



## Superintendent Update: August 16, 2013

Quote for the week: "Tough times don't last, but tough people do." —Robert Schuller

Don't give up!

We live in a challenging world. We want to be better in whatever we do; we want to do our best to stand on top; we want to fight for what we believe in; we want to be the best that we can be. But that takes time, effort, hard work, and perseverance. We can't give up without a fight. That's the key to be successful in life. It's not only how many times we have tried it; it's also how much we learned each time from our mistakes. We must stand up and not give up. The beginning is always the hardest. Tough times don't last, but tough people do. Never give up! (Robert Schuller)

Your strength does not come from lifting weights; your strength comes from lifting yourself up every time you get knocked down. I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by winnings that I have reached in life as by the obstacle which I have overcome while trying to succeed. Just remember, the moment you're ready to quit is usually the moment right before a miracle happens. Don't give up. There's a difference between giving up and starting over. Keep going. No matter what you do, no matter how many times you mess up and think to yourself that there's no point in carrying on or no matter how many people tell you that you can't do it—keep going,. Don't quit. Don't quit, because in a short time from now you will be that much closer to your goal.

Life is too short! If we give up on the things we do too quickly instead of seeing what we can improve and learn from them, then we can never know the answer when we run into a similar situation in the future. Within every problem is an opportunity. Don't give up! It's hard to beat someone who never gives up. Be strong. Be courageous. Have faith. Never lose hope. Be proud of who you are. NEVER GIVE UP! (This message is a continuation of my thinking that "you are all my heroes" and I want you always to look inside yourself to see rediscover just how good you are!)



**News for the week:**

Convocation was wonderful! Dr. Gigliotti was masterful in putting together the combination of student talent and teacher encouragement. Thanks to all who made the day wonderful! Aren't our students amazing?! Would anyone doubt that any of the kids we saw on stage will be "College and Career Ready?"

Special thanks goes to Emily Dickerson, Anthony Finley, McKenna McCain, Megan Chaney, Gaige Chaney, Jacob Baldwin, MHHS Choral Music students, Mrs. Hitt, MHHS Bomber Theatre, Mrs. Maupin, Lt. Petrichko and NNDCC Color Guard, Carol Wegerer, Jana Gaston, Branden McMaster, and Gary Maupin. Each of these people had special contributions to the successful Convocation. I apologize if I left anyone out, but I know for sure, it was a team effort!

*Dr. Myers at Pinkston's Open House*





We had another successful board meeting. Our board approved a resolution authorizing the issuance of refunding bonds for economic savings. The refunding will save our district about 2 million dollars over the course of the payments on those bonds.

The board also approved some policy changes. I am most excited about the work on our technology use policy. *E-News*, a nationwide publication about technology in education, reports that the number 1 priority in terms of technology progress across the nation in our public schools is how to embrace and successfully implement the use of personal technology devices in our daily educational environment. This movement includes such technology as smart phones, personal iPads, net books, etc. and furthermore, how to allow the use of those devices in the educational setting. For a district our size to go 1 to 1 in terms of computer usage among our students, we must investigate how we can incorporate the students' own technology into our everyday learning environment. It is a bit risky, but the world we live in is changing dramatically we must strive to implement new ideas in order to encourage our students' and our own growth in the use of technology for our instructional needs.

We also are making progress on developing our Auxiliary Services operations across the street from Pinkston middle school. The board approved plumbing work to be done which will get us closer to moving food services to that location.

The board also approved the disposal of some school buses no longer suitable for our routes. Each year we try to buy at least a couple of buses to maintain a proper fleet, but it is a challenge. Our transportation department does an amazing job of keeping our buses running and in safe operating order.

I want to close with a big thank you to our Maintenance Department. They are under incredible pressure to keep our buildings operating properly and our lawns kept in good shape. They have accomplished so much this summer. Please thank our guys and Janey as well at every opportunity. They are top notch!

Have a great weekend. Kids come Monday! Can't wait!

Lonnie



## Friday Focus

### From Assistant Superintendent: Leigh Anne Gigliotti, Ed.D

2465 Rodeo Drive  
Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653  
870-425-1208/870-425-1316 fax  
lgigliotti@mtnhome.k12.ar.us  
**Friday, August 16, 2013**

Mrs. Dunavan, EAST Teacher with Ms. Meissner and students at Pinkston Middle School (PMS).  
EAST (Environmental and Spatial Technologies)-Students installing programs in the new lab at PMS.



**Thank you to the Maintenance and Custodial Staff for preparing our facilities for the return of students and faculty. I appreciate your hard work!**

Jeff McLean, Maintenance Dept.,  
making improvements to Pinkston Middle School Kitchen.



Harold Lawrence, Maintenance Dept., renovating a classroom for students.





**Welcome back students!**

**A new school year means a fresh start! I wish everyone a successful school year.  
– Dr. G**

## **Assessment, Instruction, and Curriculum**

**Did you Know? - You Tube Video:** If you'd like to view the video, "Did You Know?", go to [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmwwrGV\\_aiE&safe=active](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmwwrGV_aiE&safe=active) . It is the video that was presented at the Welcome Back In-Service on August 12, 2013.

