

CHARTING THE COURSE IN EDUCATION



BY GWEN LOWE JARRETT

THE "HAPPENINGS" IN PROJECT BRIDGE CLASSES

From time to time, this column focuses on a special program in Central Area Schools. One such program, Project Bridge, is an educational enrichment program for 5th through 8th grade youngsters from Colman and Gatzert

elementary schools and Meany/Madrona MIDDLE SCHOOL. Classes are taught by selected Garfield students and staff.

Of the 16 different classes being offered this semester, many are for the first time. They include Heritage, French, Home and Family Life, Computer Programming, Russian and Chem/Physics. Others are "old favorites" such as Biology, Crafts, Spanish, Piano and Oriental Foods.

Wanda Williams, Curriculum Specialist for Project Bridge, reported to parents in a recent letter: "Too often we get so bogged down in our own disciplines that we never know what is going on around us." Because of this, she spent time visiting Project Bridge classes and shared the following observations with parents of students in the program:

BIOLOGY- Youngsters are being made aware of what certain drugs are called and what they look like. Relax! This is via a game similar to 'BINGO'. Also, they are learning to use microscopes and are looking at one cellular animal. Mrs. St. Clair has also taken the classes to Golden Gardens.

TYPING- Youngsters are learning correct position of posture at the typewriter, how to insert and take out paper, how to set margins, how to tabulate, touch keys properly, etc. If you think you have problems, Ms. Johnson has 24 kids on every Monday from three different schools who are using three different books who are literally at 24 different levels of proficiency.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS - (Metal) Mr. Bell's young people have

learned shop safety first of all, seen slides of projects completed by other classes, and can you believe, finished a cookie sheet already. These little tykes are all 5th and 6th graders!

CHEM/PHYSICS- Very interesting class. I've been down a number of times and each visit the youngsters are involved. I must confess my ignorance as to the nature of the experiments, but experiment they do. Oh yes, I can recall one-this is when they were using the Geiger counter to measure radio activity in the air. Do I have that right, Mr. Wright?

RUSSIAN- Learning the written symbol is being stressed in the Russian class. Also, correct pronunciation. Mr. Sasonoff also uses flash cards for drill.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING- Among other activities, these youngsters have been deciphering messages using computer cards (oh, they have to discover a very definite code). Also, they have been doing computer problems at the board and individually at their desks. A field trip is in the planning stages, too, reports Mr. Fredrickson.

HOME & FAMILY LIFE- Young people have been learning how to discover and handle their "personal feelings". They have done this through discussion in pairs, a somewhat larger group (4-6) and then sharing with the class. They are also involved in stitchery--making their astrological sign on burlap. Is this another way to "cope" with feelings, Bonnie?

HERITAGE- Class has been discussing people they wish to interview--senior citizens among others, in order to learn more about their past heritage in their particular ethnic group. Other questions they'd like to get some answers to, include (How did your family happen to be in Seattle?) Mr. Pearson also has the youngsters to keep a log of important events that have significance to each youngster that especially related to their particular culture and heritage.

CRAFTS- Busy hands making sculpture, is what I observed when I visited Ms. Hartley's crafts class. The youngsters certainly get a chance to be creative in this class. You could see that each sculpture took on an individual expression. **SPANISH-** Numbers was the name of the game in this class when I observed Mr. Amorteguy's youngsters being taught by a very able teacher assistant. **THEY WERE LEARNING** how to spell as well as pronounce 100 - 500 in Espanol of course!

PIANO- Have popped in and out of Piano class, and Mr. Bebel has the kids plunking away.

GAS ENGINES- Mr. Harding has explained safety rules for this particular class. Youngsters are learning parts of a 2 cycle gas engine, how it runs, how to take care of it, etc. There is even a girl in the class who seems to be 100% (taking care of gas engine business). They are all enthusiastic.

ONIONS to me--for I have not as yet visited the Oriental Foods and Black Literature classes. I'm ashamed, but I promise to visit soon. Ms. Tsuboi and Mr. Fleming, I know you are doing a fine job, however. Also, I've not had a real visit in Linda Roman's French class. But, I understand there is very much learning taking place.

Project Bridge, under the direction of Ramona Hildreth, is funded through Title VII (Emergency School Aid Act). Approximately 300 students are currently being served and the program provides its own transportation for classes and special field trips. Additional information will be provided concerned citizens by calling 587-4346.

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP AT IMMACULATE

The seniors at Immaculate High School benefited from an employment workshop sponsored by the Washington State Employment Security from March 17-21. The workshop, which was in session from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day, was designed and conducted by INTERACTION, a Wash-

ington State nonprofit corporation.

The workshop taught tools of employment such as resume preparation, interview techniques, where to look for work, how to sell your skills, values assessment, interest determination, and job-market education.

GREEK LETTER BEAUTICIANS

Greek letter Beauticians will worship with the First A.M.E. Church, Sunday, March 16, 1975 at 10:45 a.m. Service.

Our National Project is the Bethume Cookman College and Mary McLeod

Bethume Foundation.

Our National Convention will be in Nashville, Tenn., March 31 to April 4, 1975.

Our Western Regional Conference will be June 28 to June 30, 1975 in Phoenix, Arizona.



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