

FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. MYERS

Superintendent Update: January 9, 2016

“Health and good humor are to the human body like sunshine to vegetation.”—Jean B. Massillon

Happy New Year! Have you already committed to some new resolutions? I need to develop some healthier eating habits. Others may pledge to stop procrastinating and tackle that long put-off project. But educators generally use the New Year to resolve to do better by their students and profession. Almost always educators think about how to serve others! I want all of us to serve others, but I also desire that each of us has good health and a positive attitude. Here are some possible resolutions, but then I think these may be more of an everyday occurrence for many of our teachers than a resolution!

Enjoy My Students

Enjoy every day with our students. Take the time to enjoy our students. Time goes by so quickly and they will be adults before we know it. Doesn't it feel great for a former student to return and tell us how much they loved (us) our class!

Make Time for Myself and My Family

We should alter our teaching and professional life in a way that allows for more family time. Cut down our homework and plan time with our family. Leave time and energy in the day to take care of ourselves in a way that physically, mentally, and spiritually gives balance to our lives.

Learn How to Integrate New Technology into My Classroom

We might consider continuing gaining expertise in technology, and learning fresh ways to incorporate it in our daily teaching. I have so much to learn and I know we all probably have reached the point where we understand technology is just a part of what our children are used to when we get them. We must find ways to successfully use technology to support our instruction. Nothing will replace the great teacher, in my opinion...but our kids are digital natives and we have to adapt.

Try Something Different

We must resolve to take more of a facilitator role at times and not jump in at the first sign of a struggle to give our students more opportunities to think. We want our students to be more actively engaged in their own learning.

Connect with Students and Help Them Enjoy Learning

We all want to help students feel that they matter...I've taught for 39 years, and we are expected to cover more than ever and collect more data. It's easy to get caught up in covering content. In the end, I feel it's most important that students enjoy learning and

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JANUARY 9, 2015



Special dates of interest:

- * School board meeting— January 15th 6:00pm

know they matter without diminishing the importance of learning content.

Make a Fresh Start

Sometimes when I feel I haven't accomplished anything, I simply clean my desk and work area. It feels good to pretend it's the first day of school again...fresh start and new attitude!

Stay Informed and Speak Up for Education

Community partnerships and relationships are more important than ever as we continue to battle funding challenges and re-think teaching and learning in the 21st century. When you hear folks belittling our work and public education in general, gently remind them of all the positives you do each day. Very few people have the impact on the future of our nation as do educators!

Find a hobby or entertaining activity

I enjoy "wogging." Wogging is somewhere between running and walking. It may be faster than jogging, but certainly slower than running. At any rate, it helps me debrief from the stresses of life. I also read regularly. I wish I could paint as I love beautiful and colorful art work. Maybe I will "paint by numbers" in the future! I know you each have something to do that is enjoyable. I hope you have the habit or develop the habit of some entertaining activity.

News for the Week:

We enjoyed a wonderful noon board meeting at Kindergarten on Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs. Jones and Ms. Sallee for hosting us. The children were wonderful.



The board and I traveled to Jonesboro on Tuesday evening for training on a Pilot Superintendent's Evaluation we were selected for. I am super excited about this evaluation plan. Mountain Home was honored as the state selected schools in which they considered to be highly functional in terms of the Superintendent-Board relationship. The training involves information surrounding six (6) standards and they are:

- Vision, Mission and Goals.
- Teaching and Learning.
- Managing Organizational Systems and Safety.
- Collaborating with Family and Stakeholders.
- Ethics and Integrity.
- The Education System.

Lonnie

National Board Certification

By: Dr. Gigliotti, Assistant Superintendent

National Board Certification is a respected professional certification available in education and provides numerous benefits to teachers, students and schools. The completion of National Board Certification signifies that teachers have voluntarily gone above and beyond state licensure expectations. The district has a total of 41 National Board Certified Teachers. Certification consists of four components: written assessment of content knowledge, reflection on student work samples, video and analysis of teaching practice, and documented impact and accomplishments as a teaching professional. Three faculty members recently received National Board Certification. Congratulations to Mrs. Cheryl Human, Mrs. Beth Ivens and Mrs. Sherri Smith!

