



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 29

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### Lois' Corner!

Energizing Education always wants to make sure that when our mentors sign up, they feel prepared to go into the school buildings and read with students. To ensure this happens, we provide a one and a half hour literacy training provided by our Literacy Specialist. During this training mentors receive tools and tips to help them work through a 30 minute lesson plan with their students. Because this training only happens once, several times throughout the school year, we provide short videos that are shared with our mentors and on our [website](#) of helpful topics to keep in mind while they are mentoring. Some topics we have covered are using magnetic letters, encouraging independence, the importance of daily writing, and how to respond when a student doesn't know a word. I helped with our latest video covering the lesson plan and it will be available in the beginning of February. If you haven't done so yet, please take the time to watch these videos, as they can be great little reminders when reading with students.

# Energizing Education

## Cascades Elementary School

### Energizing Education Gets Ready for More Fun in 2018

Energizing Education is excited and ready to bring a lot more fun to students and their families for the last half of the school year. In our Energizing Education literacy lounge, we are seeing progress every day. Mentors are doing everything to help their students feel more confident with reading and writing. Students are moving up reading levels and their journal writing is improving little by little each week. This growth is something we hope is translating into their work in their classrooms and that their families are noticing an improvement at home as well.

In just the first trimester, Cascades students have read with their mentors for 317 sessions and a combined total of 5,518 minutes. These numbers in addition to the

smiles we see and the things we hear from our mentors is a reminder to us how important our work is and why we continuously strive to improve our program. We are so lucky to have the mentors that we do from the community and are appreciative of their commitment to EE and their students.

In addition to more family nights at the schools, more exciting things to look forward to this year are the big night at the Michigan Theatre and our end of year Mentor Appreciation brunch. Although it's early in the year, we already know there will be much to celebrate.

Keep following us on social media and checking our website to stay in the loop about all exciting things EE!



See back page for student answers.

### MENTOR SPOTLIGHT

**Name:** Mary Everhard

**How long have you been a volunteer with Energizing Education?** I have been volunteering for 3 years.

**What genre do you enjoy reading the most?** I enjoy reading fiction and informational text on my hobbies (photography, dogs, and bible study).

**If you could be any fictional character for a day, who would you be and why?** I really enjoy mysteries and it would be fun to be a detective like Agatha Christie for a day and solve a mystery.

**What is your favorite book that has been turned into a movie, or what book would you like to see on the big screen?**

Currently I am reading *The Shack* because I liked the movie and I am anxious to finish the book and watch the movie again.



# February Mentor Training Calendar

Date	Time	Type	Location
February 1	2:00-3:30 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C
February 5	9:00-10:30 am	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C
February 13	10:00-11:30 am	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C
February 21	2:00-3:30 pm	EE Mentor	United Way, Conference Room C

**Contact Charlie at [energizingeducation@uwjackson.org](mailto:energizingeducation@uwjackson.org) to sign up**

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**Name:** NaZiyah Vernon-Oliver

**Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup>

**What is your favorite thing to do each week with your mentor?** Writing in my journal and getting new books.

**Where is your favorite place to read a book?** I like to read in bed.

**What things do you enjoy reading the most about?** I like to read about dogs and princesses.

**Who was your favorite character from a book you read and why?** I like Rosie. She likes to go to the beach and I do too.



## Literacy Tip of the Month

### Start the New Year with your literacy goals in mind

Strive to read 20 minutes each day! No matter where or when, it's important for children to get in reading time. Be a reading role model yourself. Make sure your children and grandchildren see you reading too. Whether it's directions for a recipe, a book, or a magazine. Let them know you can read many different things.

Mark your calendars!  
Cascades and Frost families,  
join us for our Chocolate  
Family Night at Frost on  
February 7th from  
5:30-7:00 pm!

It's going to be a deliciously  
fun time!

## Click to follow Energizing Education



Looking for something to keep you busy during the month of February? Bring your doll and dress up for the "American Girl Tea Party". A social gala taking place on Saturday, February 9th and 10th. Please call the Carnegie Library to register. Throughout the

month, we will also be holding story times for various ages. Call us for more information at (517)-788-4087 (ext. 1331). Also, check out our website at [www.myjdl.com](http://www.myjdl.com) for other events and to find more great programs at our branches. Hope to see you at any of our locations.

### Find out more!

<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>

or

**Energizing Education on Facebook**

### For volunteer information:

Contact Charlie Miller  
[energizingeducation@uwjackson.org](mailto:energizingeducation@uwjackson.org)

### To Donate:

Contact Lois Dunning at  
[ldunning@uwjackson.org](mailto:ldunning@uwjackson.org)