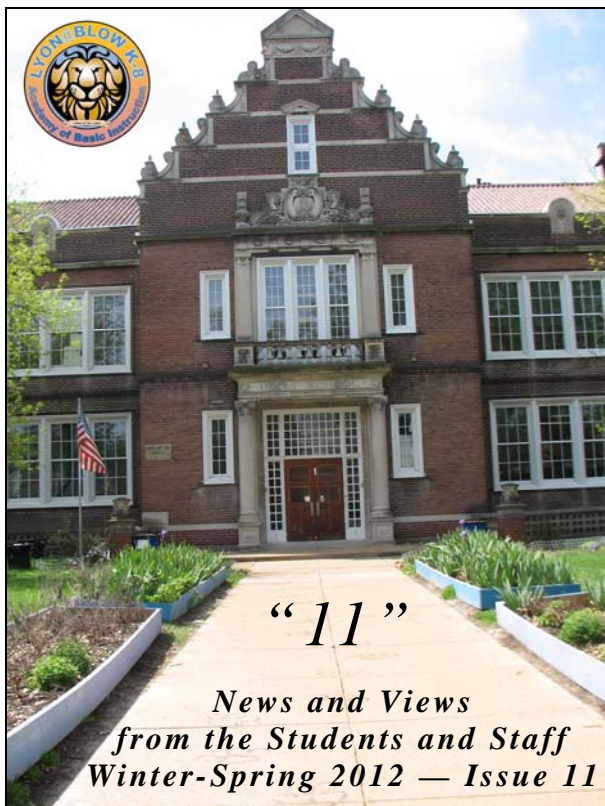




On Friday afternoon of May 4, 2012, faculty and staff gathered after the school day at Tower Grove Park to celebrate. Front Row from Left to Right: Ms. Martin, 6th Grade Mathematics; Mrs. Trapp, Teaching and Learning Facilitator; Ms. Sims, 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher; Ms. Weiss, 7th and 8th Grade Mathematics Teacher; Mr. Hennen, Kindergarten Teacher; Mr. Pearl, 7th and 8th Grade Science Teacher; Back Row from Left to Right: Mr. Archer, 7th and 8th Grade Communication Arts; Ms. Berry, School Secretary; Ms. Lawrence, 3rd Grade Teacher; Mrs. Burdette, Family and Community Specialist; Mr. Clark, K-8 Music Teacher; Ms. LeRose, 6th Grade Communication Arts Teacher. Thanks to Ms. Iskali, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Berry for great barbecue!



Congratulations to Dr. Ingrid Iskali. Lyon at Blow's principal received her doctorate in education this spring. She is seen here with a display advertizing the great programs offered at our school. She presented this at a recent District-sponsored open-house held at the Gateway Complex on Saturday, April 28, 2012. Lyon at Blow made a strong showing!



Gentlemen's Club. (Left to right) Mr. Bryant (sponsor), Deshon, Lamont, Mark, Shemar, Sean (in back row), Cornelius, Columbus (in back row beside Sean), Davion (in back row), Dominique (in back row with suit and tie) Evan and Tyree.

LYON @ BLOW GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

Thanks to Mr. Bryant and the members of the Lyon at Blow Gentlemen's Club for this inside look at the popular middle school organization. The observations were written by members of the class and typed up for the Newsletter by eighth grade students in their Computer Literacy class.

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB STORY

by Evan

The Gentlemen's Club did a lot for me. It helped me become a better gentleman and have more confidence in myself and in whatever I do. The Gentlemen's Club helped me have confidence in saying speeches in front of people and even a big audience. For instance, one time we had a black history assembly and I was supposed to deliver a Dr. King speech, "I Have a Dream," and I didn't do it. I don't know why I didn't do it, I just didn't. Now that I've been mentored

and helped out by The Gentlemen's Club, I am no longer afraid to give speeches in front of a large crowd.

The Gentleman's Club also helped me go places. One place we went was Ronald McDonald's House. We went there to cook for people in the hospital. That experience kind of helped me care for others and help others. This experience also helped me learn to cook.

It has all been a great time for me.

