

Connect 66

Monthly Newsletter of Canton Union School District 66

November 2016

Visit us at www.cantonusd.org

20 West Walnut St.

Canton, IL

(309)647-9411



Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parent(s), Guardians(s), and Friends:

This month is continuing to be a busy one for us all!. For example, the Canton Little Giants have now progressed to the state quarterfinals of the IHSA Football tournament. This Friday the Little Giants face Breese at 7 p.m. at Ron Fahenstock Field. This is historic as the Little Giants have not progressed this far in state competition since 1999.

With the weather starting to turn colder and the possibility of snow approaching we should all be aware of how the School District will notify families of a school closure. The Canton Union School District currently maintains an automated call system with the phone numbers of parents

and staff. When a school closure is imminent school officials initiate the automated calling system to notify all staff and parents of the closure. In addition, all local television and radio channels are also notified. Finally, the district will also place school closure information on the Canton School District website and Facebook Page. For further information please contact district office at 647-9411.

Sincerely,

Rolf Sivertsen

Superintendent

Canton Union School District #66



Board of Education

Mr. Leonard Barnard—
President

Mrs. Jane Lewis-Vice President

Mr. Jake Snowman-Sec.

Mr. Tom Snowman

Mrs. Lori Coleman

Mr. Matt Kees

Mr. Justin Jochums

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Spotlight 66

Every month we will spotlight our staff and students. This is the first in a series of Spotlights.

Jessica Lighthall
Canton High School
English Teachers



Jessica Lighthall



Canton High School English Teacher

What three traits define you?

Adventurous, dedicated, passionate

What is the greatest challenge you have had to overcome in your life thus far?

Teaching! Teaching has been one of the greatest accomplishments and joys in my life, but it is one of the most difficult professions out there, in my opinion. Learning how to navigate the classroom and become the best teacher I can be has been a big challenge of my life, but also one of the most rewarding challenges.

Where is your favorite place to be?

Out on the hiking trails anywhere-I love being in nature

What does true leadership mean to you?

Setting an example for others who you work with and for you, knowing when to delegate and let others' talents shine, and knowing when to step up and make the decisions that need to be made.

What would you do (for a career) if you weren't doing this?

I would love to be able to write and make a living off of it.

How do you define success?

Knowing what you want and are striving for and continuing to go after it, even if you have failed in the past

Tell us something that might surprise us about you.

I have moshed in a mosh pit at a Warped Tour before.

Can you give me a bio as well?

I was born and raised in Rockford, IL and graduated from Boylan Catholic High School in 2004. I attended Bradley University in Peoria for my undergraduate degree in English/Secondary Education, earning my BA in 2008. I completed my student teaching with Martha Harrat at Canton High School in the spring of '08 and was hired on for the following school year, where I have been ever since! While teaching, I went back to Bradley for my Masters in Writing, which I earned in 2011. My husband of five years, Rick, and I live in Peoria with our fur baby, Roxie, a black lab we adopted from TAPS in Pekin in 2012.

Spotlight 66

Every month we will spotlight our staff and students. This is one of our exceptional Spotlights.

Brian Duvendack
Junior Student
Canton High School



Q: What year are you in school?

A: Junior

Q: What are your parents names?

A: Ricky and Christine Duvendack

Q: Tell us about yourself?

A: I am seventeen years old. I am a very active member of my Church, Wesley United Methodist. I am the student representative for the school board, the hospitality chairman for the Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge of the Order of the Arrow, a junior assistant scoutmaster for Boy Scout troop 124, and am currently in charge of the Tabletop Gaming club.

Q: What do you plan to do after you leave CHS?

A: Attend college for a Political Science Degree

Q: What is the greatest challenge you have had to overcome?

A: Learning to live with PANDAS syndrome

Q: Where is the best place you have traveled and why?

A: Blue ridge mountains, because the scenery is beautiful

Q: Where do you see yourself five years from now?

