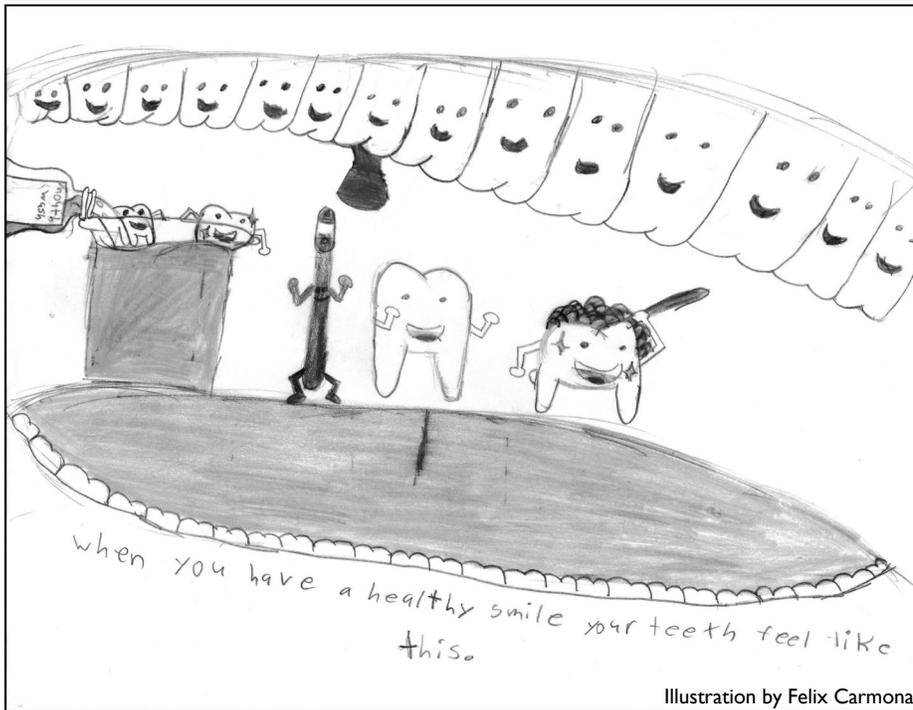


# EISENHOWER

# HEALTHY PANTHER

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## New way of learning gets a thumbs up

A new teaching model at Eisenhower is helping students engage in learning in teacher-directed groups, collaborative groups, and independently.

In interviews, students said that the Hybrid Learning Initiative is fun and educational.

It "is fun because it is not just reading out of a textbook," says Ashley, a sixth grader.

Joseph, another sixth grader, said he likes that "you don't have to sit in front of a teacher all day."

During a class period, students rotate through three different stations. They work directly with teachers at the teacher-directed station. They practice skills with other students at the collaborative station. At the independent station, they work on activities by themselves, using the computer or reading books. Students spend about 25 minutes at each station.

Eisenhower received a grant to pilot the hybrid classrooms. The initiative started in the sixth and seventh grade math classes of Mrs. Smith, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. O'Hagan, and Mr. Billemeier.

Reading and social studies teachers followed the lead of the math teachers. They brought the hybrid approach into their classes.

(Please see *Students* Page 2)

## Smile: Make someone's day

When a student overcomes a challenge, Mr. Bagbonon smiles. The Eisenhower building substitute says he beams because the student recognizes that "hard work pays off."

### Special report: Healthy Smiles

Smiling is how people remember you. It "is my trademark," Mr. Bagbonon said.

"I know my smile makes people smile back."

In interviews, school staff said smiling makes them feel joyful, confident, and content.

School Principal Ms. Taylor said she feels "exhilarated" when she smiles. When student test scores improve, she beams. She knows that teachers are doing a

good job and students are working hard.

Mrs. Shallow, the language arts instructional support teacher, said she smiles when she sees students learn, explore, question, and support one another. "My goal is for all students to be successful," she said.

Mrs. Shallow said smiling makes her feel calm, relaxed, and jubilant. "Smiling helps everyone," she said.

School nurse Mrs. Roman said she smiles when students say "thank you" and have good manners. Mrs. Womack, the fifth grade science teacher, said she smiles when she sees children ex-

(Please see *There are* Page 2)

# Students embrace new program

(Continued from Page 1)

Eisenhower staff members believe the initiative will make a difference in student achievement. For instance, it encourages children to be critical thinkers and collaborators, according to Mrs. Shallow, the language arts instructional support teacher.

Working with other classmates is a favorite part of the program for many students. Lily, a sixth grader, said it helps her learn. "When I need help I have a partner," Lily said.

Other students said they get their work done more quickly. They also said they benefit from getting different points of view on a subject.

Several students liked the teacher-directed station because they learn new things and have personalized time with the teacher. "The teacher can explain things better during the teacher-assisted station," said Gabriella, a sixth grader in the program.

