and Big Sisters for a day of professional development on August 8, 2011.



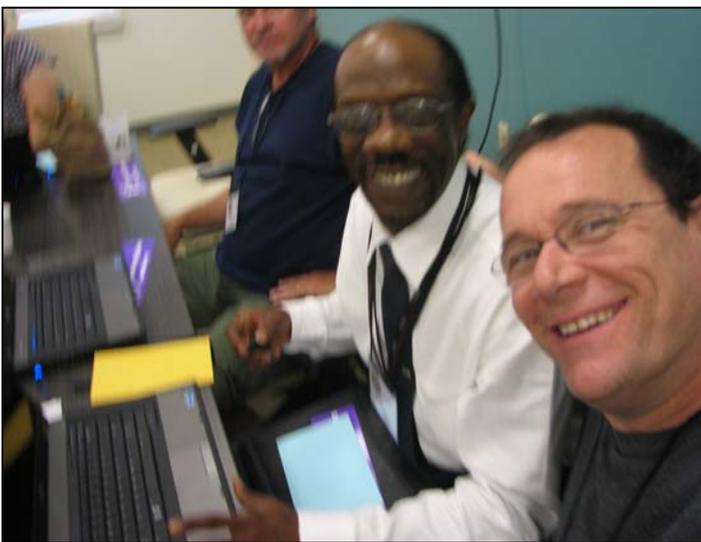
Lyon @ Blow Music Teach, Mr. Clark, stops in the cafeteria of the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) offices in downtown St. Louis on the morning of August 8, 2011. He is talking with Special Education Teacher, Mrs. Andrews and Lyon @ Blow's new 7th and 8th grade Science Teacher, Mr. Pearl. Lyon @ Blow continues its long partnership with the YMCA and has added this new partnership with BBBS. Ms. Lucie Coates, Director of Impact for Lyon at Blow K-8 of the BBBS of Eastern Missouri hosted the day-long professional development session at her downtown office. This year she will work with Ms. Iskali, the Lyon @ Blow principal and her staff, as Ms. Coates helps bring the BBBS program to our school.



Icebreaker. Ms. Iskali shares three personal details of her life and three professional details with her teaching faculty and staff in the BBBS's state-of-the-art conference room. Ms. Iskali brought wireless, lap-top computers and flash drives for each staff member to use during the meeting. The icebreaker was a great high-tech way for new staff members to meet returning staff.



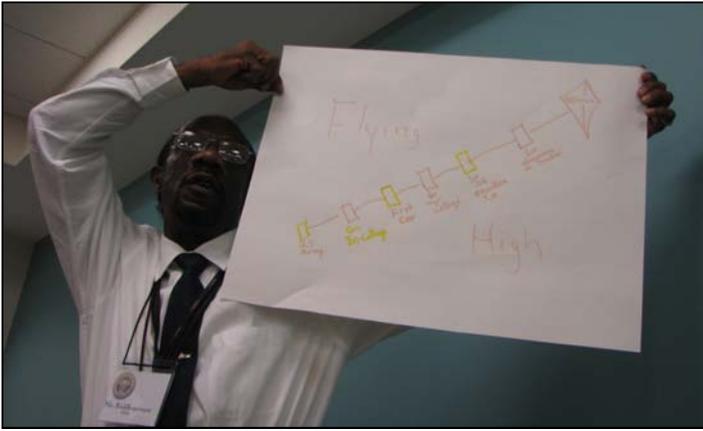
Participants were to use a large sheet of art paper and markers to help communicate the store of their three personal details and three professional details. Mr. Haas, Lyon @ Blows Art teacher, had a presentation that was both informative and entertaining.



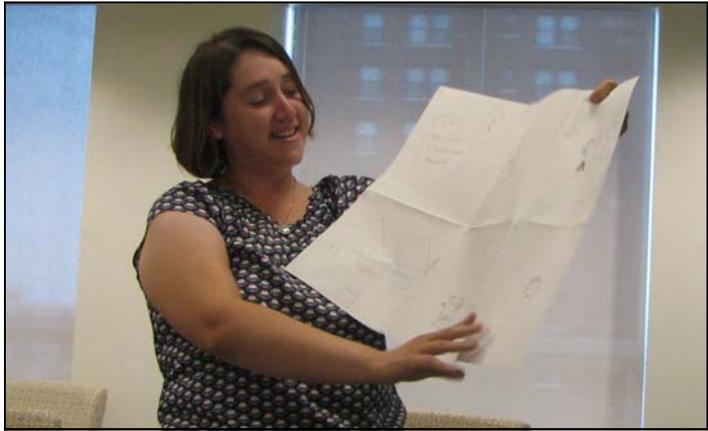
Computer Literacy teacher, Mr. Phoenix takes a self portrait and gets Mr. Riddlespringer and Mr. Reinstein in frame as well!



Lyon @ Blows' Physical Education Teacher, Mr. Keane, talks about his years playing sports in his native Ireland.