If you were born before 1995, you are considered a digital immigrant. If you are born after 1995, you are considered a digital native. Why? On July 25, 1995, Netscape was released to the public. This was the birth of the internet, as we know it. That was 18 years ago.

Most of our students are "Digital Natives".

We digital immigrants are successfully teaching digital natives, but we must continue to be innovative. We are successful because we offer advanced teaching methods. I'd like to highlight some examples of our innovation. We provide a solid foundation in the elementary grades that is rich with student centered lessons. In the intermediate school, integrated lessons and team teaching captivates the attention of our learners. In the middle grades students are given opportunities to expand their knowledge in technology. This school year we have an east lab at Pinkston Middle School. In the upper grades, we have advisors, mentors, career focused classes, departments like Career and Tech Education (CTE), and wall to wall career academies. The junior high and high school were recently recognized as model status in all three academies from the National Career Academy Coalition. We have blazed a trail and together we will keep the momentum going.

### **HUB Meetings with Cheryl Gall, APSRC Coach:**

Hub 1 - Leadership

Hub 2 - Assessment Overview

Hub 3 - Math

Hub 4 - Literacy in the Content Areas

Hub 5 - Proficient to Distinguished

Hub 6 - Leadership

More details to follow soon. I will keep you posted!

### **A Message from Cheryl Gall, APSRC Coach:**

1) Accessibility Manual - Below is a link to the PARCC website. This includes the Accessibility Manual plus FAQ's, a ppt. that explains the manual, etc. Great site to review with your curriculum team, counselors, etc. <http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-accessibility-features-and-accommodations-manual>

2) Assessment Administration - We will talk about this in greater detail in our second Hub Meeting, but here is a link with the latest information for the 2014 - 2015 assessment. It includes a ton of info., including the calculator policy and reference sheet guidelines for math. These are located at the bottom of





the page. You may want to share those with others in a math meeting. Great reading (for me) and cliff notes coming during our Hub. I just know we had a few questions from the Math folks.  
<http://parconline.org/assessment-administration-guidance>

3) 6 testing consortia document  
[www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Coming\\_Together\\_June\\_2013.pdf](http://www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Coming_Together_June_2013.pdf)

4) My ppt. is too large to send because of the graphics. Tonight, (I'm working in a school today), I will pull the websites off the ppt. and put them on a document for you to send out to people. That's what they really want anyway. Web addresses for PARCC, CCSS, etc. I'll do that tonight!  
Talk to you soon! Thanks again for everything!

*Cheryl Gall*

Arkansas Public School Resource Center  
Achieving By Changing  
[gall.cheryl@gmail.com](mailto:gall.cheryl@gmail.com)  
(501) 941-4130

## Personnel and Professional Development

I commend teachers for going above and beyond to welcome back students and parents to a new school year.

Dixie Mahmud, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher with Bobby, Parent, during open house.



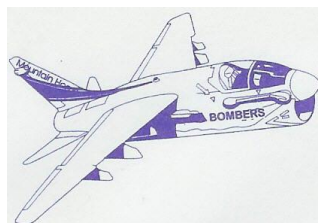
**GBCCA Teachers prepared artifact "boxes" for the new Teacher Performance Evaluation.**



## Save the Dates

First Day of School – Monday, August 19, 2013

Welcome back students!





## Athletics: Friday Focus 8-16-13

Congratulations to our 2012-13 athletes for finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in the overall (2<sup>nd</sup> in Class 6A) sports rankings recently released by the Democrat/Gazette. Points are determined by the advancement in the state competition of each sport among all schools including Bentonville, North Little Rock, Fayetteville, etc. This is a tribute not only to our athletes but to our parents, faculty, administration, Board of Education, and our community. Well done!

We are now looking forward to a great 2013-14 school year. Bomberfest is Friday, August 23. The evening starts with the Blue/Gold volleyball scrimmage at 4:30 with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls, followed by junior high and high school. Bomberfest activities kick off at 6:00 with the National Guard go-karts, bouncy house, giant slide, face painting, snow cones, music, and much more. The judging of the bar-b-q rib cook-off and spirit tent will also be at 6:00. We will have dance team performances beginning at 6:30. The junior high football scrimmage will kick off at 7:00 followed by the high school at approximately 7:30. Admission is your CAN for the "We CAN do it" project.

Remember, we "CAN" do it! At the end of May, we began a "We CAN do it" drive. The Padgett family is in the process of raising \$100,000 for a much needed press box at Bomber Stadium. This press box is not only in memory of #99 Hayden, but is meant to memorialize all Bombers who have left us too soon. To date, just over \$52,000 has been raised. If you have not yet started your "CAN", it is not too late. We have had many people ask how they could help with the press box and this is a way for everyone to help. This is a community project. Please collect your loose change, dollar bills, or whatever amount you can (ANY amount will be much appreciated). Admission to Bomberfest (per family – not individual) is either one bath towel or one container of body wash – **plus your "Can"**. We will have tubs available for you to drop off your towel/body wash and your can. Go Bombers!

A special thanks to nurses Karen Broederdorf, Wendy Blount, Donna Blevins, Sue Wepprecht, and Angie Horn, with assistance from SROs Bubba Jones and Tom Canta, for training 42 coaches and volunteer coaches in CPR/AED this summer.

Go Bombers!  
Janet Wood, AD