



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8

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Kriss' Korner!

Without the help of a strong community, Energizing Education would not be where we are today. We have so many great partnerships within the community that continue to support the need to promote literacy in Jackson County. Many businesses have given us both funds and the time of their employees to consistently work each week with K-3 students. Industrial Steel Treating Co., Consumer's Energy, Jackson District Library, Royal Adhesives & Sealants, CP Federal Credit Union, Michigan Community Credit Union, Alro Steel, Jackson County Intermediate School District, and the Jackson Community Foundation are just some of the organizations who have been crucial to our program. We could not exist and reach as many students and families without the help of these organizations and many more. Because so many of you make it possible, we are proud of the work we have done so far and look forward to the work we continue to do. Visit our [website](#) and follow us on Facebook to find out how to get involved and see what mentors and students are accomplishing every day.

Energizing Education

Cascades Elementary School

Cascades Students Get Fired Up About Reading Month

Happy March is Reading Month! Energizing Education mentors continue to work each week with their students to help them become strong, fluent readers. Each month we continue to welcome new students and mentors to the program and we look forward to seeing everyone getting to know each other and enjoying time reading together. The atmosphere in the room is always fun and while the whole school participated in reading challenges and other activities this month, the excitement about reading was hard to miss. Cascades celebrated the month through the theme "Be a Superhero and Read!" Every Friday was a superhero spirit day where students participated in fun dress up days such as "Llama Llama Red Pajama," "Read My Shirt and Hat Day," "Fox in Socks" where everyone wore outrageous socks and slippers, "Reading Exercises the Mind" where everyone wore jogging and running suits, and



"Cascades Super Readers" where you could dress up as your favorite superhero or make one up. Students also had a family reading calendar with activities they could do at home for a chance to win a gift card to Old Country Buffet.

Also this month, Energizing Education provided some of the fun prizes that students could end up winning at the end of the month. The top reader in the school will be lucky enough to win a basket full of superhero prizes. Energizing Education staff also stopped by for the Book Time with Ronald McDonald Reading Assembly. It was a fun assembly and it was great to see students so involved in the story and excited about reading. It was a great month for Energizing Education and Cascades and we can't wait to see what next month brings. Great job with all your reading!



Mentor Spotlight

Name: Vonna Halladay

Business: Retired from Consumer's Energy

Why did you decide to become a volunteer? To help children find reading fun and exciting.

What do you like about mentoring your student? Seeing their smiles every time we meet. The excitement and pride they feel when they learn a new word or write in their journal are so rewarding.

Favorite childhood book: Walter Farley Black Stallion series

Favorite book now: One Thousand White Women



April Mentor Training Calendar

Date	Time	Type	Location
April 12	1:00-3:00 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C
April 21	2:00-4:00 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room D
April 28	9:00-11:00 am	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room D

Contact Charlie at energizingeducation@uwjackson.org to sign up



Literacy Tip of the Month

Create a weekly tradition!

Take time to read comic strips together. Share favorites from your own childhood and have your child put his favorites on the fridge. Read them aloud, and often - repetition is a great way to build reading skills. Soon, they'll love looking forward to the "Sunday funnies" each week.

It's not too late to become a mentor! Sign up today to start reading with a Cascades student!



REMINDER!

Spring Break is next week, April 4th-8th! All EE schools will be closed with no mentoring.

THANK YOU!!!

A special thank you goes to Comcast Internet Essentials and the Jackson Community Foundation for helping us support March is Reading Month at all of our schools. Both organizations provided us with funds to buy books and prizes for a month filled with fun literacy activities. We thank both organizations for the work they do to build a great community and for their continued support of Energizing Education!

Bonus Tip!

Don't let the end of March stop you from reading! Surround your kids with reading materials!

Make reading tempting by having books and magazines at their reading level constantly around. Put books in cars, in the kitchen, family rooms, etc.

Find out more!

<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>
or
Energizing Education on Facebook

For volunteer information:

Contact Charlie Miller
energizingeducation@uwjackson.org

To Donate:

Contact Kriss Giannetti at
kgiannetti@uwjackson.org



Spring is just around the corner and that means Spring Break will soon be upon us. If you are looking for some fun things to do, Jackson District Library is the place for you. The Carnegie Library will be having many events including a Steampunk Journal craft, magnetic slime science program, Elementary aged mystery party, and a board game day. Call the Carnegie Library at 517-788-4087 ext. 1331 for more information. Be sure to check out our website – www.myjdl.com – or contact your local branch for more Spring Break Fun. Hope to see you over Spring Break at the Carnegie Library.

