



(L-R): Lauren Ferner, Morgan Malikowski, Dawson Taylor, Sadie Texer, Sydney Scarborough, Emma Claire Geitner

Students Bring Greek Mythology to Life

Middle school seventh and eighth grade students at Grandview, under the leadership of their creative language arts teacher, Melissa McKinnon, recently stepped back in time to explore Greek mythology. Immersed in the period with costume and food—the students co-mingled their learning discoveries with contemporary styles.

Connecting to their lives today, the students studied constellations, advertising, terminology and famous Greek myths. According to McKinnon, teams of students were given the task to become storytellers—taking the Greek myths and sharing them with their classmates. “I wanted them to learn these myths—and become confident in their story telling—just as solid as if they were telling ‘The Three Little Pigs,’” said McKinnon. “Their storybook pages were created as a PowerPoint presentation—which unfolded in class as their stories were told.”

Each student was required to dress as an identifiable character from Greek mythology, using a costume and props—to help teach other students in the entire school about the various myths. For example—Poseidon carried a trident. McKinnon couldn’t help but to join in on the venture—as she arrived at school dressed as Medusa.

The group of academically gifted/honors students also played Greek trivia games while tasting various Greek foods.

“In addition to teaching the core standards required through our language arts program, I felt drawn to teach these students about mythology because we frequently use terms that apply to myths,” said McKinnon. “As adults we might recognize the term *Achilles' heel* in reference to weakness; however, the students typically have no idea of the meaning of this term or its application. Additionally, many great novels and stories mention Greek myths in passing, but without the knowledge and understanding of Greek mythology, students often miss the reference.”



Max Bailey - 7th grade



Kyle Chang - 8th grade