

The Bay Window

November 2021

Dream. Aspire. Achieve.



4k Outreach Days

By: Laura Breen, 4K Teacher

Four Year Old Kindergarten Outreach Days are held once a month to help parents, families, students, and teachers make connections with each other and our community.

In September, 4K students, families, siblings, teachers, and even a few grandparents spent a beautiful, sunny morning in Edgewater park. The children went on a nature scavenger hunt, completed a craft, and had a snack. While Mrs. Hertel read a story to the children, Mrs. Luberda had a few minutes to talk to the parents about how to get involved with school activities, such as Parent Teacher Organization, Music Boosters, Athletic Boosters, etc.

The Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy was the destination in October. Mr. Friestad and his team set up an excellent morning discovering nature. Grandparents, parents, teachers, students, and siblings hiked through the trails, climbed the lookout tower, and collected leaves. The children glued the leaves on a paper tree to take home. Liz, the nature expert, showed us a creek, talked about wildlife, and pointed out giant edible mushrooms. The sunshine was streaming through the autumn trees as they were bursting with color! Information regarding wildlife and plants went home with each child.

Also in October, a field trip was taken to Pearce's Farm. Farmer Pearce picked everyone up on the playground in his hay wagon. Parents and students bounced over to the farm to pick pumpkins, jump on hay bales, and eat apple cider doughnuts. It felt like the perfect fall scene in a small town, when no school bus is needed and the local farmer will just pick you and drive you over to his farm!



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Williams Bay Elementary School 250 Theater Rd. Williams Bay, WI 53191 | Williams Bay Middle/High School 500 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay, WI 53191 | Williams Bay School District Office P.O. Box 1410 Williams Bay, WI 53191 |
| 245-5571 245-0397 | 245-6224 245-6225 | 245-1575 |

2021-2022 Drama Club Productions

By: Matt Dunlap, Drama Club Advisor

The Williams Bay Drama Club is proud to announce their 2021-22 lineup of shows. Quickly approaching is the return of our holiday radio show presentation. On December 18, 2021 we will be presenting *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*. Those in attendance will experience a live reading of the classic holiday favorite complete with an array of actors and sound effects while snacking on some light holiday hors d'oeuvres and treats along with refreshments. The show will be held in the High School Commons with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and the show beginning around 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and the show will run approximately 50-75 minutes.

We hate Shakespeare! At least that's what the audience thinks until they get a rip-roaring rundown of Shakespeare's classics. With zombies, talking cows, and an appearance by Jerry Springer, *I Hate Shakespeare!* is a hilarious and fast-paced introduction to Shakespeare -- with a modern twist. Our spring performance will be held March 4 - 5, 2022 at 7 p.m. and March 6, 2022 at 3 p.m. in the High School Lecture Center. Doors open thirty minutes before curtain and the cost for all shows is \$5.00 per person. Runtime is approximately 60-70 minutes.

As always the Drama Club productions are student run and this year are led and co-directed by senior Monica Paur and junior Citlali Carbajal. Our Technical Director this year is junior Evelyn Hamberg while our Stage Manager is junior Nadia Nateghi. Drama club is supervised by Mr. Matt Dunlap.

The Williams Bay High School's Production of

the wedding singer
The Musical Comedy

Music By: MATTHEW SKLAR
Lyrics By: CHAD BEGUELIN
Book By: CHAD BEGUELIN & TIM HERLIHY
Based on the New Line Cinema film written by TIM HERLIHY

DECEMBER 3 - 4, 2021 **New Date!**
Williams Bay High School
7:00 PM
Tickets: \$5

There will be no livestream of the performance.
The Wedding Singer is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

WBHS Student Council Holiday Food Drive

November 15 to December 3

Please bring in non-perishable food items to the High School Commons. Class Spirit points will be awarded, so place your items where you want the points to go!

Questions?
Email Ms. Evans eevans@williamsbayschool.org

DISTRICT DISCUSSIONS

By: Superintendent Dr. William White

Superintendent Advisory Committee

I recently created the Superintendent Advisory Committee to gather feedback from parents, community members, and staff members on important matters that affect the district and to establish collaborative two-way communication. The Superintendent's Advisory Committee (SAC) is a representative body that will communicate on a variety of important topics raised by the Superintendent and various stakeholders. The meetings are meant to allow for open communication and feedback between the Superintendent and stakeholders on current and future issues. Every meeting provides time for free exchange and discussion.

