

Tri-Village Local Schools School of Excellence Board News Release

The Tri-Village Board of Education met on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 7:00 in the board office.

Mr. Lee Morris, JH/HS Principal was pleased to report on the Tri-Village Science Club. On average between 30 and 43 students have been attending the weekly meetings. The district is preparing for participation in the Darke County Science Fair on February 19, 2014. This is for students in grades 6-12. If you are interested in joining the Science Club please email Mr. Derek Flatter at derek\_flatter@darke.k12.oh.us.

The junior and senior high students have completed their local assessment period. Teachers are in the process of evaluating the student's performance in an attempt to drive instruction. The October newsletter was mailed out to all students in grades 7-12 in order to better communicate with the students and parents. This will also be posted on the junior high/high school webpage.

The first round of Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) observations began the week of October 14<sup>th</sup>. Teacher walk-throughs have been taking place in all subject areas. During the October 14<sup>th</sup> Waiver Day, teachers were briefed on the electronic Teacher and Principal Evaluation System management tool system (eTPES). A special thank you was extended to Kathy Harper from the Greene County ESC and Katrina Wagoner from ODE.

Mr. Morris informed the board about upcoming training sessions his staff members will be attending. Mr. Morris was excited to receive \$1800.00 in donated office supplies. Thank you to 3M School Supplies for donating over 144 lbs of supplies.

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the annual school fair assembly was held. Congratulations to Jordan Walker and Riley Hollinger for being crowned king and queen at the School Fair. Thank you to Mrs. Emily Venneman and Mrs. Geneva Price for outstanding performances at School Fair and Mrs. Heather Stump for chaperoning the School Fair dance. Mr. Morris was pleased to ride in the school fair float with current faculty and retired staff members. Additionally it was an honor to meet Mr. Warren Combs and Mr. William Holmes both retired TV administrators. "The highlight of my weekend was meeting and talking with all the retired school employees", stated Mr. Morris.

On November 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> parent-teacher conferences will be held for the junior high and high school students. On November 6<sup>th</sup> there is an early release at 1:15 p.m. Teachers will analyze SLA and MAP testing data. November 13<sup>th</sup> is a scheduled one hour delay schedule for students. (This does not affect MVCTC students or Opportunity 13 students.)

Mr. Morris was proud to report on the fall sports programs and athletes. The boys cross country team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the CCC. Gavin Richards finished 12<sup>th</sup> and Keenan Fraylick finished 13<sup>th</sup> which qualified them for all conference honors. Congratulations to Richards and Fraylick both freshman for qualifying for the Regional Cross Country Meet. The JH boys team finished 4<sup>th</sup>. Individually, Emma Printz finished in 9<sup>th</sup> place and Trey Frech finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place. Congratulations to Brett Boyter for qualifying for the district golf meet. Congratulations to Coach Rother and the Varsity Volleyball Team for finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the CCC behind Miami East. Earning all conference honors were 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Heather Ferris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team – Krystal Falknor and Raya Mikesell, Special Mention – Rachel Ferris.

Mr. Shane Mead, Elementary Principal, started off by stating there are a lot of good things happening within our classrooms. The OTES and eTPES walk-through observations are also underway in the elementary

building. Mr. Mead and his staff were also pleased with the Waiver Day training on October 14<sup>th</sup>. "Having both Kathy Harper and Katrina Wagoner in our district was good quality professional development for our staff", stated Mr. Mead.

RIMPS (Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan) have been completed and interventions for those identified students are well underway. Reading and math afterschool intervention will begin soon. Mrs. Wanda Roberts and Mr. Matt Harman, Title I Coaches will take on this role. Please watch the newsletter for more information. All students in the third grade have taken the Fall Reading Ohio Achievement Assessment. The results are due back in mid November and the data drives the curriculum design and intervention for the students.

TAG/Gifted students will compete in the Noetic Learning Math Contest. This is a biannual math challenge for elementary students. The goal of the competition is to encourage young students' interest in math, to develop their problem solving skills, and to inspire them to excel in math. Their competition date is scheduled for November 14, 2013 and April 10, 2014.

