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SCHOOL TOWN OF HIGHLAND SPECIAL REPORT

Highland students making strides this summer

From Camp Invention at the elementary level, back-to-basics language arts and math in the middle school and credit recovery for our high schoolers, our students made strides in June. Later this month, we will welcome a group of elementary students who need a boost to jump start the 2021-2022 school year.

A few weeks later, we begin a new academic year.

There are any number of things you, your extended family and friends can do to help your child get back in the groove.

- **Elementary parents:** Set aside a time to read with your child. Play fun math games outdoors.
- **Middle school parents:** Your days of reading with your child may be past, but fostering a love of reading doesn't have to be. Set up a mini book club. Discuss favorite characters.
- **High school parents:** More than anything, high schoolers may need help getting back into a school-year routine.

Mark your calendar! Into The Woods performances are scheduled **7 p.m. Aug. 6-7** and **2 p.m. Aug. 8** at Monbeck Auditorium.



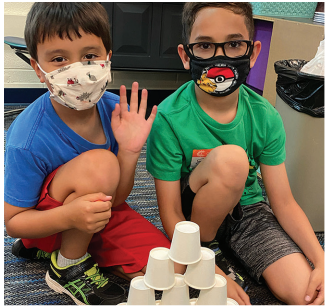
Brian Smith
Superintendent
School Town of Highland



WARREN STUDENTS PROGRAMMING ROBOTS

One year into partial implementation of the elementary Project Lead The Way curriculum, Warren Principal Christina Davis said it has already become a favorite for students at every grade level. This year, students will be utilizing all four curriculum modules as they develop problem-solving skills and program Vex robots to perform specific tasks. If it doesn't work the first time, teams of students continue working to perfect the concept and coding until it does. In addition to academic achievement, Davis said students experience the success of achieving their goals and learning to work as part of a team - one module at a time. "All students K-5 participate in Project Lead the Way - and they love it. It's hands-on learning that students can relate to," Davis said. "With each progressive year, the tasks become increasingly complex. Beginning with the kindergarten Tiger projects, students use everything they've learned to advance their skills and build successes that span the entire curriculum."

ABOUT PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: Project Lead the Way was created to help students develop highly valued skills – such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, collaboration, and communication. These are skills that translate seamlessly from the classroom to the boardroom. As PLTW students progress through grades PreK-12, they are empowered to explore career paths, engage in problem solving and process thinking, develop technical knowledge and skills, and build communication skills. Learn more at pltw.org.



WELCOME TO CAMP INVENTION!

A mission to learn about building robots powered by the sun, the action of sound waves and the dynamics of physics turned into an interactive experience for 60 Highland students at Camp Invention 2021. For Johnston Elementary School, partnering with the National Inventors Hall of Fame on Camp Invention is a much-anticipated ritual of summer. Principal Amy Harrington said the camp is a game-changer. "Our students explored modules with fun names like Duck Chuck, SolarBot, Open Mic and Road Rally," Harrington said. "They worked in teams and individually. With materials from home, they turned up-cycled items into devices they propelled, vibrated and launched. Ask any one of them and they'll tell you they had a blast!"



FREE MEALS FOR 2021-2022

The USDA has extended free meals for the upcoming year. Students can take advantage of free breakfast and lunches for the 2021-2022 school year at no cost. There are no income or eligibility requirements to take advantage of this program. In fact, the more students that participate, the more it benefits our food service department. Let us help alleviate some of the burden of grocery shopping, making breakfast and packing lunches.

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

Incoming freshmen and students new to the high school in the 2021-2022 school year are invited to attend orientation between **July 26-July 29**. Students will get RDS access, tours of the building, introductions to staff and mentor students along with information key to student success. Please check **highland.k12.in.us** to find out which session your student should attend. **Questions?** Email Asst. Principal Andrew Locke at alocke@highland.k12.in.us.