

# OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL REFLECTION

# APRIL 2024

**Celebrate Success!**

**Share What We Learn!**

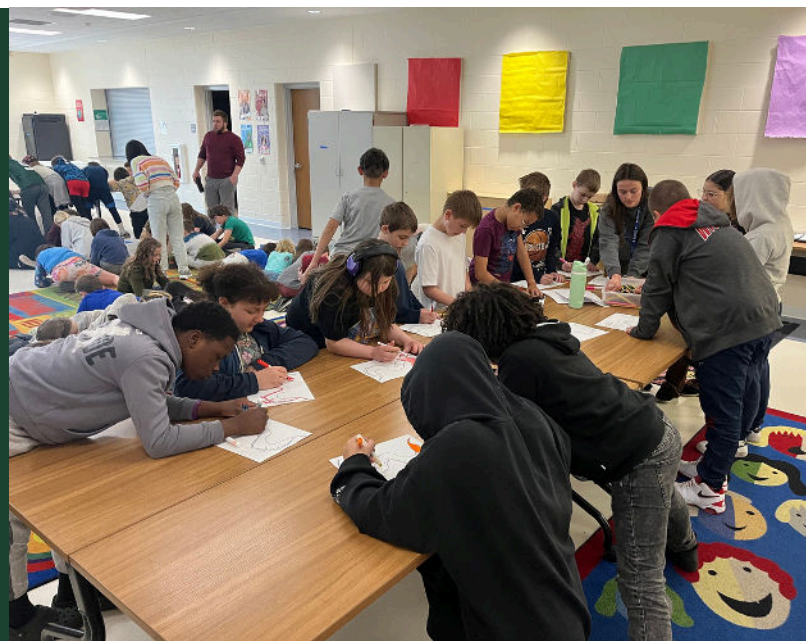
**Updates on Projects!**

## Exchange Teacher Visits from Luoyang, China

On Friday, April 26, Fransie Fan Zhang, a visiting eighth-grade Teacher from Luoyang, China, spent the day with Hamilton and SOTA I students. Fransie shared presentations about life in China, food, cooking and Chinese holidays. Fourth and fifth-grade students created dragon art while students in art class got to practice Chinese paper cutting.



**Thank You Fransie!**



## Chinese Numbers

Fourth and fifth-grade SOTA I students learned a dice game and practiced writing Chinese numbers

## Thank You Students & Staff!

Fransie loved all the students' curiosity and creativity, and she especially enjoyed getting to try the lettuce students are growing in Mr. Mike's room. Thank you to all who welcomed her!



# CHEERLEADERS FOR STATE TESTING



Our School was abuzz with energy and encouragement from our younger students as our 3rd-5th graders took the **State Test**.



As the school **"Cheerleaders"**, K - 2nd graders colored positive messages, delivered fun snacks and created a bulletin board that reminded the testers **"Donut give up!"**.

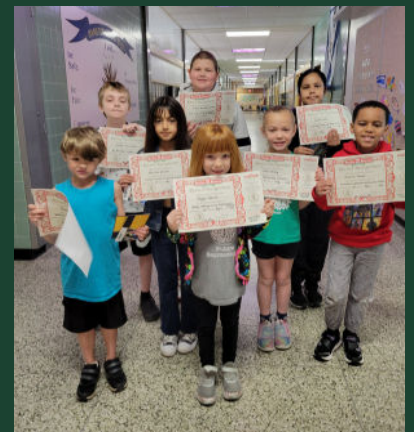
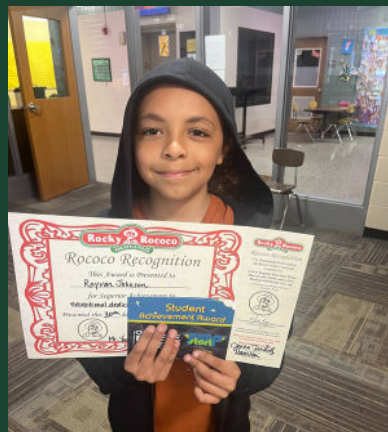


The best thing about this year is that our test takers (3rd-5th graders) started this tradition of cheerleading when they were in First Grade. It was fun to see the cheering come full circle!



