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White - All Schools
Red - Seneca Nation Education Department
Green - Lake Shore Central
Blue - Gowanda Central
Gold - Silver Creek
Silver Creek JOM Students Travel to the Middle School Youth Summit

Jamie Wallschlaeger

On October 18th Miss Snyder (Title VII) and I took 6 of the JOM students from Silver Creek Middle School over to the CCC to enjoy the middle school Youth Summit. Lakeshore, Gowanda, and Salamanca middle school students were also in attendance. The Youth Summit’s mission is to empower students to focus on their future by identifying and promoting involvement and positive decision making. During this event, students participated in educational activities related to health, wellness, fitness, and behavioral health. There were presentations on healthy food/drink choices, positive self-esteem, and drugs/alcohol. Students were engaged the whole time and they found the presentations to be very informative. If you see them in the community or in your school, please ask them about this event! The Youth Summit was from 9:00am to 1:30pm.

Lastly, I would like to thank the SN Department of Education for preparing the DELICIOUS lunch and setting the event up for us at the CCC. It would not have been a success without their helping hands. I would also like to thank the CCC staff for allowing us to use their facility and to all of the presenters for being a great influence on our future leaders! You guys and gals are the best.
WELCOME, TRISTIN HAGEMAN

Hello, my name is Tristin Hageman and I am excited to be the new AASP/JOM teacher at Gowanda Middle School (Go Panthers!!!). In case anyone was wondering, I grew up on the Cattaraugus Reservation and graduated from Gowanda high school in 2000. I currently live in Collins, NY with my husband, 2 daughters, and 2 dogs. I worked for the Seneca Nation Head Start program for 8 years before I decided to go back to SUNY Fredonia. I just recently graduated from SUNY Fredonia with my bachelor's degree in Middle School Math Education.

I was hired by the Seneca Nation just in time to attend the Middle School Youth Summit which was held at the Cattaraugus Community Center. We were able to take 21 students along to participate in workshops that dealt with important topics such as: diabetes education, wellness and self-esteem, and the effects of drugs and alcohol. The students did awesome during this field trip and represented Gowanda well.

I am eager to get to know the students here at Gowanda middle school and I am excited to be a part of this program. I am looking forward to a great school year.
Silver Creek High School students are busy getting ready for our November events including recognizing Rock Your Moccs week, November 16th-18th, and hosting the Language Department for a school-wide social. In preparation, AIYO members are making posters and spreading the word about the upcoming events. In addition, Sam Jacobs came and demonstrated to the Haudenosaunee Studies class how to make moccasins.

Submitted by Charity Hill & Aimee Sleeth
Silver Creek Elementary goes orange for UNITY day!

On October 19th, 2016 the Silver Creek Elementary School went orange to support anti-bullying! The students were encouraged to wear orange clothing to show their support of the campaign! Some of the students who participate in the JOM morning homework help club chose to write positive messages on orange paper and hang them on each teacher’s door throughout the building. The students wrote things such as; You are all smart, you are all nice, we are so happy that you are here today. The students then walked around the building and hung them on the doors. All of the teachers and students were so excited to see the positive message to begin their day! The students were also challenged to go out of their way to give 3 people a nice compliment throughout the day.

Jessica Johnson
Ace Club recently participated in Lake Shore’s Homecoming Parade. The theme this year was “May all your dreams come true” so each group had to select a Disney movie. Ace Club built a great float based on the movie *Lilo and Stitch*! Ace Club members spent the week crafting Hawaiian decorations and gathering supplies for costumes. You guys did a great job, so proud of you and your involvement in the school community! Special thanks to Charlie Scanlan for letting us use the wagon and driving and Renee Quinn-Perez for all the supplies and amazing movie character drawings!! We could not have done it without your help!

Ace Club *Lilo and Stitch* Homecoming float

Jillian Schmitt
Activities in Full Swing at Gowanda High School!

The students in the Gowanda High School are such great role models for the surrounding community. There are students participating in football, volleyball, cross country, pep band, the musical, and other various extracurricular activities offered in Gowanda. The leadership class, student council, yearbook, school newspaper, and media production class (morning announcements) are also enjoyed by many of Gowanda students. Seeing the production and extra effort put forth by these students every day is very inspiring. After the last bell rings, these students head to other activities and events. On top of everything else, the students are also excelling in the classroom! Grades are high and attendance is mandatory. These scholar participants are great examples for the younger children in the community to look up to. Schedules of activities can be found on the Gowanda School website. As always, go Panthers!

Melanie Schott
The Seneca Nation Education Department’s AASP/JOM program sponsored another successful Elementary Youth Summit on October 11th at the CCC. Students in grades 3-5 participated in events designed to empower students to focus on their future by identifying and promoting involvement and positive decision making. Students participated in educational activities related to health, wellness, fitness, behavioral health and traditional social dancing. Dr. Alex from the dental unit taught the kids about proper brushing, limiting sugary snacks and how to dress as a dental professional! Students then made healthy fruit kabobs before heading to the gym. We were fortunate to have the assistance of the CCC staff in planning and implementing four fun fitness stations. We ate grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup for lunch prepared by the Education Department’s admin staff. Following lunch, Heather Ward and Sunday John, from the Behavioral Health Unit did an activity to build self-esteem. We ended the day with a social under the supervision of singers and dancers from the Language Department.

We’d like to thank Gowanda, Lake Shore, and Silver Creek School Districts for transporting students to and from the summit. We appreciate the support and involvement of the Title VII staff from all three districts, Caroline Young, Nancy Klemens, and Caitlyn Snyder. We are grateful for the Dental Health unit, the Behavioral Health unit, and the Language Department for contributing to a successful event for our students. Special thanks for the use of the CCC and the participation of the CCC staff.

Faith Stewart
AASP/JOM Teacher
3rd Annual Youth Summit

On Tuesday October 18th, 2016 the Seneca Nation Education Department hosted the 3rd annual Middle School Youth Summit. Students from Salamanca, Gowanda, Lake Shore, and Silver Creek were selected to attend this year’s event. This year’s theme was wellness with presenters from BHU – Self-esteem, Seneca Health – Diabetes awareness and Seneca Strong - addiction. The most powerful presentation, in my opinion, was the presentation from Seneca Strong. The two councilors for Seneca Strong set up a presentation about what Seneca Strong can do for people that are struggling with addiction. Two former addicts themselves, they shared many first hand stories of the struggles of addiction, what it finally took to get and stay clean and the supports that their programs can offer not only people struggling with addiction but their families. The day was finished out with fitness activities in the gym and a snack of yogurt and berries. The students had many great “take aways” from the event about how to make healthier decisions about food, fitness, social activities and their self-esteem. The topics were well received and I think they will open the doors for further conversations about these topics in the future for our students.

Lori Crassi from Seneca Health Unit and Lea Golden Gowanda’s Title VII coordinator demonstrating the impact of sugar in the digestive system during the Diabetes presentation at the Middle School Youth Summit.

Elizabeth Best-Laurie
Greetings,

I would like to introduce myself as a new member of the Seneca Nation Education Department. My name is Karielle Case, and I will be serving as the Native American School Counselor for the 2016-2017 school year.

As the Native American School Counselor, my main goal is to promote the academic and social development of all Native American students attending Lake Shore, Gowanda, and Silver Creek school districts.

I will be visiting schools to lead educational groups with Native American students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. These groups will cover topics relating to: college and career readiness, goal setting, decision making, and building self-esteem and positive support for one another. I look forward to offering support to the students, families, and community of the Seneca Nation.

Nya: wēh!

Karielle Case, LMSW
Nya:Wëh for Reading