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

by Praijon

The Gentlemen's Club has been great for young men going to school at Lyon at Blow. Some of these young men have had their ups and downs. I have surely had mine. From the time when I was in the club, from when I used to be disrespectful, Mr. Bryant (the adult sponsor of the club) has always helped me stay out of trouble and he treated me and the club

members with respect. Mr. Bryant's goal is for us to be better than most people on the street. The week of April 23-27 is our White Ribbon Week when Mr. Bryant and the Gentlemen's Club (GC) will talk about the abuse of women and how to put a stop to it. In my new journey I work so well with Mr. Bryant that I am mentoring a young student myself.

Mr. Bryant is truly here to help students. I say you should try to take his help and learn from his knowledge.

THE LYON at BLOW GENTLEMAN'S CLUB

by Garry

The GC club helped me a lot by staying out of trouble. And also Mr. Otis Bryant helped me to be grateful. It also helped me meet new friends and people. This school year has been an adventure and experience.

It's been really hard for me since my mom moved to Dallas, because I'm not used to anybody else's environment. I've gotten in a lot of trouble since she moved. A lot of crazy things happened this year but I survived this, finally.

I think my friends and teammates have been an influence on me because of my behavior.

The GC has helped me understand life, the way it goes, and the way it is. Mr. Bryant helped me go through situations in my life.

The GC

by Columbus

The Lyon at Blow Gentlemen's Club helps me be the best man I can be. Before I joined the Gentlemen's Club I was lost and didn't know what to do. Then, I went to after school and since the first time when I joined The Gentlemen it has been great. I got to be with my friends and Mr. Bryant. It's been fun. We did lots of stuff together and I can never forget those days.

I can't lie. This school-year has been the best school-year in any school I ever went to. This school and The Gentlemen's Club makes it so I don't ever get kicked out of school and never put my hands on a girl in my life. The Gentleman's Club put a change in my soul, because I used to think that getting put

out of school was good. The Gentlemen's Club changes everything. This school and the Gentlemen's Club can help you because it has helped me.

THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB AND MY GOALS

by Tyree

The Gentlemen's Club teaches men how to respect others. Mr. Bryant helped me do better in Ms. Martin's class when they sat down and talked to me about my problems. I come to the Gentlemen's Club. So, I'm trying to see if I can accomplish my goals.

Now I'm in a position to make women's future better. We are starting at a young age to help men know not to not put their hands on women. I'm trying to be a leader when I grow up. I think this can help get me get there. I've been doing all my work in class and paying attention. I'm trying to be a role model and get my peers on the right path.

The GC

by Mark

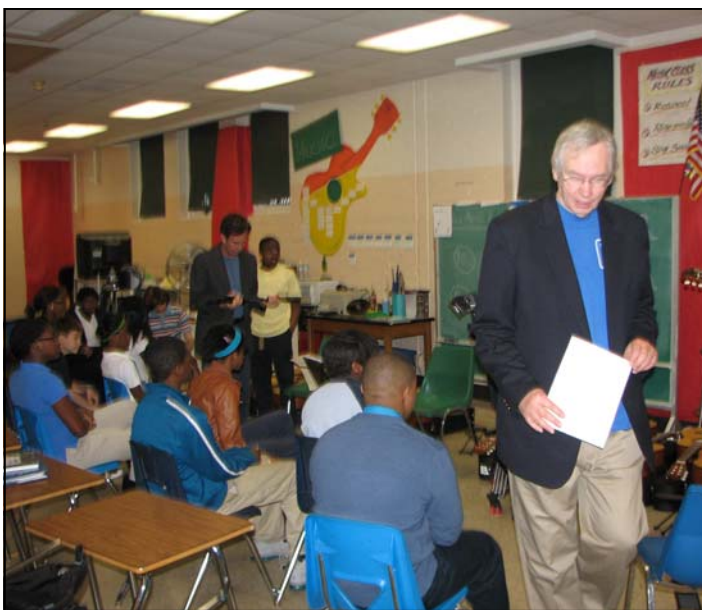
The GC helped me by helping me to take problems through the future to help me take responsibility over my actions. G.C helps me know how to treat women in the future. This got me caught up on how to be a man.

The GC helps me learn right from wrong. We spend time talking about the way we should express ourselves and learning to let stuff go if someone says something we might not like. GC helps you in so many ways. I was signed-up at first and didn't want to do it, but when I started, I changed my mind, like, "this can do something for me." It has been a good experience.

THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

by Troy

The Gentlemen's Club has helped me be a gentleman. Mr. Bryant helped me get out of a lot and I mean a lot of trouble and learn how to do better, not only in school, but in life. We have meetings every Wednesday and talk about hard, hard times and then we eat our lunch. I have enjoyed the Gentlemen's Club



Lyon @ Blow Receives 40 Guitars and Accessories Thanks to St. Louis Classical Guitar Society

(Reprinted below is the SLPS press-release that ran throughout the district, celebrating the good news.)

ST. LOUIS, MO, April 9, 2012 – Today, Lyon @ Blow, a kindergarten through 8th grade school, received 40 guitars, complete with cases, foot stands, strings, and educational material to enhance the classroom instrumental music offerings at that school thanks to the generosity of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society and the St. Louis Rotary Club.

“We are very grateful. This has been a dream of mine for a long time. I actually got my start in music when I was in elementary school,” said Mr. Mark Clark, Music Teacher at Lyon @ Blow, who uses his per-

Members of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society visited Mr. Clark’s classroom along with a television crew from Fox Channel 2 to film a segment that was later broadcast on the evening news. The news story told about the donation and featured interviews with Mr. Clark and one of his students.



Lyon at Blow Students, Members of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society, and Mr. Mark Clark, Lyon at Blow Music Teacher

sonal guitar as a teaching tool in the classroom. Notably, Mr. Clark was named the 2010-2011 SLPS Music Teacher of the Year for drawing upon the rich musical history of all cultures to inspire and educate students.

The St. Louis Classical Guitar Society has been a long-time advocate and supporter of the St. Louis Public School District. Many funding sources are sought to support its Public School Guitar Initiative, which enhances existing programs and/or encourages the development of guitar programs. The Public School Guitar Initiative was introduced in 2010 at Central Visual and Performing Arts, which received 20 guitars and accessories. In 2011 Gateway IT High School received 30 guitars and accessories. The Society also offers the Student Matinee Performance Series, featuring Friday daytime performances with world-renowned musicians.

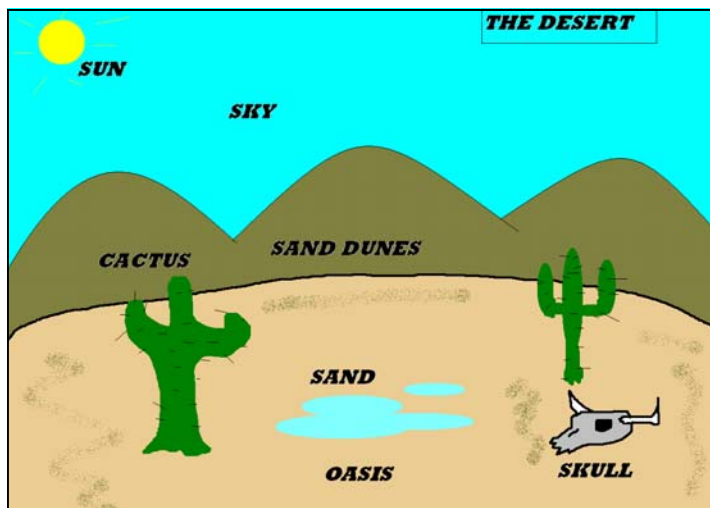
William Ash, President of the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society, who delivered the guitars, took a moment to address students saying, "I hope you really enjoy these guitars and make good use of them. We want to hear some good music-making in the near future."

The St. Louis Classical Guitar Society, established in 1963, is the nation's third oldest guitar society. It believes music can build skills, instill confidence, and promote creativity and social cooperation, and works to promote an appreciation for music of the classical guitar within the St. Louis community. For more information please contact the Office of Public Information (314) 345-2367.

