

BLACK HISTORY MONTH!



Staff members show their spirit the day of Carr Lane VPA's Black History Program on February 28, 2024



CARR LANE NEWS & VIEWS!

March 2024

"Home of the Carr Lane VPA Jaguars"

No. 25

RESET IN THE THEATER!



We're getting a bit ahead of the story! Let's go all the way back to the very first day of school following the Winter Break. It was Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Principal Young and the administration called each grade level for a separate "Reset Meeting." He reminded students of Carr Lane VPA rules and expectations, and encouraged everyone to cooperate and work hard in their classes over the coming weeks. Pictured here: 7th Grade!



If you notice some people working at the foot of the Carr Lane stage behind Principal Young, they are workers who spent long hours renovating the Carr Lane VPA Auditorium. They made electrical upgrades, installed a modern sound board, speakers and projection system. With these improvements, Carr Lane VPA Theater remains a "jewel" among St. Louis Public School facilities.



6th graders listen attentively during their Reset Meeting before moving on to their afternoon Arts Classes.

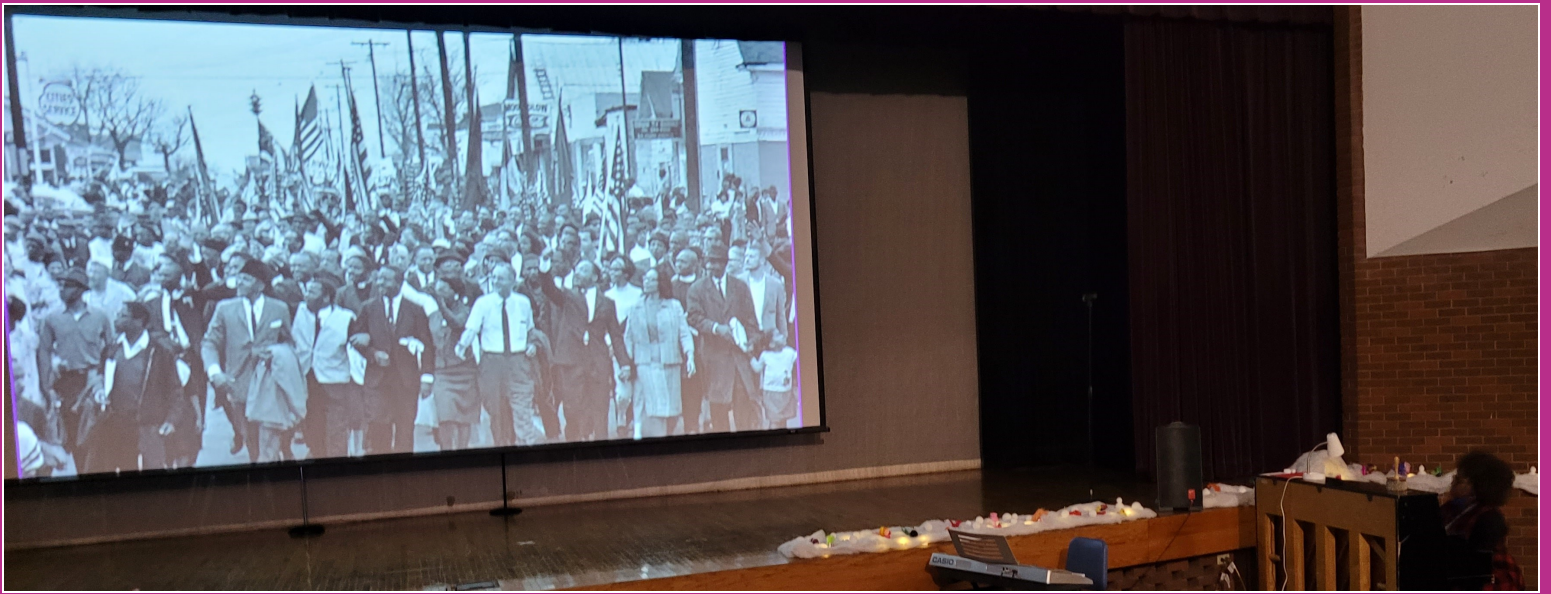
WINTER SHOW!



Worth the wait! The Carr Lane VPA Winter Show was delayed as SLPS labored to renovate and further modernize the Carr Lane Theater. The performance date was moved from December 2023 to January 12, 2024. Here, Ms. M. Williams directs the Carr Lane Concert Choir for an audience of students, staff, parents, family and friends.



Mr. Walker conducts the Carr Lane Strings.



A tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from the computer classes accompanied on piano by Ms. Hill of Trio.



Ms. T. Parker's Dancers take the stage!



