

Fall 2023

Whatever happened to textbooks?

Connecting families to the LCS curriculum

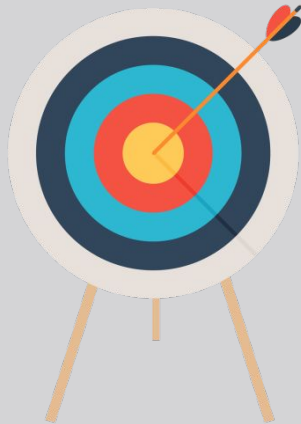


LANSING CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

Jamie Wernet
Director of Learning and
High School
Mathematics teacher



Our learning target



I can explain what curriculum means, how it is designed at LCS, and roles of the Board, administrators, and teachers.

Outline

- 1) What do we mean by *curriculum*?
- 2) The foundations and pillars of the LCS curriculum
- 3) Curricular materials
- 4) Teacher design



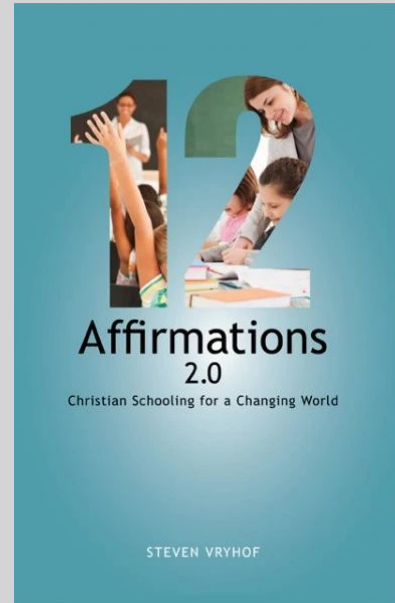
Defining curriculum

The learning objectives planned by the school to support the mission and vision.

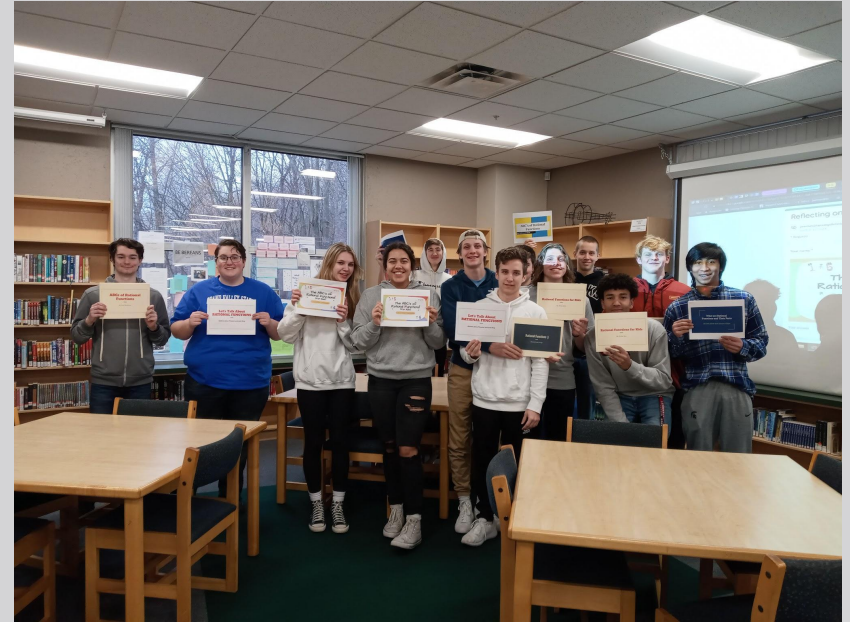
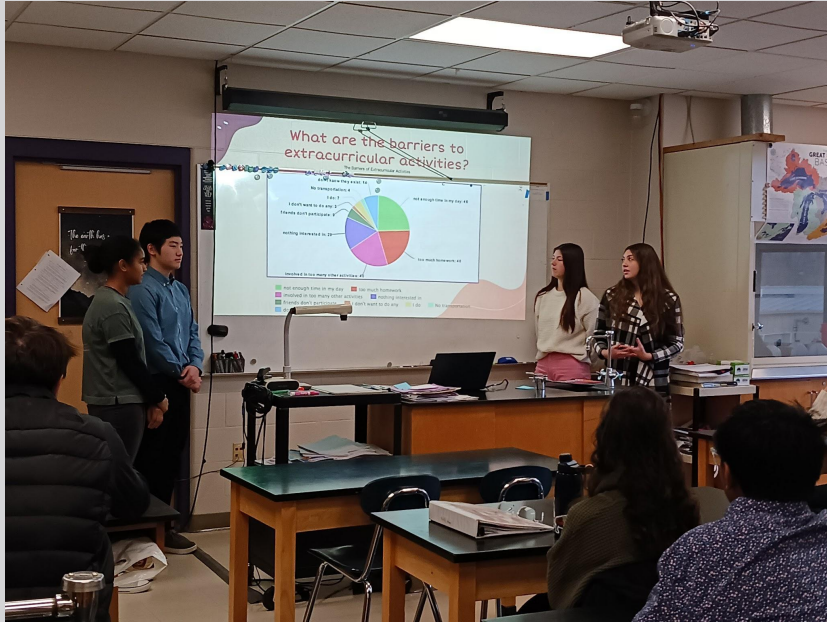
“...the purposeful influences that will shape the students’ understanding and skills” (Stob, p. 137)