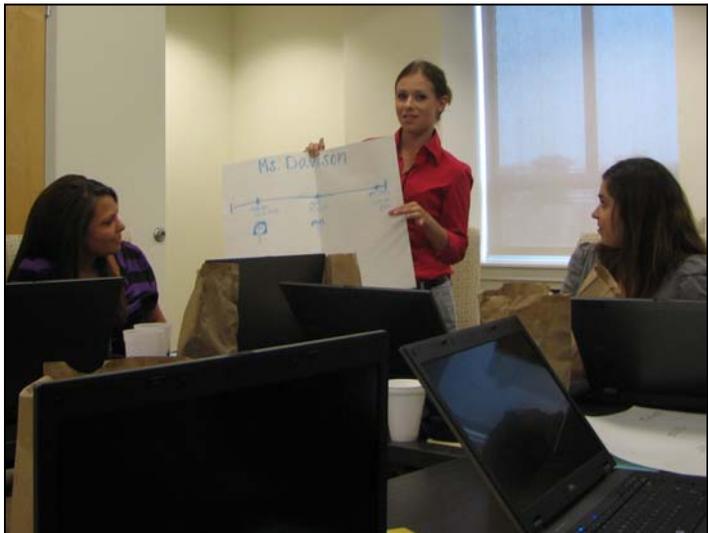
Special Education teacher, Mr. Riddlespringer, takes flight!



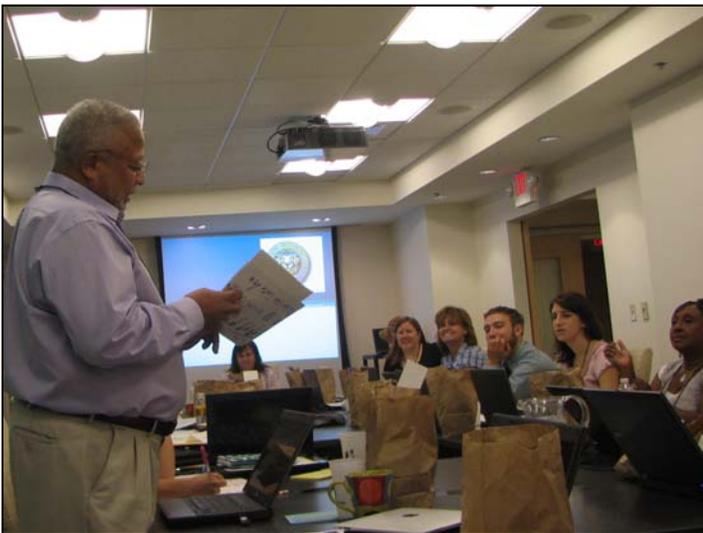
Reading Specialist, Mrs. Ackerman.



Lyon @ Blow's new kindergarten teacher, Ms. Perez, shares her life story with the staff. The kindergarten class will be held in the old Ace portion of the building, a large, well-lit room!



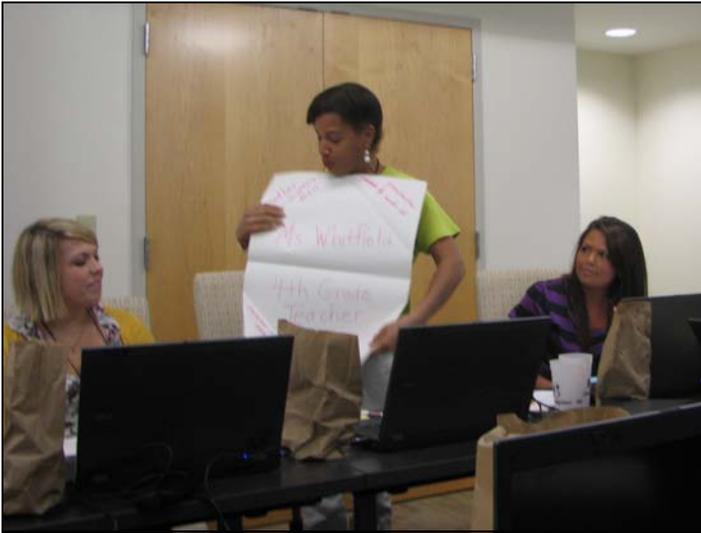
One of Lyon at Blow's three permanent substitutes, Ms. Davison, presents her story. She was joined later in the day by Ms. Warren and Ms. Scoggins.



Mr. Bush, Lyon @ Blow's Counselor, tells a bit about his past. Did you know he once played professional baseball? True!



Ms. Willman joins the staff as the new first grade teacher. She meets in the large multipurpose room in the basement.



Veteran Lyon @ Blow teacher, Ms. Whitfield, takes her turn. She starts the school year teaching the 4th grade.



New teacher, Ms. Cunningham, will also teach 4th grade and meets with her students on Lyon @ Blow's 2nd floor.



Mr. Hennen joins the staff as a Spanish Teacher. He will teach Spanish to Lyon @ Blow elementary students.



Mr. Owings shares phases of his life with the staff. He will teach Lyon @ Blow third graders.



Ms. Lawrence also joins the Lyon @ Blow staff to teach third grade elementary students.



Ms. LeRose shows her graphic as she points out key moments from her life. She will teach 6th grade Communication Arts.



Mrs. Price takes the floor and provides details to the group. She teaches Lyon @ Blow 5th grade this year.



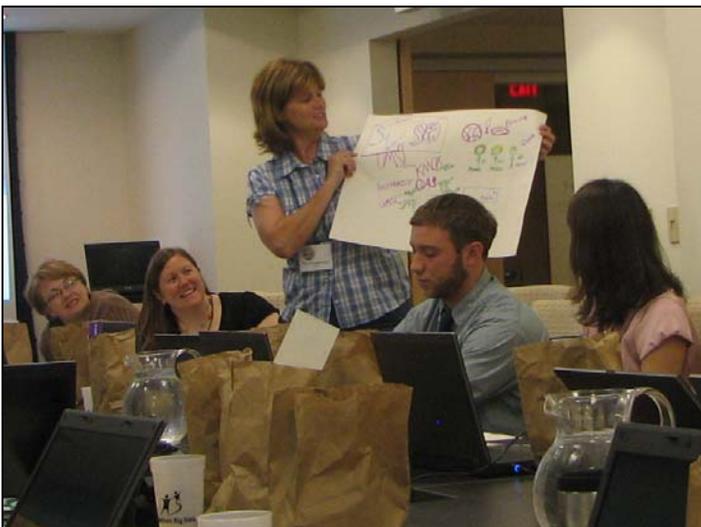
Mrs. Williams shares moments from her long life in teaching. She takes over 6th grade science this school year.