A: Having graduated college and beginning a job as a public servant

Bio:

I was born on August 8, 1999 in Pittsfield Illinois. Not long after I was born I came down with meningitis.

My family moved to Canton when I was a year old because my mom had received a job as the vice president at Graham Hospital. At the time my dad was still over seas for the air force, so I began to attend Lambs of God (a daycare/preschool at Wesley). In kindergarten I got a pet hamster, which caused me to have my first and only asthma attack. In the first grade my parents began to suspect I had dyslexia, but the school insisted that my math scores were too high for me to have dyslexia. In the summer between second and third grade my parents finally had me tested for dyslexia themselves. When the test showed that I had it, the school insisted on testing me as well. The school's test confirmed that I had dyslexia.

At some point during the first semester of 3rd grade I came down with a bad case of strep throat. The strep virus impersonated my ner visitum's cells in a process called molecular mimicry. This resulted in my being diagnosed with Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections, or PANDAS syndrome. This condition can cause all of the same symptoms of Tourettes, OCD, and ADHD in addition to causing joint pain and high susceptibility to strep and other viruses. I was hit hardest with the Tourettes.

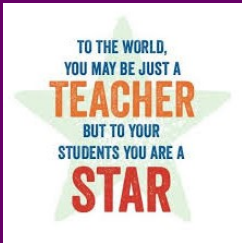
I joined cub scout in the third grade because I had friends in it. Eventually I moved to Boy Scouts and am still active

in that today. Scouting has allowed me to be involved with things like the Order of the Arrow and National Youth Leadership Training, which I will staff at for the second time this upcoming summer.

In the Summer before sixth grade I found God and have become a highly active member of my Church. Today I participate in youth group, bible study, volunteer ministries based out of the Church, the annual mission trip, and attend Faith Bible Camp as both a camper and Counselor.

At the high school I am a member of speech team, scholastic bowl, math team, tabletop gaming club, thespian club, and German club.





Star Teachers to Present at State Conference on Behalf of Canton High School.



Pictured above from L to R Jessica Lighthall, Julie Tarvin, Felicia Appell, and Shawn Cullen. Anne Grzanich is absent.

Several Canton High School teachers and the Technology Dean have been invited to present at the Illinois Education and Technology Conference to be conducted from November 16th thru Nov 18th in Springfield. The 23rd Annual Illinois Education & Technology Conference is a three-day professional development conference focused on technology, integration strategies, engaging instructional practices, digital tools and resources, and emerging trends for educators. The Canton High School Presentation Team will be discussing the following:

- Instructor Shawn Cullen and Anne Grzanich will host a session on “How to Implement 1:1 Successfully.”
- English instructor Jessica Lighthall will present on “Podcasting.”
- English instructors Felicia Appell and Julie Tarvin on “Showcasing Literature and Writing Through Technology and Website Building.”

IETC stands for Illinois Education & Technology Conference and is a three-day professional development conference focused on technology integration strategies, engaging instructional practices, digital tools and resources, and emerging trends for teachers, administrators, and technology staff. This conference provides an opportunity for educators to learn, explore, and connect with other innovative educators to harness the power of technology and prepare future-ready students.

How To Use Technology To Increase Student Achievement Is Not a Mystery!

By Cathie Norris, Elliot Soloway

Reprinted From "The Journal" 1/28/14

In 2012-2013, at Nan Chiau Primary School, Singapore, there were more than 700 third- and fourth-grade students using smartphones — Nokia 710s — every day in science and English, and in 2014 NCPS is expanding to math. Test scores, which were high to begin with — this is Singapore, after all — have gone up, especially in the area of 21st century skills: oral and written self-expression, creativity, etc.

In contrast, we read, on a regular basis, that schools buy technology — desktops, laptops and now mobile devices — and experience virtually no impact on student achievement.