Youth Entrepreneur Showcase (Y.E.S.)

By: Mrs. Kristi Nelson, PMS Teacher

Three Pinkston GATE Teams Rank in the Top 25 Y.E.S. groups in Arkansas

The teams who placed in the top 25 were Lauren Dewey, Ethan Johnson, Bri DiGiandomenico, and Emily DeAtley. This is the 2nd highest number of entries since Y.E.S. began this competition.

The teams will now compete in the 2015 Y.E.S. for Arkansas Business Expo, which will begin at 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 16, at Park Plaza in Little Rock. Each team and its teacher advisor will have a booth to showcase their business ideas and sell products to Park Plaza patrons. Judges will be on hand during the expo to select first- through fourth-place winners in the following categories: Best Business Plan, Most Innovative Product, Best Marketing Piece, and Best Retail Booth Display. The winners will be announced by representatives of AEF at Park Plaza at

approximately 1:30 p.m. AEF awards cash prizes of \$1,100 to the advisors of the four top teams in each category (\$4,400 total). Cash prizes of up to \$1,050 are awarded to all students who are members of the top three teams (up to \$4,200 total). The four teams in each category also receive a trophy.

AEAF received 242 business plans from 35 schools in 14 counties throughout Arkansas. Seventy Arkansans volunteered to judge the plans.

Since AEF created Y.E.S. for Arkansas in 2005, more than 6,400 fifth- through eighth-grade students, plus their teacher advisors, have participated in the business plan competition. AEF has awarded more than \$60,000 in cash prizes.

The Arkansas Capital Corporation established AEF in 1999 as a private, non-profit corporation dedicated to education-based initiatives that promote and foster the development of innovation and entrepreneurship within Arkansas. With broad

support from the state's business community, AEF's purpose is to nurture people and ideas to generate future Arkansas entrepreneurs.

The Arkansas Capital Corporation Group of companies empower entrepreneurs by providing capital in conjunction with community banks to businesses through its capital availability products and advocating for entrepreneurs through capital, educational, and technological improvements. The Arkansas Capital Corporation Group serves as the platform from which new opportunities are launched. In addition to the flagship company, Arkansas Capital Corporation, there are seven affiliate and partner companies, including, Six Bridges Capital Corporation, Arkansas Capital Relending Corporation, Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation, Heartland Renaissance Fund, Connect Arkansas, Pine State Regional Center, and South Wind Analytics. To learn more, visit www.arcapital.com.



Dear Community members:

Our superintendent has recently announced his resignation.

The board recognizes that selecting a superintendent is one of its most important functions. Therefore, the board is interested in gaining input from constituents and staff of the school district before selecting that individual.

If you wish to participate in this process, you are asked to attend a meeting on January 15th, at 6:30p.m. located at Dunbar Auditorium. The attendees will be introduced to the consultant employed by the board to assist them in the search. The consultant will present an overview of the search process and criteria for the board's consideration.

If unable to attend the meeting you may complete the survey online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MHF6MH7>

If you have any questions, please contact Marissa Byler at 425-1201

Sincerely,

Ben Strider, President, Board of Education

Mountain Home Public Schools

MOUNTAIN HOME KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

January 9, 2015



Board Visit

Our school board came by on Wednesday, January 7th, for a nice visit. They observed Mrs. Sallee's class decompose the number 9 and then feasted on a hamburger and fries prepared by our excellent food service staff.



We always enjoy a visit from the school board and we think they are delighted when they come to our building. They sure act like they are! Our kids **are** the cutest and when the Board sees the great teaching and learning that happens here every single day we hope that they are glad they have approved funding for our teachers to receive the additional training in Cognitively Guided Instruction or CGI. Mrs.

Sallee, who went through the program two years ago, is enthusiastic about this new way of teaching kids.

