

Chem Club students embark on hands-on experience

Science teacher Steve Kosmas re-implemented Chem Club two years ago. His goal for the club is to combine both the understanding of chemistry and leadership in the classroom.

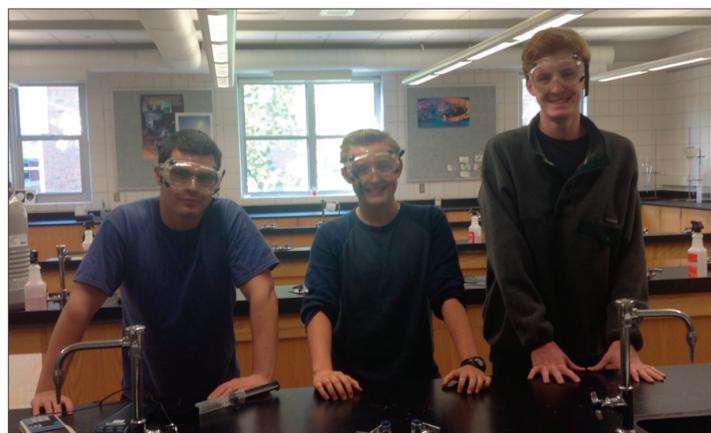
Kosmas has been incorporating innovative learning opportunities for students at local science fairs and museums. Members are encouraged to learn all aspects of science and teach what they learned to younger students.

Senior Ben Sliwinski has been a member of Chem Club for the past two years and not only enjoys what it has to offer, but also the opportunities it has provided him.

“Right now my favorite part is that we are able to do research down at (University of Detroit) Mercy,” Sliwinski said. “A couple other Chem Club members and me are doing research at U of D Mercy for chemistry under their department chair.”

Students were given the chance to work alongside Mark A. Benvenuto, a U of D Mercy professor. Three Chem Club members are able to work with Benvenuto and experience up front the impact science has on the world.

The research the students are conducting focuses on testing coins and attempting to create a ligand, which is a molecule attached to a metal atom. With the use of high-tech equipment like x-ray fluorescence to determine what kind of elements coins contain, the project could ultimately result in the ability to remove metal that is in water. This would benefit relevant issues like the Flint water crisis.



EXPERIMENTING | Senior Ben Sosnowski, Ben Sliwinski and junior Michal Ruprecht test pressure using Logger Pro. “This was the very first research opportunity for the club and is a promising start for better things to come,” Sosnowski said.

Senior Ben Sosnowski joined Chem Club his junior year, following his passion for chemistry. As one of the three members who are conducting the research, Sosnowski believes the work has provided with him a new outlook on his future.

“I would like to become an invasive cardiologist, but have backup plans of becoming a vet or chemical engineer,” Sosnowski said. “I couldn’t possibly see myself in a career that does not require science, especially since I spend so much of my time learning and applying scientific concepts. Through Chem Club, I have a way to not only learn, but to teach others. I believe that in teaching others chemistry concepts, I better understand those concepts myself.”

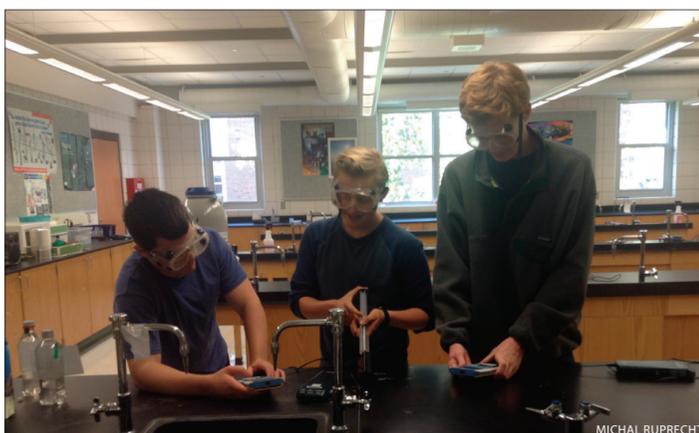
Kosmas says students can benefit from both learning about science and mentoring others in a hands-on environment.

“My favorite part about Chem Club is watching students basically take over the club and direct it in the direction they want it to go in,” Kosmas said.

Sosnowski appreciates the opportunities he has been given through the club and uses what he learned as a way to influence others.

“Applying chemistry to solve real world problems is something people around the world do every day,” Sosnowski said. “I want to teach people the simple truth that knowledge is power.”

By Anna Post



MICHAL RUPRECHT

Reserve Officers’ Training Corps offers opportunities to seniors

The Reserve Officers’ Training Corps offers a different opportunity for any graduating seniors who are interested in the military.