The first meeting for the Superintendent Advisory Committee took place Wednesday, November 17th. Topics discussed by the committee included:

- * Review of the District's Strategic Plan
- * Discuss the District's Response to COVID-19 and Reopening
- * Discuss the Strategic Communication and Marketing Plan for the District
- * Student enrollment
- * Committee Membership and Meeting Schedule

Finalized Third Friday Enrollment

DPI requires public schools to count all students annually on the third Friday in September. Those enrollment figures factor into how much state aid schools receive and how much revenue can be generated for the general fund through property taxes. Though school enrollment numbers are used to determine how much money schools can pull in through a combination of state aid and property taxes, those revenue limits are based on a three-year "rolling" average of September enrollment and summer school full-time student equivalency.

In-district school enrollment in Wisconsin, and in other parts of the country, has been on the decline since the late 1990s. The Williams Bay School District has experienced steady growth during the last several years, mainly due to open enrollment. But during the last few years, the in-district enrollment has decreased. Although there is construction of new homes in the Williams Bay School community, this is not translating into more students in our schools.

This year's third Friday in-district enrollment count saw a significant decline (approximately 50 students). The primary reason for this decline is the district graduated approximately 50 students in 2020 and 2021, but only approximately 30 students enrolled in kindergarten those same years. The school community also saw several families sell their homes during the real estate frenzy and it appears those homes were purchased by retirees and not families with children. Please note that this enrollment decline is due to families moving out of the community and not due to open enrollment out of the district.

Students open enrolling to the district remain steady as did the number of students open enrolling out. Again, the decline in membership is due to families moving out of the district and low enrollment in the early grade levels.

Since enrollment figures factor into how much the district will receive from the combination of state aid and property taxes, there will be a budgetary impact on the district. For the 2021-2022, the state of Wisconsin's hold harmless and declining enrollment exemptions will lessen the impact on the budget. The impact on the 2022-2023 budget and beyond is still being analyzed. Over the next few months, the Business Manager and the Board's Finance Committee will be looking at projections to determine the impact on next year's budget and beyond and determine what steps will need to be taken.



Spanish students attended a Día de los Muertos workshop in Milwaukee. They toured an ofrenda exhibit, and painted calavera masks while learning about the imagery and traditions of the day.

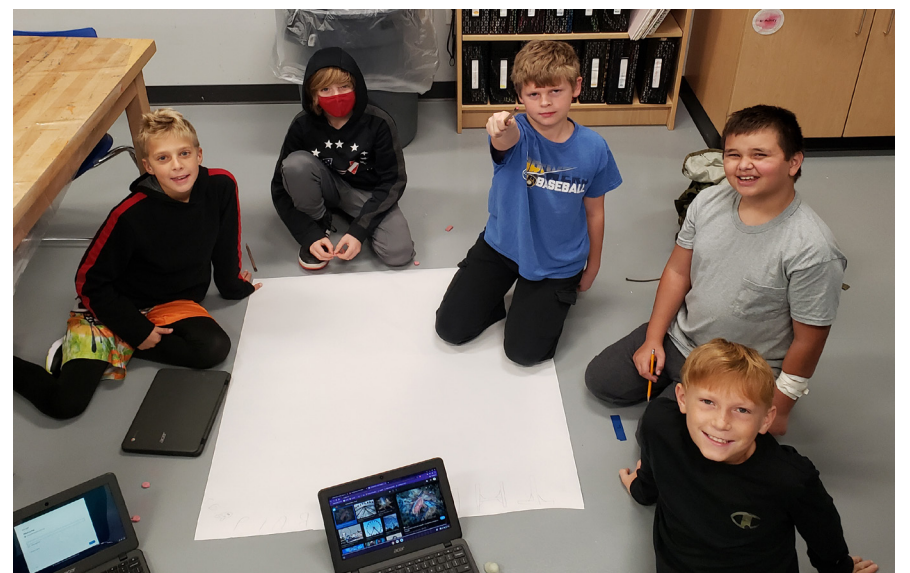


Students Get a Bite of Reality

By: Denise Durkin, Business Education Teacher

How can a high school student get a taste of what it is like to be an adult making financial decisions? On November 2, the Junior Seminar students found out by participating in a virtual Financial Reality Day sponsored by Educators Credit Union. During the ninety-minute simulation, students budgeted their money by making everyday, adult financial decisions. Students were able to pick a career and then were randomly assigned a biography of their life. Students learned if they were married, single, divorced, and paying or receiving child support. The simulation also included the age(s) of their child(ren), their credit score, and their monthly income. Once they knew who they were, the staff at Educators Credit Union guided them through the various categories where financial decisions were made.