Expecting students to try to solve problems with **strategies that haven't been** taught to them and asking students to explain and justify their thinking has a **major impact on students' learning**. Not only are **students' learning specific** ways to solve problems, they are also increasing their knowledge of the fundamental principles of mathematics. For example, students who learn the standard addition algorithm often learn little more than a procedure to find the correct answer. Students who develop their own strategies to solve addition problems are likely to intuitively use the commutative and associative properties of addition in their strategies. Student using their own strategies to solve problems and justifying these strategies also contributes to a positive disposition toward learning mathematics.

MORE ABOUT CGI

DIFFERENCES ON THE SURFACE: Pretend for a moment that you are observing three teachers all of whom are teaching the first grade concept of subtraction using CGI. The first thing

you would likely notice is that each has her or his classroom arranged differently. One teacher has students sitting at tables of four so that students can talk as they work. Another teacher has students sitting first on the carpet in a circle, and then allows them to spread out all over the room to work on problems individually in their math notebooks. The third teacher sits with a small group of students at a problem solving center who share their strategies with each other. Obviously, using a CGI approach does not involve a particular class configuration. In these classrooms, teachers pose different types of story problems to introduce subtraction. One teacher has addition and subtraction problems mixed together. Another teacher is using subtraction problems only, while the third teacher is using what appears to be missing-addend problems as well as more traditional subtraction problems. So, CGI does not use a pre-specified set of problems in a given sequence to teach the curriculum. Teachers who use CGI are not limited to specific resources, either. One teacher might read a **children's book to provide** context for the story problems. Another could refer to a recent field trip to a city park. A third might use a textbook as a teacher resource.

SIMILARITIES

UNDERNEATH: Despite these differences, you would notice several important similarities. As we saw, all of these teachers use story

MOUNTAIN HOME KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

January 9, 2015

problems to introduce a topic. Further, these teachers would not show the children how to solve these problems. In fact, teachers who use CGI usually tell the children to solve the problems. In fact, teachers who use CGI usually tell the children to solve the problems any way they can. They also encourage students to use any tools they want, in a way that makes sense to them and that they can explain or show to another child, or to the teacher. When observing this for the first time, many teachers are mildly surprised that children have so much to say about math.

This may be surprising because so many of us rely on **teacher's explanations and demonstrations** to teach a concept or skill. This scenario reverses the usual order of instruction that many teachers follow. First, children solve problems, and develop meaning for addition and subtraction.

Then they learn to write number sentences to represent addition and subtraction.

THE TEACHER'S ROLE IN CGI:

CGI teachers use their knowledge of problem types and solution strategies to make decisions about their curriculum. This knowledge helps them determine what each child understands and then decide how to help the child extend their understanding. These teachers know that children are able to solve story

problems without direct instruction on strategies, because children naturally direct model story situations about which they have informal knowledge.

CGI AND THE BENEFIT TO TEACHERS: When you talk to the teachers about what they are going to do the next day, along with their mathematical goals, you hear them talking about the things they heard their students express and the strategies they saw their students use. They know what these strategies tell them about **children's understanding of addition and subtraction.**

Perhaps the most striking feature of CGI is that these teachers have a sense of ownership of this **knowledge of children's thinking.** It empowers them to make decisions, often on the spot. They know when to push, when to hold back and how to make a problem easier or harder. They know how to support children to make sense of problems in their own ways. They know when to use a story problem and when not to. They know what problems to give next to **support children's learning.** They know how to listen. Most importantly, they say their curriculum is never quite the same from one year to the next, because the problems they pose depend on the children in their class.

Mid-Year Testing

Teachers have been mid-year testing all this week in an

effort to see where interventions need to take place. We will begin those interventions next week. That may be through a program called BURST or After-School Tutoring. Teachers will provide more information to those parents whose child may need more one on one help.

Baby it's Cold Out There!