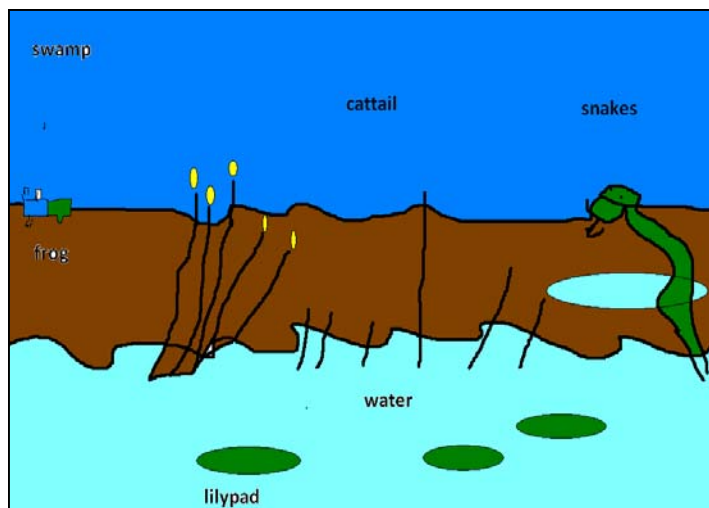
* * *

Thanks to Ms. Julie Linder, Mr. Patrick Wallace and all the members of the SLPS Office of Public Information for the wonderful news story!