Mrs. Weiss gives her presentation. She will teach 7th and 8th grade mathematics in room 124.



Mr. Pearl takes the floor and provides information from his life. He will teach 7th and 8th grade science.



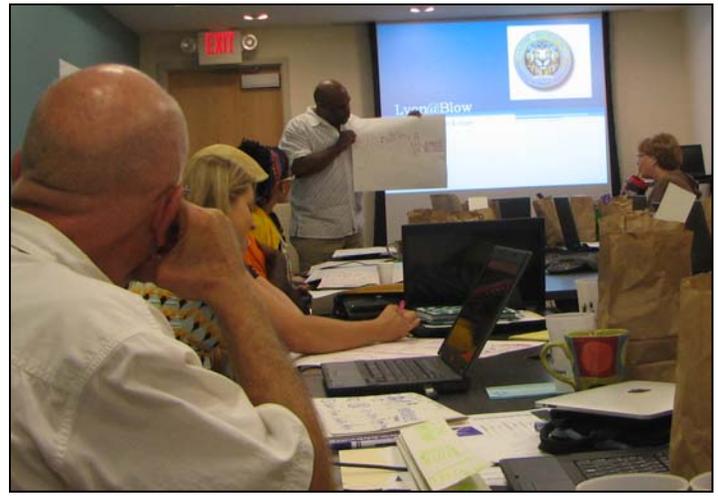
Ms. Housewright returns as the Special Education Team Leader and is seen here sharing items from her life.



Ms. Trapp, Lyon @ Blow's Teaching and Learning Facilitator, holds up a graphic illustrating key moments in her life.



Ms. McCord returns to Lyon @ Blow in her role as a classroom reduction teacher.



Mr. Gordon joins the Lyon @ Blow staff as the In School Suspension Monitor for both the elementary and middle schools.



Ms. Bryant returns to Lyon @ Blow in her role as the middle school Spanish teacher.



Ms. Sims holds up her graphic and describes her items. She will teach 7th and 8th grade social studies.



Ms. Fish, a special education teacher holds up her graphic for the camera. Hi, Ms. Fish!



Ms. Martin returns to Lyon @ Blow and will teach 6th grade mathematics.



Lyon @ Blow's veteran Music teacher, Mr. Clark, shares his story with the faculty and staff. Look forward to great music and entertainment from Mr. Clark's assemblies this year.



Mrs. DeLeon begins the year teaching Lyon @ Blow 2nd graders and shares some moments from her life. Congratulations to Mrs. D for completing her Masters Degree this past summer.



Ms. Pittman began the year teaching a 5th grade class, but when her group was combined with Mrs. Price's 5th grade, to form a single 5th grade room, Ms. Pittman took 2nd graders from Mrs. DeLeon's room to form a second, 2nd grade classroom.



Mr. Archer joined the staff during professional development week and came in on his weekend to prepare his classroom for opening day. He teaches 7th & 8th grade Communication Arts.



Ms. Sims was one of many teachers to come in on Saturday to put the finishing touches on their rooms in preparation for the first day of school.



Ms. Weiss donated her Saturday to finish setting her homeroom.



Mr. Owings, another Saturday volunteer.



7-year-old Will Phoenix comes in on Saturday to help get the computer lab set up with his dad.



Will tries out the Kindergarten Reading area. Thumbs up!



Mrs. Warren and Mr. Wolynski meet in the hall on DAY 1. Mrs. Warren returns this year as a permanent substitute. With 23 years experience in the district Mr. Wolynski joins the staff to assist with attendance and technology.

Day One in Ms. LeRose's 6th grade home room.



Student New Stories. As part of their unit on Computer Word Processing, students learned how to set up a page for keyboarding information. Students learned how to FORMAT their papers to adjust page size, orientation, margins, paragraph line spacing and text alignment. They learned how to select the font and point size. In terms of content, what better way to start the year than with a classic fall writing assignment? "What did you do on your summer vacation?" Students learned how to write paragraphs with a Headline, Byline, and Text Body. Below are some samples of student work.

MY SUMMER VACATION

By Jordan Smith, Computers, 7B

My summer vacation was pretty fun. I went out of state to visit Some Family in Illinois and it was very fun. I went to the Zoo a couple times with some family. I mostly went outside to hang-out with my friends. I rode my bike a lot of the time. I went swimming a lot during the day and it was very fun. I played some video games some of the day, but not all day, and I thought they were fun. I was sleeping most of the time when I was bored. I had to go visit my family a lot. I was outside a lot playing some sports with some of my friends. I also went to visit my newborn cousin a couple of times. I went to Six Flags and rode a lot of rides and it was very fun and I went to the water park that they had and that was fun too. I went over my grandma's house with my cousin and it was very boring. I had some fun when I went over my friend's house to spend the night. I had a lot of fun over the summer and wasn't very excited to go back to school at all.

MY SUMMER

By Carly Smith

This summer I did many things. I bugged my sister, played video games, and I played City Ville with my mom. The best thing I did this summer was when my best friend came over to spend the night. We watched scary movies and played board games. We were really scared when we watched The Grudge 2. Also, we went swimming at my Uncle Bobbies' swimming pool. We had lots of fun together. The other thing I did this summer was played on the com-

puter. I watched a lot of TV. Also, I watched Childs Play 3 with my dad. I also went outside and my sister Catilynn and I rolled down the street on her vampire skateboard. She had to help me a few times but whatever. I can't wait until next summer!

