

The Leigh Legend



March 2021



The Legend is a Newsletter for the patrons of the Leigh Community School District #39. The Legend is printed by the Educational Service Unit #7. Submit article suggestions to Monica Hake at Leigh High School at 487-2228 or mhake@leigh.esu7.org.

Superintendent's Thoughts

Last year at this time we had just heard comments about COVID, little did we know we would be closing our doors on March 17th. What a difficult time it was to tell our students goodbye.

As I reflect on the pandemic, I want to acknowledge all of the hard work from our entire staff to continue the education process and meal preparations as we finished last year. This year has had its challenges but we have continued to persevere through it all. Disinfecting spray, wipes, masks, seating charts, temp checks, quarantines, and gym capacities have all become common to us. Again, I want to thank everyone for their continued work to keep our school safe and our students in school! It really has taken each person, in our school, to make this possible.

I am looking forward to all that spring has to bring and thankful that our students will get to enjoy their fourth quarter. Parents please help us with mask-wearing, hand washing, and continue to keep your children home when they are sick. As of this writing, we have no cases of COVID in our school. Let's work together to keep that going!

Stephanie Petersen
Elementary Principal/Superintendent

Welcome
Spring

Leigh Community School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
February 10, 2021

President Kamin Held called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Verification of Notice by Kamin Held (Published on February 3rd, 2021 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on February 3rd, 2021 at Leigh Community Schools and at the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held

Secretary Brabec read the roll call. Present were Folken, Held K, Higby, Hoffman, Machmueller, McMullin, Urban J, Went, Wietfeld M.

Also present were Superintendent Petersen, Principal Holmberg and Secretary Brabec.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Principal's Report – Professional Development – Curriculum, Math, CIP; MAP Testing; East Husker Conference Basketball; EHC Conference AD Meeting; EHC Honor Band; Subdistrict/District Wrestling; Speech Team.

Superintendent's Report: Febr. 5th In-Service; Calendar Change – April 1st as Professional Development Day; New Member Document/Handout; Dates for – MAP Testing, Elementary Spring Concert, Book Fair, Parent-Teacher Conferences; Additional Math Teacher.

Consent Agenda approved the January 11th, January 12th and January 13th, 2021 meetings minutes, Treasurer's Report & Bills/Payroll.

Approved the '21-'22 school calendar.

Discussion Items: Special Education Numbers; 1000-2000 Policies.

Approved to extend qualified leave due to COVID-19; Approved to sell the Farmer's Addition (road at the east entrance off of Main Street to the new school) to the Village of Leigh for \$10,500.00.

Discussion Items: Resolution of Board of Education to Sell Property; New/Old JR/SR HS.

Approved a '21-'22 Science teaching contract to Brianne Bachman; Approved a Superintendent/Elementary Principal contract to Cole Fischer with a \$123,000 salary for '21-'22.

Motion to enter into closed session to discuss negotiations on Principal's contract at 8:04 pm.

Entered out of closed session of negotiations discussion & then motion made at 8:46 pm to enter back into regular session.

Approved to freeze the '21-'22 High School Principal's Contract at a \$96,200 salary.

Moved by Urban J, seconded by Folken to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. All present voting "aye". Motion carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 8th, 2021 at the Leigh Elementary Conference Room.

April R. Brabec
Board Secretary

Family and Consumer Sciences

There is a new face in the Family and Consumer Sciences classroom this semester! Ms. Tyra Reardon is completing her student teaching requirements at Leigh Community Schools this semester. She has shared a little about herself below.

Hi everyone! My name is Tyra Reardon. I am originally from St. Edward, NE. I am currently a senior at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences Secondary Education with a minor in coaching! I will be helping with the track team this spring as well as all things FCCLA! I am loving my time here at Leigh Community Schools, and look forward to the rest of my career as an FCS educator.

At this point, Ms. Reardon has taken over the instruction on the following courses: Foods, Jr. High Exploratory, Culinary Arts, and Relationships. Other FCS courses offered this semester include Parenting, Work-Based Learning, and Housing and Interior Design. Students involved in each of these courses are acquiring life skills through a combination of project-based learning, hands-on activities, and direct instruction. We are looking forward to a great semester of Family and Consumer Sciences!