When Angel, a seventh grader, has trouble solving a math problem, he uses the Compass Odyssey website at the independent station. It gives him a step-by-step solution to the problem. "If you get the problem wrong you can try, try again until you get it correct," Angel said.

David, a sixth grader, said he is learning more with the new program. "During the teacher-directed time, the teacher helps you learn certain skills and then at the computers you can check on the skill you

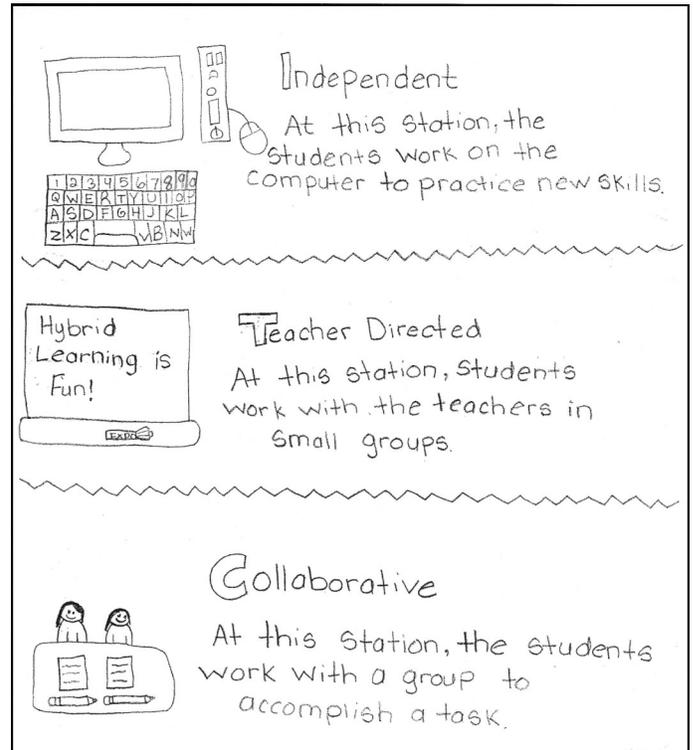


Illustration by Carlyn Sanchious

need help with and you can collaborate with classmates," he said.

—By Healthy Panther staff

# There are many reasons to smile

(Continued from Page 1)

cited about science. She knows they are learning new things. "Smiling makes me feel happy and content in my surroundings," she said.

Spending time with her family prompts Mrs. Guy, the fifth grade social studies teacher, to smile. "Smiling makes me feel good inside and makes me glow and feel good about myself," she said.

Mr. Panzullo, the technology education teacher, said he smiles every time he wins at golf.

When he smiles, he said, he feels "happy and confident."

Mrs. Mayurnik, a social studies and science teacher, said she smiles when she takes her dog to the dog park. You can make yourself happy by smiling, she said.

Mr. Hadrick, a school counselor, said he smiles when he watches his son go to school. He also smiles

when he see hard-working students getting good grades.

—By Healthy Panther staff

## Tips to keep your smile looking great!

The KidsHealth.org website offers these tips for taking care of your teeth:

- \* Brush your teeth at least twice a day, after you eat breakfast and before you go to bed.
- \* Use a toothbrush with soft bristles.
- \* Brush your teeth for two to three minutes every time you brush.
- \* Brush all your teeth.
- \* Replace your toothbrush with a new one every three months.
- \* When you brush, you only need a small amount of toothpaste. The amount is the size of a pea.
- \* Remember to floss daily.

# Why showing respect is important

*Editor's note: Healthy Panther reporters recently asked Eisenhower staff about respect. When people respect each other, bullying behavior can be reduced, according to the Stopbullying.gov website.*

Eisenhower Principal Ms. Taylor said respect is important because "it allows people to communicate in a positive manner.

"It also keeps our school and environment safe and ensures that everyone can get along in a positive way," she said.

Being respectful is the right thing to do, Ms. Taylor said. "If everyone respects each other then only kind words will be exchanged and bullying will not take place."

Students can show respect to teachers by listening to what they say and not talking back.

"Respect is earned," Ms. Taylor said. "Everyone should respect each other, including adults and children."

She said she respects students who come to school every day to learn and who show respect for their teachers. "The kids make it a great place to work," Ms. Taylor said.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Guy, a fifth grade social studies teacher, said showing respect is important because it helps people feel good about themselves. It also makes the school or community a better place.

"When we show respect to those around us, it will prevent students from bullying each other," Mrs. Guy said. "We must show respect to everyone."

In school, students can show respect to their teachers by raising their hand to ask a question and

**Attention teachers and students:** The *Healthy Panther* staff would like to know whom you respect and why that person has earned your respect. Please submit a short essay, and we may publish it in our next issue!

by listening to what the teacher says. Don't let anyone disturb your learning, she said.

To let your classmates know that you respect them, "keep your hands and feet to yourself, don't pick on, or make fun of, or shame other students," Mrs. Guy said.