MY SUMMER VACATION

By Davion

The first thing I did was I went to go see my family all over the place. I saw my uncle, aunt, and all my cousins, I even went to my dead grandpa and my dead grandma's graves. Then when I got back from doing all that I went to have all fun with all my friends. I even went to California with my brother and my mom to see my other grandma and grandpa. My grandpa is really nice to his family all over the world. When I walk in to his store he will let me have anything I want for free. At home I get to play the video games, look at TV, and play with my family. I like to do my chores at home because it's not hard for people to do. My family likes to play Uno Attack. That's our favorite game to play because it's a fun family game and all our family gets to play with each other. When we get done we go to our rooms and continue whatever it was we were doing. Well, that's all I did for the summer and I had a lot of fun doing it!

MY SUMMER VACATION

By Jamesha Bracken

For my summer vacation I went to Six Flags, but most of the time I slept all day. On Sunday I went to church with my aunt and her kids. My cousins and I went to the mall for school shopping. On August 1st I went over to my granny's house to celebrate her birthday. On Fridays I would go over my granny's house and my aunt's house. I went to California with my family and then we went to Chicago for almost one month and it was really fun. I had to babysit my little cousin and my little brother while my mother went to work and while my little cousin's dad went to store. My brother and my cousin and I went laser tagging and then we went to the water park. My entire family went to Atlanta for our family vacation. So, that is what I did for my summer vacation.

SUMMER VACATION

by Shanyka Fouche

Over my summer vacation I had fun. I went shopping for clothes and shoes. My birthday was August 1st so I had a party July 31st which was Saturday, the day I had my sweet 13th birthday bash. My mother took me to get my nails done, my ears pierced, and I even went shopping. I got a brand new purple G-shock, and it lights up different colors. I got a pink and yellow love bracelet, a flower ring and some pink and white blazers and some blue, grey, orange, and pink, blazers. I also got some white and pink Jordan sandals. I also got some bows for my hair. Then my mother bought me the Michael Jackson on the Wii. So, the day of my sweet 13th bash, my friends, family and I played the game. I won every song we played. Dirty Diana is my favorite song to do because I know all the girls' moves in the song and I even got all 5 stars. I also got the best gift ever to see my 2 year old niece who stays in California. That was my best birthday ever and a great summer.

MY SUMMER VACATION

By Armoni Fields

I had a really fun summer this year. For the first couple of weeks I stayed home and made some new acquaintances around my neighborhood. One of my acquaintances was a girl. She was nice, and I even helped her make a couple of new friends. I also made an acquaintance with a boy who was nice too and funny. I didn't really hang out with them though because I don't really consider them my friends. My mom had brought lots of snacks from work and from the grocery store too, but those snacks didn't last very long. For Fourth of July, I went over to my brothers' house. I have four brothers named Tyriq, Treymane, Ricky, and Benny. I had fun because I wasn't the only girl there. Their cousins Jada and Jasmine were there too. We all played hide and go seek in the dark and I only got "it" once. They were not very good hiders though, so I didn't have any trouble finding them. My brothers' mom also braided my hair for me in pixies. I really appreciated that a lot. Afterwards, I went to my god mom's house and then went home with my mom. I had a good summer.

Another topic from current events was based on Hurricane Irene which struck the East Coast of the United States this summer. Students were able to practice their Formatting skills as they prepared news stories on the event.

HURRICANE IRENE

By Armoni Fields

Have you heard about that terrible hurricane named Irene? Well, you should have because according to News Channel Five and Huffington Post, it did some real damage to the East Coast. Some people even suffered from black-outs and still are in blackouts. But worst of all, many people have died because of Irene. Irene even cut across some of the Caribbean taking about 24 peoples' lives and creating about \$7 billion dollars worth of damage because of the high winds and massive flooding. There was even a 300-mile-wide storm that came over some of the biggest cities of the East-Coast such as Washington D.C, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and New York. All of this started on that terrible Sunday evening . Irene caused more than \$1billion dollars alone in the Bahamas. Irene was categorized as a category three hurricane made of winds that were going at least about 180 miles an hour. Can you believe all of this happened in only a week?

HURRICANE IRENE

By Amber Evans

This is a story about hurricane Irene. In Pennsylvania by the boarder of Maryland the winds were 50-80 miles an hour. That is very fast. Rain was pouring down. There was a lot of flooding. Irene was a very big tropical storm that turned into a hurricane with very strong winds and heavy rains. Most companies expect to restore service in days with electric and cable. Over 1 million customers lost power in New York. Hurricane Irene drew comparisons from hurricane Gloria. Also, the Bahamas braced for the arrival of hurricane Irene as the storm grew to category 3 status with winds topping to 120 mph. Hurricane Irene was flooding low areas and leaving millions of families without power and flooded. The storm was downgraded from a hurricane shortly before it hit new York. New York major airports were closed. Now you know about Hurricane Irene.

HURRICANE IRENE

By Maddy Green

The last weekend of August a terrible hurricane known by the name of Irene tore up the upper north-east states. It tore up cities and killed at least 25 people. I feel sorry for them and their families. The last time a hurricane hit the northeast was in the 1930s and all the newscasters said that the states up there were due for a hurricane. Then in less than two days the hurricane came and attacked. There are many power outages in the northeast. Ameren is there right now, August 29, 2011, fixing the power lines. Military operations moved to Saint Louis to get away from the storm. They had to get their expensive aircraft away from the storm so it wouldn't be ruined. Airlines are trying to get back on track because of the fatal storm. In New York a lot of people couldn't even get to work today due to flooding in their communities.