Defining curriculum

“The work of Christian Schooling is to craft curriculum as **“a journey toward wisdom”** in which the formation of a way of life is more important than the accumulation of information” (Vryhof, p. 48).



How is curriculum designed?



LCS Mission and Vision, Philosophy,
Core Curricular Biblical Principles,
and other foundational beliefs

State or National
Standards

Faith Integration

Selection of Primary
Materials
(e.g., textbooks, activities, literature)

Teacher experience and
expertise

Lesson Design

Why Standards?

State or National Standards

Provide the backbone of a **scope and sequence** for each content area, help ensures appropriate rigor and learning trajectory

- Example of LCS Standards: Common Core for ELA and Math, NextGen Science Standards, Michigan Standards for Social Studies
- [A helpful resource on the background of standards in education](#)
- [CSI report on standards early after CCSS were released - align or adopt? - by Jeff Blamer](#)

Standards vs. Learning Targets

Learning Targets

“I can” statements

Based on standards

Usually written by teachers or departments

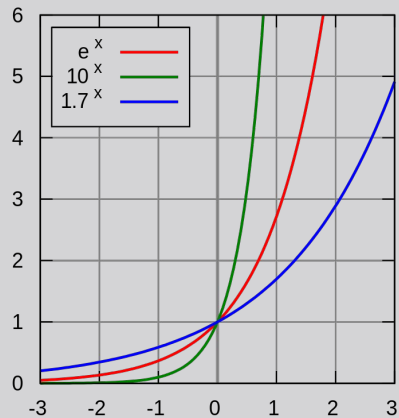
Intended to be used by students, in student- and family-friendly language.

Clearly articulating these and sharing them with the community will be part of our curriculum mapping this year.

Standards vs. Learning Targets

F-LE-1 (c): Recognize situations in which a quantity grows or decays by a constant percent rate per unit interval relative to another.

I can distinguish between and graph exponential growth and decay functions



Aligning with Mission, Vision, and Core Biblical Principles

Faith Integration



Our unique offering among public/secular independent schools

- Biblical story of Creation - Fall-Redemption - Restoration
- Asking: How does this course or topic help students see the biblical story and live out their role?
- Discipleship practices (Habits of Living)

Teaching for Transformation framework through the Center for the Advancement of Christian Education

Selecting primary curricular materials

**Textbooks,
activities,
literature, and
other materials**

- Department meetings quarterly
- Annual review each spring
- Departments conduct deep-dive review every **five years**

Selecting primary curricular materials

**Textbooks,
activities,
literature, and
other materials**

- Alignment with standards (scope and sequence)
- Comprehensive
- Effective (What Works Clearinghouse, etc.)
- User-friendly, age-appropriate
- Aligns with instruction that promotes **Schoolwide Learner Goals**
- Alignment with relevant LCS policies

Schoolwide Learner Goals/Habits of Learning

- Proficiency in foundational knowledge
- Habits of Learning: Curiosity, Problem Solving, Innovative Design, Persistence, Purposeful Collaboration, Effective Communication
- Empathy toward others
- Recognition of our role in God's story

[\(Habits of Learning, SWLGs with descriptions\)](#)



CURIOSITY

Learners ask questions and approach God's world with wonder.



