

NR 100219

Elementary students tour advertising studio

This fall, some John Wetten students were invited for a behind-the-scenes tour of Hinge Studios to learn about the 3D technology used to produce digital animation and smart phone apps.

The tour resulted from a connection with volunteer Don Flowers, an advertising professional who led an after school creative writing class the students took last spring.

“During his time volunteering with us, he showed us some of the commercials he was working on, including one for Kaady Car Wash,” said Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Schmidt. “Students saw the whole process step by step, from a roughly sketched story board to the professionally-produced commercial created by Hinge Studios. They also learned how writers and animators work together on projects for the Cartoon Network and Pixar.”

The tour included a visit to the in-house studio to watch all the steps in the making of the Kaady car wash commercial and clips from other commercials Hinge has made.

PHOTO: Creative writing students from John Wetten toured Hinge Studios to learn how writers and animators work together on projects like making commercials.

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GHS launches College and Career Readiness class

To help each student make a successful transition from high school to their adult future, Gladstone High School has launched a new College and Career Readiness [CCR] class that meets at least twice a month.

“Every student in the school joins a small group of same-grade peers, with a mentor teacher assigned to them for four years,” said Vice Principal Patti Alexander. “We’re excited about being able to provide regular, age-specific guidance as students plan for careers or college.”

Course content varies by age, so study skills lessons depend on the student’s grade level. While freshmen complete interest inventories and research career options, sophomores may focus on college admissions exams and the importance of job experience.

Juniors research trades programs, internships, or the right college, while seniors get tips on resume writing, apprenticeships, college applications, and scholarships.

“So far student feedback has been really positive,” said Alexander. “Kids have a voice in their school and their future, and they like having the chance to connect with the same teacher long-term.”

PHOTO: The new CCR class at Gladstone High School gives each student time and long-term guidance to plan for their future step-by-step with a teacher mentor.