



Information Exchange

A publication for the staff of the Fulton County School District

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From The Superintendent...

Times of Challenge and Controversy

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." [Martin Luther King, Jr.] Julie Jackson used this quote in her bulletin recently, under the **What Great Teachers Do Differently** section. She asked, "Where do you stand for our students?" as the conclusion of this section. This provides the context for my message this month.

The elementary/middle school and our school district have been able to stand in comfort for a few years. Our high school has not been in complete comfort, but made significant growth and progress and felt and accepted the comfort from others. Now, we must determine where we stand, to paraphrase Julie, "for our students," in times of challenge and controversy. For the first time in three years, the elementary/middle school and the district face the challenge of not knowing our previous year percentage of students in Reading and Mathematics will assure we make NCLB AYP on Spring 2010 state assessment. While we anticipate the high school will make NCLB AYP after our appeal of the Free/Reduced Lunch Students in Mathematics, there will be at best a Tier 1 NCLB identification and if the appeal is not upheld, a Tier 2 NCLB identification. As I write, I do not know what this means for the high school. Our time of comfort has passed. Our challenge is to reach the students we have not yet reached.

Principals will share our "brutal facts" data prior to the October 30 Early Release Day professional development. Quoting from Pyramid Response to Intervention, I present a snapshot of my perception of our status in having all students reach proficiency presently. "The faculty came to realize that they were doing an outstanding job of giving students the *opportunity* to learn. But, to the enduring credit of Stevenson's wonderful faculty, they did not settle for giving students the chance to learn. Instead, they began a systemic effort to better meet the needs of all students so that the school's promise of 'success for all' might be a reality rather than a slogan." Our "slogan" is the vision statement: Proficiency, Positive Relations & Pilot Pride. We have grown much toward realizing the vision statement in recent years. We have not realized Proficiency for all students yet. The challenge, and perhaps controversy, at the present time is the reality, again quoting from Pyramid Response to Intervention, that "...the basic premises of some educators [are challenged] by assuming that *all* students can learn, that all educators will take responsibility for all learners, and that schools will adjust their current environments and practices so that this can occur." Todd Whitaker proposes that the essence of education is whether we allow the standards to determine what happens in the classroom or are teachers at students' sides, helping them to develop the skills they need. Written another way, Thoughtful Education emphatically submits that "students are more important than standards." This perspective does not accept that students will not perform well on any given assessment, but rather insists that if we provide students, all students, the content and test taking skills necessary, that students will perform well on any assessment.

"There is no more powerful engine for change than a group of educators who have collectively taken responsibility for their students' success. Our work must be driven by the knowledge that our collaborative efforts will determine the lifelong success or life-ending failure of our students. Once we understand the urgency of our work and embrace this noble cause as our fundamental purpose, how could we possibly allow any child to fail?" [Pyramid Response to Intervention] Again, I share that the only civil right that really matters is education. Our challenge, and no doubt there will be controversy as we move forward, is to grow each student, every student, to proficiency. We must make this our focus 10 days out of 10.

⊗ Staff Spotlight ⊗

The district welcomes Tamra Parker as the FCE/MS guidance counselor. She was formerly a special education at the high school.



Rhondi McClure is serving the district as special education student assistant at the high school.

❁ In Our Schools ❁

Student Learning Services Support teacher Sheila Haynes wants all readers to be aware of valuable free resources that Gear Up & Soar offers and tutoring from Tutor.com at www.gearupandsoar.org. The user password is gearup. These services include K-12, college and adult career. The skills resource library is available 24 hours a day/seven days a week while tutoring services are available from 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. seven days a week. Also, the resource library offers great materials for teachers.



The Fulton County Athletic Booster Club drive, now in full swing, is an active organization of parents, teachers, coaches, and athletes whose sole concern is the support of athletic activities and all **FCHS** and **FCMS** school-sponsored sports. The club's most valuable resource is its membership--meaning YOU! A small investment of \$15 entitles you to a one-year individual membership or \$25 entitles you to a family membership. This also makes you an active contributor to the improvement and enhancement of character that the challenge of being an athlete brings to our youth. It is hoped members give continuing help throughout the school year as volunteers are needed.

