

THE PROTSMAN PSA

Glenn Brown - Principal / Frank Zaremba- Dean of Students / Karren Tarant- Secretary
 Charlene Thoreson- Secretary / MaryBeth Rinaldi- Nurse / Stefan Krajisnik- Public Relations Intern

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1/30** Penny Wars begins
- 1/30-2/03** Book Fair
- 2/06** Jump Rope for Heart
- 2/14** Valentine's Day Parties (1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)
- 2/20** No School- President's Day
- 2/23** Math Bowl in Portage
- 2/24** Fun Fair (6 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
- 2/27** ISTEP+ Testing begins



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JANUARY WELLNESS CHALLENGE



Former First Lady Michelle Obama made it clear that her initiative while living in the White House was to get Americans moving and working out. Her goal for adults was to have them active for 30 minutes a day, and at least five days a week, or about 8,500 steps each day (4.5 miles).

Well, Mrs. Obama would be proud if she heard what Lake Central School Corporation was doing. Throughout the month of January, the corporation held a Wellness Challenge for all staff members and interns looking to find a fun way to work-out with their coworkers.

"I love that LCSC is encouraging and motivating us to get moving. As teachers, we never sit down and are moving all day, but this allows us to challenge ourselves to become more active than we already are. They are helping promote healthy

lifestyles," Protsman third grade teacher, Jennifer Walters said.

The overall goal is to walk 43.6 miles, the length it takes to walk to all LCSC schools, in a month, or approximately two miles per day. However, that real goal is to get teachers active for more than just one month.

"The most important thing we should take from this challenge is to continue and go above and beyond even after the challenge is complete. The wellness committee does a great job each year getting us to jumpstart our workouts," Walters said. "The corporation has done a great job in promoting this wellness challenge along with the other 5k run/walk they have promoted in the fall. Going forward in the future, a challenge would be beneficial to have twice a year to keep us on our feet."



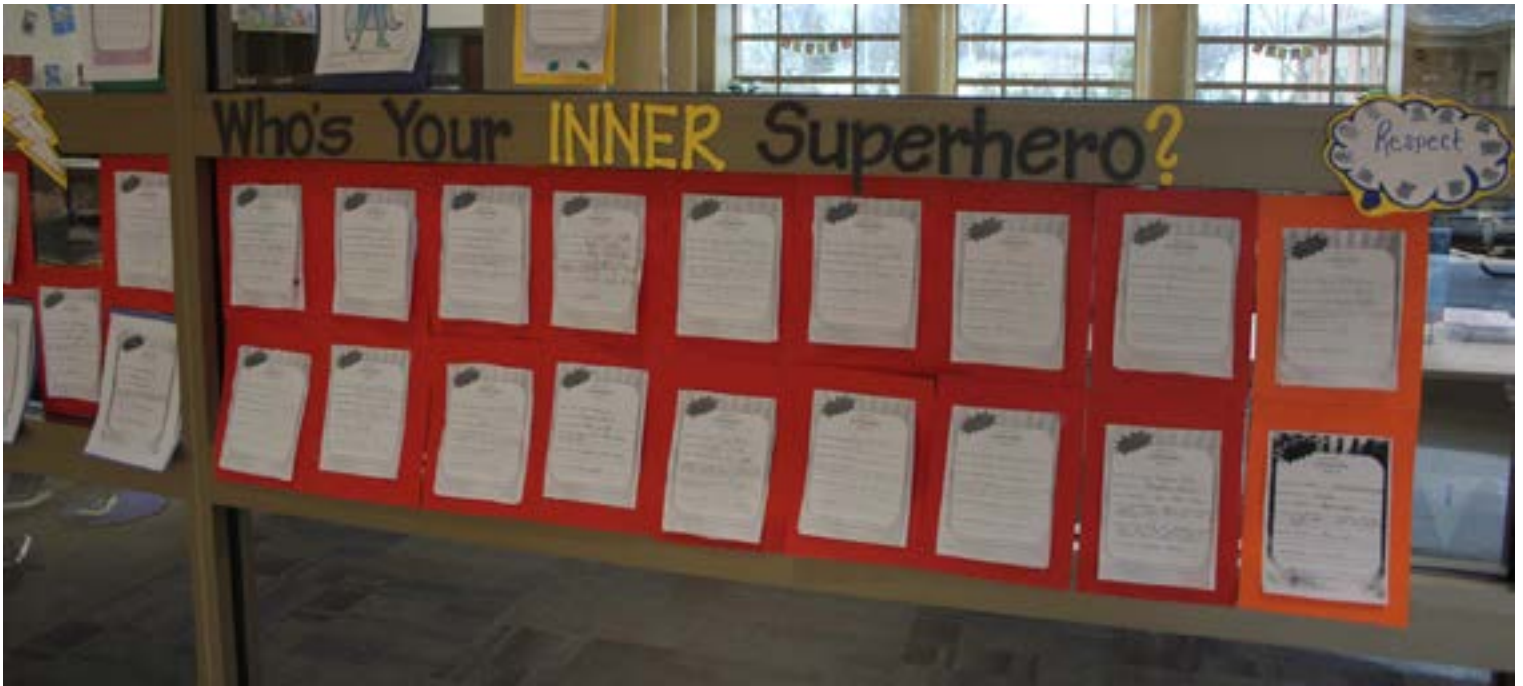
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WHO'S YOUR INNER SUPERHERO