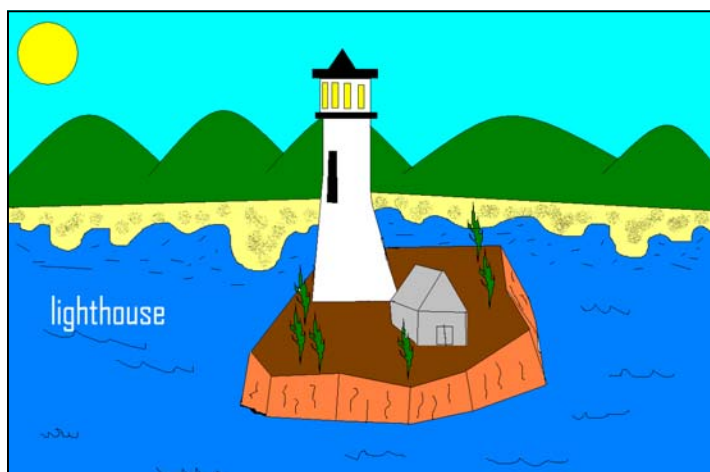
COMPUTER GRAPHICS



Lighthouse by Aleisha — Grade 6



Lighthouse by Jamie — Grade 7



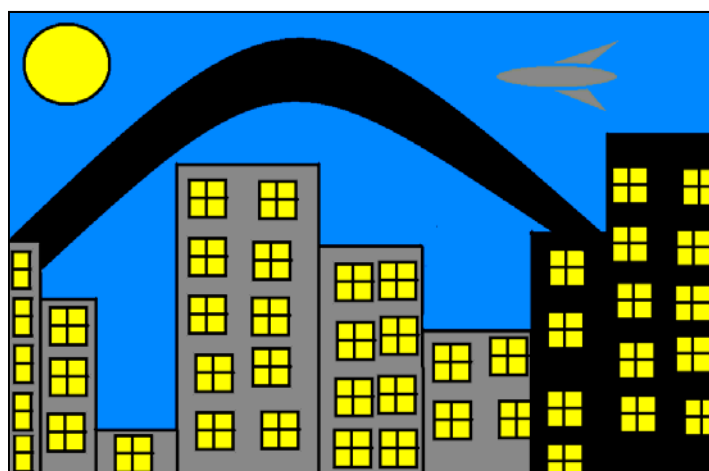
Lighthouse by Destiny — Grade 8



Lighthouse by Nick — Grade 8



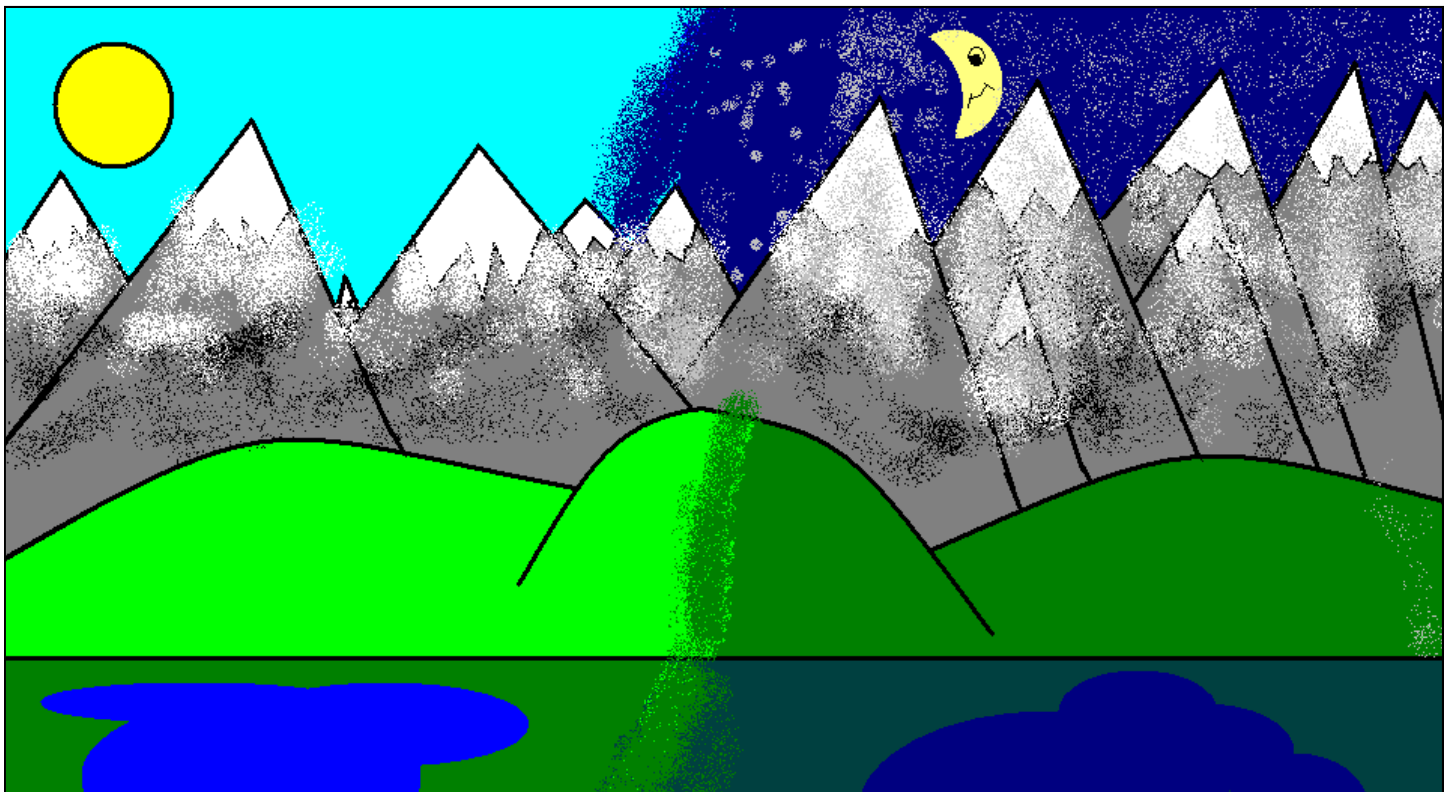
Lighthouse by Columbus — Grade 8



Lighthouse by Deaollio — Grade 8



City Scene in Gray-Scale by Nichole — Grade 6



Day and Night in the Mountains by Chris — Grade 8

SPRING FLING



Photos continued from page 1.



Ms. Berry gets it done on Smith's portable barbecue. Top photo shows faculty members gathered at Tower Grove. The photo to the right shows Mrs. DeLeon with her two daughters who attended the party.





Ms. Berry kept the fires burning at Tower Grove, supplying the picnic-goers with hot-dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, and chicken. (She also had a secret stash of barbecue shrimp!)



Mr. Clark and Ms. LeRose



Ms. Fish and Mr. Bryant



Ms. May, Ms. Davison, Ms. Berry, and Mrs. Price



Ms. Berry and Mrs. Price



Ms. Isakli finally finished at school and arrived at the celebration well after five o'clock. Everyone thanked her for the party.



Lyon at Blow students gather at various stations in the Library to learn from Fontbonne University students about many aspects of college and college life. Students from Ms. LeRose's class are visible in this photo.

SIXTH GRADE COLLEGE FAIR

By Nichole and Aleah

On Friday the 27th of April, 2012 actual students from Fontbonne University came and taught students from Lyon at Blow Middle School about college. The students gathered in the Lyon at Blow Library and sixth graders came in to take part in the program. Ms. Lucie of Lyon at Blow's Big Brother and Big Sister program set up the event with people from Fontbonne University. The college students taught the sixth grade students about how to pay for college, what major you want to study, and what the colleges are looking for in students. The Lyon at Blow students were entered in a drawing for whoever got their form signed by all of the persons at each informational table. It was very interesting and a lot of fun.



