

Superintendent's Highlight of the Week

May 26, 2017



We have some newly published fifth grade authors at Mattlin Middle School who were proud to showcase their work to admiring parents, teachers, and administrators at a recent “Meet the Authors” event. As I moved among the authors, I learned a great deal about the areas of their research, ranging from topics such as China, the life of William Shakespeare, research on the history and rules of fencing, Polar Bears, and even the chronology of women breaking the glass ceiling in professional soccer.



The students researched and created these nonfiction books with careful attention to cover design, number of subtopics, format, text structure and appropriate length. They composed a full table of contents, index, and works cited sections that were pages long. They worked with their Chromebooks to create the finished product. In the production phase they utilized resources including books, encyclopedias, internet sites, pamphlets, and magazines. The weeks spent on this project seemed well worth it because of the impressive outcome and the ownership that each student felt about his/her final product.



The ability to conduct deep and meaningful research and to write about that research is a skill that all students will need as they journey on to college and beyond. These students are demonstrating they are ready and able for the next level of challenge. Who knows? Perhaps a future Pulitzer prize winner will say they began here!!