The simulation began with the first stop, retirement. Students used the Bite of Reality App to enter the amount they wanted to put towards retirement. Once that decision was made, the next stop was taking care of their child. Students made decisions regarding daycare, clothing (brand name, department store, thrift store), and presents/toys they wanted to purchase for the month. Each option had a predetermined cost and a code that was entered into the app. The purchase was completed and the app calculated the amount remaining in the budget. Students had to watch how much money they had as they continued to make choices about what to spend on transportation, housing, utilities, groceries, dining out, household needs, clothing, personal care, shopping, and entertainment. As in real life, sometimes unexpected things arise. The wheel of fate was spun and it could be something good that brought in more money or something that resulted in money being spent. The goal by the end of the simulation was to have money left that could be put into savings or help pay down credit card debt. Along the way, some students found that they had no money left and had to go back and make different decisions in order to have more money, or they had to contact a member of Educators Credit Union for help. For some, their poor credit score prevented them from purchasing a home. If money was tight, the decision for entertainment was to go on a walk for free over spending money on a vacation. Students found the simulation beneficial, providing them a taste of making adult financial decisions. As Margaret Higgins said, "Kids are EXPENSIVE!" Her words were echoed by all students. Elian Valadez said, "It was fun and gave us a good example of what the real world is like."



Students William Hawkinson, Jasper Hartman, Ethan Mulhall, Jude Dahlstrom and Colin Yaeger work in our Elementary school maker space called the Sparkspot. They are collaborating to build an amusement park.

From the Desk of Dr. Ali Bond Elementary Principal

Focusing on Mindfulness - The Williams Bay Elementary School Staff has placed a strong focus on mindfulness. Mindfulness helps students to develop self-awareness and pro-social, positive mind states like empathy, kindness, generosity and gratitude. Mindfulness includes routines and qualities that are skills that can be actively fostered and strengthened. The practice of mindfulness by students may improve academic achievement, mental health, and inter- and intra-personal relationships. There are resources available to provide teachers and students with enough tools and understanding of mindfulness that they can continue to incorporate mindfulness in their daily routines. Most of the information and resources we are using are from © Mindful Schools, mindfulschools.org.

Continuous Improvement Classroom Learning Community - All of the Williams Bay Elementary School teachers are implementing all 8 components of the Classroom Learning Community Model this year. The information below will help build an understanding of the purpose of these important practices.

The needs of today's learners have changed: <https://www.learningsolutionsmag.com/>

- They are skilled multi-taskers, used to simultaneously working with different content, and interacting with others.
- They are highly visual learners, preferring to process pictures, sounds, and video rather than text.
- They are experiential learners who learn by discovery rather than being "told."
- They are very social and love to share with others. They enjoy working in teams and they want to be part of a community, collaborating, sharing, and exchanging ideas.
- They are happy to take on different roles in their learning, either as a student or even as an instructor or facilitator or supporter of others.
- They need immediate feedback, responsiveness, and ideas from others.
- They prefer to construct their own learning – assembling information and tools from different sources.

The expected outcomes of implementing the CLC Model are:

- Student ownership, responsibility, and accountability for learning
- Increased academic achievement
- Improved social, emotional, and behavioral growth
- 21st-century learning!

The 8 components of the CLC Model are provided below:

Ground Rules – Students participate in the process to help create classroom ground rules as a commitment to each other and to set the stage for a successful school year.

- Provides an opportunity for student ownership and responsibility
- Serve as the standard for behavior by which all agree to follow
- Reduces potential behavior problems because students developed the ground rules and are more likely to follow them

Mission Statement – Students work collaboratively to create a classroom mission statement aligned to the school's mission statement. This statement establishes clear direction and focuses the learning for the year.

- Directs the focus of the classroom to the learning goals.
- Mission statements answer questions... Who are we? What are we here to do together? How will we go about doing it?

SMART Goals – Goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-based/ Realistic, Time-bound

- Goals provide focus on continuous improvement (classroom & personal goals)
- Goals are developed with student input: Based on data

Classroom Data Center – The focal point of the continuous improvement model. It communicates an environment that focuses on student learning.