PROBLEM SOLVING

Learners find solutions through creative and critical thinking.



INNOVATIVE DESIGN

Learners use what they learn to meet real needs in our community.



PERSISTENCE

Learners meet challenges with a focus on resilience and growth.



EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION

Learners work together toward shared goals in and out of the classroom.



GRACIOUS COMMUNICATION

Learners develop strong listening skills and the ability to communicate ideas orally and in writing.

LCS Habits of Learning

Daily Lesson Planning

Teacher design

Within this structure and consistent with these pillars -

- LCS Mission, Vision, Statement of Faith, etc.
- Standards
- Faith integration framework
- Schoolwide Learner Goals
- Materials selected by departments

- teachers design lessons focused on learning targets rooted in their teaching style, expertise, and experience

Living Curriculum

(LCS teachers and lesson design)

LCS

Mission, Vision, Core Values, Foundational Commitments, Policies

Knowledge and Experiences

Christian Walk/Church, Life Experiences, Passion for Teaching, Knowledge of students and student learning needs

Education

University Degree, Teaching Certifications, Professional Development

What does it look like when standards and faith integration meet teacher experience and expertise?

If you don't go to Olive Garden you are missing out on everything.

New Graphic Organizer, Paper Option

Olive Garden _____
Fiona G. _____
2-3-21 _____

Olive Garden
extrodinary

Beginning:
(background/opinion) If you like Italian food then listen carefully. If you want it then Olive Garden is the place to go. My regular order is there very very good spaghetti and meat balls. I also get sprite and grapes. The location that we go there is Okemos Michigan. My sister said she loves it we also love the breadsticks. When you walk in you can smell every thing. My grandma said they have good dip and bread slices. Because she likes it so much. It really helps me write this review.

also

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Teaching *for*
TRANSFORMATION

2nd Grade

FLEX PROJECT

Restaurant Reviews

Writing Project

Real Work for Real People to Meet Real Needs



Deep Hope:

Our Journey:
Using our
learning as an
opportunity to
serve God.





Curricular Outcomes:

CCSS ELA W2.1

Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

- The 2nd Grade MAISA Writing Curriculum focused this opinion writing standard around “writing reviews”.
- Using mentor texts, develop opinions on personal interests, plan, research, and rehearse opinions, write in compelling ways to convince an audience, revise and edit, go public to make an impact

CCSS ELA W2.5

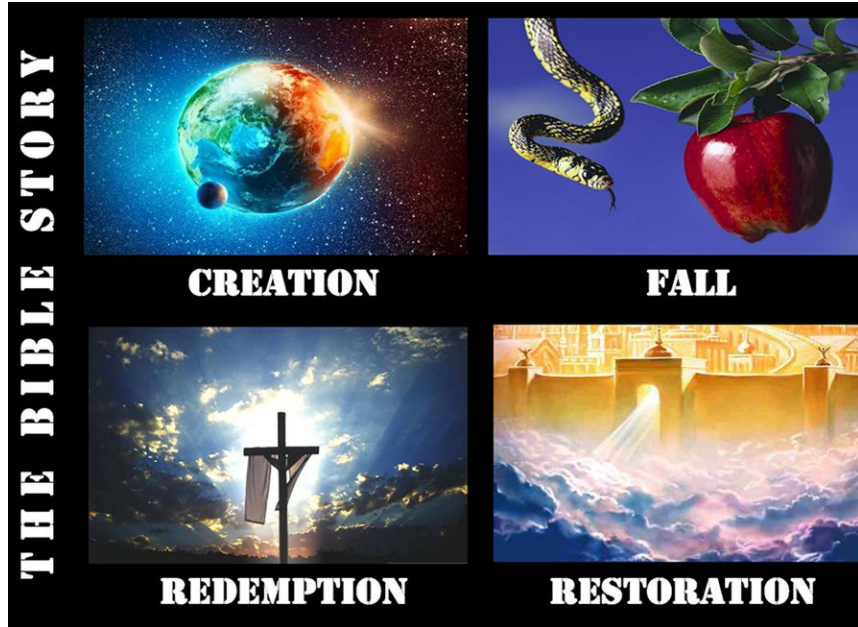
With guidance and support from adults and peers, focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing.

