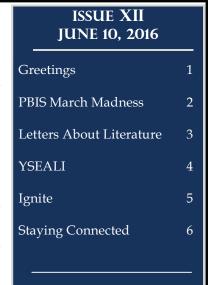


## CHANGING THE GAME

## **GREETINGS FROM SHANIQUE STEWART - HUSKY SPORT INTERN**

Husky Sport is one of the main reasons I still attend the University of Connecticut. As soon as I start hearing stories about Husky Sport I was intrigued and I knew I wanted to get involved. So I took the one credit class: EKIN 1160 - Health and Education in Urban Communities during the fall semester of my Sophomore Year and it was one of the best decisions I made so far in my college career. I was forced to think about situations going on around me that I never use to put much thought into. Situations like racism, education, equality, poverty, culture and identity, and how these situations affect children's health and their success. One of the main components of the course is to complete service hours in one low-income community in Harford - the Hartford North End. Both components are used as tools to expand one's perspective on life.



After the semester ended, I felt as if my work with Husky Sport was not finished, but the 3-credit class did not fit in my schedule. I expressed my desire to continue my involvement with Husky Sport to PhD. Graduate Assistant, Michael Corral, who taught the 1 credit course Fall 2015, and he immediately connected me with Dr. Justin Evanovich. After meeting with Justin, we decided the best way for me to continue working with Husky Sport was through a 3-credit Internship. Internships with Husky Sport are tailored to student's interest and their flexibility. Out of the required 120hrs, 40hrs must be completed through community service/engagement in Hartford and the remaining 80hrs are completed through individual projects related to Husky Sport's mission.

Being a Nutritional Science major and Exercise Science Major, I wanted to work with the nutrition and sports team but instead I was given a challenge. I was given the wonderful opportunity to work directly with the Assistant Director, Patricia Bellamy on special projects, including the In school and Ready, Set, Read! newsletters. I did not go in this internship with the expectation of sitting behind a computer and playing with Microsoft Word, but it was probably one of the most rewarding experiences. I had to dig deep for my creativity skills and step out of my comfort zone of being indecisive and learn to make decisions. Not only did I get to work with an inspiring and intelligent woman, but also I'm walking away from this internship as a new person - someone who is not afraid to be challenged.

I produce this newsletter in efforts to showcase why I'm a part of this organization. If anyone questions working with Husky Sport whether it's through a class, internship, or employment the answer should simply be YES.

Enjoy,

Shanique Stewart - Husky Sport Intern

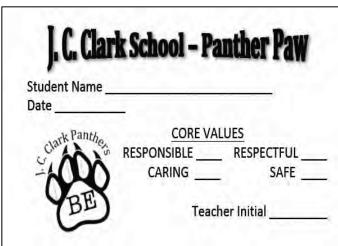
#### **PBIS MARCH MADNESS**

Husky Sport continues to reward Clark School students with paws to those who demonstrate the four core values of Clark: respect, responsibility, care, and safety. Students were able to use their earned paws to attend March Madness. An event Husky Sport assisted in creating and lead to reward the students for their good behavior. Students participated in basketball drills, minute to win it nutrition puzzles, defying gravity with balloons, and more! For each activity a paw was required for engagement, and students who did as expected enjoyed a day of a little playful madness. Husky Sport will continue to use PBIS tactics to encourage commendable behavior as well as provide opportunities for students to be eager to get involved.









#### LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

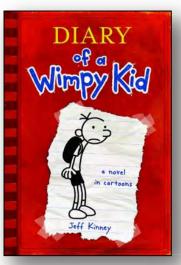
Letters About Literature is statewide and national reading and writing contest that asks students to write a letter to an author of a book, poem or speech. Twelve Clark students in grades 4-8 participated in the writing competition, which required students to write about how a specific piece of work impacted their life in anyway. With the support of Husky Sport leaders Patricia Bellamy, Joe Condren, Justin Evanovich, Kerry Mattson, Wura Olusekun and Cassandra Therriault students wrote, edited and submitted their works. **Jeremiah Toledo** (grade 4) and **Miguel Nunez** (grade 6) advanced to the state level competition; excerpts from their work can be found below. Thank you to the Clark teachers and administration for nominating students to showcase their literacy talent.

#### Dear Jeff Kinney,

I am happy that I read about a character like Greg because if I had not then I wouldn't have the great relationships that I do today. If there were more books with characters like yours, then students would be able to relate better to the stories and would be able to see the world around them differently. After reading your book my world is becoming better and I see that it is better when there are less arguments, more peace and better relationships!

Jeremiah Toledo (Grade 4 - Teacher: Caragh McMaster)

Diary of A Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

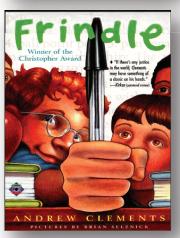


#### Dear Andrew Clements.

I hate when people use the phrase "it is what it is." The world is always telling us what to say and how to say it. I am told to say sentences the "right way," but who says there is even one "right way" to say anything? Reading *Frindle* made me think about that idea and how it affects the way people speak.

Miguel Nunez (Grade 6 - Teacher: Alexandra Simboski)

Frindle by Andrew Clements



Congratulations to all the Clark Students who participated. Though the process was long, students put their greatest efforts into their works.

Grade 4: Samaria Edmondson, Nayalee Felix, Nyrra Hutchinson, Ivan Rodriguez, Jeremiah Toledo

Grade 5: Milleni Vega, Caitlyn Waterman

Grade 6: Keniel T. Cruz, Liana Lopez, Miguel Nunez

Grade 7: Destiny Pagan Grade 8: Shanialette Vargas

### YOUNG SOUTH EAST ASIA LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE (YSEALI)



YSEALI participants use the world map to show top attendance class Maher (grade 5) their home countries in Southeast Asia. YSEALI participants share that they've traveled between 24 and 48 hours to get to the United States; for some students, it is their first time in the U.S.

For the 2015-2016 school year, Clark Elementary and Middle School's leadership team worked with Husky Sport to reward students for achieving Clark's three big rocks -. academic progress, increased attendance, and positive climate and culture. In order to accomplish these goals, Husky Sport works with Clark to make the school environment more enjoyable in efforts to raise children's desires to attend school and learn. For the second time this school year, UConn's Global Training and Development Institute (GTDI) YSEALI participants partnered with Husky Sport Program Leaders for a two-day service project in which they reward Clark School students for attendance and positive behavior by expanding their knowledge on climate and culture.

Together, Husky Sport and YSEALI rewarded just over seventy elementary and middle school students with recesses that highlighted their accomplishments and allowed the younger students

to be creative with planting and the older students to learn more about the school climate, education systems and nutrition in other countries.

GTDI's goal is to foster participants with a global development, citizenship, and cross-cultural understanding. YSEALI working with Husky Sport and Clark students allows students to learn the value of education and respect others of all cultural backgrounds as they go through their education journey.



#### **IGNITE**

HuskyDrive's Ignite campaign is a fundraising competition that brings campus organizations together to raise money for valuable causes. This is Husky Sport's 4<sup>th</sup> time participating in this annual competition, with the support of friends and family, we came in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and raised over \$9000 for transportation and programming materials.





CHANGING THE GAME

Thank you for your continued support

Please stay connected!



# @UConnHuskySport

Get Active! WWW.HUSKYSPORT.UCONN.EDU









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