FCCLA

The Leigh-Clarkson FCCLA chapter recently competed in the virtual district STAR competition. STAR stands for Students Taking Action with Recognition and they completed a variety of projects related to Family and Consumer Sciences. I have compiled brief explanations of each project completed and the results from our district competition.

Brynn Settje and Ella Urban, Event Management, Level 1

Brynn and Ella completed a project in which they planned a 3 on 3 basketball tournament. This project allowed them to plan an event, prepare an event proposal, and create a portfolio along with their oral presentation.

District Results: Silver, State Qualifier

Izabel Hollatz and Baylee Settje, Focus on Children, Level 1

Izzy and Baylee focused on educating elementary students about the importance of physical activity. They chose to present to the 4th grade students as well as involve them in an activity that got them up and moving.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier

Macy Clausen and Cassi Rayback, Focus on Children, Level 2

Macy and Cassi presented to the 6th graders on the benefits of teamwork. They completed a variety of activities with this group of students in hopes to prepare the 6th grade students for entering junior high next year.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier

Dee Rivera, Career Investigation, Level 2

Dee researched a career as a psychologist. She completed self-assessments and online research in addition to performing a Zoom interview with a school counselor from Columbus. She also set education and career goals for herself and looked at shorter-term steps that will help her achieve these goals.

District Results: Silver, State Qualifier

Tanyn Larson and Gracie Eisenmann, National Programs in Action, Level 2

Tanyn and Gracie completed a Families First project by helping with the planning and implementation of the Festival of Lights in December. They used this event to communicate the importance of family togetherness, one of the main focuses of FCCLA.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier

-Continued on next page

FCCLA District STAR results continued:

Cassidy Hoffman, Job Interview, Level 3

Cassidy compiled the necessary materials to create a career portfolio and completed an interview with three business professionals via Zoom. She had to prepare for the interview using common interview questions and reviewing her portfolio materials.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier

Emily Loseke, National Programs in Action, Level 3

Emily completed a National Programs in Action project for the newest FCCLA National Program, StandUP. Her kindness initiatives were the basis for this project including the Secret Kindness Agency, the Kind Connection, and Kind Characters. Her project advocates for the importance of kindness in our schools and communities.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier

Natalie Brabec, Nutrition and Wellness, Level 3

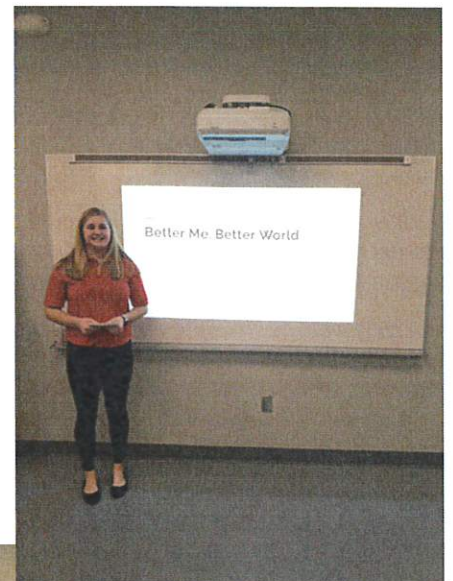
Natalie's project required her to track her family's food intake and physical activity for a week. Using her data, she created nutrition and wellness goals for her family along with the plan to implement them.

District Results: Silver, State Qualifier

Bailey Lemburg and Mitchel Beeson, Sports Nutrition, Level 3

Bailey and Mitchel designed a nutrition and hydration plan for a student athlete. They analyzed the energy needs for a football athlete on both practice and game days to help them create their plans.