Carr Lane VPA Stage Crew. Unsung heroes of the Carr Lane Theater! It’s the “behind the scenes” Tech Crew! They change sets and risers, move pianos, draw curtains, run props, sound and lights out-of-sight. When they do their job right, they do so without the knowledge of the audience. Thanks to Mr. Tellis and Ms. T. Parker for assembling this team. Not pictured: videographers from computer class: Jayla Perkins, Jayke Hines and Tyme Henderson-Garner.



Herald to a month of celebration surrounding the unveiling of the new Technology Lab, The Traveling Blues Museum parked behind the building, and throughout the day, classroom by classroom, students filed through the amazing vehicle until every student had a chance to see.





Pristine and brand new, the Technology Lab on the 3rd floor is the generous gift of the St. Louis Blues and Stifel. Volunteers from the Stifel Community cleaned, painted and helped install this remarkable lab for Carr Lane students.



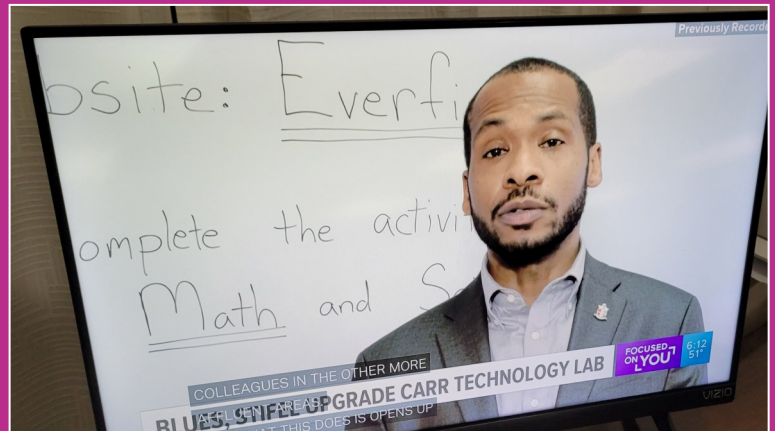
Everyone wanted a picture with “Louie,” the Blues’ marvelous mascot! *(Look out, Fred Bird!)*



The very first students take the lab for a “test drive” on Monday, January 29, 2024!



Representatives from the St. Louis Blues, Stifel, SLPS administration and local media assembled in Carr Lane’s recently renovated and updated theater to celebrate the building’s new Technology Lab!



Principal Young appeared on the evening news!

THE STL BLUES!

In anticipation of the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Blues/Stifel 3rd Floor Technology Lab, Ms. L. Williams' art students designed commemorative hockey pucks! Here are a just a few!



Purchase a hockey puck with a Carr Lane VPA art student design at the Blues' Gift Shop!



Award Winning T-Shirt Designers, 8th Grader Vanessa Grant and 7th Grader, Giani Hall display their designs (Vanessa's front, and Giani's back.) Vanessa and Giani took part in the school-wide T-Shirt Design competition sponsored by Carr Lane Art Teacher, Ms. L. Williams. Students and staff each got a shirt and wore them as a show of School Spirit and Unity as the St. Louis Community celebrated the Blues/Stifel Lab!



Black History Mural in the Carr Lane VPA Theater. This is only a portion of the wall-length mural that Ms. L. Williams and her students installed in the theater in celebration of Black History Month.

BLACK HISTORY SHOW!



Mr. Walker conducts the VPA strings featuring Denin Browder on cello and Ms. Hill on piano!



Part One of the Two-Part presentation on Black History from Computer Literacy. Special thanks to Demarie Jackson, Riley Smith, Charles Brown, Zoriona McLemore and Tyme Garner-Henderson.



The Carr Lane VPA Concert Choir under the direction of Ms. M. Williams



Accomplished drummer, Safety Officer James provides accompaniment for some traditional fashions!



Student Body Vice-President, 8th Grader Zakiyyah Woods, leads the audience in a rousing round of “Guess Who?”



Always a crowd-pleaser, the Carr Lane Dancers under the direction of Ms. T. Parker!



Bird's eye views from the "sound and light booth," high above the theater seats and the stage.



Here is more of the amazing mural created by students from Ms. L. Williams' art classes. These views were taken on the day of the Black History Show, moments before the official start of the program. Students, teachers, parents, and families were in attendance. A great time for the performers, the tech crew and members of the Related Arts Team!



SCHOOL-WIDE SPELLING BEE!



After months of preparation the moment had come: the school-wide spelling-bee! It was Thursday morning, January 25, 2024! The students represented in the photo had beaten the competition in their respective classrooms and grade levels and were assembled to face off to determine the top three spellers at Carr Lane VPA for 2023-2024!



There were hours of drill and practice. Ms. Hill of Trio helped Ms. Fenner, Ms. Cotton and Ms. Bailey. In the photo, right, Jayla Perkins of computer literacy interviews contestants in the days prior to the big event!