The ROTC is a training program for students who want to pursue a career in the military. The military offers three different programs for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and the Air Force; the Coast Guard does not have its own program.

“The military will pay for your education and you owe them so many years of service after you graduate and you go in as an officer,” counselor Jill Davenport said. “You spend one weekend a month in training and six weeks in the summer.”

After the training, officers are required to spend five to eight years in active duty. Depending on the situation, they can either stay in the country or they will be sent to serve in a war.

According to Navy recruiter Aaron Ekblad, students will not be obligated to service time until after the first year of college. For the Navy program, after completing a four year degree they will serve five years in active duty.

During the course of their education, students take extra classes along with their degree, learning things such as leadership skills or military history.

“If you have an interest in being an officer in the military, you’re still applying to colleges, you’re still doing the normal things. It’s just how you’re getting it paid for, is different,” Davenport said.

Not all colleges offer these scholarships. However, there are several across the U.S. that do. Students may have to decide between going to their favorite college or going to one that offers this program, although there are many universities that do in fact have it. According to Ekblad, in schools with higher standardized test averages there may be one student that receives the scholarship.

The scholarship is competitive, the better someone does the higher the chance they have of being picked. Qualifying students have the opportunity to receive up to \$180,000 towards their degree.

“What I do is talk to students and ask them how they’ve scored on either test and give them information about the program,” Ekblad said via email. “It is up to each individual to start the application process online.”



PHOTO COURTESY: WHEATON COLLEGE ROLLING THUNDER BATTALION

STAND TALL | Soldiers stand with pride. “Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps is actually a scholarship offered to qualified individuals based initially on their SAT or ACT scores,” Navy recruiter Aaron Ekblad said.

Due to the ROTC became a scholarship, it is not displayed on Naviance. Students are still expected to apply to colleges through the proper channels.

By Tarun Sanikommu

Exploring Global Issues invites guest speakers

Last year, sophomores and juniors had the opportunity to sign up for Exploring Global Issues, a pilot class recently introduced to the district. Students taking the class learn about problems that are common around the world, and issues that are also prevalent in Detroit.

Every other Thursday, the students of both North and South’s Exploring Global Issues classes join together to hear from guest speakers. Gilleran’s hope is that the students will be better able to understand what they learn in class by talking to someone who has experience working with those issues.

“We’re trying to find people who are actually in the field who have practical experience talking about some of the issues we’re discussing,” Gilleran said. “When we talk about global issues, every global issue is a local issue on some level.” The first of the four guest speakers who have visited so far was Rev. Faith Fowler, who founded the Tiny House Project in Detroit. For junior Maddy Martinbianco, Fowler was one of the most inspiring speakers she’s heard.

“She just kind of emphasized the idea that each little thing will make a difference,” Martinbianco said. “So just that everybody has to start on their own and like work their way up.”

Other guest speakers have included representatives from organizations such as Gleaners Food Bank and the Sierra Club, the President of the League of Women Voters and the Macomb County Environmental Prosecutor. Almost all are from around the Detroit area, giving the topics they talk about a sense of familiarity.

“It’s kinda cool seeing what people in our area have done to kind of make a difference,” senior Carmen Weinkauff said. “It all is not irrelevant stuff to us.”

Gilleran hopes that the class will help students realize that everyone can make a difference, no matter how small their contribution is. So far, students have come across the message clearly.

Weinkauff has learned about contributing to society and taking control of your future through hearing the speakers.

“Everyone can make a difference. A lot of the people are normal everyday people,” Weinkauff said. “Like this one lady, she was like a cook before, and now she works at Gleaners Food Bank, so I thought that was kinda cool, that she took her career and kind of turned it into something else.”

By Zoe Graves

CALENDAR

QUARTER GRADES DUE
Thursday, Nov. 10

FALL SPORTS AWARDS
Wednesday, Nov. 9 and Thursday, Nov. 10 from 7-9 p.m. in the PAC

GPN FAMILY CLUB MEETING
Wednesday, Nov. 9 from 7-10 p.m. in the Student Union

PARENT CLUB MEETING
Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7-8 p.m. in the PAC

COLLEGE SELECTION MEETING
Thursday, Nov. 10 from 7-8 p.m. in the Family Center

POPS & PASTRIES
Saturday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the gym

GPPSS OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, Nov. 13 from 1-4 p.m.

WINTER SPORTS MEET THE COACHES
Monday, Nov. 21 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria

THANKSGIVING BREAK
Wednesday, Nov. 23 to Monday, Nov. 28

IMPORTANT DATES for SENIORS

November 21
Regular deadline
for Diapers to Diplomas senior ads

November 30
Last day to order a book before prices go up
Extended payment
and deposit option available

ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE:
goo.gl/4mGv9e