District Results: Gold, State Qualifier



Music Department News

On a cold and snowy Saturday morning, Mrs. Kowalski, Mrs. Settje, and 24 Jr. High students attended the annual Stanton Music Festival. Ten band students practiced and performed under the direction of Rob Hartung. Mr. Hartung was a musician, teacher, and graduate assistant at various schools including Madison, NE. He even was inducted into the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007. Fourteen Choir students spent the day practicing and performing under the direction of Barina Buresh Crosland. She has served as the Director of Vocal Music at Arlington Public Schools for the past 16 year and has served on numerous boards and schools before that. Three of the concert's soloist were from the Clarkson/Leigh Jr. High. Congratulations to Chyann Becker, Paige Kurpgeweit, and Keeley Campbell for being selected to sing solo parts. We are so proud of all these students and hope they keep the love of music going on for a long time.

Students attending from Clarkson were: Bella McAtee, Sophie Morfeld, Rowan Stodola, Kendall Schneider, Emilie Hajek, Hadley Dlouhy, Hannah Cech, Josh Eisenmann, Vicente Alvarado, Shaleigh McAllister, Teagan Baumert, Jairo Alvarado, Jerzzi Mapel, Nathaly Pinonez, Rosie Guillen, and Chyann Becker. Students attending from Leigh were: Emily Stender, Paige Kurpgeweit, Amaiya Ross, Hadrian Janssen, Keeley Campbell, Sydney Messerlie, Alisyn Lich, and Maryn McCord. Instructors for the group are: Band - Mrs. Liz Kowalski and Choir - Mrs. Cindy Settje. The Clarkson/Leigh students had a great time learning about music as well as meeting fellow musicians.



"A Blast From the Past ~ Musically Speaking"

By: Cindy Settje

The community is invited to attend this year's Spring Musical at the new High School Gym! This year's Elementary concert, written and directed by Mrs. Cindy Settje, will actually begin in 1887 when Leigh (originally Millersburg) first became incorporated as a town. A lot of fun action will be enjoyed as the audience hears about the beginning of School District #59 as well as changes along the way from from Speech members, Emily Loseke and Audie Tejkl. Chart Buster songs will be heard from the various decades ending with the newer Patriot School Song - "Across the Fields". At the current time of this writing, Covid allows for 75% occupancy in the new gym, which will give us more than enough room for visitors. Just in case this changes or if you feel more comfortable with a smaller setting, there will be two concerts this year. An afternoon matinee will be held on Monday, March 22nd, beginning at **2:00 p.m.** for anyone interested. The evening Concert will be held on Tuesday, March 23rd, beginning at **7:00 p.m.** The Elementary 5th and 6th grade band will also be performing during the evening performance under the direction of Mrs. Liz Kowalski. Come enjoy "A Blast From the Past".

Media/Tech with Mrs. Hollatz



Technology in the Classroom: Great Job Teachers!!

Mrs. Wietfeld's science witnessed the Mars Rover landing via Zoom.

K-6th grade students are creating Digital Citizenship PSA's and posters for the Nebraska Digital Citizenship Symposium. The theme this year is Belong, Be Safe, Be Kind, Be a digi-smart citizen. We have had some amazing discussions about how to be an upstander online and how to be safe.

4th-6th grade students watched Karen Hasse, a school attorney, talk about Consequences of online misbehavior. Students then took a Gimkit quiz and received a certificate.

Miss Remmereid's Tech Apps classes created material for the Vision Board this year and learned how to film and edit video. They also created Sponsorship videos with voice overs. This is an amazing real world experience. Her classes helped work the vision board 13 varsity games in December through February.

By the end of the basketball season we added in-game stats for conference games with the help of Shelby P., Scott Petersen, and Neveah & Ava.

Younger siblings of basketball players were involved by filming cheer starters for the crowd during timeouts.

Thank you upperclassmen basketball players for reading our sportsmanship message and Soleece Hill for recording her National Anthem for a back up.

Mrs. Held's JH P.E. class partnered up with Mrs. Hollatz for STEM with activity. Students first created their own Fidget Spinner after research to show other students how to contain their boxed up energy. The next week students created a Makey Makey exercise circuit for 2nd graders to run through using exercise. They had Dance Revolution, the Dinosaur Internet Jump Game, Hot Potato, Flappy Bird Jump, Piano Steps, etc. The final project was Dash Robots. Students blockly coded the robots through a maze they designed, if the robot hit the yarn they were supposed to do some kind of exercise.

