

STANTON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC
SCHOOLS
50870 HOLMAN SCHOOL RD
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WWW.STPSD.US

WILDCAT PRESS

Our Mission Statement: *Stanton Township Public Schools believes in nurturing all students' intellectual, creative, emotional and social skills, empowering students to be lifelong learners. We will respect and encourage ourselves and each other and appreciate individual differences.*

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2

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Top: Joanna, Madeline, Samantha, and Meridyn pose for a picture!

Bottom: The wildcats take the merry-go-round for a spin!

Stanton Township Public Schools is located on Holman School Road in Atlantic Mine (Liminga) Michigan. There are currently 172 students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

The Students and Staff of E.B. Holman Would Like to Say...



Principal's Corner—Mr. Rautiola

Greetings,

The Stanton Wildcats are having an awesome year. There is a ton of anticipation in the air, as we move forward with building design and renovations to the school. We are excited about each potential learning opportunity that arises during the building process. Our teachers and staff are extremely committed to providing the best possible education for all of our students. On behalf of Stanton Township

School, *Thank You* to our community for supporting our students and district on November 3, 2015. This truly was a community effort. The next chapter is being written for Stanton Township, and you are encouraged to join us during

our building workshops. More information can be found on our website at www.stpsd.us.

Thanks for your continued support!

Jim



Kindergarten in Action!

We welcomed a new student, Jack Walker to our class on January 5. We now have 19 students. We are busy getting back to our routine. Mrs. Loukus came in, and the students made Olaf with her. They were very excited. The PTO donated some new games to our classroom for Christmas, and the students are enjoying those. The kindergartners are learning to add and write sentences. Some exciting progress is being made! It will be the 100th day of school before you know it!



Above: Marlon and others at work!



Below: Wesley, Remi, and friends making Olafs with Mrs. Loukus!



We made snowmen in art, and learned all about shading!

First Grade Loves Winter!!

It is the middle of winter in the U.P., and the first graders at E.B. Holman have been loving it! We have been snowshoeing to record weather observations and look for signs of life. We have also been learning about water and ice, and reading both fiction and nonfiction books about penguins. We also made contraction penguins, as we have been learning about contractions in language arts. All in all, we think that winter is pretty cool. **What is winter?**

Ice skating.
No school—snow day.
Time to have fun.
Eating snow.
Riding on a snowboard.
By Jaron

Wind is cold!
I like to ice skate.
No school—snow day!
Teeth chattering.
Everyone has fun!
Reading by the fire.
By Ella



We made contraction penguins! We put the words that make each contraction on the snowballs, and wrote our contractions on the penguins' bellies! They make our hallway look great!

Exciting News From the Second Grade!:

It's hard to believe that we're half way through our school year! Our second graders have been learning exciting facts about winter weather and how animals survive. This fits into our Reading Theme, which is all about different kinds of creatures that live on the Earth. Now the children will be writing about their favorite animal. That certainly is a fun way to learn about sentence structure and writing paragraphs in language!

why they have been so valuable throughout history. Currently, we are learning about famous leaders who have made a difference in our country's decision making.

Of course, math, has excitement every day with all the fun activities and practices that we do to help us understand our world. Our last unit was all about geometric shapes, and we all had a great time building pyramids, prisms, and cubes out of straws.

Oh, the wonderful things yet to come in 2nd Grade!

In Social Studies, we have been studying about our world and its important features. We found out that there are many kinds of maps, and



We made 3-D shapes with straws and pipe cleaners!



Grade 3 at EB!

“In Congress, July 4th, 1776 . . .”

This is a familiar phrase for these third graders. They are practicing their cursive by writing—and learning about—the Declaration of Independence. We are also comparing what was happening in Michigan to what was happening in the colonies and posting these events on a timeline in our classroom.

We are currently studying life cycles in science and are observing the changes to the bean seeds we

have growing in plastic bags on our bulletin board. The students are filling up their science notebooks! They are also filling up their writing books as we work on their first story including paragraphs, dialog, and complex sentences. It is wonderful to be in Grade 3 at EB!