Hackler Intermediate School Newsletter

965 West Road, Mtn. Home, AR 72653 ~ Phone 425-1288 / Fax 425-1290

Principal: **Sondra Monger**



Mrs. Cassy Barnhill, Assistant Principal
Mr. Kevin Roach, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Kristyn Goodwin - Counselor
Ms. Mary Beth Wyatt - Counselor



January 8, 2015

- ◆ Report cards are coming home today in Thursday folders.
- ◆ Time is running out to order 2014-2015 yearbooks. Yearbooks may be ordered online until February 27, 2015 at www.inter-state.com/yearbook and the code is 754783. Order today don't delay!
- ◆ It is getting to be that time of the year when snow flakes start falling. Please discuss with your child what they will do in the event that school is dismissed early. Make a plan and write it in the assignment book. Include names, addresses, and phone numbers in case a bus pass is needed.
- ◆ Please send a note with your student if you have had any address changes or phone number changes. It is vitally important for the school to be able to contact the parent or guardian in the event of an emergency or academic concerns.
- ◆ Make sure you pay your lunch charges as soon as possible. If you have any changes in your income and need to apply for free or reduced lunches, notify your child's homeroom teacher and an application will be sent home.

NOTES FROM NURSE WENDY

It is that time of year when colds and flu seem to be making the rounds. Please stress to your child the importance of washing their hands and keeping them away from the eyes, nose, and mouth area. A student experiencing a temperature, vomiting or has diarrhea must not return to school until they are symptom free for 24 hours.

LUNCH TIMES FOR HACKLER STUDENTS

3rd Grade: 11:50 - 12:20

4th Grade: 11:05 - 11:35

5th grade goes to lunch by teams:

Rubies: 12:40 - 1:10

(Adamson, Ditto, Markowski, Budolfson, Harris, Mahmud)

(Swearingen, Goeke, Villier, Wilhite, Roper, Caldwell)



Please tape your unexpired Box Top\$ to this sheet. If you can, trim and peel excess backing from the Box Top\$.
Remember to turn in your Box Top\$ at least once a month to help your class compete for prizes.
Thank You for helping our school!!!

Student's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

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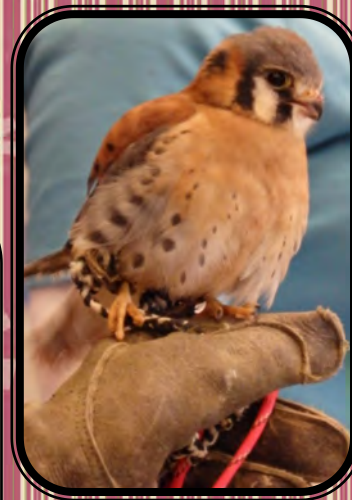
January 9, 2015

Happy
New
Year!

From the
Administrators, Teachers, and Secretaries at
Hackler Intermediate School

Hackler Welcomes
Birds of Prey

Brought to us by Bull Shoals-White River State Park &
Raptor Rehab of Central Arkansas.





Thank you Bull Shoals-
White River State Park
and Raptor Rehab of
Central Arkansas for all
the interesting facts
about these amazing
birds.

NELSON-WILKS-HERRON



Upcoming Events:

Jan. 28th-Tentative 100th Day of School

Feb. 4th-School Board Meeting at NWH

Feb. 5th-Progress Reports

Feb. 13th-Valentine Parties/Approved Snack Day

Feb. 16th-Teacher In-Service/No School for Students

March 5th-Parent/Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal

Birds of Prey Assemblies

Bull-Shoals State Park Interpreters shared their feathered friends with NWH students on Wednesday, January 7th.