More training and more preparation! The students assembled with Carr Lane Reading specialist and Spelling -Bee coordinator, Ms. Fenner. Carr Lane Librarian, Ms. Cotton donated the library for the late-afternoon sessions. On the day of the Bee, the proceedings were live-streamed across the building. We were watching in Computer Literacy!



The real deal! Each student at the podium faced immediate elimination from competition.

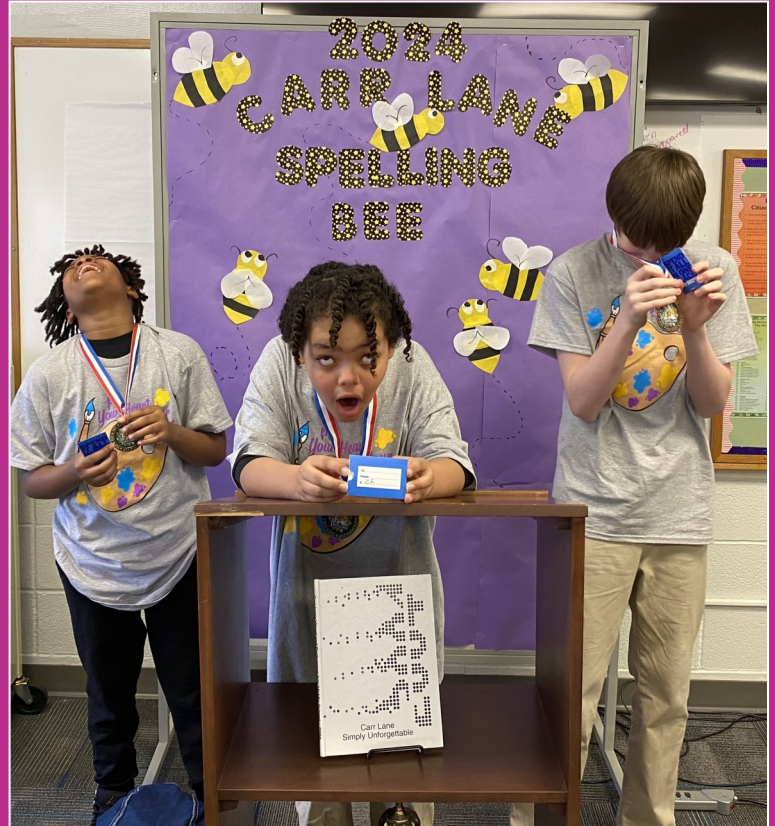
...and the winners are...



1st Place, Kolby Kimbrough, Grade 7 — 2nd Place, Zyan Paster, Grade 6 — 3rd Place, Jayke Hines, Grade 7



Closing rounds! Live-streamed across the building, these images were captured from the Promethean Board in Room 109. When 6th grader Zyan Paster misspelled “syllable,” it left 7th grader Kolby Kimbrough alone, in the lead. Kolby’s winning word was “terrify,” an apt and ironic word for all the dozens of spelling bee contestants who had to overcome a natural fear of “public speaking” and perform before an audience. A perfect challenge for VPA students!



On 2-26-24 Ms. Fenner wrote to the Carr Lane staff:

The St. Louis Regional Spelling Bee Qualifying event took place on Saturday, February 24, 2024.