## APRIL'S SUPER STUDENTS

Way to go super students!



# ALL BUILDING BAL-A-VIS-X ASSEMBLY



Over 200 students engaged in a Bal-A-Vis-X activity on April 5th. Bal-A-Vis-X uses specially designed bean bags and is done with limited talking during the activities.



Hamilton and SOTA I staff were trained in Bal-A-Vis-X this year by Barb Oettel and funded through the Project Aware grant. Both schools have embraced Bal-A-Vis-X in the classrooms, for learning (i.e. red words, math facts, etc.) and for social emotional support.

## Bal-A-Vis-X develops skills like

- **Tracking** - Strengthens our Eyes ability to follow lines while Reading
- **Emotional Regulation** - Helps us Calm Ourselves through Rhythm
- **Hand-Eye Coordination** - Helps with many skills like Writing, Typing, Sports, and more
- **Impulse Control** - Helps us block out distractions and focus on what is important



We have seen wonderful things come from this! Hamilton and SOTA I classrooms have practiced Bal-A-Vis-X together. Teachers have incorporated Bal-A-Vis-X into classroom routines, our Title Teacher has used it in small groups, and our Behavior Coach has used it with students to process challenges.

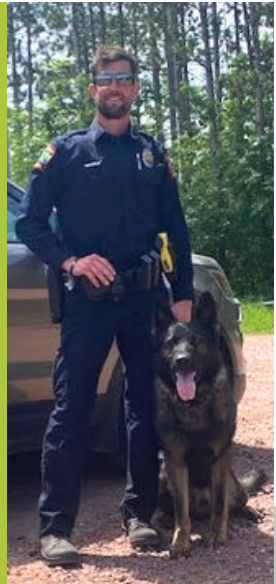
# Basketball Nights

Coach Mo and the UW-La Crosse Women's Basketball Team were back for Basketball Nights this Spring! In collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club, members worked on Community Building, Sportsmanship, and Social Emotional Skills while having fun playing basketball.



## Cub Scouts Pack 111

Pack 1111 started back up this Spring! Officer Aaron Westpfahl and his K9 partner Loki, a 7 year old German Shepard, were guests at one of the Cub Scout meetings. Thank you to the Gateway Area Council and Boys & Girls Club for making Pack 1111 possible!



## Student Spotlight

**Charlotte**, 5th grader at Hamilton in Ms. Tester's class and **Brenna**, 5th grader at SOTA I with Mr. Mike, participated in the **Spring Volleyball league** on the **Central Riverhawks** team.

Go Charlotte & Brenna!  
Go Riverhawks!





Thank you to our **AMAZING Community and Staff** for hosting our super fun Bike Rodeo!

Thank you to our **Bike Decorators** for jazzing up these bikes!

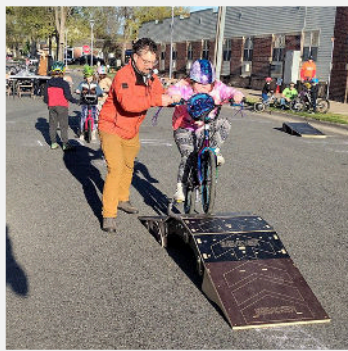


Thank you **La Crosse Police Department** for providing **bikes registrations** and handing out information and stickers!

Thank you to **Smith's Bikes** for performing **free tune-ups** for student bikes!