Here are the key factors that are enabling the students at Nan Chiau Primary School to use mobile computing devices effectively:

Curriculum: Let's start at the heart of the matter: Adding technology to direct-instruction, paper-and-pencil-based pedagogy, will have little impact. Add an app here; add an app there; using technology as an add-on supplement can't ever lead to substantive change.

But, in alignment with Singapore's Education MasterPlan 3, the curriculum at Nan Chiau was revised, top-to-bottom, to be inquiry-based, to support students engaging in conversations, to support students relating their concrete experiences outside the school to the abstract ideas introduced inside the school. Yes, the students still used worksheets, but they too were changed to be more consistent with the types of reasoning and explanation skills that the students were developing in the inquiry curriculum.

Key was redesigning the curriculum to take advantage of the affordances of the 1-to-1 mobile devices that were being used. The technology was not bolted onto an existing curriculum at Nan Chiau; the technology was not a supplement, an add-on, used once in a while. Rather, the mobile devices (with a complement of appropriate software) were used as essential tools to support the learning tasks called for by the curriculum.

Teachers: The NCPS teachers are adept at direct-instruction, worksheet-based pedagogy. Look at Nan Chiau's scores before the curricular change. But, in response to the principal's vision — see below — the teachers changed and they learned new pedagogical practices. They brought in outside consultants (e.g., academics from National Institute of Education, as well as CN & ES), they spent time observing and critiquing each other's classroom practices, and they developed into practitioners of inquiry pedagogy. Most importantly, they developed into a community of practice — a professional group of educators who work with each other, who support each other, as everyone learns to be more effective.

Leadership: The principal of the school had a vision of where Nan Chiau needed to go: Nan Chiau needed to align its goals and actions with the Singaporean Ministry of Education's MasterPlan 3. MP3 emphasized inquiry pedagogy along with the development of key 21st century skills such as self-directed learning and collaborative learning. The principal also was an excellent motivator and manager; he was the school's — and the teachers' — biggest cheerleader. And when problems arose, when missteps occurred, he stayed on course and addressed the inevitable bumps. And the principal was successful at fundraising; but fundraising is much easier when the school demonstrates clear results!

Technological Infrastructure: One-to-one is the only way to go; every child has his or her own device, 24/7 in the palm of their hands. How else can children engage in their own inquiry? The school said that children needed to be connect-

GLOBAL SOCIETY



ed to the Internet 24/7 with WiFi in the school and cellular connectivity outside the school. And last, but not least, the choice of software was critical; the students used apps that supported the redesigned curriculum. MyDesk provided an initial suite of educational productivity tools, e.g., writing, concept mapping, drawing and animating. Then new software was designed to support new pedagogical initiatives.

Parents: Initially the parents were nervous: Singaporean parents have high expectations for their children's performance in school, and ample homework — aka worksheets — has been a staple of Singaporean primary school. But, as they saw what their children were producing on the smartphones — concept maps laying out the key characters in a story and their interrelationships, animations showing how plans grow, etc. — they grew comfortable with the changes taking place at NCPS.

Assessment: MCQ (multiple choice questions) as well as short-answer, open-ended questions are key elements to the twice-yearly tests. All schools in Singapore have these sorts of tests. While it might be nice to change the assessments to better assess inquiry skills, that sort of change is longer in coming.

Time: The principal, the teachers, the outside consultants (e.g., academics from National Institute of Education, as well as CN & ES) have been working on these changes at Nan Chiau for the last five years! Problems arose and Nan Chiau addressed them. Problems are still arising — and Nan Chiau is addressing those new challenges! It takes time to change; it takes time to develop a professional community of practice; it takes time to move from science to English to math.





ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT: OCTOBER



By Jon Grzanich Athletic Director Canton USD 66



Name: Clay Schroeder

Yr. in school: Junior

Sport(s): Basketball/baseball

GPA: 3.985

Favorite Subject: American History

Most Memorable moment in High School:

Pitching in my first varsity baseball game.