Ms. Lucie of Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Ms. LeRose are surrounded by enthusiastic students at the College Fair. The students were glad they got to participate and ask questions.



SLAM POETRY

On Thursday May 3, 2012 Ms. LeRose taught a lesson on poetry to her 6th Grade Communication Arts class. Lyon at Blow News was impressed by her lesson, the hardworking, attentive and thoughtful sixth grade students, and by the apparent advances in poetry which have occurred since this reporter first studied “free-verse” in undergraduate school 40 years ago.

“Slam Poetry,” combines the loose, open structure of “Free Verse” and adds the driving beat and stage oriented flavor of hip-hop and performance art. Think of Walt Whitman meets Gil Scott Herron with a dash of Eminem. During the Thursday lesson, students reviewed poetic devices such as end rhyme, internal rhyme, consonance, assonance and alliteration. Working in small groups, the students identified examples used in a poem by 12-year-old Eli Marienthal. Ms. LeRose’s class listened to an audio-recording of the boy performing his poem called “Multiverse.” On their printed copies, students highlighted the various devices the young writer used in his poem. Next, students shared their group work with Ms. LeRose using the poem projected overhead.



After working-through the lesson with his class, Isaiah begins work on his own original poem in the “Slam” style.

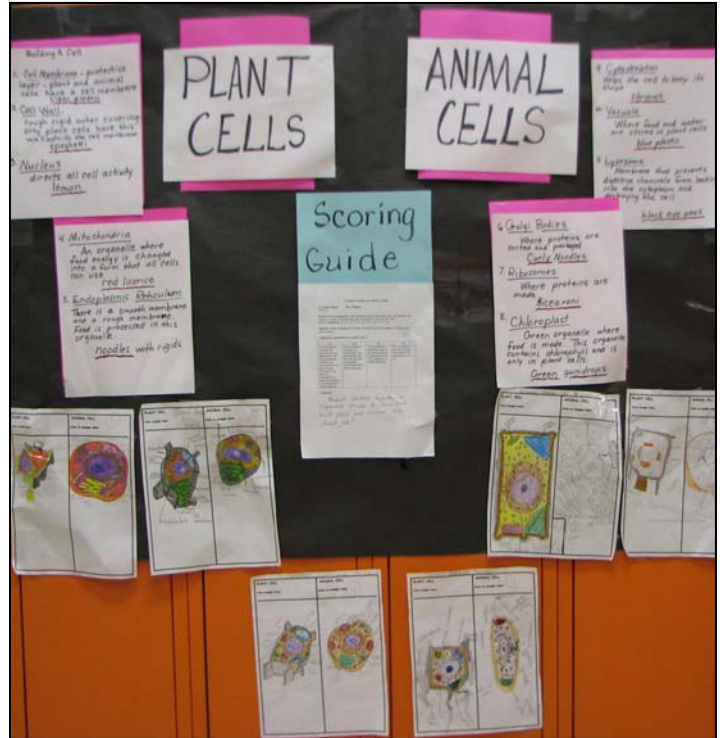
The students then examined the lyrics of a song by Eminem. They listened to his audio performance on Ms. LeRose’s computer and they identified the various poetic elements on their printed copies of the famous song. Finally, students reviewed what they had learned and began writing their own, original, slam poems.

Soon, the class period was over. The students were impressed by the time they had spent working and seemed eager to work on their own, original poems.