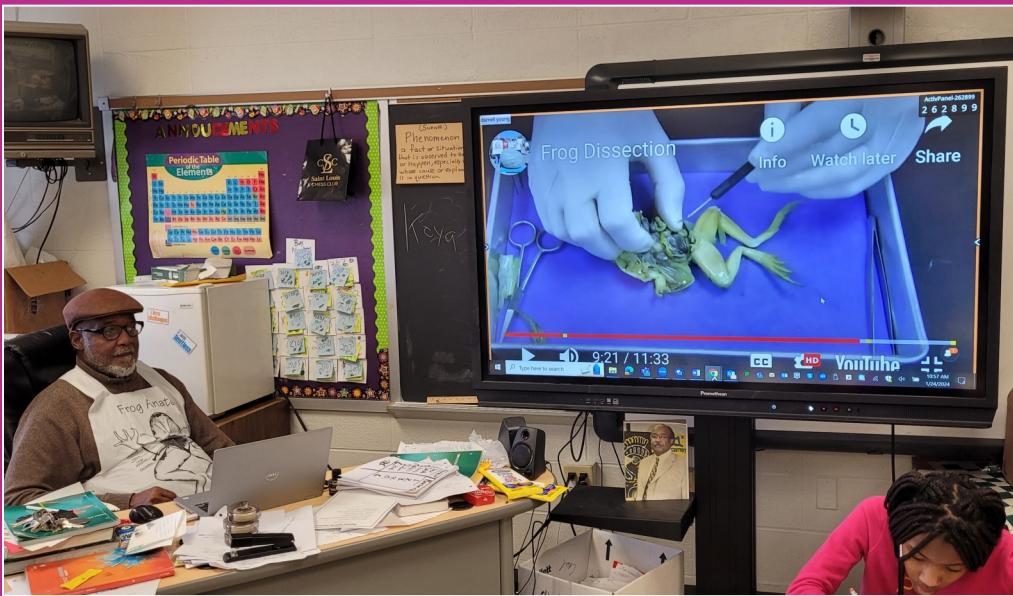
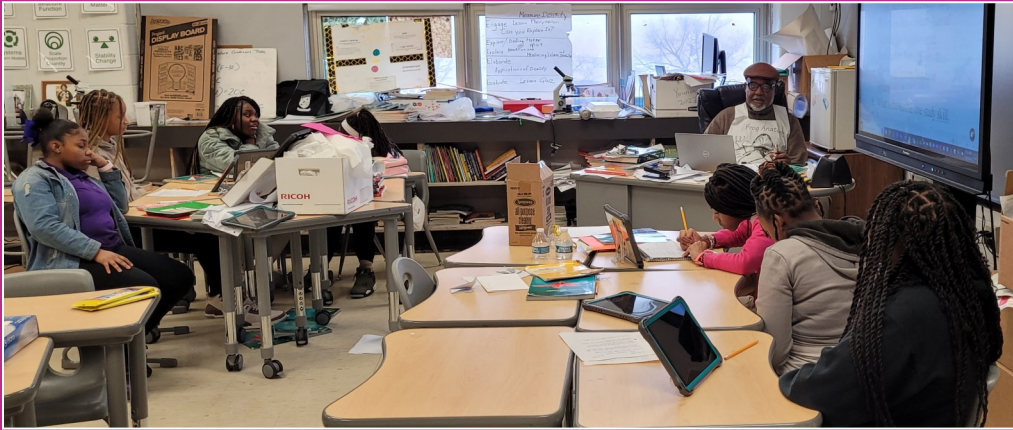
Our champion, Kolby Kimbrough, competed against 230 other area winners in a writing-based competition. Based on their responses, the top 30 (of the 230) were selected to move on to the next round. While Kolby did not qualify for the next level, we still want to congratulate him for all of his hard work and practice to prepare for this event! When you see him—give him some love! He represented our school well.

We’ll be back next year for our 2025 spelling bee! Thank you for all of your support with this year’s spelling bee.

Best,
Rachael

SCIENCE!

Want to be a medical doctor? After four years of college, think you might attend medical school? You might dissect a frog or two, but “dissection” won’t end with amphibians! Each year, veteran science teacher, Mr. Young introduces his 7th grade students to biology and anatomy, disciplines fundamental to careers in medicine and medical research.



Thanks to Jayla Perkins who video-taped the students dissecting the frogs in one of Mr. Young’s classes. The stills seen above were “screen grabbed” from her video files.

SCIENCE!



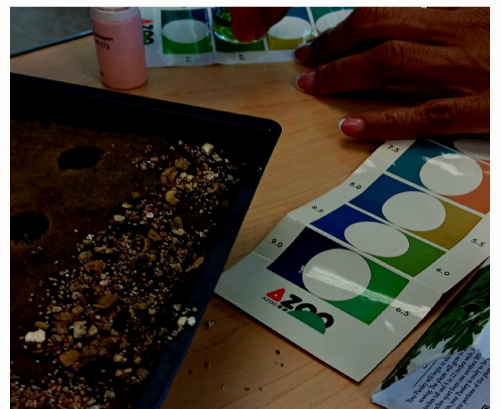
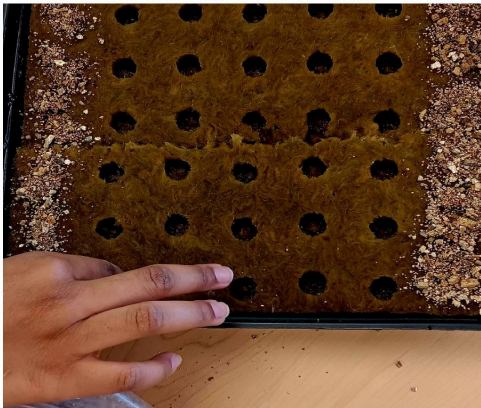
Meanwhile, in the world of Botany, 6th Grade ELA Teacher, Ms. Bennett, Art Teacher, Ms. L. Williams and Carr Lane Science Teachers have combined their love of gardening to offer students a unique afterschool Science Club!



The Science Club has developed community partnerships with:

Green St. Louis Machine/Mathew -Dickeys Boys and Girls Club donated a Tower Garden to our school where we are currently growing lettuce, kale, and herbs. This partner will provide curriculum and field trips with transportation specifically to the **Community Green Gala on 4/9/24 at Mathews-Dickey's Boys & Girls Club.**

Heru Urban Farms has adopted Carr Lane VPA as one of five schools they will serve with their USDA grant. They will assist us in updating our outside garden, provide us with cultural chefs, field trips/transportation to their garden spaces, and provide curriculum to support our student's health and nutrition education.