HURRICANE IRENE

By Jordan Smith

Hurricane Irene was a north tropical cyclone that caused much damage to the Caribbean before hitting the east coast of the United States. It went through New York with almost the same amount of damage but caused major flooding in parts of New York and Vermont. Irene entered Canada as a post-tropical storm. After going through Turks and Caicos Islands it got stronger into a level three hurricane while going through the Bahamas leaving a major amount of structural damage in its path going toward the north. Irene has caused 27 deaths within its trail.

* * *

HAIKU?

Haiku is a Japanese form of poetry. It uses three, short lines to convey a brief, clear and also lasting image on a single theme, concept or idea. Almost anyone can write three lines about something; the lines don't even have to rhyme. The challenge in writing a Haiku is the syllable structure. The first line must have five, and only five, syllable. The second must have exactly seven syllables. The third and final syllable, again, is restricted to just five syllables.

Students practiced writing Haiku and sounding out the individual syllables or "beats" in each line to see that they had the right numbers. Then, to practice what they had learned about formatting text using word processing software, they were assigned to write original Haiku and display them in a variety of fonts, point sizes and alignments. Here are three, untitled Haiku by 7th grader, Jordan Smith.

It's hot in summer

It snows on cold winter days

It's chilly in fall

Ice cream is so good

Ice cream is a good desert

Ice cream is so tasty

Burgers are tasty

I eat burgers at lunch time

Burgers are so good

If you can write these little poems in Japanese and English, what about another language? Sonia and Etelvina each wrote Haiku in the Spanish language for the computer literacy assignment. Thanks to Lyon @ Blow Middle School Spanish Teacher, Ms. Bryant for reading them to check for the syllable count. Poor, Mr. Phoenix, he doesn't know two languages! Here are the Spanish Haiku by Sonia:

ME GUSTA EL PE

TE GUSTA EL CABALLO

LAS DOS ESTAMOS

Me gusta manuel

Pero tambien el que tu

Pero tambien tu

ODIO EL DRAMA

PERO LAS PELEAS NO

TE ODIO A TI

The following Haiku were composed in Spanish by Etelvina Romero who also went ahead and added titles to each poem. When you only have seventeen total syllables to work with, adding a title can really help convey your meaning.

Drama!

*Me gusta jose
Extrano mucho a juan
Extrano mi oa*

Nandito

Te quiero mucho
Te extrano un chingo
Tu vuelve ami

Odio

**Odio a mari
Vuelve ami nandito
Te quiero mucho**

Cuanto

*Cuanto me cuesta
Cuanto me gustas amor
Cuanto me cuesta*

Still not convinced format matters, or that the way you present your work (the appearance on the page) makes a difference? Check out these illustrations.

Scary Monster

ant

TURN RIGHT

TURN LEFT

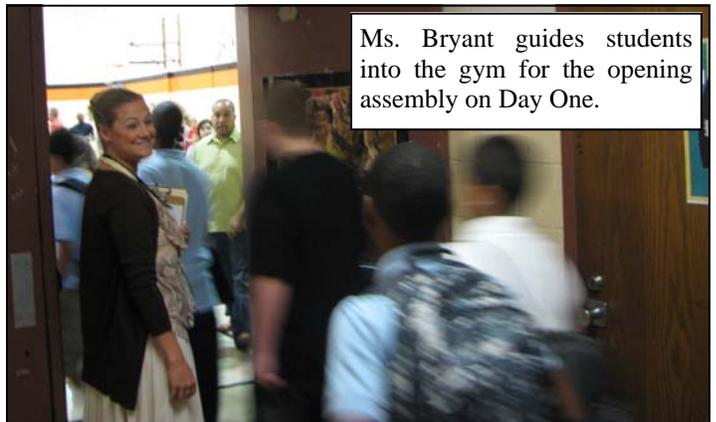
WACKY ROBOT!

DAY ONE

Some views in and around the Lyon @ Blow classrooms on the first day of school for students from August 15, 2011



Mr. Archer meets the student body on Day One in the first school wide assembly of the year as faculty and staff greet the school's new and returning students.



Ms. Bryant guides students into the gym for the opening assembly on Day One.



Mr. Archer meets his 7th Grade home room on the first day of school. Mr. Archer teaches Communication Arts.



Mission Control! Principal Iskali and School Secretary, Ms. Berry, review school attendance in the main office on Day One.



Ms. Perez with her kindergarten students on their first day.



Ms. Trapp, Lyon @ Blow's Teaching and Learning Facilitator, works to help teachers work with district curriculum and develop teaching strategies for more effective instruction.



Ms. Willman meets her first grade students in their classroom.



Mr. Bush, the School Counselor in his office listens to a report from Ms. Trapp on Day 1.

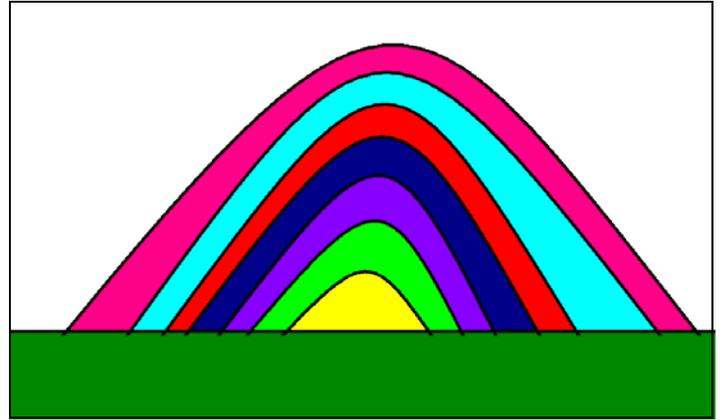


Ms. Weiss, the 7th and 8th grade mathematics teacher conducts class in her room on the first day of school.