The individual and family memberships include one popcorn pass card which is good for a free popcorn at each game (**middle school and high school**); a Fulton County Pilot Pride magnet to display in your home, business or on your car; and your name listed in the Pilot game program as a booster club member.

Also available are: Gold Membership -- \$500, 1/2 page ad in program, 4' x 8' sign at fields, popcorn and drink pass and Pilot Pride magnet; Blue Membership -- \$250 for new members and \$200 for renewed (from last year); name listed in program with other members, 4' x 8' sign at fields, popcorn and drink pass and Pilot Pride magnet; Business Membership -- \$75, name in program, popcorn only pass and Pilot Pride magnet. Gold, Blue and Business memberships will also have a 1' x 2' sign posted in the high school gym.

Officers for 2009-10 are: president - Becky Roberson, vice president - Lindsey Bridges, secretary/treasurer - Barbara Atwill and public relations - Amie Busby. Robertson wants everyone to know that the boosters support **FCMS** as well as **FCHS** athletic activities and school-sponsored sports.

FCE/MS

Principal Julie Jackson is pleased to announce that the patch (with the theme Return to the Moon), created by seventh grade student Annagrace Ligons, has been selected to be in the Challenger Learning Center's 2010 annual calendar. This is the second consecutive year that Annagrace's artwork has won this prestigious honor. She and FCE/MS will receive a free calendar. This marks the third year FCE/MS has had a winner as ninth grade student Drew Barber's patch was chosen for the 2008 calendar.



Each Friday afternoon FCE/MS students are recognized in the school gym for their outstanding work and contributions to school culture. Principal Julie Jackson and her staff invite all parents and friends to come to the success celebration at 2:40 p.m.

Justus Wilson was the Principal's Award winner for the week of **September 4**. Students named Champs of the Week were chosen for **expects excellence**.

Cluster 1, Champs of the Week were Christopher Morgan, Mason Russom and Collin Baggett.

Chade Everett, Haven Hulet and Ben Worthington were Champs of the Week in Cluster 2.

Named Champs of the Week honors in Cluster 3 were Kyle Henry, Bradley Morgan and Sally Bing.

Jelynda Elliott, Daisy Major and Sarah Gardner were Cluster 4 Champs of the Week. Pilot Pride recipients were Precious Thomas, Olivia Wilson and Lily Wheeler.

Sixth grade Champs of the Week were Joe Holman and Hannah Fryer.

Dixie Major and Allyson Dick won Champs of the Week honors in the seventh grade. Faith Barber and Austin Newton were rewarded with Pilot Pride honors.

In the eighth grade, Drew Worley and Anna-Reid Garrigan were named Champs of the Week.



For the week of **September 11**, the Principal's Award was presented to Julia Cox, Samantha Ward and Jelynda Elliott.

Students receiving Champs of the Week were selected for **success**.

Winning Champ of the Week distinction in Cluster 1 were Maddy Morrison, Greyson Grissom and Kyle Bridges.

In Cluster 2, Lamarious Stray, Pracasiah Couch and Dragon Schmidt were Champs of the Week.

Cluster 3 Champs of the Week were Karlie Williams, Alana Coffey and Alley McMillin.

Mason Eakes, Jonah Mathews and Leslie Beth Jackson were named the Cluster 4 Champs of the Week. Winning Pilot Pride honors were Josie Prehoda, Zaria Ervin and Charleston Hobbs.

Anna Gregory Grissom and Chandler McClure were Champs of the Week in the sixth grade.

Named seventh grade Champs of the Week were Kayla Buchanan and Samantha Ward. Julia Cox and Sasha Montgomery won the Pilot Pride Award.

Eighth grade Champs of the Week were Will Alan Moore and Teri Posey.

Sasha Montgomery, Andrea Brockwell, Anna-Reid Garrigan, Anna Gregory Grissom, Meg Vowell and Brooke Coffey were named Pilot Pride winners.