Below: Third grade on the Chromebooks!



Top Right: Bean seed observations.

Bottom Right: Aina, Kiira, and Arnold love to write!



Skeletal Discoveries: Dissecting Owl Pellets in 4th Grade

Fourth grade students have learned about a barn owl’s habitat and niche by a hands on lab they soon won’t forget. The thought of examining something from the inside of an owl was a bit off-putting at first, but all those thoughts disappeared when the anticipated pellets were handed out.

Students first observed the exterior and interior of the pellets. They were then expected to separate the owl pellets and attempt to identify the different types of bones. Within a few mo-

ments of the pellet lab, students excitedly shared things like, “I’ve got a skull!”, “Mrs. Larson, what’s this?”, “These bones are so small.”, “This must have been a bird.”, “The teeth are orange.”, and “Is this a leg bone?”. The students were then able to infer the types of prey on which the owls fed by looking at a chart and assembling them into a skeleton.

This was a great way to learn about carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores, as well as food chains and food webs.



Picking through an owl pellet, looking for bones.



After collecting bones, we had to sort and identify them!



Fifth Grade Fun with Mr. LaBonte!

Time certainly does fly when you’re having fun! Hard to believe we are halfway through this year already, and it appears that winter has finally decided to come to the U.P. We have been very busy in 5th grade so far this year, and we still have so many incredible things that we want to learn and experiment with. We have already learned about the distance of the planets by making scale drawing of the solar system. Speaking of learning and experimenting, we have some really cool things coming in the near future in Science. We are getting ready to start the physics

part of Science in our classroom, so that means we will be starting to build mouse-trap racecars for a bit of friendly competition. Look for specifics coming soon. While we are learning about physics, we will also be working in groups to construct toothpick bridges to learn about structural integrity and how much weight our bridges can hold. It is going to be an amazing second half of fifth grade! I am super excited to see what the rest of this year has in store for us!

Drawing the Solar System to scale!!!



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Winter Geo-Caching at E.B. Holman

By 6th and 7th graders Kate Denofre, Heidi Lampinen, Myra Pennala, Gretchen Redinger

Have you ever been on a Geo-Cache treasure hunt?

The sixth and seventh grade LSSI team members will be hosting a Geo-
-Cache treasure hunt on Tuesday, February 16. Parents, school staff, and community members will be invited to come to E.B. Holman to learn how to use a GPS receiver.

Using a GPS receiver, participants will go on a snowshoe hike, in the back of the school, to find hidden caches with treasure inside. LSSI students will teach the GPS lessons and will assist on the hike. The students look forward to sharing what they have been learning. Hidden treasure is waiting to be found!

Right: Snowshoeing and geo-caching equipment.



Help Us Solve a Problem!

By the Eighth Grade

For the past eight years the LSSI (Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative) team has cleaned North Canal Park nine times. We organize the event each September and the entire school, grades K-8 participate. It takes two to three hours to pick up garbage at the beach. Then the LSSI team (grades 6,7 and 8) sorts, counts and weighs the trash which takes another one to two hours. In 2015, we found over 500 pounds of garbage. This is quadruple the amount of garbage since the previous years! We clearly have a problem at the beach! The main problem is fire areas with burned furniture, pallets, construction debris and other items. These fire areas are

behind the pavilion and along the beach.

On Thursday, January 21st, we had a public presentation at our school to address this issue. To prevent people from littering and polluting we would like to put up signs, build fire pits, and put garbage cans by the beach. If anyone would like to share their suggestions to solve the problem, please do so! We will share all of the suggestions with the Stanton Township Board. It is important to keep the beach clean for health and safety reasons!

Top and Middle Right: Scrap metal and burned furniture found at North Canal park in fall, 2015.

Bottom Right: The eighth grade members of our LSSI team!