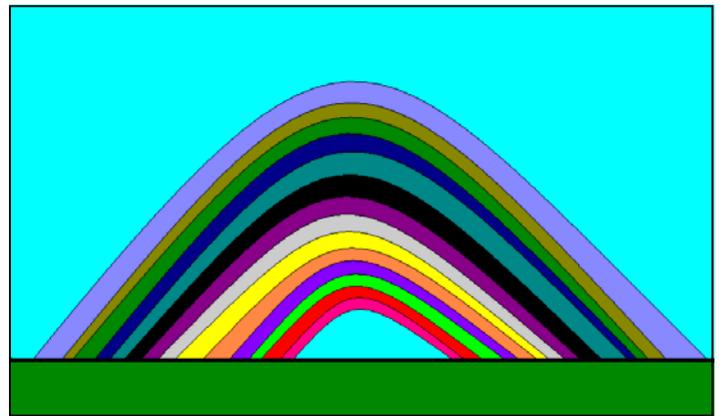
COMPUTER GRAPHICS

Computer Graphics is a multi-billion dollar industry. One has only to look at Hollywood and the money invested in computer generated special effects and computer animation to see potential career benefits in knowledge of Computer Graphics. Students learn basic art terms like object, horizon line, background, foreground, perspective, shape and solid and learn how to use a tool box of techniques to produce their own graphic images using computer software in class.

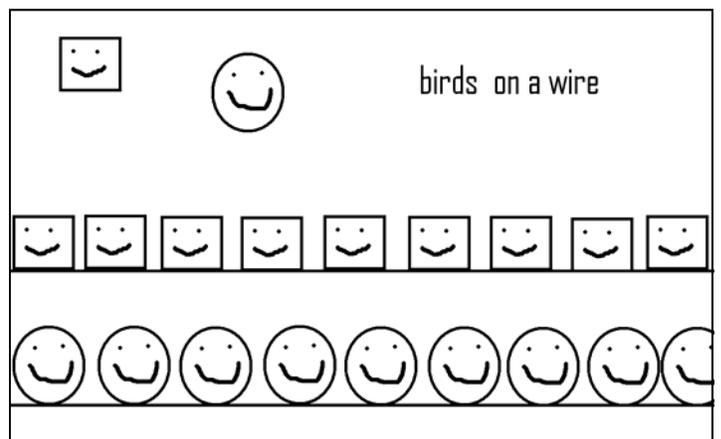
Use of the curve tool is one that takes a little practice: 1. Draw the Line; 2. Bend the Line; 3. Set the Line. In the introductory "Field of Wheat," assignment, students developed mastery of this important graphic concept and tool.



Jameisha built on her experience with the curve tool, used the "filled with color" tool, and produced this rainbow.

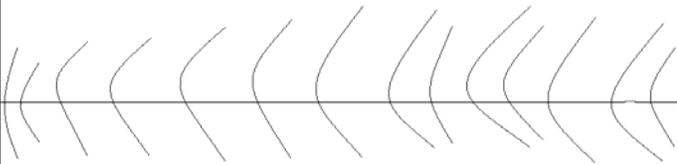


Tiffany also made use of the these tools in this extension assignment based on "Field of Wheat."



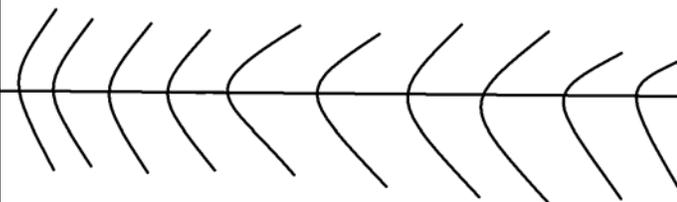
"Birds On a Wire" challenges students to use the Selection tool and to master Copy and Paste functions, concepts and skills they learned using text, but now applied to a graphic environment. Note that Breianna O'Neil drew only two images, "the birds;" the rest are copies she generated with the computer.