World Read Aloud Day was on February 4th, Mrs. Fischer and Mrs. Held's classes read aloud picture books so the elementary students could see what great readers look like. It was such a fun collaboration and a great way to show leadership.

Counselor Notes - Karen Hillen

As I am writing this month's counselor notes, it is -15 degrees and the students have had a 2 day break from classes. For students, snow days are almost always a welcome relief from the day to day work of school and that may be an OK thing. Dr. Matthew Zakretski, a father and clinical psychologist who works with neuro-diverse kids states, "kids need time away from demanding tasks like school and chores, time to just be kids." He goes on to say, "Our increasingly rigid adherence to academic 'progress' for kids at whatever cost is hurting our kids socially, emotionally, and developmentally. They need to have things like snow days as part of the social contract of attending school; you do what you're asked and you can have days of release and relief when the weather allows. It is a valued and necessary treat."

With all of this said, I am hopeful that we have seen the last of our snow days and that we can get back into the routine of school. If March comes in "like a lion" let's be hopeful that it will treat us "like a lamb" for the majority of the month. We start off the month with Parent-Teacher conferences on March 2. We always encourage parents to take a few minutes to visit with their child's teachers. It is good to have a two way conversation to recognize the achievements of your child and to discuss and discover areas for improvement.

A reminder that all parents are eligible to have access to their child's grades and assignments through the **Infinite Campus** parent portal. If you are not familiar with this system or have forgotten your login information, please visit with me at conferences or contact me via phone or email and I can help get you started. Through this system, you can also check lunch balances and attendance as well as check and update your contact information (phone numbers and email addresses), and your preferences for contact methods for school closures and other important information.

One of the topics that is covered in our elementary guidance lessons is using positive self talk as a way to deal with strong emotions. As parents, you may hear your children make comments such as "I'm bad at this" or "I will never learn this, I'm so dumb." Often times, parents may respond with statements such as "Don't say that" or "You're not dumb." Simply making these statements only dismisses the child's feelings and doesn't really help them to deal with the feeling. Below are some ideas that were shared from Big Life Journal.com, a website that offers ideas and activities to help parents deal with the day to day issues of parenting.

Instead of:	Try:
Don't say that!	Tell me what makes you feel that way.
I'm bad at this too. It's just not our thing	Just because it's hard doesn't mean you can't be good at it. Let's look at it together.
I don't want to ever hear this again.	Is that really what you're thinking or are you just tired right now?
Don't worry. You'll learn this in no time!	Sometimes we need to give our brains time to learn.

- A few reminders for parents of juniors and seniors:
- March 7 is the deadline to register for the April 17 National ACT test.
 - Seniors - all local scholarship applications are due March 20
 - Juniors - will be taking the State administered ACT test on Tuesday, March 23.

EducationQuest Foundation

College Planning Bulletin

A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

Virtual College Fair is March 2-3

Attend the EducationQuest Virtual College Fair March 2-3 to visit with representatives from nearly 75 colleges and to hear from college-prep experts. Register at eqf.org/collegefair.

College reps will be available during these times, but you can visit college booths any time:

Tuesday, March 2 from 9 a.m. - Noon CT

Wednesday, March 3 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. CT

Live presentations March 2 at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. will cover critical college-prep tasks for seniors and juniors.

A presentation March 3 at 6:00 p.m. will provide answers to common questions about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

For more details, visit EducationQuest.org.

Wrapping up your senior year

Seniors...stay on track to college by completing these second-semester tasks:

-Complete the financial aid process. By now, you should have completed your FAFSA. If you haven't, do so at studentaid.gov. If your college requests verification of your FAFSA information, submit required documents so that the school can award your financial aid.

-Watch your student portal and email closely. Once you're accepted for admission, the colleges you listed on your FAFSA will notify you of the financial aid they're offering.

-Keep your grades up. If you get poor grades this semester, your college could revoke your admission.

-Apply for scholarships. See [ScholarshipQuest](#) at EducationQuest.org for Nebraska-based scholarships. You'll also find links to national scholarship sites.