CCSS ELA W2.6

With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing.

- Technology Standards: Using Digital Presentation Tools (Publisher Quick Templates)

See God's Story:



The students saw this learning opportunity as a way to play a part in God's story of restoration. We saw the brokenness in a part of our world and worked to bring wholeness and healing to these people and their situations in a practical way. We did this by writing restaurant reviews that could encourage others to visit their businesses but also to come alongside of and show godly love, support, and care for God's people who are experiencing struggle.



Habit(s) of Living:



Servant Working

Students' work served to help heal the brokenness that restaurant workers are experiencing in the midst of the pandemic.

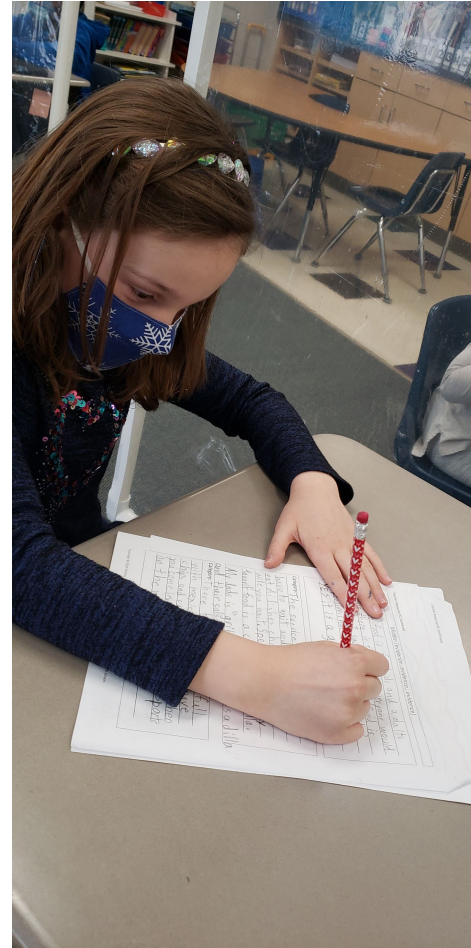
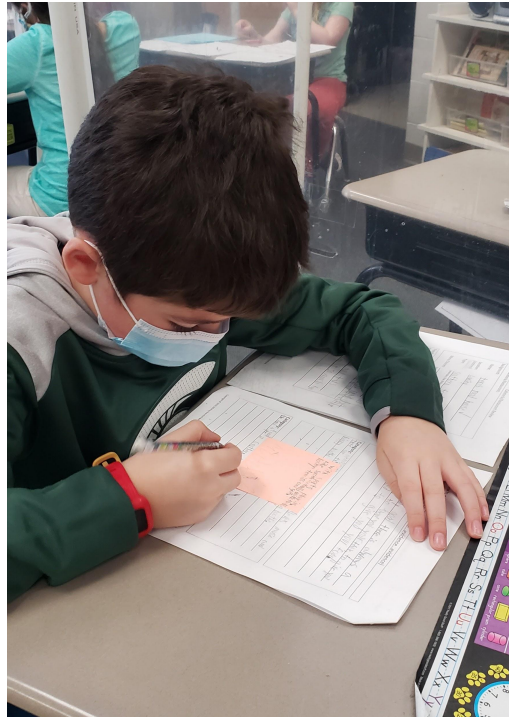
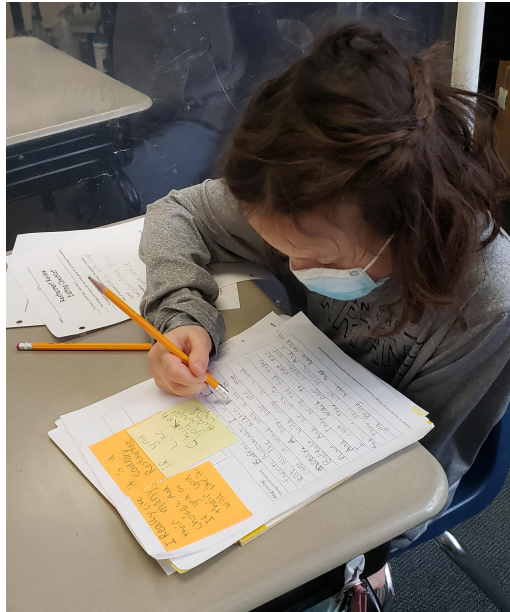


Community Building

Students' work served to build support and a sense of community with workers in our city.



