



Discovery News



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Fall Discovery Night & Graduation

LC High School Library

Thursday, October 10, 2019

7:00 p.m.

We invite and strongly encourage all Discovery students and their parents, as well as teachers and administrators to attend our annual fall Discovery meeting and graduation. We will honor our graduates from the Discovery program and have some informative presentations. ***Come for dessert, as well as encouragement and inspiration!***



Don't Give Up!

Dawson Walker graduated from the Discovery Program in Spring 2019 as an 8th grader. He responded to an interview given by his educational therapist, Deanna Pawlowski. The following are thoughts Dawson wanted to share with present and potential Discovery students:

I think I ended my year strong. Before starting Discovery, reading was a difficulty for me. It was hard to follow words and lines when reading. I was also a slow reader.

When my mom told me I would be starting Discovery, I was confused. I asked lots of questions. I asked so many questions my mom couldn't keep track.

In 5th grade, I noticed I was doing better in school. I saw that I was reading faster. I even got better in math, even though I thought it wasn't possible.

Work in Discovery can be difficult. My least favorite thing to do was Dictation/Copy. I didn't like D/C, because copying was hard to do from a book to a page. When I did D/C, remembering to dot i's and cross t's was hard. I also didn't like memorizing the whole Blue Book.

Therapy can help you even though you might not notice it. For me, my reading speed and accuracy improved. In writing, my speed got faster, and my spelling grades became better. In math, my skills skyrocketed, and I started to love it! When I got my report cards, they were mostly A's and B's.

If you are ever thinking that you don't need this (Discovery therapy) or you want to quit, don't! If you do give up, you might be behind in a subject which isn't fun. Also, staying in Discovery will help you in the long run.

How Blessed to Give by Sid Hartwell

When we consider God's giving heart, it is no wonder that Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than receive." (Acts 20:35.) Recently, our Student Academic Services (SAS) department was especially blessed as we were able to give away some old testing materials, the Woodcock-Johnson III Tests of Achievement (W-J III). A few years ago, this testing battery was updated to the newer edition, the Woodcock-Johnson IV. Our SAS department updated to W-J IV, in order to stay current with this important tool. This tool helps us to determine our student's needs and growth.

Since that time, the old copies of the W-J III have sat in closets gathering dust. At our first Discovery therapist's meeting this school year, it was suggested that we give these old tests to others who could not afford the newer edition, such as missionaries or those serving in a private practice.

The offer was made on the NILD email chain. Within minutes we received multiple takers from around the world. The materials were gathered, boxed and mailed off to four recipients. Because it is so inspiring to hear how God is at work, we would like to share a bit about our recipients with you.

One set went to Lucy Martins, in India. Lucy wrote, "I do psychological-education testing for Maharashtra Dyslexia Association in Goa. I am the one and only educational therapist in Goa. It's the Lord's plan and my wish to work in Goa...It's a miracle to have the W-J III complete set for free. I had a wish last summer, and this summer it's in process. This is certainly God's plan for me." Lucy shared that she is the first in her family to receive a college education. She has single handedly paid for all of her training through the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD). What a blessing to be a part of Lucy's story!

Another set went to missionary, Laurie Boughton. Laurie and her family are serving in Thailand. Laurie wrote, "Our family moved to Thailand in 2016 as missionaries to work with children and families of the Hilltribes of Thailand." It was discovered during their time in Thailand that their youngest son is a struggling learner. When considering the possibility of leaving the mission field in order to get help for their son, Laurie discovered the NILD program. She has now completed Level 2 training, and works with

Dyslexic by Shannon Smith

Dyslexic

It's where I'm different, frustrated, strong
Where struggling on the daily will help in the future

Dyslexic

Means I'm not at the same level of reading and spelling
To non-dyslexics it can be hard to understand how hard school is
It takes double the time to do your work
Having panic attacks every time you have to read in front of class or when you have to write a paper
The pit in your stomach when everyone is waiting for you to finish your test
Or there's the embarrassment of someone grading your assignment or reading anything you wrote by hand

Dyslexic

Means you're strong and it's part of you
Makes me creative to a fault
Will make it easier when you fail at something
Since you know there's other ways to do it
Made me a better speaker
More confident in who I am
Or the joy you get when you're not the last one to finish a test
And the excitement of spelling or reading a word correctly

Dyslexic

Meant it was a joy to find the Discovery program
With the excitement of seeing it's working and I'm improving

Dyslexic

Means my family wants me to grow even through the tough times
Knowing my brother has an idea of what I'm going through
Wondering if it was this hard for my grandpa

Dyslexia

Is the sound of a swarm of bees
You can't focus on the work in front of you during school
Where the letters in a word are just letters you can't understand

To me Dyslexia is a gift

Because even though it seems like a burden
Being a dyslexic makes you who you are
Failing at things is easier since you fail on the daily
But it's who I am.

*****Sophomore students wrote poetry about a characteristic that is a part of who they are. Discovery student Shannon Smith wrote about being dyslexic and bravely shared the poem with her class, and shares it here as well, for your inspiration! *****



How Blessed to Give cont. from page 2:

her son and two teenage boys, who are also sons of missionaries in the area. Laurie is looking to start a Discovery Program in “an international school nearby, that has a heart to help struggling learners, but limited resources to do so.” Laurie’s vision is to eventually become an NILD trainer and establish a therapist training center in order to serve the missionary community in southeast Asia. What a blessing to be a part of Laurie’s story!

The third set, which had been donated to us a few years ago, went to Christina South. Christina is an educational therapist who is in private practice in Mount Vernon. The expense of updating to the Woodcock-Johnson IV was too prohibitive for Christina as a solo practitioner. She plans to share the testing materials with two other educational therapists, who also have private practices in Mt. Vernon and Arlington. Her materials were hand delivered on a recent trip through Mt. Vernon. Christina is very thankful for this wonderful and generous gift.

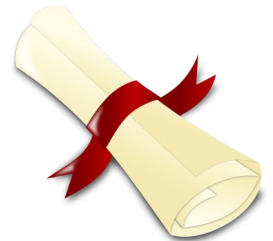
Lastly, Pam Van Zanten, an educational therapist from Mt. Vernon Christian School, was in need of a few testing forms for the W-J III. These forms are now out of print. We were blessed to meet this need for her and her school. What a blessing to be a part of Christina and Pam’s stories!!

NILD Educational Therapy is Global

NILD is an organization that reaches around the globe. Originating in Virginia, the influence of NILD Educational Therapy has spread tremendously. **One thousand** NILD-trained and certified Educational Therapists work with students in **35 states, and 16 different countries.** Thanks to this global NILD community, we as Lynden Christian educational therapists can be connected with so many others! We are blessed and can be a blessing—sharing ideas, experiences and resources.

Congratulations!

We want to recognize the hard work these students have put in! Congratulations to each of you! You have stayed the course and demonstrated grit and determination as you worked at the homework, the Rhythmic Writing, and all the hours of work in your sessions! Good job and best wishes in your pursuit of learning in the years ahead:



Dawson Walker
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Karlie Korthuis
Joshua Van Dellen

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*“He who began a good work in you
will carry it on to completion until the
day of Christ Jesus.”*

- Philippians 1:6