**Here is the new car loading attire.....
Way to bundle up ladies, it is cold outside! Burr!!**



Pinkston Middle School



Week ending 1.9.15



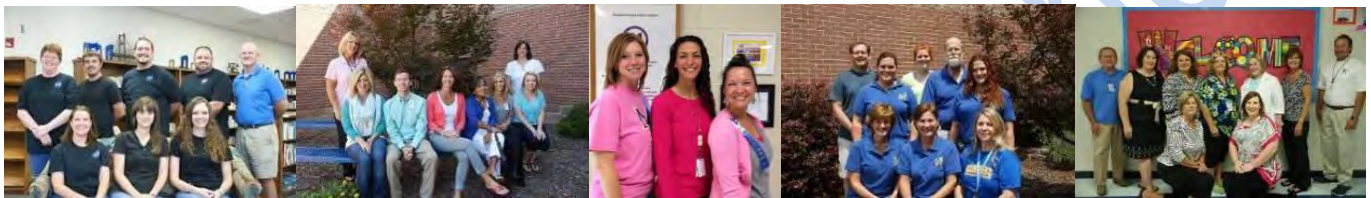
Raptor Rehabilitation of Central Arkansas in conjunction with the Bull Shoals State Park presented to Pinkston students this past week. Students were able to see, hear and learn about all types of raptors that are in Arkansas. We appreciate the opportunity to have this as an annual event!



6th Grade Science Students engaged in an experiment on peripheral vision



Parents and Guardians, please make sure your child knows their transportation plan in the case of inclement weather. Please do not call the school office as school offices will be notified at the same time as the public and will not know ahead of time of school closing early in the case of bad weather. Announcements will be made on KTLO radio or by an alert now message from the Superintendent, Dr. Lonnie Myers. Students will need to know in advance what their plan is due to the large volume of calls received by the office during these times.



Pinkston Middle School @Pinkstonmiddle

EAST at Pinkston @AdunavanEast

7th Grade Promise @deniselauerman

DARE @campfield10

Pinkston Media Center @pmslibrary12

Upcoming Pinkston Middle School Events

- Jan. 7 – Raptor Rehab of Central Arkansas assembly for 7th grade
- Jan. 8 – Report Cards go home
- Jan. 9 – Report Cards go home
- Feb. 5 – Progress Reports for 3rd Quarter
- Feb. 15 – EAST candy-gram Fundraiser for EAST conference 2015 ☺
- Feb. 16 – Teacher In-Service/No School for Students

Jan. 9, 2015

MHHS CAREER ACADEMIES

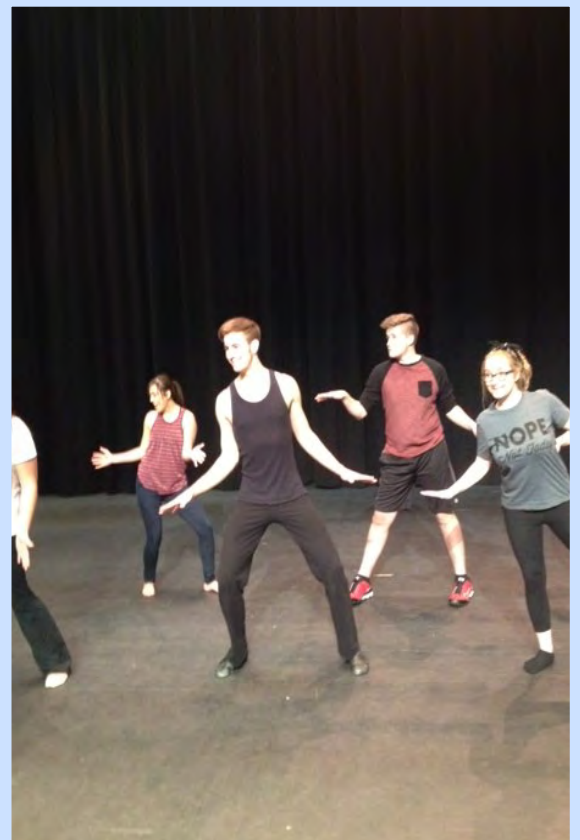
MHHS Theatre Students Experience Bob Fosse Workshop



Luke Armstrong, former MHHS thespian, currently attending Oklahoma City University as a dance performance major gives Bob Fosse workshop for high school theatre students.

We enjoyed him sharing what he is learning, not only about dance, but about professionalism and work ethic.

Thank you, Luke!



