



E.H. Phillips Elementary

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Mandy L. Bates
Principal

"HIGH STANDARDS EVERYDAY FOR ALL STUDENTS"

Ivette Jimenez
Secretary

February 22, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

On February 18, 2022, our 4th grade students here at E.H. Phillips Elementary had the opportunity to work with Stephen Kozan through the Student Author Movement. First and foremost, we would like to thank First National Bank for their generous grant to allow us the chance to work with Mr. Kozan. Not only did our students have an enjoyable time, but many of our students gained motivation to want to write!

During our time with Mr. Kozan, our students were highly engaged in a hands- on lesson to spark creativity and imagination. The students had an absolute blast creating "Black Soul"- part lizard, part bunny, and part axolotl with an actual illustrator! The looks on all of the students' faces when they saw the completed drawing was completely worth it. If that activity wasn't enough for the kids, Mr. Kozan went far enough to tell his story of becoming an author, and shared various books with the class that truly hit home to them. After, the students had a chance to draw and write up an idea for a possible story of their own, which was then handed over to Mr. Kozan for him to select a student to put their idea to paper. The excitement from the students after the presentation was truly the best part. Not only were students asking questions to figure out whether or not their story was selected, but they were brainstorming new ideas as well!

Overall, the Student Author Movement presentation was an absolute hit with fourth grade here at E.H. Phillips Elementary. Mr. Kozan provided an educational, engaging lesson that kept students interested. Furthermore, Mr. Kozan provided our students with the understanding that they are capable of reaching their dreams, whatever they may be, and to believe in themselves. Thank you again for the incredible presentation, and we hope to work with Mr. Kozan and the Student Author Movement again!

Sincerely,

Sara Strohm
4th Grade Teacher

Amanda Martinez
4th Grade Teacher