La Semaine Nationale du français  
2010  
dans le Minnesota

Reports from our members via our email message service «MnAATFNet»

#1:

From: Anne E. Muske [aemuske@isd194.k12.mn.us]
Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2010 6:26 PM
Subject: Lakeville South National French Week Report

Lakeville South National French Week 2010 Report

At Lakeville South, we celebrated National French Week 2010 from November 8 through 12.

1. We put a huge sign in the commons. We reuse the sign every year, changing only the bottom four panels. This year the panels read, HAITI, DRAPEAUX = BONBONS, FILM LE VALET, and COLORIAGE. The permanent part of the sign reads, FETONS LA SEMAINE NATIONALE DU FRANÇAIS.

2. We put little posters all around the school. Each year, I make 10 or so different templates reading LA SEMAINE NATIONALE DU FRANÇAIS 20XX in 10 or so different fonts on 11 x 8.5-inch paper, then I photocopy enough for all my students. On their posters, students need to put a fact about France assigned to them from Richard Shryock at Virginia Tech's article:  
   http://www.fll.vt.edu/french/whyfrench.html

   at least five words in French, and a picture or pictures (the best posters show one large scene rather than several little pictures). Then we post all the current posters along with all the posters (= a lot of posters for a really big building). Suggestion: have students make the posters prior to the beginning of the week so that French Club members can put up all the posters at once, after school on Friday before the week begins. We gave an Eiffel Tower keychain to the artist who made the best poster in each class.

3. We put clusters of three Mardi Gras colored posters all around the school. A purple one advertised our fundraiser for the Haitian Health Foundation, a green one advertised our movie and crêpe opportunity - after school on Thursday, and a gold one advertised the remainder of our activities.

4. We gave each "Cougar Time" teacher 10 entries for the coloring contest with the same information on the back as on the gold posters (Cougar Time lasts 25 minutes on Tuesdays and Thursdays). We had two designs for the coloring contest this year: a French dog gesturing toward the bottom left of the page - the idea was for students to fill in the empty space as desired (the winning entry depicted Justin Bieber saying, "J'aime le français!") - and Notre Dame. We gave Toblerones to the two winners.
5. We taped little flags (I think I got them at the Hôtel Sofitel gift shop) around the building. Students who found them could trade them in for Ferrero Rocher fine hazelnut chocolates.

6. We solicited information from all the teachers and staff in order to make a poster for most of them saying what their personal connection to France/French was. Examples included, "I go goose hunting in Canada" and "I've been to Paris" and "I took French in high school and college."

7. We put famous francophone people signs up on the doors of people teaching in the corresponding disciplines.


   Of this total, however, at least $295 came from individual teachers' pockets, and $250 came from the two classes vying to give the most and thereby win the prize - sachets de bonbons . . .

9. We showed the film, «The Valet / La Doublure» and served crêpes after school on Thursday. It's a really funny film, and it lasts fewer than 90 minutes, so I highly recommend it for French Clubs (not French classes as there are many better movies for academic purposes).

10. We held an international student panel on Friday. Each hour, world language classes came to the auditorium to meet the international students (some on exchange, some living here now) and hear from them. I can explain that in more detail to anyone who is interested.

11. On Tuesday, our food service program offered a French lunch on the alternate line. They are great to participate every year!

   I think that's about it.

   The hardest part is getting enough French Club members to put up all the signs and then take down all the signs! Anyone with questions can email me directly at: [mailto:aemuske@isd194.k12.mn.us](mailto:aemuske@isd194.k12.mn.us)

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Better late than never ...

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District 622 secondary schools celebrated
National French Week Nov. 15-19

and at North High in North St. Paul

French 1 students made and displayed posters with French themes and made crêpes.

French 2 labeled classrooms, hallways, offices, etc with their French names and they made magnets for the lockers of all French students in the building.

French 3 celebrated by eating French bread with Nutella

French 4/College in the Schools read parts of the afternoon announcements, telling the North High community what they would be eating for lunch the next day and what activities they could attend in the evening . all in French of course.

All French students were able to purchase a t-shirt with an original design by a middle school student. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

Vive la France et le monde francophone !