Fire prevention week was October 10<sup>th</sup>, thank you to the New Madison Fire Department, it was very well perceived and the kids learned about fire safety. Also, we will have Red Ribbon Week the week of October 28<sup>th</sup> "Friends don't let friends bully or do drugs".

The elementary building will be participating in the "KIDS ON THE BLOCK" program. This is a free educational program for third and fourth graders. The "KIDS" are a troupe of puppets with and without disabilities. Through informative, candid and entertaining dialogue, the "KIDS" enlighten the students about individual and educational differences. The program promotes the value of all people regardless of their differences.

Mr. Mead informed the board that he will be sending grade level representatives to another school district to observe and gather new ideas to utilize in the classroom. This will be a good professional development day for our teachers. They will report back to their team members with their observations.

Mr. Mead stated parent teacher conferences for grades 4-6, went well and had great attendance. Parent teacher conferences for grades kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

The elementary fall fundraiser is complete and items are due to come in around the beginning of November.

Mr. Mead was happy to report that during the Watch DOG (Dads of Great Students) kick-off, 133 fathers / father figures signed up.

Mr. Sagester congratulated the high school building for earning the School of Promise award from the Ohio Department of Education. The District Leadership Team felt positive after the waiver day training. Kathy Harper and Katrina Wagoner were very knowledgeable regarding OTES and eTPES. "We believe and informed staff is an empowered staff", stated Mr. Sagester.

Mr. Sagester along with Mr. Chris Pearson, Facilities Operations Supervisor finalized a portion of the school security and safety grant. The district has applied for the grant to update the main entrances of the district by adding high definition cameras.

The 80<sup>th</sup> Annual School Fair went extremely well. Mr. Sagester publically thanked the school fair committee for organizing the event. Mr. Sagester also enjoyed meeting several past employees of the district. Mr. Combs and Mr. Holmes were very complimentary of the facility and hospitality shown over the weekend.

Mr. Sagester commended the New Madison Fire Department for a superb job of educating our students on fire prevention.

Mr. Sagester briefed the board on numerous revised and three new board polices.

Mr. Sagester stated he is participating in the Executive Coaching Program set up by Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA). His appointed mentor for this program is Mr. Tim Hopkins, Brookville Local Schools Superintendent.

The Back Pack Program is up and running. Mr. Sagester thanked Mrs. Stephanie Benedict and Mr. Mead for organizing this event. The high school boys basketball team kicked off the packaging of the food for the first week. The food is delivered to school and sent home on Friday afternoons with the 33 identified children.

Mr. Sagester congratulated all fall athletes on their seasons.

In conclusion Mr. Sagester congratulated Mrs. Kimberly Puckett who received the K-12 Promotion of Education STEM Award. This award was given by Career Communication Group. She accepted this award in Dallas, Texas last week.

## <u>Other items of interest:</u>

## PERSONNEL

- A. Employed Judy Bennett Rebecca Everhart and Stephanie Benedict, classified substitute (WPP) for the 2013-2014 school year.
- B. Employed Judy Bennett, certified substitute for the 2013-2014 school year.
- C. Employed Jackie Barnes, Volunteer Swimming Coach, Brent Fourman, Volunteer Bowling Coach, Tracy Brown, Volunteer Power Lifting Coach for the 2013-2014 school year. (This program will operate without any expenses to the district.)
- D. Adjusted the Title 1 Coaches and Title 1 Data Coordinators days by one additional day for the 2013-2014 school year.
- E. Approved Kathy Pearson, volunteer Destination Imagination Advisor for the 2013-2014 school year.
- F. Increase minimum wage to \$7.95 per hour effective January 1, 2014.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Accept the donation of \$1,000 from Whirlpool Corporation to benefit the STEM Lab.
- B. Approve revised and new board policies.
- C. Approve resolution authorizing the purchase of competitive retail electric service from the lowest responsible bid submitted to Southwester Ohio EPC for the period commencing July of 2014 and terminating no later than May 2017.
- D. Approve an overnight field trip for freshman to visit Chicago, IL from April 15-17, 2014, under the direction of Mrs. Annette Black, Guidance Counselor.