Hope Academy Of West Michigan

The Issues that Matter!

Community Partners Matter

A big big thank you!

Hope Academy continues to partner with The World Literacy Foundation to provide students with engaging reading materials. On February 7, 2020 the foundation delivered over 300 books to students at Hope Academy with the goal of lifting young people out of poverty through the power of literacy. Secondary students were able to pre-order their book titles so they could choose a book of their liking, and every elementary student was able to choose from a variety
of topics. The World Literacy Foundation plans to return in April and June to continue to put books in the hands of our students. This is the 3rd year of this amazing partnership. Together we can ensure every child is able to read so they can enjoy lifelong learning and empowerment.

**M-STEP Testing is on the Horizon--Words of Encouragement Matter!**

Preparing students for the upcoming M-STEP requires more than just teaching and learning, tutoring and practicing. To do well, teachers spend time on helping students to develop the right “mind set.” Believing in themselves, having a growth mindset, and setting individual growth goals is all part of getting ready for the big day. Teaching test taking strategies and ensuring that all students understand their current level of proficiency helps students to set targeted goals and shoot for the stars.
Black History Month Matters!

Supporting a culturally diverse student population means celebrating the gifts and talents that each culture brings to our school, to our communities, and to our nation. Students spent time this month researching the critical roles that African Americans played in the history of the United States. Their stories, their accomplishments, and their contributions have helped to make our nation a rich and vibrant country. This month was important for our Hope community to honor the all too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every endeavor throughout our history. Thank you to Ms. Smith's 5th grade class for the poster identifying those African Americans who have contributed so greatly to our prosperity as a nation.
ATTENDANCE AND GRADES MATTER--THE 90-90-90-90 CHALLENGE!

To meet the goals of our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), the secondary team is implementing a contest among secondary students to improve attendance and the percentage of students passing core classes. Our first goal is to have 90-percent of students in attendance 90-percent of instructional time. Hope currently has no secondary grade levels meeting this challenge. Our second goal is to have 90-percent of students passing 90-percent of their core classes in English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Hope currently has no grade levels meeting this challenge. To encourage improvement, the MTSS team is posting the percentage of attendance and passing grades for each grade level in the hallways for all students and staff to view. At the end of each week the winning grade level in each category will be awarded with the very thing that most secondary students want---a UNIFORM pass!
Taking a Stand Matters

Teachers continue to work with students to improve their speaking and listening skills and increase their WIDA levels. Mr. Velting’s 8th grade social studies classes debated the Loyalists vs. the Patriots as they explored early US History and Government. Students practiced their oral language skills by comparing and contrasting the roles that each side played in the fight for independance against Great Britian.

Celebrating Matters!

Enjoying time together as a community matters. On Friday, February 14th students gathered to celebrate Valentine’s Day and demonstrate their musical talents. The band played and the students danced, but mostly they laughed, enjoyed each other’s company, and celebrated the Hope family.