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Lois' Corner!

As most of you know, Kriss Giannetti became the full time Director of Communications for JPS at the beginning of this month, prompting her to step down as manager of Energizing Education. Since the beginning of this month I have been transitioning to become the new manager. This will become effective on August 1st. For those who don't know, my role in EE has been the Family Involvement Coordinator. With this new transition, I will assume all the responsibilities to ensure that EE is successful, especially over the next few months, and that we have a successful rollout of the program in our seven existing schools when the school year begins. I also would like to thank everyone who came out to The Hub last month to discuss the findings from our professional evaluation of the program. We will be continuing to have conversations with our school partners as well as our interested stakeholders to secure funding and work to implement a sustainability plan for Energizing Education. Thank you all for your continued support of the program and sticking with us through changing times. We are all looking forward to starting the year out strong!

Energizing Education

Arnold Elementary School

Looking Back on a Great Year

Summer is here but only for a little while longer, so we hope you've been doing all the fun things summer brings! This was a great year and we hope Arnold students and families had as much fun as we did. We have already started planning for next year and ways to make both mentoring and family nights even better. With school just around the corner, this is a chance to look back on all the family nights and time spent in the Literacy Lounge mentoring and start getting excited about school starting next month.

September welcomed everyone back with our "Back to School BBQ Night." Students and their families raced the clock playing fun minute-to-win-it games such as the Color Sort Race where you had to put all the colored beads in separate cups, and Junk in the Trunk where as you had to jump and wiggle to get the ping pong balls to fall out of the box tied around your waist. Another fun one was Sight Word Cup Race where students had to hold a stack of cups and get the one single colored cup on the bottom while reading sight words out loud.



In October, we introduced mentors to both new and returning students in the Literacy Lounge. Each week students read exciting books and worked diligently on their comprehension and fluency skills. Students accumulated just over 275 hours of reading in 807 sessions! Their hard work and achievements are truly remarkable. Great job to everyone!

In both October and November, Energizing Education introduced brand new themed family nights — Superhero Night and Read Around the World Night. All night long students got to wear superhero capes, find out their superhero powers using colored playdoh, create their own superhero, and play fun literacy games as a family. In November, students traveled to various countries and by completing the activities at each station, learned interesting facts about them. South Africa, China, and Australia were just some of the countries we learned about.



The first half of the year was wrapped up with our Holiday Traditions Night and after the holiday break we welcomed everyone back with two of our biggest crowd pleasers, Family Game Night and Chocolate Night. Both nights were fun for all, especially with the new additions to the life-size games — bowling, ring toss, and farkle.

This year was packed with excitement at family night and we saw so many success stories in the Literacy Lounge each week. We have another great year of EE at Arnold wrapped up, with many people and memories we won't forget. Enjoy the rest of your summer break and start getting excited about the fun to come this Fall!



MENTOR TRAINING UPDATE:

We are still working to get mentor trainings scheduled and on the calendar. If you interested in receiving more information about being a mentor this Fall, contact our Recruitment Coordinator, Charlie at energizingeducation@uwjackson.org for more information or visit www.energizingeducationjackson.org!

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Literacy Tip of the Month

"PICK" the right books!

Help your child pick books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences.

P — Purpose. Why do I want to read?

I — Interest. Does it interest me?

C — Comprehend. Do I understand it?

K — Do I know most of the words?



This could be YOU! Contact us to become a mentor in the upcoming school year!



August is packed full of fun activities and events at JDL. From the 4th Annual Karen Veramay District-Wide LEGO Contest to a Star War Vs Star Trek night that's sure to make your inner nerd squeal. Check out www.myjdl.com or your local branch for more information.

Find out more!

<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>
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For volunteer information:

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energizingeducation@uwjackson.org

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Contact Lois Dunning at
ldunning@uwjackson.org