Field of Wheat

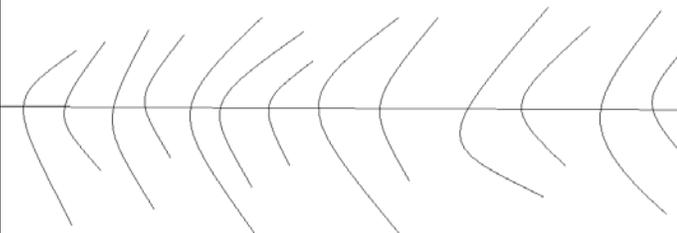


By: Jordan Smith

field of wheat
macy green



FIELD OF
WHEAT



By Timothy Zimmer

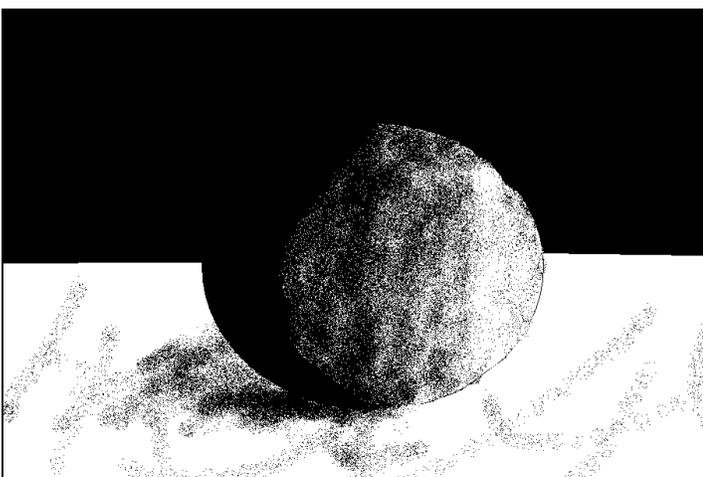


Twilight zone by Amber Evans

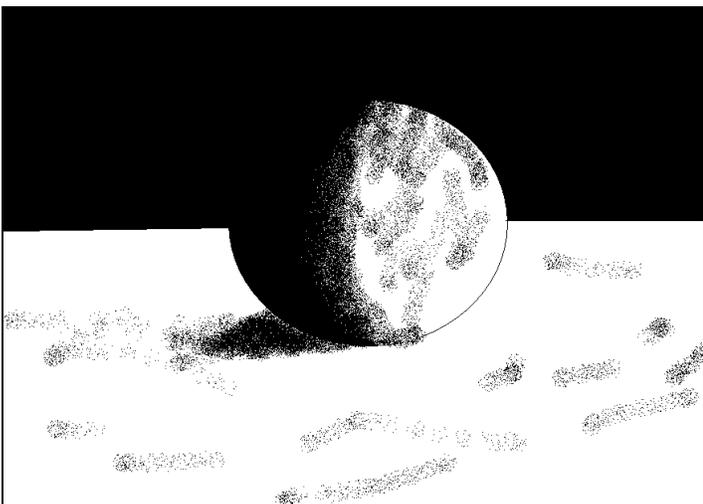


Twilight Zone by sandra

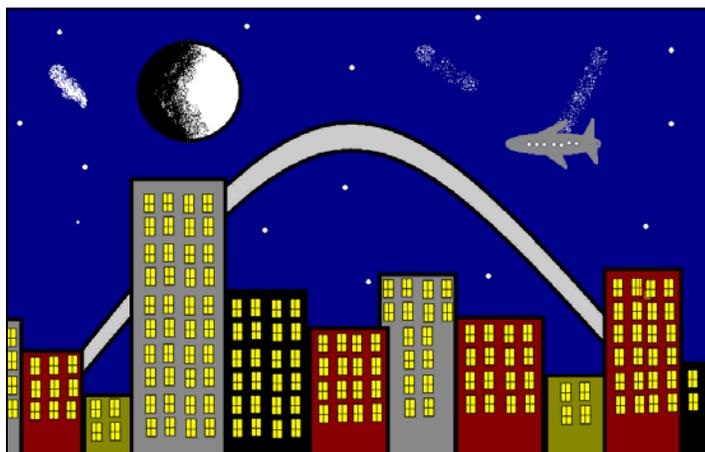
Students practice with the “air-brush” tool in the “Twilight Zone” assignment to explore the concept of light and shadow. They put this tool to use, along with the curve tool, to create the illusion of depth and a 3-dimensional sphere in “Moon.”



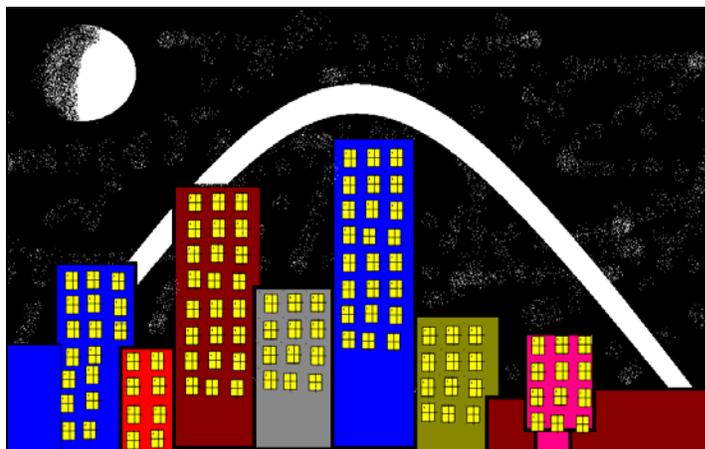
Drebari’s Moon from classroom 6A.



Dawn’s Moon from classroom 6A.



City Scene, by Maddy from 7B.



City Scene, by Dylan from 7B.

Putting it together in “City Scene.” Maddy and Dylan and their 7th grade classmates use select, copy and paste to generate dozens of identical windows. If you look closely at the pictures you can also see there they used the curve tool and the airbrush.



Mr. Riddlespringer meets with his students on Day One.



Ms. Lawrence (3rd Grade), Mr. Owings (3rd Grade), Ms. Cunningham (4th Grade) and Ms. Martin (6th Grade) meet outside Mr. Owings classroom on the first day of school.



Beginning a unit on Desktop Publishing in mid-September, Karvon from 6A, combines text and graphics in Microsoft Publisher. He imports an original picture created with Microsoft Paint and keys in the text to the Pledge of Allegiance.



Mrs. William's 6th Grade home room on Day One.



Some of Mrs. Price's 5th Grade home room on Day One.



Ms. Martin's 6th Grade home room on Day One.



Mr. Gordon, Lyon @ Blow's new In School Suspension Monitor, Officer Strong, and School Counselor, Mr. Bush.



Mr. Hennen and Ms. Housewright.