**Help us travel to
French-speaking
QUÉBEC, CANADA!**



MHHS FRENCH STUDENTS

WILL HAVE A

CHILI SUPPER

TO RAISE FUNDS FOR

WHEN: FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH

TIME: 4-8 PM

WHERE: CENTURY 21 LEMAC REALTY

(ACROSS FROM MCDONALD'S)

**HOW MUCH: \$5 FOR BOWL OF CHILI AND A DESSERT; BOTTLES OF
WATER AVAILABLE FOR \$1**

CHILI CAN BE EATEN ON PREMISES OR PLACED IN TO GO CONTAINERS

**PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26TH BY EMAILING CHRISTY LAW-
RENCE AT clawrence@mtnhome.k12.ar.us**

OR PURCHASING A TICKET FROM A FRENCH STUDENT

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MHHS FRENCH CLUB



MOUNTAIN HOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Re: The Richard Padgett Extra Mile Award

Background:

Richard Padgett was a long time employee of the Mountain Home School District where he served as a bus driver, mechanic, and supervisor of transportation. Richard passed away in January 2007, after a long bout with cancer. In his memory, Mountain Home Public Schools formed The Richard Padgett Extra Mile Award, to be awarded to a classified employee. Richard went many extra miles in early morning, late at night and all times in between to serve the students of Mountain Home Public Schools.

The criteria for the selection would be as follows:

1. Having at least five (5) years of continuous service in the district.
2. Going above and beyond the call of duty.
3. Possessing a cooperative attitude.
4. Being trustworthy.
5. Performing quality work.

The selection process would be as follows:

1. Receive nominations from January 12 to January 30, 2015. Nominations can be made by classified and license personnel.
2. The top five, one from each department group will be selected, based on the highest number of nominations per person.
3. In the event of a tie, during nominations, the CPPC committee will consider the recommendations and criteria for which the candidate was nominated.
4. Nominees along with their recommendations will be on the voting ballots.
5. Classified staff only will vote for the receipt of The Richard Padgett Extra Mile Award. In the event of a tie for the final vote the candidates will be interviewed, recommendation will be considered, and then CPPC committee will decide the winner.
6. The winner will be presented to the School Board at the regular May meeting. He or she will receive a plaque and a gift of \$500.00

Rationale:

This award will be in memory of Richard Padgett and will recognize the classified employee of the year.

Revised 12/2015

MOUNTAIN HOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS
THE RICHARD PADGETT EXTRA MILE AWARD
NOMINATION FORM 2015

Classified Employee Nominated _____

Building/Department Employed _____

Justification for Nomination _____

Criteria:

Has at least five years of continuous service in the district

Goes above and beyond the call of duty

Possess a cooperative attitude

Is trustworthy

Performs quality work

Date _____

- Please return to Paula Engeler at the High School, by January 30, 2015.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Monday | 01/12/15 | Basketball vs. Branson (Home @ the HS) 4:00 7Girls, 7Boys, 8Girls, 8Boys Swim @ Paragould 5:00 |
| Tuesday | 01/13/15 | Basketball vs. NLR (Away) 5:00 HSJVGirls, HSJVBoys, HSVGirls, HSVBoys Wrestling vs. Jonesboro/Sheridan @ Jonesboro 6:00 |
| Wednesday | 01/14/15 | |
| Thursday | 01/15/15 | Basketball vs. Valley Springs (Home in Aux. Gym) 4:00 HSJV Girls, HSJV Boys Basketball vs. Highland (Home) 4:00 7,8,9 Girls Basketball vs. Highland (Away) 5:00 7,8,9 Boys Wrestling vs. Conway/Cabot (Home) 6:00 |
| Friday | 01/16/15 | Basketball vs. LR Central (Home) 5:00 HSJVGirls, HSJVBoys, HSVGirls, HSVBoys |
| Saturday | 01/17/15 | Wrestling @ Berryville 6:00 pm Swim @ Clarksville 10:00 MHIT JH Basketball Tournament Begins TBA Elks Hoop Shoot (HS Gym) TBA |

Go Bombers!!!