



BSS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM STUDENTS AT LOWE-VOLK PARK

BSS Afterschool Program: October 2018 Newsletter

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Exploring the Outdoors

We thought we would take advantage of the nice fall weather while we could by going on three field trips this month.



We started the month with a trip to Lowe-Volk Park, a favorite among our Afterschool students. Students who attended had the chance to go on a nature hike and hold or pet exotic animals such as opossums, snakes, and iguanas.

Later in the month, students had the opportunity to experience all the wonderful things about fall on their field trip to the Pickwick

Place. While there, students went on a wagon ride and a walking tour of the orchards. They even made their way through the corn maze! Students also tried pumpkin donuts and apple cider, and they picked their own pumpkin from the pumpkin patch to take home with them.



We ended the month with a field trip to Edible Landscapes where students explored the crops, greenhouse, washing station, and cooler. Some students were brave enough to try vegetables they might not have ever had before or

even heard of including kohlrabi, kale, and hot peppers.



Character Education

For character education this month, Desiree Levering from the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health board (ADAMH) visited the Afterschool Program to talk to our students about Junior Teen Institute (JTI) and the importance of being drug free. Students shared why they are drug free and ways to stay drug free. After their discussion, the students created posters about being drug

free and received a ribbon for being drug free.

Mrs. Kepler, a BMS educational aide and the advisor of the BMS Anti-bullying Club, also worked with our students on their character building skills. Her goal is to promote positivity within the school building with the hope of reducing bullying and improving students' self-images. Throughout the year, Mrs. Kepler will work with students to make posters and friendship bracelets, put positive messages on lockers, and brainstorm other ways to promote kindness and positivity around school.

Peer Mentoring



Students in the Afterschool Program who had a high school peer mentor last year were able to meet with their same mentor a few times this month. Many of them had not seen each other since the beginning of the school year, so you can imagine how excited the mentors and mentees were to be reunited. Each student made a vision board with their mentor about the activities they



would like to do together this year.

We have also enrolled 7 new high school students in the peer mentoring program to mentor 6th and 7th grade students in the afterschool program this year.

Enrichment



One of the most important parts of the Afterschool Program is enrichment time which can include, playing games, making crafts, and cooking. We began

the year with an enrichment activity on kitchen safety. After Mrs. Rebon demonstrated some key kitchen safety procedures, students got to work on their first recipe—fishy squishy squinters made with Fruit Roll-Ups and grapes.



Mrs. Dillinger also worked with students on a science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) activity where students activated a lightbulb using copper wire.

Upcoming Events

- Bowling field trip to Suburban Lanes Nov. 15
- No program Nov. 19-22 (credit recovery still meets)