Principal Award winners for the week of **September 18** were Annagrace Ligons and Brendan Wilson. Taylor Everett, Hailee Edgin and Anyya Freeman were named Champs of the Week in Cluster 1. Winning the Blue and Gold Award was CaShayah McClerkin.

Cluster 2 Champs of the week were Myles Amberg, Remington Stewart and J.Barber. Cheyenna Beavers was the Blue and Gold Award recipient.

Madison Parfait, Jada Mathews and Tyler Roach won Champ of the Week distinction in Cluster 3 with Jake Mayo winning the Blue and Gold Award. Jenna Elliot, Alana Coffey, Alyssa Flores, Samantha McClure, Houston Massey and Bradley Morgan were Pilot Pride winners.

Cluster 4 Champs of the Week were Lauren Fincher, Cody Lacewell and Dylan Williams. Charleston Hobbs was the Blue and Gold Award winner. Cameron Smith, Summer Mayo, Blade Rinderknecht and Skyler Johnson won Pilot Pride Awards.

Jamessykah Alexander and Sean Lucy were sixth grade Champs of the Week. Brooke Coffey was the Blue and Gold winner. Joey Lannom won the Pilot Pride Award.

Seventh grade Champs of the Week were Austin Newton and Tanner Adams. Matthew Bodon was the Blue and Gold Award recipient.

Pree Esters and Nick Guess were named the eighth grade Champs of the Week as Ricky Bagley was the winner of the Blue and Gold Award. The Middle School Football Team won the Pilot Pride award for always playing with PRIDE.



Winning the Principal's Award for the week of **September 25** were Charleston Hobbs and Abbie Wheeler.

Amanda Newton, Blake Edwards and Madison Halstead were the Cluster 1 Champs of the Week. Hayden Murphy took home the Blue and Gold Award.

Kayleigh Thomas, Brookelyn Chambers and Cayce Jones were the Cluster 2 Champs of the Week. Alexis Elks won the Blue and Gold Award.

Justin Eakes, Sierra Patitucci and Alley McMillin were Champs of the Week in Cluster 3 with Jenna Elliot winning the Blue and Gold Award. Kenny Lannom, Amber Chrisp and Brittany Yates won Pilot Pride honors.

In Cluster 4, Bobby Chrisp, Olivia Wilson and Alexis Tacker were the Champs of the Week. Lily Wheeler won Blue and Gold distinction. Winning Pilot Pride Awards were Sarah Gardner, Breanna Gray, Charleston Hobbs, Cameron Matheny, Savanna Mayo, Charlie Riffe, Leah Weatherly, Alexis Tacker, Dylan Williams, Abner Chilson, Summer Mayo, Austin Nichols, Precious Thomas and Cody Lacewell were Pilot Pride Award winners.

Sixth grade Champs of the Week were Mickia Crumble and Devontae Hampton. Johnna Edgin was the Blue and Gold winner. Brittinnie Abernathy won Pilot Pride honors.

In the seventh grade, Justus Wilson and Linsey Grissom were the Champs of the Week with Samanth Bing taking home the Blue and Gold Award.

LeQuante Abbott and Stephen Patitucci were the eighth grade Champs of the Week as Judd Malone won the Blue and Gold Award. Cullen Wiley was rewarded with Pilot Pride honors.



For the week of **October 2**, John Strupek and Karlee Williams were honored as the Principal's Award recipients.

Cluster 1 Champs of the Week were Breanna Riffe, Anna Grace Johnson and Jakiron Crumble. Quinn Johnson was the Blue and Gold Award winner.

Lamarious Stray, Ian Lucy and Brooklyn Major were the Cluster 2 Champs of the Week with Quentaya Murphy taking home the Blue and Gold Award.

In Cluster 3, Ryker Cagle, Samantha McClure and Courtney Cagle were the Champs of the Week. Alley McMillin was the Blue and Gold recipient.

Delaynee Cermak, Nataven Bransford and Halley Stewart were named the Cluster 4 Champs of the Week as AJ Turner won Blue and Gold distinction.

The sixth grade Champs of the Week were Angelika Zombeck and Hevontae Hampton. Daniel Bradley won the Blue and Gold Award.