Student Data Folders – A tool to track and measure individual progress toward their goals and focuses "each student" in a customized and differentiated manner.

- Builds a sense of responsibility and ownership of learning
- Incorporates Goal-Setting and Data Collection
- Enhances student-led conferences

Student-Led Conferences – On November 4, we held our first all school student-led conferences. Students facilitate the conference with parents to articulate their progress of learning demonstrated using the student data folder.

- Encourage students, parents, and teachers to openly communicate as equal partners about student achievement
- Enhance students' oral communication skills
- Build students' confidence
- Builds relationships

Classroom Meetings – These are most effective when classrooms take time to review the classroom data center, mission, and goals to make sure continuous improvement is progressing. Quality tools are used to help foster a respectful environment in which students take ownership and pride in their role in the classroom.

Quality Tools – Visual representations and graphical techniques used to help solve problems, organize thoughts, illustrate a process, and make decisions. These tools and processes of the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle prepare students for creative and systematic problem-solving. Quality tools are also used to collect and analyze data and identify patterns in behavior and academic areas. PDSA is a process in which a team or individual takes time to Plan (identify the problem), Do (implement the plan), Study (analyze the information), Act (determine what changes should be made).



Mrs. D'Auria's homeroom enjoyed the challenges of carving soap (Josh C. and Officer Ben pictured). The activity was inspired by the character Rob in the book "Tiger Rising"



As a Halloween treat, Ms. Creed's 8th-grade Literacy students visited the 4K classrooms to read Halloween stories to the 4K students on Friday, October 29. The 8th graders practiced their read-aloud skills in order to impress their 4K friends, and everyone enjoyed some spooky, silly Halloween storytime! The 4K students had such fun that they've invited their new 8th grade friends back to read stories and play board games together!

From the Desk of Mr. Brent Mansky MS/High School Principal

Dear Williams Bay School District Community,

Wisconsin's Redefining Ready (WiRR) is a cohort of School Districts who aim to introduce new research-based metrics to more appropriately assess that students are college ready, career ready, and life ready in a more complete manner. Williams Bay High School has joined over 60 high schools who have embraced the "Redefining Ready!" initiative in Wisconsin. We recognize that traditional measures such as standardized tests and state school report cards do not always provide an accurate representation of our students' capacity. They cannot be reduced down to, or defined by, a single test score.

The new readiness indicators were developed from research by world-class organizations to more accurately reflect the educational landscape of the 21st century. Multiple metrics include Advanced Placement courses, Algebra II, early college credits, industry credentials, attendance, and co-curricular participation, among others. These indicators more accurately reflect the educational landscape of the 21st Century.

Here at Williams Bay, we strive to provide our students with rigorous academic programs, personalized and career-specific learning experiences, along with life skills that prepare them to be citizens in an ever changing world. It is our goal that by focusing on ensuring that students are college ready, career ready, and life ready, it will lead to improvement in the number of students taking rigorous courses, higher GPAs, more participation in co-curricular programs, and significant increases in student achievement.

As a part of cohort #3, we have spent the year exploring data collection and the development of our high school scorecard, with the goal of publishing a pilot scorecard in July for the Class of 2022. Following the introduction of the high school scorecard, the next goal will be to develop a Middle School report card according to the research back metrics for a successful middle school experience.

If you have more questions regarding "Redefining Ready!" and what it is about, please visit <https://www.redefiningready.org>, or enter "Wisconsin Redefining Ready" in your web browser.



Family & Consumer Science Update

By: Christy Torres, Family & Consumer Science Teacher

The Family and Consumer Science department offers several different electives for students to take that tests their cooking and baking abilities in front of their peers. Over the past few weeks, Baking and Pastry students have been learning how different baking ingredients work together to get us different results. They have been working with different leavening agents to create homemade muffins, pizza, and rainbow bagels. This past week, the students have learned how to make their very own pie crust to create their cream pies. Next week, the students will work on fruit pies for Thanksgiving. In December, students will concentrate on baking for the holidays with a collaboration with some elementary school classes.