BOYS' TRACK



CROSS COUNTRY OUTDOORS LAST FALL



CROSS COUNTRY



BOYS' SOCCER



BOYS' BASKETBALL



BOYS' VOLLEYBALL



FLAG FOOTBALL



CHEERLEADERS



FLAGS



DRUMLINE



GIRLS' BASKETBALL



GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL



GIRLS' TRACK



POMS



SPIRIT SQUAD DANCERS

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES!

March 12-13, 2024



Ms. C. Williams and her team!





Ms. Shipp, 8th Grade Social Studies and Team Leader.



Mr. Fields, maestro of 8th Grade Math!



Mr. Walker, Strings.



Mr. Young, 7th Grade Science and Ms. Dickson, 7th Grade Mathematics and Team Leader.



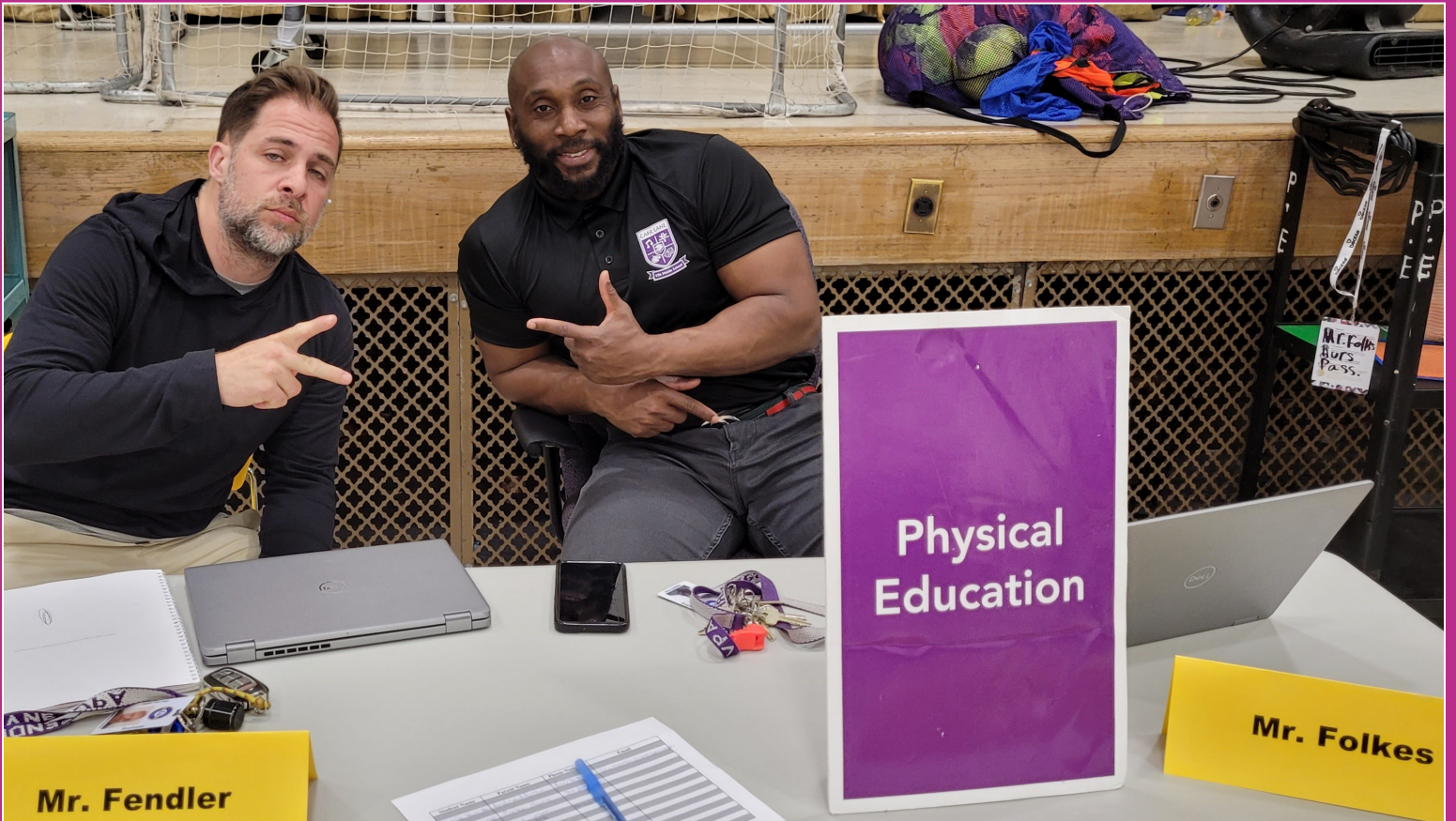
Mr. Risch, 6th grade Mathematics and Team Leader, alongside Mr. Slenker, 7th grade Social Studies.



