



Superintendent Update: March 7, 2014

Quote for the week: “Know how to listen, and you will profit even from those who talk badly.”—Plutarch

We received some encouraging data from the Arkansas Department of Education this week. Each year at about this time we receive information from the previous year. In the case of this particular data, the information I share will be from the 2012-13 school year. The data I want to share concerns our ACT Scores and our graduation rate.

Our ACT average score was 22.4 which improved from 22.1 the previous year. The state average score is 21.3 and the national average is 21.0; thus we are a full percentage point ahead of the state and national average which is significant. ACT is certainly not the only indicator of future success, but it is a very good indicator. I am proud of this score. The students and teacher of Mountain Home continue to deliver a finished product (the student) who performs above state and national ACT scores.

We also received data on graduation rate. The state goal has been 85% graduation rate for at least the last three years. The state average for graduation rate has been 79.6 in 2011, 84.1% in 2012 and 84.9 in 2013. I am very, very happy to report our gains for the last three years. Our graduation rate was 80.2 in 2011, 85.5 in 2012 and 86.4 in 2013. We have emphasized graduation rate in the last four years and the implementation of Guy Berry College and Career Academy has helped improve our rate significantly. In the last three years (including this year’s projections) we will have graduated some 60 students who would not have otherwise graduated. This effort combined with the wonderful effort of our traditional schools speaks positively about our teachers, administrators and support staff in their efforts to reach every student—every time!

### **GAPP walk-a-thon slated Saturday**

The GAPP Walk-a-thon to Germany is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Bomber Stadium. The event includes a silent auction, with items donated by area businesses, a bake sale and concession stand. Twenty-three Mountain Home High School students will participate to raise money for an upcoming trip to Europe with the German American Partnership Program. The group of students has pledged to walk a total of 4,946 miles — the distance to Regensburg, Germany, where the students will study this summer. To make a pledge or sponsor a student, call Tom Chentnik at Mountain Home High School at 425-1215.



### Basketball State Tourney

Games are in Jonesboro-

Boys: Friday at 2:30pm against Pine Bluff and if we win, then Monday at 8:30am.

Girls: Saturday at 11:00am against Siloam Springs and if we win, then Monday at 4:00pm.

The FIRST Robotics team, the Bomb Squad, is heading to Searcy to put its 2014 robot - the Nighthawk - in the season's first regional competition. The competition runs through the weekend and will be held at Harding University. The eighteen member team spent the day on Thursday practicing for the qualification matches which are scheduled for Friday (today). The competition continues on Saturday afternoon with the elimination tournament. All competition events are free, and open to the public.

The team will post a webcast of the event on their website - [www.baxterbombsquad.com](http://www.baxterbombsquad.com), their Facebook page, Bomb Squad, or their twitter account - frc16.



I want to thank everyone for being patient during the inclement weather. We should know by March 21<sup>st</sup> if we have been granted any waivers. As soon as I know the specifics, I will communicate the exact last day of school. I know everyone is anxious to have some certainty about the school calendar's final days and I will definitely communicate that as soon as I can give factual and correct information. If we are to be granted no waiver days, our last

day will be June 10 for high school and June 9 for every other school in our district. I am very hopeful that we will be granted some waiver days!

Here are some video links from the Mountain Home High School Bomber Theater:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiAlktpJra8> - Interview with Carrie Porter, David Lewis, & Bailey Smith about "AIDA"

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipT\\_MwYF8jE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipT_MwYF8jE) - Performance of the song "Gods Love Newbia" from "AIDA"

Have a great weekend,

Lonnie

# APSRC

**This week's newsletter continues our series about the Common Core State Standards.** [Click here to read this newsletter](#)

Monthly Hub Meeting with Cheryl Gall will be on March 17<sup>th</sup> in the board room at Central Office. We will begin at 9:00 am and end at approximately 2:30 pm. The subject of this meeting is Leadership.

# PARCC

## Professional Development Modules to Support Teachers

As a part of its commitment to support implementation of the PARCC assessment system, PARCC is creating a series of [online professional development modules](#) to accompany its next-generation assessment system. The five modules will consist of a series of short videos to support teachers and schools as they transition to the PARCC assessments.

The professional development modules will provide additional information in the following areas: overview of the four main assessment system components, administering the non-summative assessments, using non-summative data to support instruction, and available supports and accommodations. Educators are interested in these tools, some of the most powerful in the PARCC system, because the modules will give them flexible access to information.

The modules will be available in June 2014. Additional information about teacher training can be found on [PARCC's Educator Leader Cadre web pages](#).

# Upcoming Testing

March 11-12: 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Literacy

March 17-21: Elda

March 31-April 4: Iowa Test, Grades 1, 2, 9

April 7-11: Benchmark, Grades 3-8

April 22-23: Geometry EOC

April 29-30: Biology EOC

May 13-14: Algebra I EOC

**MOUNTAIN HOME HIGH SCHOOL  
BOMBER THEATRE**

**PRESENTS**

**THE MUSICAL AIDA**

**MARCH 14-16**

**7:00PM FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**

**2:00PM SUNDAY**

**AT DUNBAR AUDITORIUM**

**UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KAREN MAUPIN**

**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!**

# NELSON WILKS HERRON

## Dr. Seuss Character Contest Winners



**Back Row: Taylor Bohanan, Levi Uchtman, Tristan Blount, Austin Vincent - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

**Front Row: Peyton Bodenhamer, Marley Bolick, Alexa Estes – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**





**The hallways at NWH were overrun by a multitude of Dr. Seuss characters today! Students had a great time participating in the Dr. Seuss costume contest.**

# Dr. Seuss Day at Kindergarten . . . .