Tech-Ed Students Put Their Newly Attained Skills to Work

By: Jacob White, Technology Education Teacher

Williams Bay Industrial Tech-Ed Students put their newly attained skills to work. A footbridge was constructed on the walking path that runs around the district campus. Mr. Quinn, head of maintenance, asked Mr. White if installing a footbridge would be a possible project for the Construction Class this summer. Without a hesitation, Mr. White took on the challenge and incorporated the project into our regular coursework for the class. The bridge features four 20ft 6"x6" beams, ensuring a steady and long lasting footbridge. The crew consists of students Ethan Keller, Alia Woss, Henry Edwards, Jack Cunningham, Trevor Quinn, Joe Sorensen, Keegan Johanssen, Toby Reik, and Jayden Gonza. The crew is now working on the set plans for this year's high school musical, "The Wedding Singer."

Williams Bay High School Student Council Updates

By: Emily Evans, Student Council Advisor

This year's WBHS Student Council (STUCO) has had a busy opening to the school year! Members of STUCO came in over the summer to begin planning for a busy fall. They've hosted a number of different events for the benefit of the student body and the community.

Homecoming was the first large event that STUCO helped sponsor. Members helped plan events like Hallway Decorating, Lunch Hour Games, Dress-up Days, and more. The spirit competition this year was close, with the Juniors winning it all.

Immediately after Homecoming, STUCO hosted a community wide blood drive with Versiti on October 20. Versiti set a goal of collecting 42 units of blood for the WBHS blood drive. Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers, brave students, and noble community donors, 53 units of blood were collected! All blood donated at our school blood drives is donated to hospitals in Southeastern Wisconsin. STUCO will be hosting a future blood drive on March 17, 2022, with a goal of collecting 60 units of blood.

The Student Council also worked in partnership with Mr. Bailey to host a dance for the 7th and 8th grade students. The theme was "Glow Party." About 45 middle school students danced the night away under twinkle lights and stars at the first outdoor dance to ever be held outside of the elementary school cafeteria. Student council members sold concessions, deejayed, and got the students dancing. STUCO will organize another dance- this time indoors!- sometime this winter for middle school students.

The Holiday Food Drive is also happening right NOW! Students are encouraged to bring in nonperishable food items and personal hygiene items to be donated to an area food drive. Although pure altruism is best, spirit points will be awarded to each grade for every item that is donated. The winning class will receive a small prize. Community members are welcome to bring items in, too. Items in high need include shelf stable fruits, whole grain cereals, boxed meal kits, ready to eat soups with meat, canned pasta with meat, shelf stable milk alternatives, shelf stable proteins (tuna, chicken, ham), and 100% fruit juice. Personal hygiene items for adults and children are also greatly appreciated. The drive runs through December 3, 2021.

Future events for the WBHS Student Council include hot chocolate sales, a holiday spirit day or contest, and a possible activity night for high school students.

If you have any questions about or ideas for the WBHS Student Council, please contact Ms. Evans at eevans@williamsbayschool.org.

Outdoor Education 2021

Stars

By: Sasha Koledova, 7th Grade

Stargazing is something that you don't really see every day. How? For example, if you live near light, you won't be able to see the stars and the galaxy. Or there are clouds in the way of your sight unfortunately.

Anyway, after we played "Wolf Pack" at camp, there were 3 options for our last activity for that night. The options were either to stay at the bonfire, game room, or go on a night hike with Mr. Breen and Mr. Bailey. I chose the night hike, so did Izzy, Keller, Dex, Liam, Monica (counselor), and Jesse (counselor).

We started walking and following Mr. Bailey to wherever he was leading us too. During the walk, I talked to Jesse about many different things. A few minutes later, we ended up in a small clearing. We gazed at the amazing sight of the stars. We could see the galaxy streak too because of how dark it was. Mr. Breen showed us the different constellations he would find through his phone, while Mr. Bailey was trying to find another path for us to hike.

Mr. Bailey eventually found another path that took us almost in the middle of the fields. But it was good because there were no trees to block the stars. It was a breathtaking sight. So many stars are just surrounding you. We could even see the constellation more clearly.

But there was one dot in the sky that was the brightest looking star of all. It was weird because it wasn't the North Star, nor Jupiter. The color had an orange tone, with some red, and it was moving. None of us knew what it was, so we decided to stay and watch that mysterious moving orange glowing dot. We all had debates if it was a drone, plane, helicopter, or maybe something from space. Then we all thought of different things that the dot could be. For example, some military recording us or the aliens getting ready to capture us.