The Who's Your INNER Superhero project is for students to show their inner hero. What kind of superhero they would like to be? My intern and myself did most of the projects in the classroom and they really enjoyed coming up with their own superhero and being creative. It's focusing on their inner self, creativity, and most of all

who they are," Kim Yurkanin said. "I think it's important for students to show their positive side and have them come up with ways to show their inner self, by using words, expressive art, and discussion with teachers and peers."

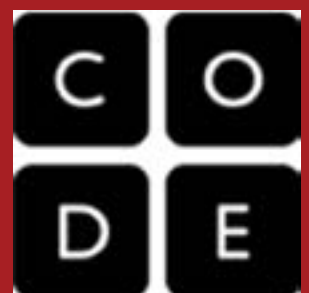


HOUR OF CODE

Remember those Hour of Code t-shirt that were being sold a few months ago? In December, Protsman students (as well as all Lake Central Elementary students) participated in the Hour of Code. The Hour of Code is a global movement by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org reaching tens of millions of students in more than 180 countries through a one-hour introduction to computer science and computer programming.



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SPOTLIGHT ON: MRS. MELISSA DILLARD

After entering the first grade hallway at Protsman Elementary School students are immediately surrounded by colors and decorations of all sort. Amongst all the colors and chaos, however, one classroom stands out amidst the rest--Mrs. Melissa Dillard's.

Dillard, who has been teaching at Protsman for 12 years. has created quite the name for herself in the teaching world. Her enthusiasm and positive outlook in the classroom have helped her build her "Seusstastic Classroom Insights" blog while also gaining hundreds of thousands of followers on Facebook, Pinterest and Instagram.

"I provide ideas for any teacher that happens to be a follower of mine. I get a lot of new teachers, teachers in college and even veteran teachers that need fresh ideas, so I'll just [post] little snapshots of the inside of my classroom and stuff that I do. I like to change things from year to year. I am giving teachers all over the world ideas," Dillard said.

Dillard's positive classroom management philosophy is centered around a reward system she has developed. When students do good deeds, even the smallest of deeds, she will reward them with a "fuzzy" that students can collect and later exchange for coupons. Not the types of coupons someone would take

to the grocery store, but instead coupons that can be exchanged for small prizes such as sitting in the teacher's chair.

"[I recognize] all of the good behaviors and the things I like, and then getting those students that are more of a behavior issue to see they're getting rewarded for doing the right thing. [Winning the coupons] is a huge deal for them. They work really hard in my classroom to earn those," Dillard said.

Not only has the positive classroom environment brightened the students' days, but also parents notice how excited their students are to go to school.

"[Parents] love it. I have parents who adopt a similar system at home. They might not use fuzzies, they might use legos or tally marks, but they definitely like the structure and the feedback they get from the kids. The kids love coming to school and they talk about warm fuzzies all the time. They just enjoy that I actually take the time to do all of that, because I don't have to," Dillard said.

One thing above all is obvious, Dillard loves her job. Whenever she is asked about her classroom, students or teaching style she smiles from cheek to cheek and cannot wait to share all her accomplishments and ideas. Students actually look forward to going into class, and that is not something to be overlooked.



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FLIPPING OUT ABOUT SCIENCE

Students in Mrs. Jennifer Walters's third grade class took part in a different type of science experiment. The classmates observed, measure bottles and recorded results of new ways to flip water bottles in hopes of landing them straight up.



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

Students all throughout the corporation participated in celebrating the 100th day of school. Mr. Montez's and Mrs. Jernberg's second grade classes highlighted the day at Protsman by dressing up as 100-year-old and doing events all throughout the day highlighted by numerous ways of counting to 100. Mr. Montez's class goal was to pass 100 AR tests in one day, but the class did not stop at 100. Instead, the class worked hard all day and passed 140 tests! Each time a student passed a test Mr. Montez would add a tally mark to the board.

