



Principal's Message

Dear Henry Ford Academy: Elementary School Families,

Happy New Year! It is exciting to see the great energy and focus of our entire community. This month students will take the MAP test. Students will be assessed in both reading proficiency and math. The MAP testing window began on January 12th. It is very important that students are rested and at school everyday. This measurement helps us identify student academic growth.

Students will also begin work on their second Design Challenge this month. Teachers and scholars did an amazing job with the last challenge. We look forward to our scholars' continued success and creativity.

Our Scholars did a phenomenal job with both artwork and writing submissions for our Second Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Writing Contest. Special thanks to our Parents As Partners group and our CDC partners. Ms. Brott and Ms. Hyduk also worked extremely hard with students on their artwork and presentations. Special thanks to Mr. Lemons and the Mentoring through Music Program.

Cold Season: Winter has arrived in Michigan! Please make sure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately. It is also important that our scholars practice regular hand washing. This is one of our worst flu seasons. If your child is sick please seek medical care to determine when it is appropriate for your child to return to school.

Sincerely,
Seth Petty Sr., M. Ed.
Principal

Important Dates

- **January 12th: Winter MAP Testing Begins**
- **January 19th: NO SCHOOL (MLK Day)**
- **January 20th: After School Program Sign-Up**
- **January 27th: Start of After School Programs**
- **January 30th: NO SCHOOL for Students (PD for Staff)**

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Please Note

We are now accepting applications from new students for Fall 2015!

District News

Creativity. College. Career.
It all starts here!

Henry Ford Academy: Elementary School is **now accepting applications from new students for Fall 2015 school year**. Visit the Admissions section of our web site - www.hfaelementary.org - to apply.

Our aligned middle/high school, Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies is also accepting for the 2015-2016 school year from new students entering grades 6-11! Apply online at www.schoolforcreativestudies.org or visit the school for an application. (Current HFA: Elementary School 5th graders are guaranteed enrollment at HFA: SCS and will be asked to complete an Intent to Transition form.)

Deadline for open enrollment and sibling priority for both schools is March 20, 2015.

Please encourage your friends, family members, and co-workers to choose a Henry Ford Academy for their children.



HFA: SCS Student Artists Featured at MOCAD

On January 9th HFA: SCS high school students and MOCAD Teen Council Members Naomi Cook, Kidane Jhons, Izora Roach presented an exhibition of art produced while under the tutelage of artistic mentors. Each Teen Council member has been paired with a creative professional, who through workshops, talks, and individual critiques, helped to



Artwork by Kidane Jhons, Untitled, 88" x 30", Mixed Media



After School Spotlight

This month HFA: Elementary School would like to highlight the numerous after school programs currently underway following dismissal at 4pm. The multiple programs help to diversify the curriculum offered within the school walls and expose the students to new learning opportunities often not presented throughout the traditional school day. If your child was unable to attend one for the first half of the academic year, consider enrolling them in a program at our upcoming meeting Tuesday, January 20th.

Art Club

Art Club is a project-based club that will be hosted Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. The club will run from 4:30pm - 5:25pm with pick-up no later than 5:30pm. In the Fall, students learned about art from different cultures and created fantastic pieces! They participated in projects such as stained glass, Native American rain sticks, and leaf rubbings.

This Winter and Spring is going to be even more exciting in Art Club! Students will continue to learn and create art through sculpture, photography, mural creation, and recycled art.

They will also go on field trips within our community and participate in an in-school field trip with a local pottery shop.
- Ms. Brott and Ms. Hyduk



SustainEd

SustainEd is an after school program dedicated to engaging scholars in grades 2nd through 5th with hands-on activities related to the STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) with a sustainability emphasis.

This past semester SustainEd focused on educating students about the adverse affects of excess waste as well as making them aware of the benefits of reducing, reusing and recycling. Additionally the scholars studied concepts related to physics and engineering, including testing the affects of friction, examining the affects of wind resistance and gravity on various

falling objects, and striving to build a tower that could support a marshmallow using only tape, spaghetti noodles, and rope. To expand the club beyond the school walls, SustainEd organized monthly field trips to multiple venues in the area. Over the past two years SustainEd has visited the Michigan Science Center, the Hands-On Museum, Eastern Market, and the Recycling Center, among others. As we move into 2015, we look forward to another exciting semester of SustainEd to come!

- Ms. Landrum and Mr. Jubert





After School Spotlight

Mentoring Through Music

The Mentoring Through Music Program is a unique after-school experience that brings in professional musicians, writers, and leaders in the community to inspire and empower our black boys (grades 2-5) artistically and socially. The young scholars in our program have the opportunity to explore creative writing through poetry and rap, study the fundamentals of piano, practice various rudiments of percussion, and discover the basics of being a Disc Jockey (DJ). In the process, students are mentored in various socio-emotional skills such as: discipline, self-control, and cooperative learning.

This past semester, the students worked hard to prepare for their performance at this year's HFA: Elementary School MLK Day celebration program. As we progress throughout the year, the students in Mentoring Through Music will be able to explore more instruments of their choice such as guitar, and bass, all the while working to discipline themselves to prepare for additional performances throughout the school year. We're really excited about all that the rest of this year will bring, and all that our young scholars will experience and produce.

- Mr. Lemons & the Mentoring Through Music Mentors



Central Detroit Christian

CDC continues its generous support, providing enriching experiences for HFA: Elementary School scholars beyond the learning studio. Throughout the first half of the academic year the CDC facilitators led our scholars within the programs of dance, drama, vocals, and set design. Their efforts culminated this past December in a Winter production titled *Nana's Christmas Story*.

In the second half of the year, the organization will once again be supporting our students in the same vast array of activities. Beyond supporting our students with enriching events, we are also very thankful for the wholesome snack the CDC makes available to each scholar enrolled in an after school program.