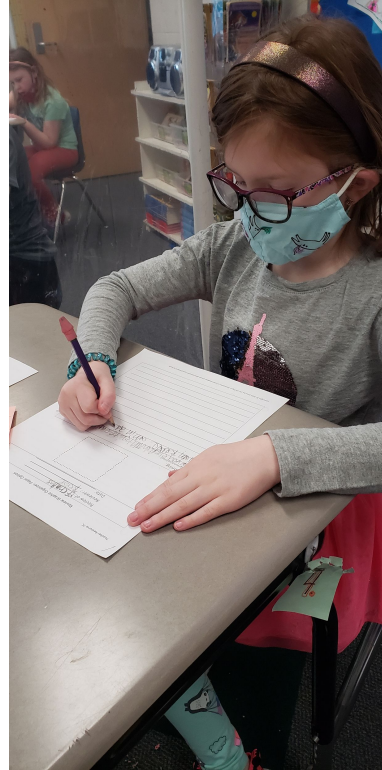
Writers at Work





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Interview
others, cite
direct quotes
to strengthen
personal
opinion.



Name RR Reese Date 2/3/2021

Restaurant Review

Interview Questions

Restaurant being reviewed PF Changs

Person being interviewed Daddy

Interview Questions:

1. Why do you like this restaurant? Please explain with details.
I really enjoy the restaurant because of the good food, family atmosphere and the fact that its close to home.
2. What is your favorite experience at this restaurant?
Every PF Changs has a white cat who is waving at you hidden someplace in the restaurant. I really enjoy trying to find this cat with my daughter.
3. Would you recommend this restaurant? Why?
I would certainly recommend this restaurant because of its fun atmosphere, excellent food, and its all around experience.



Name Emma G. Date 2-18-21

Restaurant Review Editing Checklist

- You have a catchy lead. Lead type is "Strong lead"
- You included your opinion and the strong words that will persuade the audience.
- You support your opinion with reasons.
- You have included information about the restaurant including:

Name of Restaurant

Location

Food

Atmosphere

Service

Price

Audience

- You added your overall experience.
- You checked to be sure your sentences make sense.
- You checked to be sure you used capitals and end marks in your sentences.
- You have at least one quote from another person to support your opinion.
- You used linking words or phrases. (circle or list them)
- You have a title for your review.
- You have a strong ending. Ending type is "states knowledge"

ew Graphic Organizer, Paper Option

Olive Garden _____
Emma G. _____
2-3-21 _____



Olive Garden
extrodanarc

If you don't go to Olive Garden you are missing out on every-thing.

Beginning:
(background/opinion)

If you like Italian food then listen carefully. If you want it then... Olive Garden is the place to go! My regular order is there very very good spaghetti and meat balls! I also get sprite and grapes. The location that we go there is Okemos Michigan. My sister said she loves it We also love the bread sticks. When you walk in you can smell every thing. My grandma said "They have good dip and bread sticks." Because she likes it so much... It really helps me write this review.

also



Teaching *for* TRANSFORMATION



Olive Garden Restaurant Review

If you like Italian food, then listen carefully! If you want it, then... Olive Garden in Okemos, Michigan is the place to go! When you walk in the doors, you can smell everything. It smells amazing. They play relaxing music while you wait to order.

My regular order is their amazing spaghetti and meatballs. You have to try it! The meat and the sauce go so well together with the pasta. You can taste all of the flavors. I also get sprite to drink and grapes as my side dish. Olive Garden is a great family restaurant. My sister says, "I love it." My grandma also loves to eat there. She says, "They have good dip and breadsticks." My grandma used to go on dates with my grandpa to this restaurant when they were young. My grandma is right! Olive Garden has the most amazing breadsticks and they give them to you for free with a salad that is my favorite salad in the whole world. If you don't try the salad and breadsticks, you will be sorry.

