

Art After Dark: Hernewood Style

Hernewood Intermediate School (Grades 7-9 school population: ~245)
2015-2016

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Principal: Patti Sweet

Hernewood Intermediate Home and School invited a local artist to lead parents and students through the steps of painting a scenic landscape, and opened doors of communication between parent and child in the process.

The project benefitted:

- ✚ **PARENTS** who learned a shared activity can be a door to important conversations.
- ✚ **STUDENTS** who learned the same lesson.
- ✚ **THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY** who can see the school as a place for connection.

How were the parents encouraged to attend?

- ✚ The event was promoted through school newsletter and website.

Webstory:

Parents and students gathered at Hernewood Intermediate School to try some things new together. Nervous laughter filled the air as artist Lynn Gaudet handed out canvasses and brushes. Parents and students were going to learn together how to create a scenic Island landscape! The idea was to create a fun evening together in a school environment, learning a new skill with your child, and foster good relationships with parent and child as well as parent and school. It opened up an avenue for parents to see the school in a different light and to perhaps persuade them to join parent council or become more active in the school community. Hernewood believes that “Parent involvement in their child’s school increases the chance of student success” – the 30 people in attendance that night certainly agreed, as under Lynn’s guidance, the nerves gave way to pride – in themselves, their creation, their child and their school.