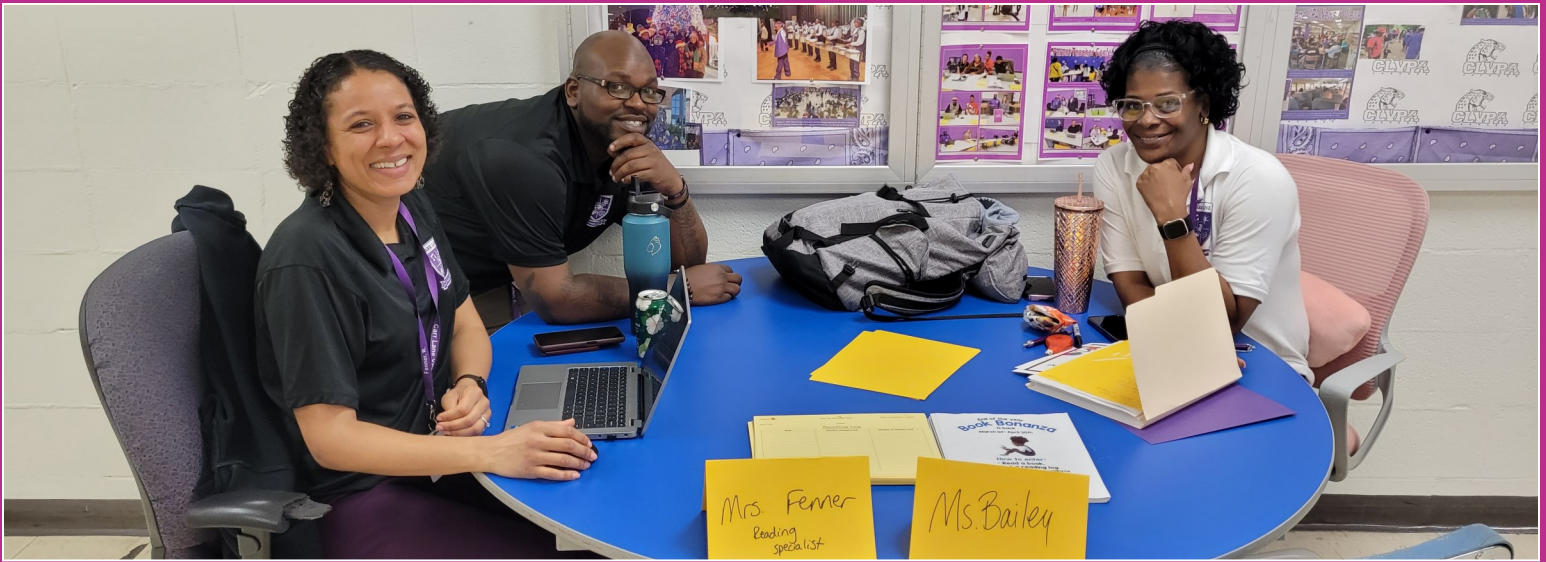
Dr. Phoenix, News & Views editor and Mr. Whitfield. Hey, wait a sec, this photo's not from the conference!!!



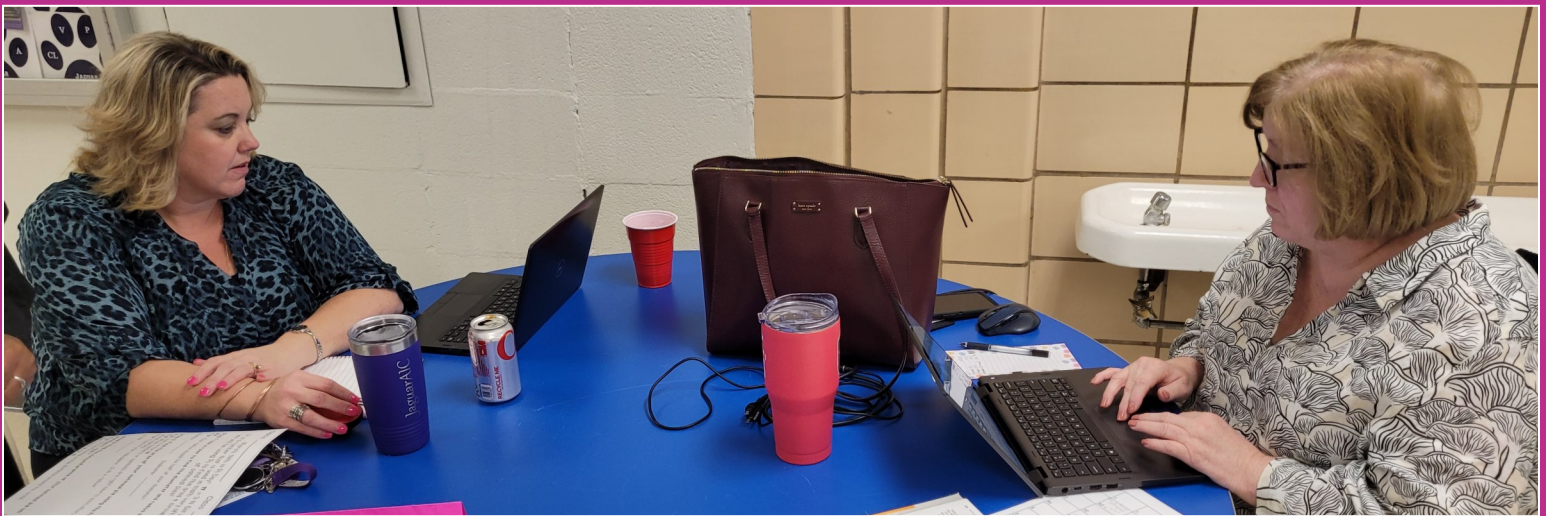
Ms. T. Parker, Dance Teacher and Related Arts Team Leader.