You really need to try Olive Garden. If you don't, you are missing out on delicious breadsticks, salad, spaghetti and meatballs, and even cake for your birthday. Over-all, I would absolutely, positively give Olive Garden a five out of five star review!

Review by: Emma



Culver's Restaurant Review

Is your family looking for a restaurant that everyone will love? I recommend you try Culvers in Lansing, Michigan. I am telling you that it has amazing food. My mom and dad always get the burgers. My mom says, "The burgers are cooked to perfection!" My mom orders the deluxe kind and shares the onion with my dad. My brother and I like to order the corndog, fries, and chocolate milk kid's meal. It comes with a scoop of frozen custard. My mom thinks, "The ice cream is creamy and delicious." I agree!

When you walk into Culvers, you quickly order your food. You walk to a cozy booth where you would like to eat. The service is nice. A worker brings you your food. The price also isn't too bad. You can choose to order your food through the drive through too. It takes about 20 minutes because they make your food fresh. When you order your food inside, the wait seems shorter, maybe about 8 minutes.

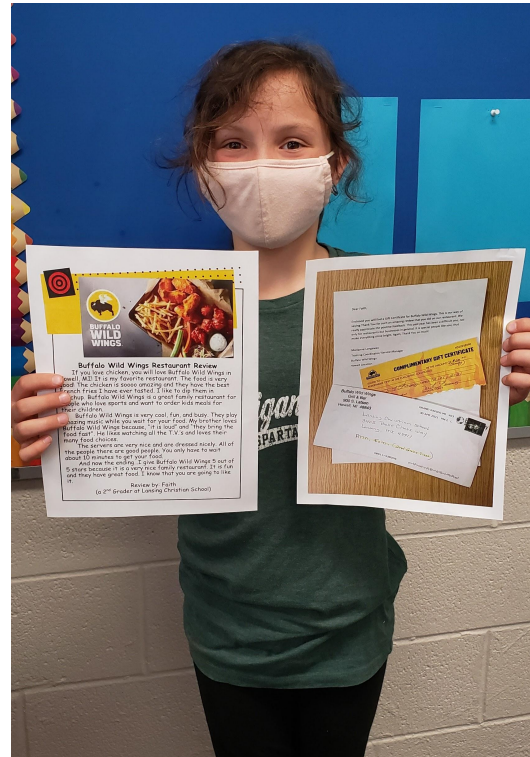
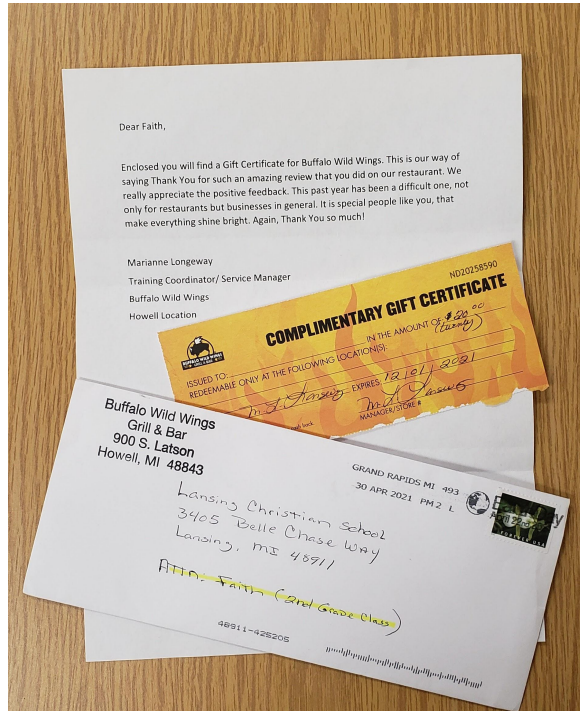
I recommend you try Culvers soon! I give this restaurant five out of five stars!