# Bike Rodeo Family Night



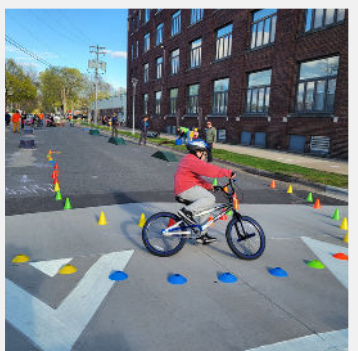
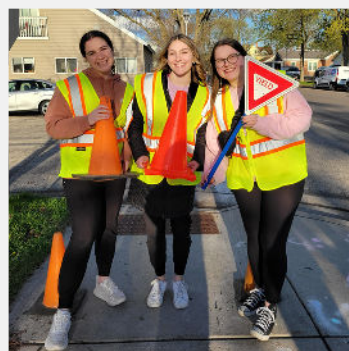
Thank you to the **Sustars, ORA, Lance Miller, and Scott Stein** for providing our exciting **Advance Bike Skills Course!**

Thank you **Paperback Rider** for providing books and entertainment for students!



Thank you **La Crosse County - Health Department** for free helmets and fittings!

Thank you **River Trails Cycling** for donating bikes for students to use at the rodeo and keep afterwards!



Thank you

## To Our Donors

- Toyota of La Crosse= food pantry groceries
- Pfeiffer family- student snacks
- Box Tops for Education- funds for student support
- La Crosse Area Autism Foundation- funds for a sensory path

Hamilton and SOTA Family

**DANCE NIGHT**

**Tuesday, June 4th**

5:30-7:00 pm

Enter through Door A.

With music by DJ Brettly

- Prizes
- Photo booth
- Quiet game space
- Glow-in-the-dark items provided
- Pizza & cookies (Gluten Free available)

*Wear your favorite dancewear!*



## Viterbo Service Saturday

We had four volunteers associated with Viterbo University work on projects for Teachers on April 20th. Two of the volunteers were returners from a previous Service Saturday and brought their daughter who went to Hamilton and is now a Teacher herself. Volunteers helped our school by cutting-out, stapling, gluing, sorting and more. Thank you Viterbo and Volunteers!

## Update from our Community Schools Leadership Team (CSLT)

### End-of-Year Report

Our CSLT is working on a Community School End-of-Year Report. This year we will focus on what makes Hamilton a successful Community School by highlighting the four mechanics of a Community School.

- Listening and Responding to what our community has to say.
- Intentional Coordination
- Bridging Pathways
- Problem-Solving Partners

Watch for the End-of-Year Report to be sent to you near the end of this school year.

**HAMILTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
END-OF-YEAR REPORT 2024  
Learning and Growing Together

Communities Schools bring students, staff, families, and the community together to co-develop, meet, and coordinate needs and assets opportunities for students and staff to help build thriving schools.

**What makes Hamilton a Successful Community School?**

**First, We are Listening to our Community**

2022 Needs & Assets Assessment Community Participation:

Category	Percentage
Listening to our Community	42%
Intentional Coordination	38%
Bridging Pathways	35%
Problem-Solving Partners	30%

**You ASKED for more Sports, Clubs, Activities and Family Nights; so we collaborated with the following Partners...**

- Greenland Gateway Area Council and the Boys & Girls Club (BGC) for our Club Scouts - Pack 1311 to benefit the lives of 35 K-2nd graders this past year.
- 92% of our high school students were able to practice ice skating at Green Island Ice Arena this past fall year.
- Local Community Partners facilitated Junior Achievement Awards for all of our Hamilton City grade classrooms this fall.
- 10 Hamilton teachers and 110 grades 1-12 students and Student Leadership Team (SLT) members were invited to participate in the classroom and school-wide reading book.

**Impact Measures**

- Our monthly Family Night attendance averaged 203 family members a month this past school year. A 100% monthly increase of 98 people attending Family Nights compared to last year.
- 88% of Hamilton students have been involved in at least one after-school activity or program this school year.

## Your Voice Matters

We want to hear from you!

If you would like to learn more, ask questions, share your insights, or volunteer please contact Jon Zinniel, Hamilton Community Schools Coordinator at 608-789-5092 or [jjzinniel@lacrossesd.org](mailto:jjzinniel@lacrossesd.org)