SEI NEWS

1ST FULL WEEK OF CLASSES

SUMMER ENRICHMENT INSTITUTE (SEI)

A free summer program sponsored by the University of Iowa, Center for Diversity & Enrichment (CDE), designed to enhance the academic experience of local ICCSD secondary-level students of underrepresented populations.

"THERE ARE NO SECRETS TO SUCCESS. IT IS THE RESULT OF PREPARATION, HARD WORK, AND LEARNING FROM FAILURE." ~COLIN POWELL
JUNE 11TH-JUNE 15TH

FUN WHILE LEARNING...

When SEI students are first told about the project objectives, they can feel intimidated, possibly overwhelmed, but also excited about the prospect of doing something different. SEI meets students where they are upon arriving, but challenges each student to step out of her/his comfort zones.

Within SEI, time is given to getting to know each other as well as getting to know selves. Sometimes it can feel that there is nothing new to learn followed by the realization that there is always room to grow.

When a student stops thinking of self as student but rather, sees self as learner the fun begins...because enjoying the process is all in the attitude one has towards and throughout the experience.

SEI FRIDAYS ARE UNIQUE

The SEI schedule this year includes four Fridays. During the first Friday (6/8), students and teachers got to meet and get to know each other; students remained with their teachers for the duration of each scheduled class.

Last week, on Friday (6/15), some students and staff celebrated Eid. SEI students also checked in with their teachers, office hours style. It was an opportunity for the students to demonstrate initiative and time management. The students also helped Ms. Martin transport their needed science project supplies from her car to the science classroom.

This week, Friday (6/22), will be a day spent at the various UI Cultural Centers. Though we will meet at Phillips first (for attendance purposes). The last Friday of the program, June 29th, is the day of our Closing Ceremony, 9am-12pm.
*Science Fair day will be Thursday, June 28th (9-12am); afterwards students will be dismissed but will be able to meet & work on their final communications project with Mr. Hernandez or Ms. Silva.

"COMMITMENT UNLOCKS THE DOORS OF IMAGINATION, ALLOWS VISION, AND GIVES US THE RIGHT STUFF TO TURN OUR DREAM INTO REALITY." ~JAMES WOMACK

SCIENCE GOOGLE CLASSROOM CODE: 5QR36R

COURSE SUMMARIES: 1ST FULL-WEEK!

Sakinah Ellickson, Science
This week the science class focused on what makes a good TED science talk (telling a story, explaining the obstacles and how you overcame them, and the big message at the end), and began choosing projects. Procedures were written, data tables formed, materials accumulated. Some groups even began their experiments this Friday! The large data collection begins next week!

Sneha Bhansali, Data Analysis
This week, students worked with different data sets, such as number of tickets sold for musical concerts, the amount of land of the 7 continents, life expectancy in the US, etc. These data sets were only provided partially, just the numbers, and then students made
sense of the numbers:

- what could be in millions (if salary, then who would earn this, in which currency, etc.);
- what could be in the range of hundred thousand (if population, then which all places in
  the world, what about the population density, birth/death rates, etc.);
- what could be the possible units;
- which guesses/estimates could be wrong?

Apart from developing the number sense, students also focused on the conceptualizations
of several terms - what exactly is a continent, birth rate, etc. - and how it is very important
to choose one of the many definitions followed by narrowing down to the specifics of any
concept they will be working on for their science projects and ultimately honing their work.

We discussed the two kinds of substances that affect the nervous system - stimulants and
depressants, and then about their consumption and their elimination from the body.
Students also worked with Google sheets and Desmos to record data regarding caffeine
and alcohol elimination and drew scatter plots, best fit curves - linear and non-linear and
then spent some time reading the graphs they had created.

On Friday, some students worked on creating the tables to record the data from their
science projects and discussed the potential data analysis methods.
Dolores Silva, Public Speaking
This week, we dug deep within as we read excerpts from Never Stop Walking and discussed our journeys, our goals, and our impossibly. The least fun part was taking notes on how to write a speech, but once we put it into practice with some improv speeches, we got to learn the steps well and have some fun. I mean, why should whales be eating plastic in the first place, and let’s face it, deer should not be crossing any roads!

Lots of great ideas came from everyone, as well as personal strengths. It was great to see awesome teamwork and lots of smiles. I did see a few slouches, but mostly after working hard or reading too many stale articles. Some students needed to talk things through and find a direction, and others had burning ideas from the get go.

In the end, we accomplished our goal of the week, which was to finalize a topic and audience and learning the steps to making a great speech. I must admit, I was disappointed that we did not have regular class Friday! Hope everyone is ready for Monday! GREAT work everyone!

Jorge Hernandez, Public Speaking
This week, students learned the theory behind Communications and Public Speaking. Students were also given tips on how to present their topic in an effective manner that allows the audience to really become a part of the student’s speech. Multiple activities were included in this week’s lesson plans that tied back to the lesson for that day.

The student’s favorite activity of the week was “Telephone.” Students gathered in a circle and a message was started at one end of the circle. The message was then whispered into the next person’s ear until the message reached the last person. The student at the end was then asked to draw what they heard, and the students compared the original message to the drawing. The focus of this activity was diction and interpretation. Students needed to speak slowly and clearly in order for their neighbor to hear the message, but yet softly for others to not hear. Not speaking clearly enough led to deviations in the message.

Next week, students will be receiving some additional strategies on how to conquer Public Speaking. After that, students will spend the rest of the week using the strategies they have learned and put them into action. Students will be practicing Public Speaking in front of their peers and they will continue to improve their skills before presenting their final projects at the end of the program.
"YOU CAN SPEAK WELL IF YOUR TONGUE CAN DELIVER THE MESSAGE OF YOUR HEART." ~JOHN FORD

HUMAN RIGHTS YOUTH SUMMIT--FREE EVENT

DATE: Wed., Aug. 8, 2018 TIME: 10AM - 4PM, Lunch provided LOCATION: Grand View University, Student Center Join us for a fun filled day and obtain tools of knowledge...

SEI LESSONS LEARNED

We got time to work on our projects.

My partner and I (and a few others as well) already started our science project and I can't wait 'till we collect our results.

I made a couple new great connections. And along the way, had fun doing activities with them.

Poems are fun to write.
Today, I learned to think more about others than I do about myself.

Fresh fruit is some people's preference over frozen because when frozen melts it doesn't look so good.

There are different ways to express yourself while doing a public speech.

Talking gets you to learn, participate, and make friends.

ACT REGISTRATION FEE WAIVERS

11th or 12th graders in need of financial assistance for the ACT or ACT w/writing registration fee and testing on a national test date, check w/your high school to determine if eligible. Eligible students may use up to 2 separate fee waivers.

The ACT Test for Students

The ACT test is a curriculum-based education and career planning tool for high school students that assesses the mastery of college readiness standards

COLLEGE PLANNING RESOURCES

The Go College! initiative is an unprecedented partnership with First Generation and Wells Fargo to help close the education gap for underrepresented students. “First Generation” movie below at end of newsletter.

RECOMMENDED FILMS...

BLACK PANTHER
OFFICIAL TRAILER
Music is his life, but it's forbidden in his family. To understand why, he'll have to speak to his ancestor in person. Watch trailers & learn more.