Seventh graders Racheal Davison and Faith Barber were the Champs of the Week in seventh grade as Leah Rash was named the Blue and Gold winner.

Eighth grade Champs of the Week were Hunter Jones and Sasha Montgomery with John Strupek winning Blue and Gold honors. The entire eighth grade won Pilot Pride honors.

FCHS

FCHS senior Lacy Roberson was crowned football Homecoming Queen on September 25 before the game against the Mayfield Cardinals. Her court includes freshman maid, Sarah Bennett; sophomore maid Ashlee Eakes; junior maid Ginelle Bess and senior maids Ladaria Gaston and Tequilla Mayes.



The FCHS library recently received two National Endowment for the Humanities grants according to librarian Sally Goodman. As a 2009 We the People "Picturing America" Bookshelf recipient, the library will receive a set of 17 hardcover books; three of these titles in Spanish translation; and two bonus hardcover books, *Our White House: Looking in, Looking Out* by the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance and *1776: The Illustrated Edition* by David McCullough. Also included are supplementary programming materials, including bookplates, bookmarks and posters.

The "Picturing America" theme is inspired by the premise that a nation's literature, as well as its visual art, can be a window into its history, aspirations and ideals. The Bookshelf program is part of the Endowment's **We the People** program which supports projects that strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture.

The FCHS library also received a collection of 40 high quality reproductions of American art, along with a teachers' resource book. The book includes information on all the images and suggestions for using them to enhance classroom and library learning in a wide range of subjects including American history, social studies, writing, literature, art and civics.

Learn more about the program and browse the online gallery at www.PicturingAmerica.neh.gov.

September Students of the Month Sponsored by Jackson Purchase ACA

Congratulations to the following students who have been recognized as **Students of the Month** for **September**: Ellen Murphy- biology – Casey Dowty; AP biology – Tequilla Mayes; journalism/newspaper – Mary Langford; Deann Reed – English III – Caitlin Gannon; English IV – Madison George; AP English – Mary Langford; David Black - floral design – Austin Cox; ag science and technology – Marianna Harris; food technology – Larry Jones; AP animal science – Ashley Wiseman; greenhouse – Passion Wilson; Bettie Brazzell – geometry – Casey Dowty; algebra II – Ashlee Babbs; Melanie Curlin - pre-calculus – Tequilla Mayes; AP calculus – Jance Snisky; advanced algebra II – Gianna Bess.

Also named were: Audrey Ferguson - Spanish I – Terrisha Mayes; Spanish II – Amy Byrd; Spanish III/AP Spanish – Mary Langford; and English II – Lisa Kemp; Matthew Shelby – English I – Jamaal Crumble; English II – Andrew Keeling; Kim Roberts – world civilization – Dylan McClure; US history – Hannah Atkins; AP history – Macauley Minton; government – Paige Nolan; Vito Spadafino – p.e. I – Clayton Bradshaw; p.e. II – Passion Wilson; Angie Hayden - earth, space and physical science – Sarah Bradley; chemistry – Lacy Roberson; Matthew Dillon - algebra I – Cody Shields; Mitchell Williamson - geometry – Quiana Mayes; Algebra II – Casey Dowty; and JoAnn Hardin - arts and humanities – McKala Owens; instrumental music – Matthew Palmer; and Pilot choir – Tishanda Abbott.

FCATC

Fulton County Area Technology Center (FCATC) Principal Tom Pyron is pleased to announce the **October** Students of the Month. They are: information technology - Lacy Roberson; health science – Cody Broyles; business – Bobby Mayo; auto tech – Patrick Linder; machine tool tech – Justin Foederer; carpentry – Ladarrian Polk.



Principal Pyron is thrilled that a 2008 Toyota Prius Hybrid vehicle was delivered to FCATC on October 13 as a learning tool for the center's students from Fulton County, Fulton City and Hickman County. The school was awarded a \$50,000 Special Federal Perkins Grant to help students become more aware of and proficient in using "green technologies." The funds will be used in the automotive and machine tool technology programs.

