



CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Walter Bracken Magnet School
For Math and Science Through Technology
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<http://ccsd.net/schools/bracken/>



February 14, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

This summer we requested a special science curriculum day from Mad Science similar to a program that we had used in the past at Walter Bracken. We asked them to create a variety of lessons that our teachers could teach throughout the day that focused on the state Power Standards for science. The Mad Science staff exceeded our expectations and created a wonderful *Power Pack Science* day. All of our students were involved in innovative and engaging science lessons throughout the day. They kept journals and focused on hands on activities to learn the standards.

The best part of this day was the enthusiasm and excitement from the staff. The lessons were extremely well developed. There was no additional planning required on the part of the teachers and all of the materials were there. The teachers had the opportunity to focus on the science and the students. The professional development opportunity of teaching the same lesson five times consecutively was priceless. It was like teaching five years in a row in one day. By the end of the day they had learned exactly what worked and what did not with each lesson. Since they taught those lessons I have observed many more experiments in the classrooms and labs at our school. It excited them about science and they were able to see the connections to reading, writing and vocabulary development.

Our students had the chance to participate in this day before they began their science fair projects. This year the students understand how to complete their experiments and have new questions after the Power Pack Science day. We plan on making this an annual event at Bracken with a unanimous staff vote to continue. The children still talk about the day and say it was the "Best day of their lives!"

I strongly recommend this program for any staff that needs to better understand how to teach a great science lesson and who might be resisting the use of the FOSS kit. After teaching this day of science it will become contagious! Feel free to contact us regarding our positive experience with this great program!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Decker
Principal