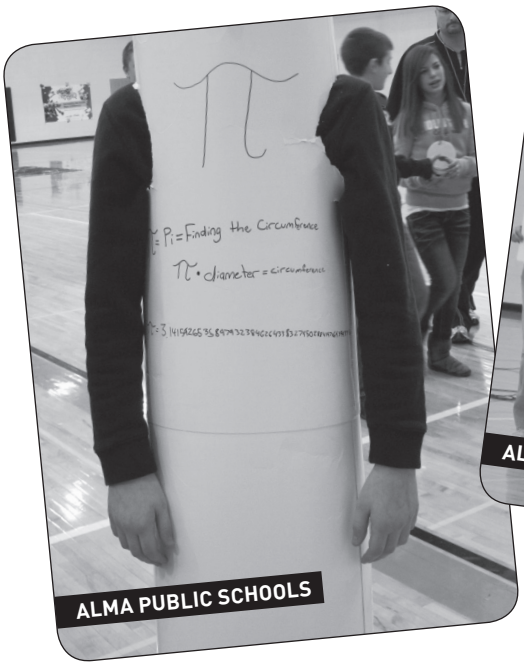
CASE STUDY

ALMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCHOOL-WIDE PI DAY (MARCH 14) MAKEOVER
PI (3.14) DAY = MARCH (THE 3RD MONTH) 14TH

Over the years in many middle schools, March 14 has become known as "Pi Day." During the 2010-2011 school year, a huge transformation took place replacing the traditional "eating of the pies" with a variety of fun, non-food events. They included:

- A dress up day in which the students and staff creatively dressed up with the theme in mind... circles, pie, math nerd, hats at least (since your hat size can be calculated using pi), etc. There was an award for the best dressed at each grade level AND for the best dressed grown up.
- The art teacher judged a Pi symbol decorating contest.
- A list of songs that have to do with circles, rings, hoops, balls, spheres, etc. was developed that could be played in classrooms and on the P.A. during passing times and in the lunch room.
- In the P.E. classes, round balls, hoops, and frisbees were used.
- The social studies teachers revisited the Greeks that day and pointed out that the pi symbol is a letter from their alphabet.
- The science teachers incorporated pi in a lesson that day involving the planets, moon, & sun. Also discussed were the double helix of DNA , eye ball, and that when a raindrop falls into water and pi emerges in the spreading ring? By the way, Albert Einstein was born on this day in 1879!
- English teachers encouraged a pi writing activity... short story, creative writing, informational writing about a pi topic, PI POEM.
- A pi digit memorizing contest was conducted. The student that could recite the most digits during the assembly won a prize.
- An afternoon assembly was held, finishing off the day with a Pi Day Celebration. There was a power point about pi, a hula hoop contest, and a pie eating contest (just apples cut up in pie tins). The grand finally will be that pie in the face of staff.



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