"We worked with Mike Smith Toyota of Paducah on securing this vehicle," Pyron explains. "The dealership has offered a full range of technical support to help our auto tech teacher, Brad Tucker become more knowledgeable about hybrid technology and our students access the technical data needed to diagnose and repair this new generation of automobiles.

Tucker adds, "I'm pleased to have this high quality vehicle for my students to learn the electrical and mechanical aspects of 'green' machines as these vehicles become more and more popular."

In the News

FCHS 2008 graduate Tony Udley of New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI) was named one of two Western States Football League (WSFL) Defensive Players of the Week for the week of September 12. The announcement just missed the September district newsletters. Udley, a sophomore, had 12 tackles, broke up a pass, and returned a fumble 45 yards for a touchdown to help NMMI defeat the Air Force JV squad 27-23.

Financial Aid Tip of the Month for October, 2009 **Avoid these common student financial aid mistakes**

When it comes to finding ways to pay for college, many parents and students may end up paying more than necessary because they didn't avoid some common mistakes. Follow these tips from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) to make sure you get all the help you need.

Believe it or not, many students miss out on money for college simply because they don't apply for it. Make sure you apply for every scholarship you can, because scholarships are free money you don't have to pay back.

And even if you don't think you'll qualify for federal student aid programs, you should still submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as FAFSA. Many states and colleges use the information from the FAFSA to determine if you're eligible for other aid programs, so not filing may hurt your chances of getting more free money for college.

Another common mistake is waiting until the last minute to apply for financial aid. Some programs have deadlines, while others have limited funds. If you wait too late, you may miss out.

When you are accepted by a college, you'll get a financial aid package. Don't accept it without looking at it. If you've received offers from more than one school, compare the offers to see which one is the best deal. And remember that you may be able to negotiate a better package.

If you're going to need loans to help pay for college, be a good consumer. Not all lenders offer the same rates and benefits. Pay close attention to what lenders call the back-end benefits, the interest rate and principal reductions offered when you begin to repay the loan. That goes for both federal student loans and private loans.

Finally, remember that students are required to pay a larger percentage of their income and savings than parents are. The less money students have in their name, the better their chances of getting more financial aid.

To learn how to plan and prepare for higher education and to access the FAFSA, go to www.GoHigherKY.org. For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798; or call (800) 928-8926.

Fulton County Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes Summary September 17, 2009

Meeting called to order at 6:59 p.m. by Lynn Grissom, Chairperson.

➤ Good News! The high school's Thoughtful Education Unit Plan work and progress was complimented by Harvey Silver, one of the founders of Thoughtful Education at a recent Thoughtful Education Cadre meeting. Fulton County High School won the Regional Kentucky DPP's High Attendance award.

➤ Approved the agenda with recommended changes and requested additions.

➤ Communications

Tamra Parker, elementary/middle school guidance counselor, shared with board members and stakeholders her work as a guidance counselor. She also presented information about Allan Paul's, high school guidance counselor, work as the high school guidance counselor.

The superintendent presented notification of personnel actions since the August 20, 2009 regular meeting.

The superintendent reviewed follow-up to commitments from the August 20, 2009 regular board of education meeting.

Board members reviewed administrative team member reports.

➤ Approved and accepted the KDE calculated and approved Indirect Cost Rates for the School Nutrition Program for Fiscal Year 2010.

➤ Adopted the Fiscal Year 2010 Working Budget as prepared and presented by the district finance officer.

➤ Approve the purchase of a school bus as presented and recommended by the director of transportation.

➤ Approved the high school SBDM council copier lease with Howard Happy based on the bids presented and the recommendation of the high school principal.

➤ Based on the presentation and recommendation of the FRYSC director, enter into a contract agreement with West Kentucky Allied Services for participation in the Purchase Employment Placement Program.

➤ Accepted the following consent agenda items.

