

Our new STEAM educator joins us from Belle Valley Elementary where she was teaching visual arts K-5. Mrs. Carpinello not only has a Certification in Art Education but also a minor degree in metalsmithing and ceramics! We look forward to a creative, innovative year ahead in STEAM education with Mrs. Carpinello!

## Experiential Education at its Best

As our third and fourth graders (including teachers and parents) drop their overnight bags on the lawn this morning, we are reminded of the adventures in learning the group will soon enjoy. Experiencing camp together in the creek, horse arena, hiking trails, barn, lawn, and cabins is an EDS tradition long-remembered. Alumni often return to relive moments at "Camp with Ms. G" and remark about the courage and growth that resulted among fearless friends and trusted adults.

Among the many benefits of an Erie Day School education are the experiential approaches offered Toddler through Grade 8. Treasured traditions such as the three days/two nights at Camp Fitch, the week-long excursion in Boston, theatre events at a distance, zoo trips, orchard visits, museum views, pumpkin patch events and more give our children opportunity to learn and thrive. Research reminds us that experiential learning fosters deeper understanding, skill development, and personal advancement through active engagement in real-world experiences. Through hands on activities and reflection, children are able to assimilate new experiences with previous ones, repeatedly shown to improve learning.

This summer, many faculty/staff read the book *The Anxious Generation* (which I highly recommend to parents) and learned the statistical evidence related to the impact of smartphones on childhood. The author, Dr. Haidt, relays that a lack of real-world interactions impedes healthy child development among boys and girls, in different ways and at varying degrees. Needless to say, our observational data reminds us the experiences we are ensuring our children throughout their years "at the Day School" impact not only childhood, but a lifetime.

Well wishes to our campers and other students set for educational trips to remember!



Yours in education,