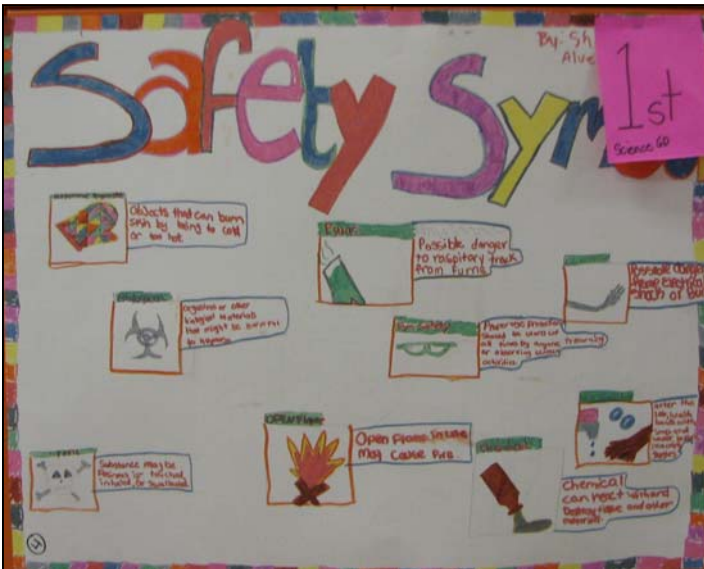
BITS & PIECES



Mr. Archer, Lyon at Blow's 7th and 8th Grade Communication Arts teacher displays student work. Students have been reading the popular novel, *The Hunger Games*. Teachers throughout the building have taken student work from inside their classrooms and displayed it on the walls.



Mathematics, Communication Arts, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Physical Education, Computer Literacy. One never has to look far to locate evidence of the hard-working and productive students and staff of Lyon at Blow!



BITS & PIECES



Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams was on hand to honor Lyon at Blow's Linda Tisdale for her volunteer work. Ms. Tisdale donated over 950 hours of her time this school year helping faculty and staff at Lyon at Blow.

LYON at BLOW's MS. TISDALE HONORED FOR HER VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The St. Louis Public School District recently honored more than 300 volunteer groups and individuals with a special celebration. Wells Fargo Advisors provided the elegant setting for the event by donating its Courtyard space at its building on Market Street.

Wells Fargo Advisors President Atul Kamra welcomed the guests and offered his thanks for the many hours of volunteer service provided to the SLPS students by those in attendance. Each of the volunteers in attendance dedicated from 50 to 1500 hours of service to the students of the St. Louis Public Schools since the beginning of this school year. They have served as tutors, as coaches, and as mentors. The volunteers have helped build gardens, taught chess, and greeted students each day, among many other things. The District recognized 35 individuals for volunteering 200-499 hours.

A special award was presented to Linda Tisdale in recognition of reaching the 950 hour level in volunteer hours.

Thanks to Ms. Julie Linder, Mr. Patrick Wallace and all the members of the SLPS Office of Public Information for the press-release, excerpts of which are reprinted above.



Although April was officially "MAP" month, students at Lyon at Blow have been involved in MAP-related activities throughout the year. Here are the results of the 2011-2012 Math League Play-Offs. Congratulations to Room 8A!



Did we mention that the school received 40 guitars from the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society? That's a lot of guitar!