1. Treasurer's report

2. Payment of bills and salaries

3. Approved the minutes of the August 20, 2009 regular meeting

4. Building use requests

➤ **Board member Discussion Items** Afternoon car traffic student pick-up and exit Continuation of conversation about substitute costs and possible SBDM council incentives Policy review (Chapter 3 to including Staff Dress Code) Student board member

➤ Adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

FCE/MS SBDM Council Regular Meeting Minutes September 10, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the FCE/MS SBDM Council was called to order on Thursday, September 10, 2009, in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School Conference Room by Julie Jackson, chairperson, at 4:05 p.m. Members present were Julie Jackson, Pat Harmon, Betty O'Neill, Mindy Major, Deena Morrison, and Rose Kinney. Members absent were Jill Coffey and Ginger Bard. PaTrice Tucker and ReNea Riddle were also present. The motion to approve the agenda, minutes, and financial report passed by consensus.

The Good News Report: ReNea Riddle reported that the AIMSweb system was up and running. This data program will make a great difference in how the success of the students is monitored. Mrs. Julie also stated that progress reports went out to parents despite difficulty with Infinite Campus. She explained that the progress reports are to be signed by the parents and then returned.

Monthly Meeting Items & Date: The next monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 13th due to fall break being during the regular scheduled meeting time.

Council Basics Mini Lesson: The council looked at information pertaining to NCLB and how that affects FCE/MS. Data was presented for the 2009 Fall Testing Overview with dates listed.

Component Manager Reports: Julie reviewed the CSIP activities and noted that all three components were up to date.

New Business: Academic Team Coach Tamra Parker asked the SBDM Council to make recommendations for the criteria to be on the academic team. The motion that each student have a 3.0 grade point average (B) and that recommendations be based on grades, teacher recommendations, and through the discretion of the academic team coaches passed by consensus.

Discussion Item: The SBDM Council discussed assessment changes that will take place during the testing window. Members looked at important dates coming up and discussed the new look of the IPR

(formally known as the KPR). This year there will be six days of regular testing with four days of make-up. With the SB 1 long-term update, there will be a criterion-reference test that will be combined with a norm-reference tested based on the new state standards. The EXPLORE administration could also move to the ninth grade in the future.

Policy Review: The council reviewed Policy 2.21 Testing Procedures and Data Analysis at this month's meeting. The policy was amended to include information on the AIMSweb program and monthly Learning Checks. The motion to accept the changes passed by consensus.

The motion to adjourn passed by consensus.

**FCHS SBDM Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2009**

The regular meeting of the FCHS SBDM Council was held on September 24, 2009 with Principal Wayne Benningfield, Teresa Smothers, Jana Turner, Kim Roberts, Ellen Murphy, Sheila Haynes, and Senior Class President: Lacy Roberson in attendance.

The motion made to accept previous minutes passed.

Discussion:

Senior Class President Lacy Roberson asked for clarification on use of fundraiser money by the senior class. Mr. Benningfield said that there were no restrictions on funds raised by parents or students. However, business donations could only be used toward Project Graduation, not a senior field trip.

Benningfield shared released 2009 test scores. SRA reading strategies are currently being used within the core content classroom and identified juniors.

Benningfield also shared the possibility of the SBDM council being responsible for the transportation budget for athletic and extracurricular field trips in the future.

A motion to adjourn was accepted. The next SBDM Council meeting will be October 19th at 3:30 pm.

Birthday Calendar

October

- 26 Jermey Mathews
- 28 Kim Gooch

November

- 5 JoAnn Hardin
- 8 Wayne Benningfield
- 10 Patricia Harmon
- 11 Denise Grissom
- 12 Allison Jones
- 16 Julie Vowell
- 17 Pam Dinwiddie
- 19 Brenda King
- 20 Donna Jones
- 23 Sheila Haynes
- 24 Laurie Baird
Ginger Bard
- 27 Kim Roberts
- 28 Jennifer Allen
- 29 Andrew Clinton

December

- 6 Judy Carlton
Joy Brummal
- 8 Katie Stewart
- 9 Deatrik Kinney
- 10 Deann Reed
- 13 Delores Giles
- 16 Ronnie Harper
- 23 Celinda Udley
- 24 William Sampson
Shawn Barber
- 28 Linda Eakes
- 30 Steve Coulson



Proficiency, Positive Relationships, & Pilot Pride

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