

Board Report December 17, 2018

1. What's new at CIHS?

- i. On November 28, I received the official news from Mary Gottsch that C-I High School will receive a grant to begin ProStart for the 2019-2020 school year. The following is from the National ProStart website:

The National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation's cornerstone program – ProStart – is a two year, nationwide program that develops the best and brightest talent into tomorrow's restaurant and foodservice leaders. ProStart serves more than 118,000 students at over 1,700 high schools in all 50 states, the Territory of Guam and at Department of Defense Education Activity schools in Europe and Asia. ProStart trains students academically in the classroom and experientially on the job.

Here is the website for Bridges Career Academies with some more information:

<https://www.bridgesconnection.org/prostart/>

On December 5th, Tom Kavanaugh met with me, Michelle Wolter (FACS Teacher) and Bill Tollefson to go over what kind of equipment will need to be purchased with the grant funds. Curriculum will also be purchased for the school and Mrs. Wolter will receive training on this program this summer. This is very exciting!

- ii. On November 30th, C-I students in the ninth grade had the opportunity to participate in a Career Fair at Central Lakes College. Students get to see three different career presentations in which they have preregistered.
- iii. On December 8th, we had 12 C-I Band Students who participated at Aitkin in the Mid-State Honor Band. Students in the 9/10 Honor Band were: Anna Carlson, Lily Habighorst, Jasmine Silznoff, Morgan LeBlanc, Alyssa Martz, McKenzie McLean and David Ringhand. Students in the 11/12 Honor Bard were: Loren Sablan, Sommer Popkes, Elisabeth Frink, Alex Henrichs, Danielle Rydberg.
- iv. Jennie Planer shared the information from the Music Tour with me. Please see her report on this trip on the next page of my report. What a great experience for our music students!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Christenson

On November 20th Seventy three C-I music students along with nine adult chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Olson and Ms. Planer embarked on an educational and musical adventure! The Crosby-Ironton high school band and choir toured the cities of Memphis and New Orleans. Students and chaperones had a fantastic time performing, visiting museums and different cultural areas of both cities.

The tour started with a band clinic at the University of Memphis with Dr. Albert Nguyen and a choir clinic with Dr. Demetrius Robinson. Students were able to perform for both directors and then have a chance to work with and learn from these talented college conductors. The next stop was tour of Graceland. The choir was asked to do an impromptu performance upon arrival. They had the chance to sing the national anthem at the visitor's center in the Graceland compound. From there, the two buses headed to the National Civil Rights Museum. Students were able to view the balcony and room where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. The museum also had the window propped open from across the street, so visitors could see where the deadly bullet originated. That night students had a tasty dinner at Alfred's on Beale and were able to shop along Beale Street.

On Thanksgiving Day, the group returned to Alfred's for a fantastic Thanksgiving lunch feast. The menu included salad, grits, mashed potatoes and gravy, turkey, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and the most amazing sweet bread dinner rolls! After a delectable feast, it was time to take a long nap on the bus while traveling to New Orleans. Upon arrival in New Orleans, the group partook in a pizza party complete with games and pool time!

The C-I Music Tour Black Friday consisted of a city tour with amazing New Orleans native tour guides, Barbara and Estelle. A highlight of that city tour was being able to walk around a cemetery and learn how the funeral process is a cultural experience in the city of New Orleans! After the tour, the group visited the World War II Museum and watched the 4D movie, *Beyond All Boundaries*. Both the band and choir performed at the WWII museum. The band was even asked if they had cards to pass out. The next adventure was free time in the French Quarter. Students were able to shop, view live street performers and sample the famous beignets from Cafe de Monde. One of the top highlights of this tour was eating dinner at the Palm Court Jazz Club. The C-I band and choir had the entire jazz club rented out with a private concert by the Palm Court Jazz Club Band. This group consisted of clarinet, trumpet, trombone, piano, string bass and drumset. The band was stellar!!! The ensemble played for two hours while C-I students and chaperones had a tasty dinner of gumbo, red beans and rice, garlic chicken and bread pudding. The musicians talked about how they ended up playing professionally and answered questions from C-I students. The band finished the night with a rousing rendition of "*When the Saints Go Marching In*" and had the group of 90 people up and dancing until the last note!

The final day in New Orleans consisted of touring the Oak Alley Plantation where the oak trees in the backyard were 300 years old! Students got a guided tour of the plantation house and slave quarters. The weather was a sunny 75 degrees which was perfect for wandering among the beautiful oak trees AND taking a swamp tour! The swamp tour was the other highlight for many students. Each swamp boat driver was hilarious and connected well with high schoolers. Students on Brandon's boat got to meet and hold several of his "pets" including Morty the crayfish, Flapjack the softshell turtle, Malachi the corn snake and Handbag the baby alligator!

Mr. Olson and Ms. Planer were so happy to be able to share this experience with music students from Crosby-Ironton. This trip was a once in a lifetime event for most. They would like to thank the Crosby Fire Department (who donated funds), parents, administrators, teachers and the school board for allowing this trip to take place!