IN THE CLASSROOM



Ms. Lawrence's 3rd Grade Classroom

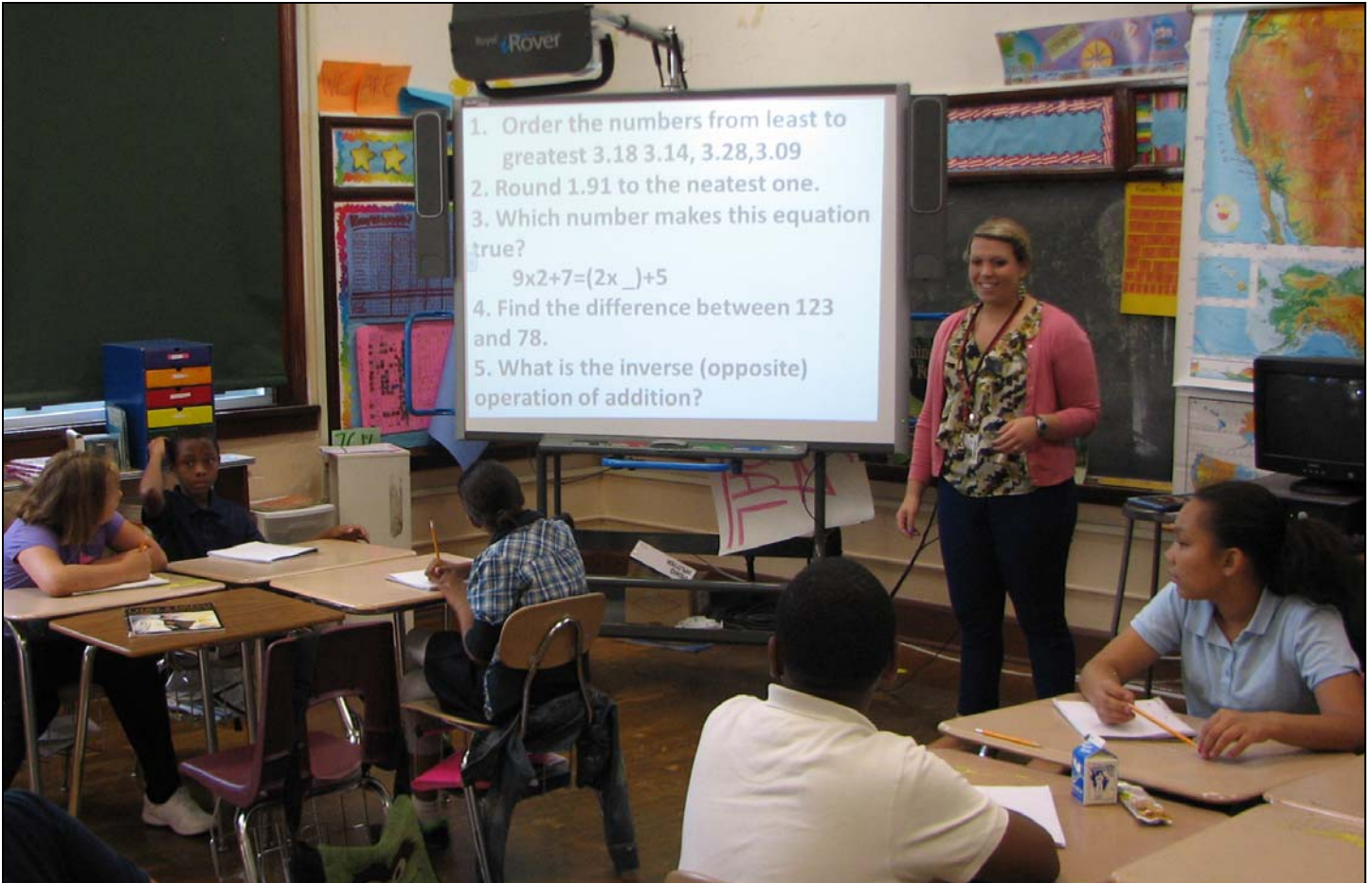


Mr. Owing's 2nd and 3rd Grade Classroom



Meanwhile, at the opposite end of the building, Nichole & Tavionne create double-sided brochures in their 6th Grade Computer Literacy Classroom.

IN THE CLASSROOM



Ms. Cunningham's 4th Grade Class



A final visit to Mr. Hennen's Classroom. Amazing to consider that the next time we visit these students, they will be in the First Grade!



Lyon at Blow News dropped-in to the suite of offices on the second floor to say hello to Ms. Brady, Lyon at Blow's hard-working social worker.



Student to student. Sixth graders got a chance to talk to college students at the College Fair. (See page 10.)

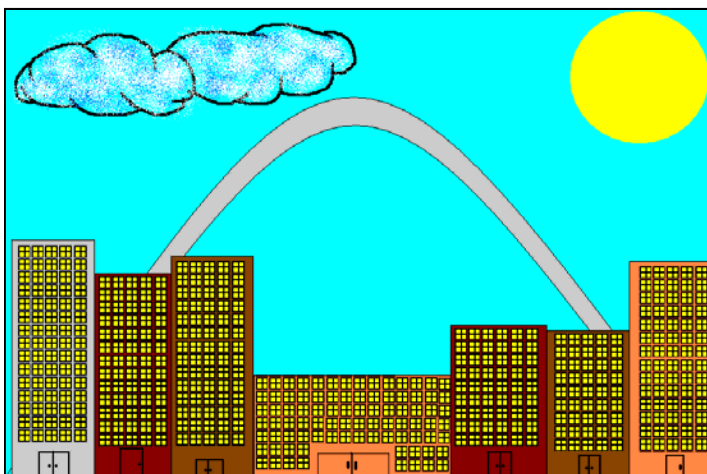
From the Principal's Desk



I wish all of our students and staff a safe, restful and fun summer break. Best of luck next year to all of our graduating 8th graders as they begin high school. To everyone else, I look forward to seeing you all here at Lyon at Blow for the start of the 2012-2013 school year this coming August. — Ms. Iskali



6th Grader Aleisha at the College Fair



City Scene by Lataira — Grade 8



Lyon @ Blow News
Issue No. 11 — Winter-Spring 2012