Mr. Fendler, Health and Mr. Folkes, Physical Education.



Ms. Fenner, Mr. Allen and Ms. Bailey

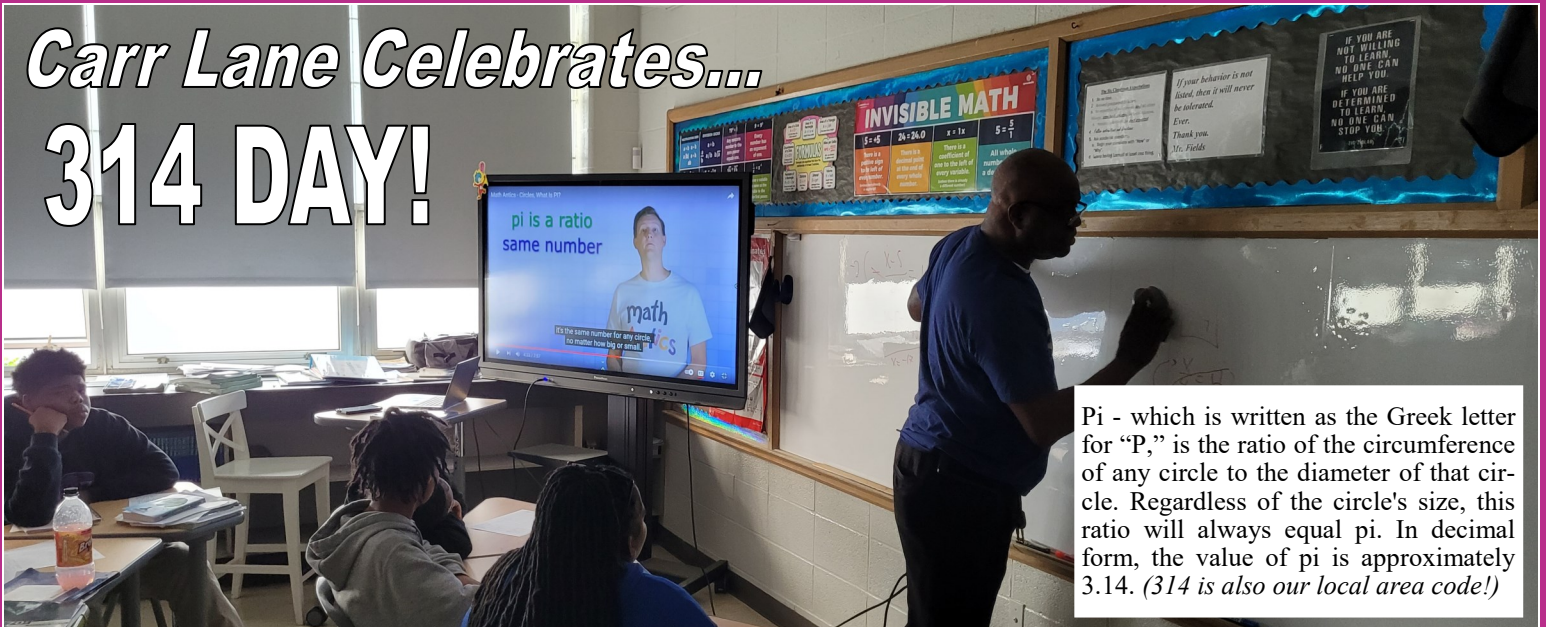


Carr Lane VPA Academic Instructional Coaches, Ms. Jarrell and Ms. Ring

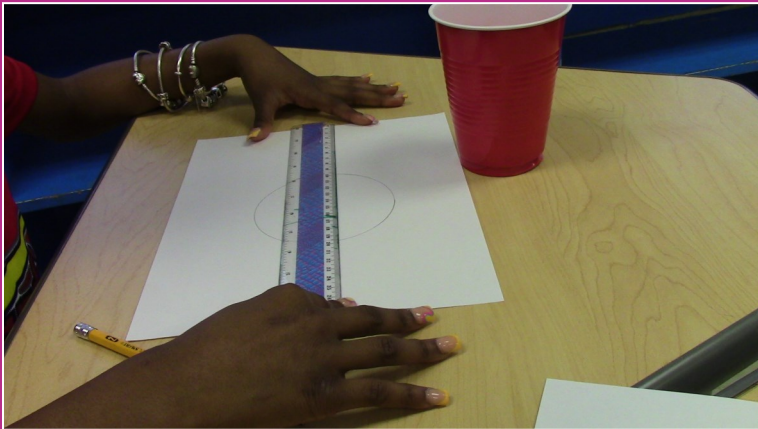


Mr. London, School Counselor — Ms. Abram, School Social Worker — Ms. D. Williams, School Counselor

Carr Lane Celebrates... 314 DAY!

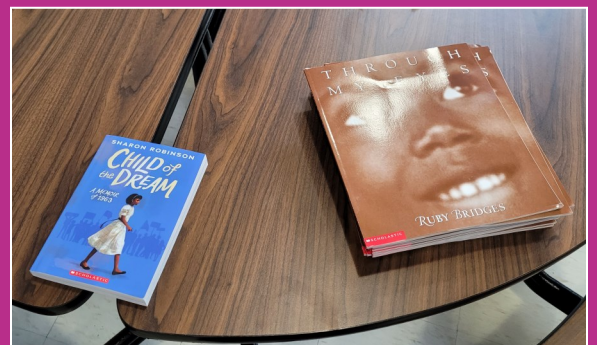
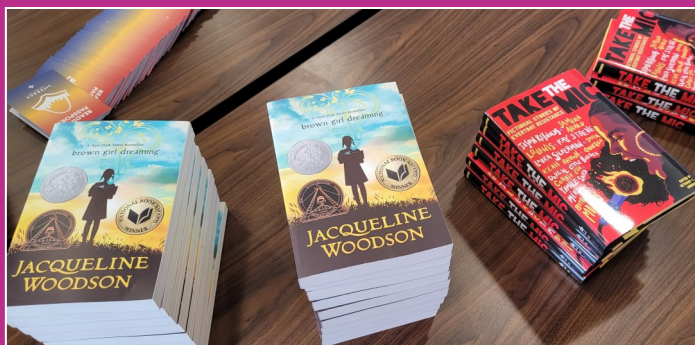
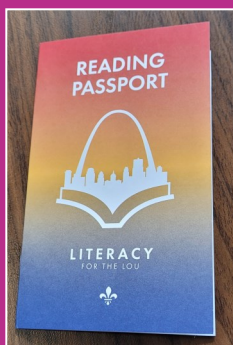


Pi - which is written as the Greek letter for "P," is the ratio of the circumference of any circle to the diameter of that circle. Regardless of the circle's size, this ratio will always equal pi. In decimal form, the value of pi is approximately 3.14. (314 is also our local area code!)





On 3/14 Ms. Fenner and her crew celebrated students for engaging in the 314 Sprint Reading Challenge through Literacy for the Lou. The event was held at 1:00 in the cafeteria. Students received snacks, books and reading passports!





Throughout the day on the March 14, 2024, the final day of classes before Spring Break, Principal Young and his administrative team held three separate meetings in the Carr Lane Theater. There was a meeting for each of the three grade levels. Principal Young expressed his concern for the well-being of his students during the days away from school. He advised them to stay safe, rest and avoid what can often be the dangerous lure of peer pressure. He wished well to the student body, and said he would be thinking of them and expecting their safe return to school on Monday, March 25, 2024. Only weeks remain until the State MAP assessments. He reminded his students that soon they would advance to the next grade level, with his eighth graders, moving on from Carr Lane VPA Middle, to High School.



NEWS & VIEWS -- MARCH 2024 — ISSUE NO. 25

Carr Lane VPA News and Views is published by the Computer Literacy Classes from Room 109 with the help and support of the Carr Lane Fine Arts Team and students, teachers and staff throughout the building! For this issue: special thanks to Mr. Tellis, Ms. Fenner, Mr. Folkes, Ms. L. Williams, Ms. Bennett, 8th Graders Charles Brown and Zoriona McLemore and the 109 Video Tech Crew: Jayla, Jayke and Tyme!