When you are walking around the halls, pick up any trash you see on the floor. If you see anyone doing something inappropriate, let an adult know.

\* \* \*

"Showing respect is important because we all need to support and care for each other," said Mrs. Shallow, the instructional support teacher for literacy. "We must spread kindness, caring, and empathy to make our community a better place."

When people are respectful of each other, they can help stop bullying. Why? Positive behavior such as kindness and caring replaces negative behavior, she said.

"The hallmark of respect is treating others the way you want to be treated," Mrs. Shallow said.

In school, respect means to listen and participate in the classroom. You should work collaboratively with others and lend a helping hand to other students. You should take care of school materials and clean up after yourself, Mrs. Shallow said.

Mrs. Shallow said you should "remember to be respectful at all times even when no one is looking."

—By Healthy Panther staff

*Eisenhower Healthy Panther*

A publication of the Eisenhower Science and Technology Leadership Academy in the Norristown Area School District. Student staff members include Sofia Alvarado, Felix Carmona, Arianna Green, Efrain King, Zachary Kniezewski, Cesar Ramirez-Menes, Ixchel Reyes-Avila, Carlyn Sanchious, Jordan Thomas, Ciana Thomas-Ware, and Crintas Wright-Burruss.

The *Healthy Panther's* faculty advisors are Mrs. Guy, Mrs. Shallow, and Ms. Mayurnik.

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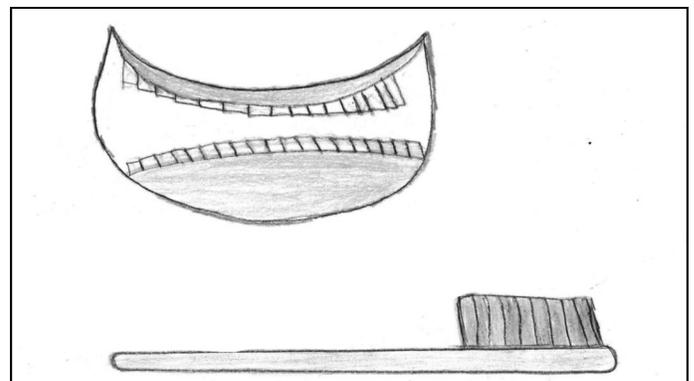


Illustration by Jordan Thomas

**Answers to word scramble**

1. Dentist
2. Smile
3. Brush
4. Toothpaste
5. Cavity
6. Braces
7. Floss
8. Fluoride

# Check out your tooth smarts!—By Healthy Panther staff

Unscramble the words and check your answers on the bottom of Page 3.

1. stidten	A person you see who checks your teeth.
2. leism	A way a person may remember you.
3. rsuhb eteht	You need to do this at least twice a day.
4. stthatoeop	Only use a small amount.
5. tavcyi	Decay in a tooth
6. cearbs	Devices to fix teeth.
7. solfs	Helps gums and teeth stay clean.
8. dlefiuro	Helps keep teeth strong.

## Health leaders inspire reporters

*Editor's note: These letters are written to three of the health leaders who are featured in the Healthy NewsWorks books, "Leading Healthy Change In Our Communities."*

*\*Dr. Julie Gerberding, a Merck executive and a former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

*\*Dr. Beatriz Garces, a dentist and a founder of the Garces Family Foundation.*

*\* Michelle Angela Ortiz, artist, muralist, and arts educator.*

\* \* \*

Dear Dr. Gerberding,

You're a good role model because you stop the spread of disease. If children grow up to be like you it would make the world a better place. I would like to do your job because it makes the world a safer place by preventing deaths. Your job is important because it helps fewer people get sick and die.

Sincerely,  
Efrain King

\* \* \*

Dear Dr. Garces,

What inspires me about you is that you will lower the price for people who can't afford to go to the dentist. I think you are a good role model for children because they can learn to brush their teeth and keep their teeth healthy. Also they can learn how to floss. I would like to try your job because I like to clean my teeth and I want everyone to have clean teeth. Your

**ATTENTION TEACHERS: Your students can also write a letter to a leader and it could be printed in the Healthy Press. Copies of Leading Healthy Change In Our Communities from 2012-2015 can be found in Mrs. Shallow's office. For lesson ideas, please visit the Teacher Resources Page at: [HealthyNewsWorks.org](http://HealthyNewsWorks.org).**

job is important to people because they want you to help them keep their teeth healthy so they can have a nice white smile.

Sincerely,  
Arianna Green

\* \* \*

Dear Ms. Ortiz,

I admire the way you make art and the reasons you make it. You have an amazing background in art. You are really a strong person for fighting and defending yourself against those bullies and other rude kids. They had no right to act that way to you.

You really inspired my love of drawing to become a bigger part of my life. Thank you, Ms. Ortiz. In my free time when I draw I will think of your story.

Sincerely,  
Jordan Thomas