



DECEMBER 2025

ASPIRING EDUCATORS

NEWSLETTER



North Pole Night

North Pole Night was a meaningful opportunity for Aspiring Educators to apply their skills by planning and leading the event, managing groups of children, and creating a positive, welcoming environment. Held at Stanwood Elementary as a festive Parents Night Out, elementary students enjoyed games, crafts, and a showing of Frosty the Snowman. The experience was especially helpful for Aspiring Educators as they gained hands-on practice, and it was a joyful and memorable evening for students and families, highlighting the strong partnership between our program and the school community.

Students also studied Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development. Using their understanding of the four stages, students analyzed how children at different developmental levels understand abstract concepts such as Santa Claus and why those understandings differ by age. To extend their learning, students created developmentally appropriate Christmas gift guides for each stage, explaining how selected toys support cognitive growth, learning, and age-appropriate skill development.

Year 1 - Understanding Child Development

Year 1 Aspiring Educators continued their learning in child development through their Seton Hill University course, Typical and Atypical Growth and Development. Students focused on two foundational theories that guide effective teaching and classroom practice.

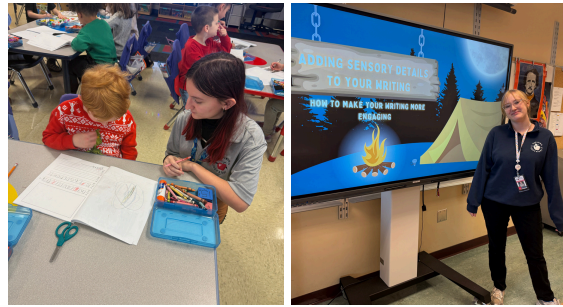
Students explored Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, learning how basic needs such as safety, belonging, and self-esteem impact student learning and behavior. After studying the theory, students created personalized versions of the hierarchy to reflect their own needs and experiences, helping them make real-world connections between theory and practice.



The Aspiring Educator students also attend one of our ten sending School Districts. Instructors: Mrs. Cesario & Mrs. Crist.

Year 2 – Classroom Management and Practicum Success

Year 2 Aspiring Educators focused their in-class learning on classroom management, building the skills needed to create positive, structured, and supportive learning environments. Students examined key components of effective classroom management, including structure, consistency, engagement, and relationship-building. They explored proactive strategies for addressing common classroom challenges, such as off-task behavior, excessive questioning, student disengagement, and emotional regulation, while learning what effective teachers should and should not do when managing behavior. In addition to classroom learning, Year 2 students successfully completed their first practicum placements by the end of December. Each student planned, created, and delivered their first formal lessons in real classrooms, observed by their Aspiring Educator instructors. Students demonstrated professionalism, preparation, and growth as future educators, and each did a fabulous job representing our program. We extend a sincere thank you to our mentor teachers for their time, guidance, and support in helping our aspiring educators grow: Mr. Martin, Mrs. Weismann, Mrs. Hlavsa, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Muchoney, Ms. Novosel, and Mrs. Victor.



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In the Spotlight

Congratulations to Vivian Gale from Norwin School District for an outstanding achievement at the District SkillsUSA Competition. On Wednesday, December 17, Vivian competed in the Early Childhood Education event and earned first place. This accomplishment highlights the talent, commitment, and future promise she brings to the field of education.

Educators Rising Club News

Our Educators Rising members had a busy and meaningful month sharing holiday joy.

- Students volunteered their time at Stanwood Elementary’s Snow & Glow Event and at CWCTC’s Breakfast with Santa.
- Members also planned & hosted a North Pole Night at Stanwood Elementary on December 10. This event gave parents a night out while children enjoyed games, crafts, and festive activities. This served as a fundraiser for our club, raising \$350.
- In the spirit of giving, we supported a family in need. Students purchased gifts and gift cards to help a family in need celebrate Christmas.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS:

- Fundraising Partnership
 - Spectrum Fudge - January (Interested in supporting? Please email Mrs. Crist or Mrs. Cesario)

LOOKING AHEAD:

- In January, Educators Rising members will be purchasing items to create hygiene kits as part of a community service project, continuing their commitment to giving back and supporting others.





HAPPY



HOLIDAYS



from the CWCTC



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Mrs. Cesario



Mrs. Crist