



GT Staff

Tammy Steckbauer – GT Coordinator/Rib Mountain Principal

tsteckba@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0220

Matt Adams - GT Learning Resource Teacher

madams@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0957

Franklin, Hawthorn Hills, GD Jones and Riverview

Aaron Boller – GT Learning Resource Teacher

aboller@wausauschools.org

Horace Mann and John Muir Middle Schools

Cheryl Borta – GT Learning Resource Teacher

cborta@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0955

Thomas Jefferson, Maine, Rib Mountain Leadership and Book Bowl Coordinator

Heidi Hahner – GT Learning Resource Teacher

hhahner@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0956

John Marshall, Hewitt-Texas

Amy Jaglinski – GT Learning Resource Teacher

ajaglins@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0958

South Mountain, Lincoln, Grant, Stettin

Kris Peterson – GT Department Secretary

krpeterso@wausauschools.org

(715) 261-0952

Rib Mountain

Thank you for taking the time to read our GT newsletter. We are working very hard to improve communication with our families, and this newsletter has become an efficient way to share information with our stakeholders. Please feel free to share any ideas YOU may have by emailing krpeterso@wausauschools.org. If it's information important to you, chances are very good that it would be meaningful to other parents as well.

GT Coordinator Corner – by Tammy Steckbauer

Fourth and fifth graders from the WSD gathered recently at the Boys and Girls Club for a GT Music Experience. Students were self-nominated as well as being nominated by their school's music specialist. Sixty fourth graders and sixty fifth graders were invited to attend.

Sue Hulsether, Miss Sue, or "Dancing Sue", who hails from Viroqua, WI, has led thousands of students across the state, but dancing and educating a group of GT Music students was a first for her.

She shared that her Folk Dance Residency is generally comprised of traditional dance with a modern twist. The modern twist might be achieved through the use of modern music. Students and adults alike were active during the residency. No wall flowers were allowed!

Her goal was simple: She hoped to teach students about folk dance in a fun and social atmosphere. She said that this experience would be different than a rehearsed recital or performance.

Students were taught dance moves; however, mistakes were expected and celebrated as part of the learning process.

She shared not only song and dance, but her vocal talents and musical instruments as well. She shared that the banjo; for example, is originally from Africa. Students learned that banjos were comprised of a stick, gourd, animal skin, and we'll let you guess how the strings were made!

Entertaining and positive, Miss Sue was also an active participant whose fun analogies and lively spirit made each two hour session fly by quickly!

Special thanks to the WSD music specialists, the WSD Fine Arts Coordinator (Marie Northup), the GT Secretary (Kris Peterson), WSD Elementary Principals for contributing money for the busing, GD Jones Elementary for hosting the evening dance, the Boys and Girls Club of Marathon County for allowing us to use their facility, and the **Beyond Pencils and Crayons Grant** which secured \$2,600 for this event. This program would not have been possible without all of this support!

The culminating event was held May 2 in the GD Jones Elementary School Gym. **Live Strong Band** provided the musical entertainment for the GT students and their families who participated in an evening of fun, social interaction, and folk dance. We hope you were a part of this FREE event as a great time was had by all!

The Buzz

From Mr. B

May 2019



Year two for this middle school GT resource teacher is nearing completion. What an incredible year: Discovering robotics, launching MATHCOUNTS at Mann, assisting the Muir MATHCOUNTS team at Regional and State tournaments, getting whooped at strategy games by several students during MasterMinds (Thomas, I won that chess game!), and too much more to mention within this newsletter article.

Lately, I've been driving around town to pump up the 5th graders regarding the many middle school opportunities awaiting them. They have been given questionnaires to help me understand them, and to help them understand middle school GT programming.

Please know you can feel free to reach me anytime (before I head to the fishing shack in mid-June). Contact me at aboller@wausauschools.org with any specific questions or ideas you'd like to share as I am already planning to deepen enrichment programming at both middle schools for the 2019-2020 school year. Did I just type 2020? I recall years ago thinking how strange and futuristic that sounded.

With YOUR child's best interest in mind,



Mr. Aaron Boller
Wausau School District Middle School Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher

Mr. Boller meeting with 5th graders



Summer Enrichments

Summer offerings not specifically endorsed or affiliated with WSD:

[WSD Afternoon Academy Programs Grades 3-6](#)

[UWSP IT Camp: Video Game Programming Grades 5-12](#)

[Summer Youth Programs at UW LaCrosse](#)

Parent, Educator, and Student Resources

[Hoagies' Gifted Education Page](#)

[Center for Healthy Minds – University of WI Madison](#)

[WATG Conference Information and Registration](#)

New Resources Available from WSD GT Dept.

Raising Children With Grit



Laila Y. Sanguras

An Introduction to Gifted Kids and Their Needs

Parenting Gifted Children 101



Tracy Ford Inman, Ed.D., & Janna Kishner, Ph.D.