-Be aware of deadlines to accept financial aid and college admission offers, submit your housing deposit, and register for new-student orientation.

Juniors...it's time to narrow your college choices.

Spring break is a perfect time to visit schools that interest you. Find campus visit tips in the ["Selecting a College" section](#) at EducationQuest.org.

These resources at EducationQuest.org will also help with your college search:

- ["Nebraska College Costs"](#) breaks down costs for all colleges in Nebraska.
 - [College Profiles](#) has details about colleges in Nebraska and across the country.
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March "To Do" List

Seniors

- ___ Don't miss the [Virtual College Fair](#) March 2-3.
- ___ Watch for financial aid award notifications.
- ___ Continue applying for [scholarships](#).

Juniors

- ___ Don't miss the [Virtual College Fair](#) March 2-3.
- ___ [Register](#) by March 12 for the April 17 ACT.
- ___ [Register](#) by April 8 for the May 8 SAT.
- ___ Schedule campus visits.

Nebraska Child Find provides information to parents, school personnel, and service providers on child development and special education for children from birth (or date of diagnosis) to age 21.



ChildFind also helps parents access information regarding rights and resources to help them advocate for an appropriate education for their child.

Does your child have trouble learning, speaking, hearing, seeing, walking or taking part in activities with other children? Or are you concerned about your child's physical condition, learning or development in other areas?

ChildFind (<http://www.childfind.ne.gov/>) is part of the Nebraska Early Development Network that may be able to help families with infants and toddlers that experience developmental delays, genetic syndromes, medical impairments, as well as many other disabilities, through service coordination and other services.

For your questions or concerns contact your doctor, local school district or call

Nebraska ChildFind at 1-888-806-6287 (toll-free)

Calendar Events March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1 Elementary Book Fair Start of Spring Practices TBD - FBILA Meeting BBB Sub-State - TBD	2 Elementary Book Fair Parent/Teacher Conferences - 5-8:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. EARLY DISMISSAL Girls BB State Championships (Classes A & B @ PBA)	3 Elementary Book Fair - Last Day FFA - District CDE Contests @ CCC Girls BB State Championships (Classes B & C1 @ PBA; Classes C2-D2 @ Lincoln H/S's)	4 Teacher Professional Development Girls BB State Championships (Classes C2-D2 Semi-Finals @ PBA) NO SCHOOL	5 NO SCHOOL Girls BB State Championships (Classes A-C-1; Semi-Finals @ PBA)	6 Girls BB State Championships (All Classes, Finals @ PBA)
7 NO SCHOOL 6:30 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting	8	9 Boys BB State Championships (Classes A & B @ PBA) 9:00 a.m. District D2-2 Speech @ Newman Grove	10 Boys BB State Championships (Classes B & C1 @ PBA; Classes C2-D2 @ Lincoln H/S's) EHC Supl. Meeting @ West Point	11 FCCLA Chapter Mtng after school in Clarkson (4:00 p.m.) Boys BB State Championships (Classes C2-D2 Semi-Finals @ PBA)	12 End of 3rd Qtr Boys BB State Championships (Classes A-C-1; Semi-Finals @ PBA)	13 Boys BB State Championships (All Classes, Finals @ PBA)
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins	15 EHC Choral Clinic @ Nielsen Center in West Point	16 Red Cross Blood Drive - TBD	17 NECC Scholastic Contests (Virtual)	18	19 State Speech Championships - Class D2 @ Kearney High School	20
21	22 2:00 p.m. Leigh Elementary Music Matinee	23 7:00 p.m. Leigh Elementary Spring Concert (PK-6) ACT - State Testing - Juniors	24	25	26	27 Jr/Sr PROM @ Clarkson
28	29 10:00 a.m. B GOLF Invite @ West Point/Beemer EHC Quiz Bowl @ Howells/Dodge	30 12:30 p.m. Var. TR @ Stanton	31 9:00 a.m. B GOLF Invite @ David City Aquinas 9:00 a.m. Var. TR @ Osceola	<div> <div> <div>All dates and times are subject to change—please refer to the school web site at: leighcommunityschools.org or the Leigh Community School Facebook page for further information or to see what's happening at Leigh Community Schools.</div> </div> </div>		

