

**HARDING
MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

timberwolf times

**VOLUME 1
ISSUE 3**

FEBRUARY 2014

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The Polar Bears: An Accomplishment Worth Celebrating

By Ben Swift

The North High Polar Bears haven't been to a state tournament since 1991, but this year is their chance to change that. Three varsity players were once Harding students: Teyontae Jenkins, Sekou Mytari, and Sam Williams

When these boys were in 8th grade, they went undefeated, 9-0, and were league champions. North is ranked sixth in the state and is showing Des Moines what they can really do.

An Article in the Des Moines Register explained

how North's players and Coach Ryan have faced struggles in life. North players have all come from different backgrounds. There are players that have been homeless and another is a Hurricane Katrina survivor. Coach Ryan has been everything from a coach to a father figure for his team. Through all of their struggles, they have come together and have created a really good basketball team. If you want to read more about North's basketball team, you can read more by visiting North High School's webpage or the Des Moines Register webpage and



Polar Bears get ready for a big game.

search "North High basketball."

Their district games are scheduled February 24th and 28th, and a substate game is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th.

upcoming events

February 17th

Wear Your Own Shirt (Positives)

February 20th

Math and Science Night
5:00 to 7:00pm

February 24th

Wear Your Own Pants (Positives)

February 26th

Staff vs. Student Basketball
3:00 to 5:00pm

February 28th = End of Term 4

March 7th

Band and Orchestra Concert
7pm

March 10th -13th

Spirit Week

March 12th/13th

Parent-Teacher Conferences
4pm to 8pm

Spring Break March 14th-23rd

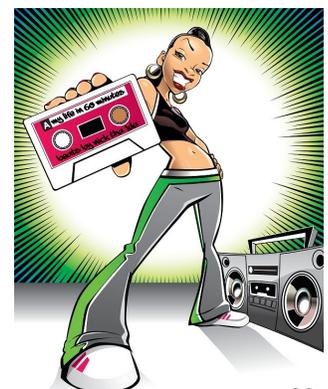
"Paige in Full": Inspired by Hip-Hop

By Emily McGruder and Paige Taylor

On January 27th, most 7th and 8th graders took a trip downtown to see Paige Hernandez perform *Paige in full*. She performed her life story in a mixtape from when she was born to where she is now. She performed pieces combining hip-hop, dance, and music. She talked about being in an abusive relationship and being bullied at school. A lot of it was about her race

and people judging her by the way she looked. She was so creative with her work it inspired the kids to go to workshop with her later that week. Students were chosen to attend the workshop based on a survey. In the workshop students worked together and performed their very own poems. She also worked with the 8th graders in Hip Hop: Rhetoric and Rhyme. Paige is a wonderful role model, very intelligent, and

was amazing to see.



paige in full
B-GIRLS VISUAL MIXTAPE

Wolf Pack Field Trips: A Positive Pack



By Johanna Mata

On January 30th and 31st, about 150 sixth and seventh graders went ice skating at Brenton Skating Rink to have the time of their life. Only the Wolf Pack students who had no level IIIs, unserved detentions, and 4 out of 6 weeks positive got to go. The point of the fieldtrip was to have triple the fun in a school day. Some things that I liked about this fieldtrip was the hot cocoa, cold but NOT too cold weather, and the fact that I didn't fall. Plus, it was awesome that we can get time to chill and hang out during school. It looks like everyone enjoyed this fieldtrip! Also, remember you can have no level IIIs, unserved detentions or Ds and Fs to

attend the next fieldtrip towards the end of February.

Also, on January 24th, 8th graders went to Sky Zone as a reward to Wolf Pack students for showing positive behavior. Eighty-five 8th graders went and that is a lot. Only 8th graders that had no level IIIs, unserved detentions, or Ds or Fs could go. The point of the field trip was to have fun and jump around. If you've never been to Sky Zone, there are a lot of trampolines and it is super fun. You can literally bounce off the walls. There is also basketball hoops and dodge ball on trampolines. Sky Zone is for people of all ages — even some teachers went along!

6th Graders Experience Leadership Academy

By Angelica Vorasith

Sixth graders first Leadership Academy happened on Monday, January 20th. Sixth grade teachers selected students to attend the very first Leadership Academy. Overall, there were about 25 to 30 students that went. Mr. Buyck thought the sixth graders liked attending because of "the fact that we're asking them to be leaders and a part of this special group," he explained. He also said that it was all about 6th graders getting to know each other. He said, "It was good for them to learn about Government and all the rules at

Harding."

Sixth graders Natalie Jackson and Aviance Willis both attended Leadership Academy. Aviance thought that Leadership Academy was okay, but she thought there should have been more people. Natalie said, "It was fun, but it could have been improved."

Natalie and Aviance both learned some things while there. Aviance learned a lot about Government. Natalie learned about working with a team. They both thought they got asked to be at Leadership Academy because they can be good leaders and have been 100% posi-

tive so far. They believe they can be even better future leaders.