Plans after high school: go to college

Parents: Andy and Jill Schroeder

Name: Madison Strantz

Yr. in School: Sophomore

Sport(s): Volleyball and Soccer

GPA: 4.0

Favorite Subject: German

Most Memorable moment in High School:

winning a regional game in volleyball against East Peoria

Plans after high school: I plan on attending college to major in a foreign language and business

Parents: Karen Smolczyk and Russell Strantz



Name: Faith Demler

Age: 13

Sport(s): Softball, Volleyball, Track, & Basketball

Favorite Subject: Math

Most Memorable moment in sports: Being selected as the Steven R. Nagel Award Winner.

Plans after high school: Attend a 4 year college

Parents: Dave & Jackie Demler

FRIENDSHIP



2016-2017 CUSD 66 School Contacts

Canton High School
1001 North Main Street
Canton, IL 61520
(309)647-1820

Principal Jennifer Watts
jwatts@cantonusd.org
Asst Principal Tony McCoy
Tony.McCoy@cantonusd.org
Tech Dean Anne Grzanich
agrzanich@cantonusd.org
AD Jon Grzanich
Jon.grzanich@cantonusd.org

Lincoln Elementary School
20 Lincoln Road
Canton, IL 61520
(309) 649-7594

Principal SueEllen Stephenson
sstephenson@cantonusd.org

Ingersoll Middle School
1605 East Ash Street
Canton, IL 61520
(309)647-6951

Principal Wayne Krus
wayne.krus@cantonusd.org
Asst Principal Mark Ghidina
mghidina@cantonusd.org

Westview Elementary School
700 West Old Vine Street
Canton, IL 61520
(309) 647-2111

Principal Tad DeRenzy
tderenzy@cantonusd.org

Eastview Elementary School
1490 East Myrtle Street
Canton, IL 61520
(309) 647-0136

Principal Bridgette Dennis
bdennis@cantonusd.org



Pre School Screening



The Canton School District will conduct a free preschool screening for children ages 3-5 on January 24, 26, and 27. The screening addresses the areas of vision, hearing, speech, and general development.

In addition, the Early Beginnings staff will be available to provide a developmental screening for children birth to age 3.

After January 4, 2016, parents are asked to schedule an appointment for the preschool screening or the Early Beginnings screening by calling 647-1418.

PERFORMING ARTS



Upcoming Important Dates

14-18 American Education Week

15 Grades 5 & 6 Activity Night

17 Lincoln Family Night 5:30—7:00 p.m.

17 CHS Fall Chorus Concert 7 P.M.

19 Lincoln Fall Spectacular

20 Ingersoll Fall Chorus Concert 3 p.m.

21 School Board Meeting

23—25 Thanksgiving Break

29 Eastview Grades 1 & 2 Music Program 6:30 pm—CHS



Little Giant Pride





2016 FULTON COUNTY GIRLS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

GAMES TO BE HELD AT ALICE INGERSOLL GYM

44 West Walnut Street, Canton, IL

MON., NOV 14

GAME 1 - 6:00 South Fulton vs Farmington

GAME 2 - 7:30 Canton vs North Fulton

TUE., NOV 15

GAME 1 - 6:00 North Fulton vs Lewistown

GAME 2 - 7:30 Canton vs Farmington

THUR., NOV 17

GAME 1 - 6:00 South Fulton vs Lewistown

GAME 2 - 7:30 Farmington vs North Fulton

FRI., NOV 18

GAME 1 - 6:00 North Fulton vs South Fulton

GAME 2 - 7:30 Canton vs Lewistown





***2016 Canton Boys Basketball
Turkey Tourney
Playing Schedule
All Games Played at the Alice***

11/23 Wednesday

6:00 pm East Peoria vs IVC

7:30 pm Canton vs Delavan

11/25 Friday

6:00 pm Delavan vs East Peoria

7:30 pm Canton vs IVC

11/26 Saturday

5:00 pm IVC vs Delavan

6:30 pm Canton vs East Peoria