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Pork Patty/Bun, Swt. Pot. Fries, Peas, Pears, Cookie	2 BR: PB&J L: Pancakes, Sausage, Hash Brown, Juice	3 BR: Cereal, Bun L: Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup, Donut, Carrots, Applesauce Cup	4 NO SCHOOL	5 NO SCHOOL	6
7	8 NO SCHOOL	9 BR: Cereal, Poptart L: Chicken Nuggets/Bun, Fr. Fries, Baked Beans, Mand. Oranges	10 BR: Cereal, Rice Krispie Bar L: Egg McMuffin, Hash Brown, Juice, Carrots, Cookie	11 BR: Cinnamon Roll L: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Gr. Beans, Bread Stick, Tropical Fruit	12 BR: Cereal, Muffin Loaf L: Cheese Pizza, Lettuce, Broccoli, Pears	13
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins	15 BR: Cereal, Nutri-grain Bar L: Hot Dog/Bun, Gr. Bean Casserole, Spud Bites, Mand. Oranges, Cookie	16 BR: Breakfast Sandwich L: Walking Taco, Refried Beans, Lettuce, Pineapple	17 St. Patrick's Day BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Hoagie, Chips, Broccoli, Fresh Oranges, Ice Cream Cup	18 BR: Apple Churro's L: Hot Turkey Sandwich, Chips, Celery Sticks, Pineapple	19 BR: PB&J L: Fish Sandwich, Swt. Pot. Fries, Corn, Fruit Cup	20 First Day of Spring
21	22 BR: Yogurt, Cereal Bar L: Corn Dog, Swt. Pot. Fries, Baked Beans, Fruit Cup	23 BR: Breakfast Cookies L: Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Hash Brown, Pineapple	24 BR: Cereal, Poptart L: Meatball Sub, Sun Chips, Lettuce, Mand. Oranges, Brownie	25 BR: Cinnamon Roll L: Drumsticks, Mashed Pot./Gravy, Bun, Corn, Peaches	26 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: French Toast, Tri Tater, Fresh Veggies, Applesauce, Cookie	27
28	29 BR: Cereal, Muffin Loaf L: Chicken Patty/Bun, Pot. Wedges, Corn, Hot Apples	30 BR: Cereal, Bun L: Nachos, Refried Beans, Bread Stick, Strawberry Cup	31 BR: Donut L: Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Fr. Fries, California Blend, Fruit Cocktail	Milk is included with all menus All Breakfasts include fruit or juice		
The Lunch Menu Calendar can be found on the web page under the Quick Links tabs on the right hand side of the home page.						

THE LEGEND
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 3
ECRWSS

BOXHOLDER

From the Principal's Desk:

We are plowing forward through the end of February into March. We have had quite a few school days lost due to snow and bitter cold. This always makes getting into a school routine more difficult. The teachers and students have adapted. If nothing else, the Covid pandemic has reminded us of the need for flexibility.

Winter sports seasons are finishing with some notable accomplishments. As of the writing of this article, the girls basketball team has a record of 20-1. The boys are 11-9 and are looking at having their first winning record since the 2014-2015 season. Our wrestling team showed significant growth over the season with five individuals advancing from sub-districts to the district competition. Dylan Higby qualified for the state tournament and won one match before dropping a close match in the consolation round to finish in the top twelve. We hosted varsity basketball games in Leigh for the first time in many years. This included three nights of the East Husker Conference tournament where eight different teams played in our new facility.

Students in grades 7-11 are completing MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing before the end of February. These tests are taken twice a year and help us note individual growth as well as achievement by an entire grade level. Our CIP (Continuous Improvement Process) team is using this data to guide academic decisions and possible interventions. From data, one goal they have established is to help our students become more proficient at reading informational text. This could involve, but is not limited to: textbooks, scientific articles, opinion pieces, historical essays. With advances in technology, we are definitely in the information age. It is important for our student to be able to dissect this information.

Bring on Spring!