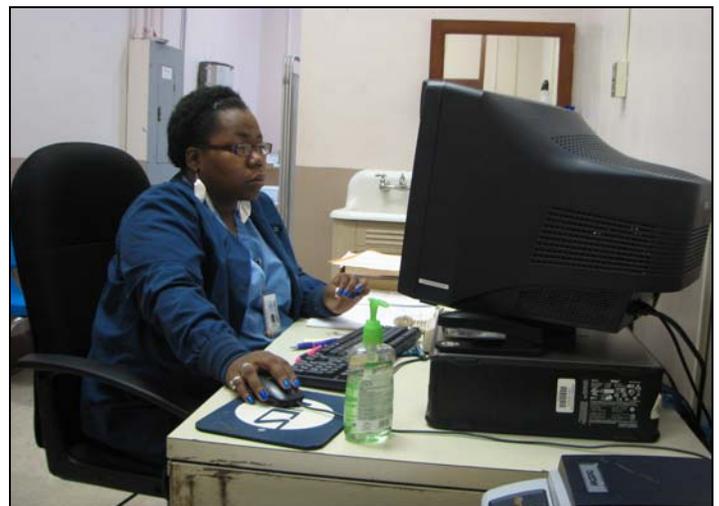
Ms. Perkins and Officer Strong. Ms. Perkins is Lyon @ Blow's new head custodian. Don't worry, Mr. Smith still works at Lyon @ Blow; his shift begins at 1:30 in the afternoon.



Ms. McCord, Lyon @ Blow's Classroom Reduction Teacher and 3rd grade teacher, Mr. Owings, at elementary lunch.



Mrs. Ackerman came in on her day off to unpack and assemble book shelves and unpack, catalog and organize books for Lyon @ Blow's Leveled Book Room. She is seen here with her two own children.



Hello to Nurse May, Lyon @ Blow's School Nurse.



Talk about creating interesting environments to promote learning and creativity! Mr. Haas always goes out of his way to create an exciting place for his students to learn. That was the case for several years as a science teachers when he transformed rooms 114 and 221 into virtual tropical rain forests to help promote the study of science and biology. This year, Mr. Haas takes over as Lyon @ Blow’s Art teacher and with hours and hours of his own labor (and at some personal expense) he transformed the old basement art room into a creative art space that would be the envy of many high school art departments. He is seen in this photo, left, near the head of the room watching a student make a presentation.



Lyon @ Blow’s Music Teacher speaks to 8th Grade students in his class. Mr. Clark also directs the school’s musical shows.



Lyon @ Blow’s Physical Education Teacher, Mr. Keane, in a picture outside with some of his elementary students.

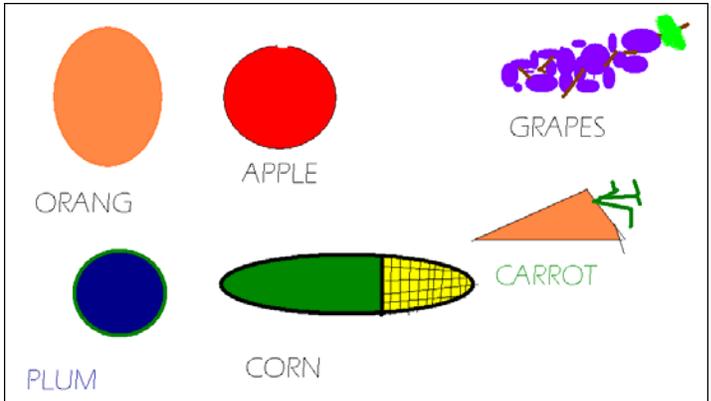


Parent Volunteer, Mrs. Campbell, Officer Strong; Parent Volunteer, Ms. Girtman; and Mr. Clark.

I look forward to meeting you and working throughout the 2011-12 school year. I am in room 119A, Monday thru Friday from 8:05am to 3:05pm or during regular school hours. I can be reached at (314) 353-1349, ext. 831.

Respectfully,

Sarah Burdette, Family and Community Specialist



Tallula is in 2nd grade, and, like students in the upper grades, she is learning about computer graphics too. Her class was assigned to draw and label these familiar fruits and vegetables. She did a great job! We'll interview students about the new healthy snack program of fresh fruit at Lyon @ Blow in our next issue, due out before the Winter Holidays. See you then!



Ms. Bryant and seventh graders on Day One.

A Note From Mrs. Burdette:

Lyon @ Blow
Family and Community Specialist

My name is Sarah Burdette. I am the Family and Community Specialist for Lyon@Blow K-8 School. I was educated through the Senatobia Mississippi School System and Harris-Stowe State College, St. Louis, Missouri. I have worked for the District for eleven years. As the Family and Community Specialist, I believe that the home and school should work together to ensure that all children are successful academically and to help produce lifelong learners.

My responsibilities as your Family and Community specialist are to ensure that home-to-school and school-to-home communication is used in helping our children achieve success and that parents are informed about school and district policies, including Title I Federal Mandates and the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. I will also assist parents in understanding these federal mandates and laws as well as hold workshops and training to encourage your involvement.



Our Principal, Ms. Iskali. Her day begins early in the morning and ends long after everyone in the building has gone. She has great plans for the school. Lyon @ Blow News will do its best to chronicle events and activities in future issues. We apologize to any staff members or classrooms we missed this round. Look for your pictures here next issue along with artwork, features, stories, and news articles by students. Look for Classroom Spotlights, too, articles highlighting particular lessons, projects, and other activities occurring in the classroom. Until next time.



Lyon @ Blow News
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