8th Grade Leadership: Positivity is Key

By Junice Sibley

On January 20th, the 8th grade Leadership Academy went to ICU Paintballing. There were around 35 to 40 students that attended the trip. After Leadership students went paintballing, they went to the Capital to do a MLK March. It went

from the Capital to Forest Park. Leadership students went with the Movement 515 group. A lot of students have asked how do you get into Leadership Academy. You get in by being selected by your teacher because you are showing positive behavior, leadership, and being respectful. Your teachers will want

you to show them that you are going to be a positive role model and being a leader among other students. Showing responsibility will get you into Leadership Academy also, but positivity is key.

7th Graders Go Mentoring to Help Future Harding Students

By Staesha Christianson

Mentoring is when select 7th grade Wolf Pack students go to elementary schools (Oak Park, Findley, Cattell, and Moulton) and work with 5th grade students to try to connect with them so next year when they come to Harding they'll have an 8th grader to look up to. Mentors go once every term to visit each school. As a mentor, we can find stuff we have in common with the students, and they talk about what they are ready for and what they're not ready for when coming to Harding.

Mentors get chosen if teachers think they are a good role model, depending on your Wolf Pack status. Mentors try to inspire the 5th

grade students to inspire them to do good in the future so they can get farther in life.

Some 5th grade students commented on their experience being mentored:

"I like to meet new people!"

"It's good to know new people when going to a new school."

This has definitely been a great experience for all students involved.



Kortnie, Staesha, and Dorian mentor 5th Graders

Proud to be a Timberwolf

Information provided by Mr. Snow, School Athletic Director



The boy's basketball team has the best record, 6-1, since 2009 — that 2009 team is now playing varsity at North. This year, there are 24 players on the team, and there are also three 7th grade managers (Taryn Anderson, Zheyon Johnson, and Tyreke Locure). The team is led by two wonderful and inspiring coaches: Mr. Blietz and Mr. Buyck. They also receive help from Mr. Snow.

This team has many strengths. The boys do a great job of working hard and listening to their coaches. They pass the ball well and are very unselfish. Both the A and B team

play very good defense. The coaches pointed out several strong team members:

Devonte Thedford, Emmanuel Arevalo, DeMarquez McDonald, and Jeremiah Khat have all been great leaders for the A team. Tre Jarrett, Keith Wright, Keyshawn Johnson, and Telly Young have been doing great work for the B team. Coaches are proud of the effort all of the players have given this year.

The last home game is Thursday, February 20th. Also, a Staff vs. Student basketball game is scheduled for February 26th.

Stomp Out Bullying

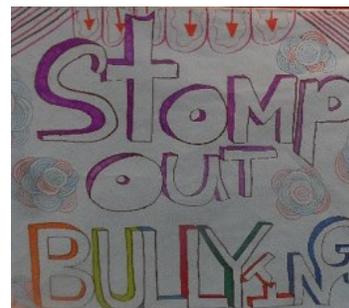
By Gabriela Meas and Auddreyonna Alsager

Bullying is a problem in schools all over the U.S. There are three main types of bullying: physical bullying (hitting, kicking, shoving), emotional bullying (spreading rumors, making a mean statement to or about someone), and verbal bullying (criticizing someone based on skin color, lifestyle, etc.). Bullying typically occurs face-to-face or using social media.

One article said that 61% OF PEOPLE GET BULLIED IN TWO WEEKS.

That's a fact! No matter what kind of bullying it is, it still hurts people. A lot of people experience these things and they don't know what to do. Well, you have to stay strong, tell a grown up, & they'll help lead the way for you. And student, don't just be a bystander! Redirect your peers and stand up for those who need help. Everyone should feel accepted and safe at school... no matter their differences!

StoptheBullying



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RESPECT THE PACK

*Newsletter created by
Media Club Students*

harding middle
school

2013-2014

Check us out online!
harding.dmschools.org



**New Wolf Pack Logo
by Anthony B. Johnson
7th Grader**

Feature Teacher: Ms. Sandbulte

By Jizet Vazquez

Ms. Sandbulte was voted as our Staff Member of the Term for term 3. She is a School Improvement Leader (SIL) here at Harding Middle School. Read on to learn more about this wonderful teacher.

1) How do you like Harding?

I love Harding!

2) What is your favorite season? Why?

My favorite season is summer because I like to be at the swimming pool.

3) Did you teach before you became a SIL? For how long?

I taught Music before becoming a SIL. I have been a teacher for 10 years now.

4) Do you have kids? Pets?

I have two daughters, Molly (8-years-old) and Lucy (7-years-old). I also have one cat named Mr. Fluffernutter (3-years-old).

5) What are your hopes and dreams?

Professionally, I want to become a principal at a school or be a teacher at a college. Also, I want to live by the beach where I could lay in the sand.



6) What are your favorite things?

I love to read, have dance parties with my kids, and I like to hang out with Ms. Taylor. I love to sing. I sing four different languages: French, German, Italian, and Spanish. I like to sing jazz more because it's my favorite.

Congratulations to Ms. Sandbulte on being Staff Member of the Term! Staff members commented on why they nominated her.

Here is one response:

"She is a rock star! She has an amazing sense of humor and has taught me not to take everything so seriously. She is always there to give great advice and she is such a hard worker."

*Do you want to join Media
Club? Pick up an application
outside of Room 209.*