



Issue 3

May 2015

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY
INTERVENTION
ACADEMY****TROY PEYERK,
ACADEMIC
COORDINATOR**

The Intervention Academy is very proud of our students and their accomplishments:

- **AVERAGE INCOMING SCORES 2014-2015 SY:**
Reading: **7.70 GL**
Math: **7.37 GL**
- **AVERAGE EXITING SCORES 2014-2015 SY:**
Reading: **9.95 GL**
Math: **9.24 GL**
- **TOTAL CREDITS RECOVERED = 1604.0**
- **2014-2015 CREDITS EARNED= 280.0**

TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS ISSUED = 30

- **NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS 2014-2015 = 8**
- **WORKKEY TOTALS:**
Gold: **34**
Silver: **123**
Bronze: **37**
- **GED's EARNED:**
Adults: **434**
Juvenile: **101**

We had a total of 27 students participate in the new M-STEP testing this year. This is the first time students have taken the computer based test, which has replaced the MEAP. We had three 6th grade students who completed a Math and ELA section; these students also had to complete a Classroom Activity and Performance Task as part of the testing. There were ten 8th graders, who also completed an ELA and Math section, as well as a Classroom Activity, Performance Task; these students also had to complete a Social Studies and Science portion. A combination of fourteen 11/12th graders participated in the M-STEP as well. Students should have their results back in late June, early August. ~ Mr. Giles



Over at Mr. Nathans class in the Intense Day Treatment building every Friday we have a very unique and fun educational activity that all the kids get to participate in, it's called Genius Friday. Genius Friday is where each student in the classroom can independently research any topic they wish and create a presentation within the 4 week period that Mr. Nathan gives us. This is a way that students can explore thing that they have interest in; for example I have been researching all about the C.I.A because I have always loved watching spy movies. Now I am learning so much about how I could actually do this in real life which is very inspirational and I am glad I can share this with my peers. ~ IC

I am a student of the St. Clair County Intervention Academy, and we, collectively, have been participating in a relatively new incentive called "Genius Friday". It is an opportunity for the students to research a subject, organize the information, and present it to the classroom. I personally had begun working on a presentation involving the research pertaining to the psychological manipulation of bodily functions. For example, I had done research about being able to control the effects of the pain receptors in the brain, as well as the possibility of blocking those receptors for your own benefit. There is plenty of valuable information out there that isn't taught in ordinary secondary schools. Genius Friday is our opportunity to reach out and collect that information, as well as presenting it to others, to increase their knowledge as well as our own. ~ CW



On Fridays, students are given the opportunity to research topics they teach to their class. We are given a couple weeks to put together all the statistics, data, and information into a project, using different types of technology and then presenting it to the class. After each presentation an open discussion occurs involving questions and comments based upon the student's research. Topics usually are about questions we don't know the answers to, but must be realistic and intellectual. Presentations involve websites, slide shows, pictures, and videos. For my Genius Friday project I did a PowerPoint / Video presentation about Quinceañera, which is a Hispanic tradition for a Latinas 15th birthday. ~ LR



In February, the DT/NW traditional and intense students participated in a staff versus student's basketball game. There was a lot of preparing for the game. We practiced a few times during the two weeks, coached by Mr. Tom. Although, we weren't as prepared and didn't function together as well as staff we all had a great time. And everyone showed great sportsmanship. Everyone played very well, but Mrs. Lloyd was our star player, she was great. ~ AJM, SP and RS.

BLACK HISTORY month

During black history month Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. Reyna introduced us to the role young people played in the African American freedom struggle. We learned that courageous young people participated in many forms of protest during the Harlem Renaissance and Civil Rights Movement, as well as started personal protests against racial and social injustice. We were able to experience many of the protests through video clips, documentaries, film, interviews, writings, poetry, music and novels. The most difficult lessons learned were that the death of 14 year old Emmett Till was the event that really started the Civil Rights Movement and that Jim Crow might be dead, but discrimination and other social issues live. To close the lesson we were encouraged to pick up the torch, using the ideas and goals of the Civil Rights Movement, to choose a topic each of us had been devoted, committed, and were willing to take a stand on. We learned how to use persuasive language and knowledge to empower us to speak out against political/social issues in society today. Once we chose a cause we were then challenged to create a PSA to raise public awareness and to persuade others to join our cause. Students chose things that were happening in society today such as the Gay Rights Movement, Pro-Life/Pro-Choice, and Police Brutality. Others chose matters

that many people seem to overlook, like Animal Cruelty, Women's Rights in Sports, and the Death Penalty. Everyone did an amazing job with their presentations and seemed to be fully dedicated to their causes. Most recently we have been separated into groups, and learning about how to take and piece together information and use persuasive skills based on our beliefs. To show our knowledge and skills we are making 30 second commercials to sell a product or idea that the class debated on; which is the use of earbuds and their impact on hearing loss in teens. To help us better understand advertising techniques we watch and analyzed five 30 second commercials. ~ LR



It isn't often that the Jailside teaching staff specifically hears about GED success of released student-inmates. Many times students are not able to finish up taking all four components of the GED Test in order to receive their High School Equivalency Diploma. They may be released before attempting completion, or they may have fallen short of a few points below passing the complete battery of tests.

Recently, the Intervention Academy (Jailside) learned that one of its newly released students followed up his personal quest of High School Equivalency at Harrison Adult Ed GED Center. With foresight before leaving the Intervention Academy, this student, with assistance from instructional staff, scheduled for two re-take tests in which he had missed passing by a mere total of three points. On May 6th, upon returning from a GED Conference in Grand Rapids, staff in the Intervention Academy learned that the day before, the student had taken and passed both test re-takes, thus earning his GED Certificate. He had also returned his borrowed GED study book to the jail front office with a word of thanks.

Congratulations to this young man for his independent pursuing of GED completion and many wishes for a successful future! ~ Mr. Hayes and Mr. Helinski



What happens to a dream that comes true without delay?

Does it soak up water, like a strip of sand along the shore? Or take your breath away, like finding a treasure and knowing it's yours.

Does it smell like a rose in full bloom? Or droop and descend? Like a leaf on a tree in a fall afternoon?

Maybe it rises, like the sun when the day begins to start. Or does it go down in the dark, when our light fades and soon departs? ~ LR

**YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
PROJECT**

The Youth Employment Program works with MRS and Goodwill Industries and targets youth who have barriers to employment. This year is the first year that they will be able to offer this program to students in DT/NW, Marine City and Saint Clair High Schools. Day Treatment has three candidates and two alternates from the traditional program. In August, candidates will attend a paid job shadow. Lunches and transportation to and from job sites will be provided by the DT/NW Program. Students will have a total of 80 paid hours of competitive work. Through the Youth Employment Program, students are able to gain job skills, build their resume and hopefully obtain full time employment after completing the required job shadows and earning their high school diploma or GED. ~ RF



Should Teens Throw Away Their Earbuds?

Teens should throw away their earbuds, because they are detrimental to their health. Listening to your earbuds while doing homework may seem like it is helping you stay focused, but it is really not helping teens down the road. Earbuds are in style and are very popular because they can use them for their iPod and phone to listen to music. However, later in life, teens may have some health issues due to earbuds like hearing loss. Why keep doing something to your body that is harmful? A study done in 2010 stated that 1 out of 5 teenagers have partial or permanent hearing loss due to their favorite earbuds. Thus, teens should act now and throw away earbuds to prevent future damage to their hearing. ~ CB