Review by: Rosalee



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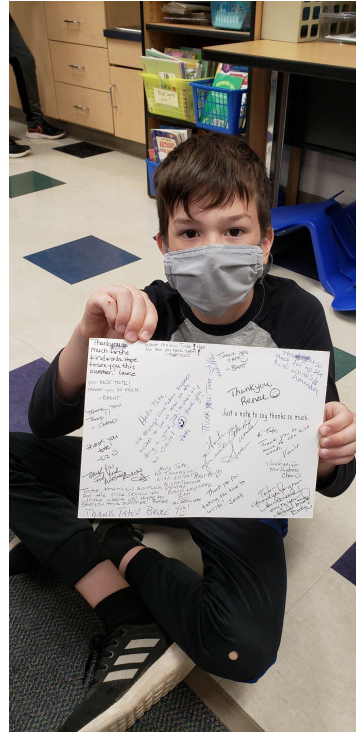
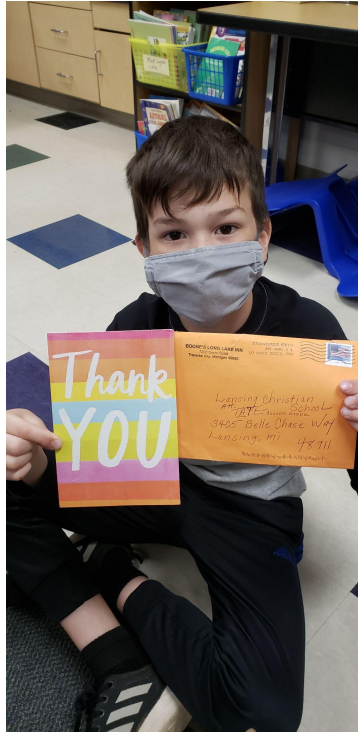
Community Impact:





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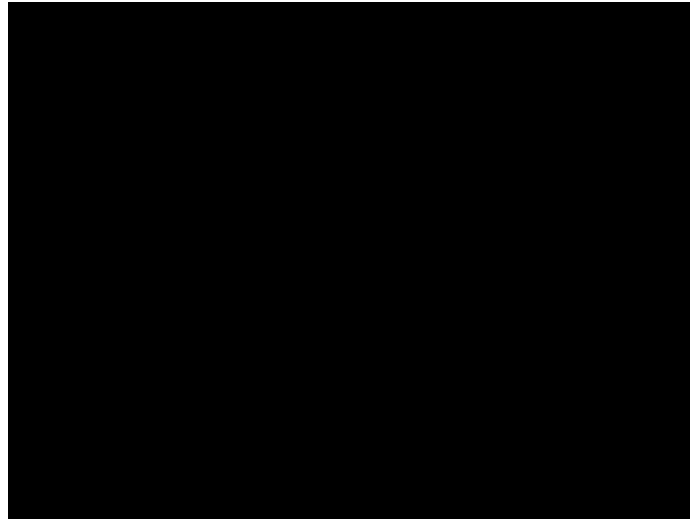
Community Impact:





Teaching *for*
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Embrace Your Journey
Student Created
Restaurant Review Story and Reflection



10th-grade English and Biology - Water Project

Deep Hope: That we can hear the heavens, join the heavens, and bring Heaven.



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SCHOOL

World Vision



10th-grade English and Biology - Water Project

Curricular Outcomes:

HS-ESS3-3 Illustrate the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.

HS-ETS1-1 Analyze a major global challenge to specify qualitative and quantitative criteria and constraints for solutions that account for societal needs and wants.

HS-ETS1-3 Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, reliability, and aesthetics, as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts.



LANSING CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

World Vision









Overview of goals to accomplish for ELA

- World Vision Write-Up
- Visual Project
 - Final Visual to distribute (Fliers, posters, brochure, videos, etc.)
 - Final videos edited and ready to be shared
- Written Project
 - Speech/presentation script
- Homeroom Water Jug Sign

Overview of goals to accomplish in Bio

- Research Facts for Lit Project
- Products to sell/Designs finished
 - T-shirt
 - Button
 - Water bottle
 - Etc....

LCS Mission and Vision, Philosophy,
Core Curricular Biblical Principles,
and other foundational beliefs

State or National
Standards

Faith Integration

Selection of Primary
Materials
(e.g., textbooks, activities, literature)

Teacher experience and
expertise

Lesson Design