Some good 6 minutes passed by, the dot was closer and it was the time to reveal what that mysterious looking thing was doing in the sky. We stared at it, until it flew right past us. Seeing it flying right past us, our faces showed the "bruh" face. Disappointment hit us like a wave, while just looking at that small plane or drone flying by. We waited for 6 minutes just for that plane/drone flying right by us in the sky.

Going back to the campus, we just talked about the plane and how it could've just been some military or aliens to make it way more interesting. But the stars were still with us, shining in the dark, cold, night sky. Sometimes I wish I could just rewind that night and witness the night again.



Outdoor Education

By: Matilda Snyder, 7th Grade

Outdoor Ed. is a fun and educational experience for people of all ages. At camp Timber-lee you will grow closer with your peers and also your counselors. You will create inside jokes, try new things, and learn more about yourself and your interests. At camp you are encouraged to step outside your comfort zone, you will push the boundaries of your friends, and learn things you would never have learned before.

When I was outdoors my favorite thing was the night time activities. One of those activities was a bonfire. We got to roast marshmallows and socialize. At the bonfire we did the cha-cha slide and the casper shuffle. The marshmallows were so good the warm, gooey, and smoky taste of the fire was so good. The bonfire was a great way for you and all your friends to hangout and chill.

After the bonfire we played a fun game called wolf pack. You get separated into small groups and you can't talk or use a flashlight. The goal was to find the "alpha" or one of the camp instructors by only howling. It was a very fun experience and a great problem solving activity. The other night time activity we had was a night hike where we got to stargaze and do a fun electricity experiment. When we stargazed we saw the little dipper and some shooting stars. We also could hear echoes across the pond. The experiment was you're a lifesaver and you could see it glowing in your partner's mouth because of how eyes adjusted to darkness.

Outdoor Ed. was a great experience for everyone. You will step outside your comfort zone and learn new things. I hope you will enjoy your outdoor adventure as much as we did. And hopefully you can do some of these fun night time activities that we loved so much.



Outdoor Education 2021 at Camp Timber-Lee

By: Maddie Gauger, 6th Grade

Outdoor Education is an experience for young children like myself to learn and spend time in nature. Outdoor Education is also for kids to make memories with their friends and to learn some independence without their parents or their phones. This year the students of Williams Bay Middle School went to Camp Timber-Lee in East Troy, Wisconsin. They went on October 11th through October 13th. Many teachers from the school came as well as senior and junior counselors.

The girls stayed in a cabin named the Ponderosa. Then the boys stayed in a cabin named Cottonwood. Ponderosa was a wood cabin shaped as a pentagon with a very huge living room with a great fireplace. Ponderosa was the bigger cabin out of the two so the Ponderosa was the cabin where all of the sixth grade would meet. Cottonwood was a two-story cabin with a very good light source because there were so many windows. At night you could hear the winds whipping the trees and birds chirping in the morning. In the mornings, afternoons, and nights you could smell the great meals being made. The french toast was very good. It was buttery, syrupy, and soft. That was a crowd favorite. All the students were very grateful for all the cabins and buildings we got to stay in.

The kids this year were able to participate in many activities. Some activities were animal encounters, rock climbing, fishing, archery, anatomy, astrology, aquatics, night hikes, and wolf pack. Some favorite activities from the students were animal encounters, fishing, and archery. Animal encounters were definitely my favorite activity out of them all. I loved petting all the animals. Animal encounters were led by a girl named Katlin; she is a part of the Timber-lee staff. The students met chinchillas, turtles, snakes, lizards, and chickens. When I felt the chinchillas, they were the softest animals I have ever felt. Archery was also led by a Timber-Lee staff member named Ethan. But do not worry archery was very safe and Ethan taught them very well. Everyone participated in an activity named wolf pack. Wolf pack is played outside at night when it is pitch black. Then Timber-Lee staff members hide pretending to be the alpha wolf but there is only one real alpha wolf. Their goal is to find the alpha wolf. The way they communicated with him was by howling and he would howl back if he did not hear you coming. The first group to find the alpha wolf wins. You can win as long as you are not the last group to find him. That was a group favorite! There was also a late night bonfire. We all made s'mores and they were really good. We all sang campfire songs around the campfire. It was a blast! My experience was great. I loved it! My personal favorite things were animal encounters, rock climbing, and gaga ball.

I think Outdoor Ed. is very important for us kids. It helps us learn about nature and make memories without our phones and learn some independence without our parents along the way. We all grew as friends and people. It was the best school activity ever. Thanks to everyone who made it possible.