

THE NORTHWEST NEWS

Northwest Regional Office
673 Vance Ave.
Memphis, Tn. 38126

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

Special Points of Interest:

The Northwest Courtesy Club is well underway. More information is forthcoming.

TOP NEWS:

- **From Staci Franklin of Communications:** Please provide the Communications department with the name of your school's communication contact person. This person will be responsible for providing the Communications department with information that can be used in either the Insider Newsletter as well as with MCS Tip Sheet that is provided to area media outlets. Email the names to Staci Franklin at franklin-stacic@mcsk12.net
- **SAB-**Thanks to the approximately 12 schools that have submitted their Student Advisory Board member to Ms. Janice Johnson by the deadline Friday, September 4, 2009. However, they requested two members from each high school in the district. If you have not submitted, please complete and fax the form you were provided attached in a earlier email to 416-4372 or email it to me as soon as possible. Also, inform your selected students of the upcoming meeting.
- The Superintendent is hosting **Parent Information Meetings** during the month of September and again in the Spring. The Northwest fall meeting will be held Saturday afternoon, September 26. All schools must have 10 adults present. A Smartboard will be given away to the school with the highest percentage attended.
Location: Bellevue Middle School, 575 S. Bellevue, 38104
Time: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m.)
- **Read for the Record** is scheduled for October 8th. All elementary schools should have begun to receive the book The Hungry Caterpillar. Please distribute one book per Pre k and KK classroom in your building and find volunteers to read to those classes.
- **Stanford Law**-There was to be a meeting for principals of elementary schools with grade 6 this Thursday at Lucie Campbell Elem-**NEXT THURSDAY, Sept 17 @ 4pm.**
- **SACS**-The time has come for schools engaged in SACS accreditation visits this year to start the planning process. Jason has already notified principals of their need to share SACS coordinators for a VERY important organizational meeting on Tuesday, September 22, in the Board Auditorium. If you are going thru SACS, please plan to attend.
- **NW William E. White II, Executive Director, School Choice & Student Accounting, -PowerTeacher** Several teachers have successfully begun using PowerTeacher. Please ensure you have at least one classroom teacher assigned to be your PowerTeacher leader and that Student Information has this person's name. This person will receive training and support from Student Information that can then be shared with the rest of your faculty. Please email your PowerTeacher leader's name to "PowerTeacher" in Lotus Notes.
- **Marilyn Taylor, Social Studies Coordinator** -In May of 2005, Congress enacted a law stating, "Each educational institution that receives federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on **September 17** of such year for the students served by the educational institution." The purpose of this event is to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787. For sample lesson plans, primary documents and other ways Constitution Day can be incorporated into the classroom, please visit the Social Studies webpage.



Pointed in the Right Direction !

Catherine Battle
Superintendent

Pamela Jackson
Director

Tameka Allen
Academic Coordinator

Femetres Gray
Professional Development
Coordinator

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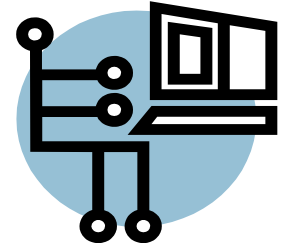
STUDENT SUPPORT

The Graduation Coaches trainings are scheduled to meet on **Wednesday, September 16 and Friday, September 18, 2009** from 8:00 - 3:00, at the TTC on Jackson Avenue.

MCS eSchool courses Quarter 1 will begin **Thursday, September 17, 2009**. High school coordinator must submit application to Betty Brown

Professional School Counselors:

- K-12 Counselor Professional Development by regions **September 14-18, 2009, 8:00-10:30**. Schedule has been provided to counselors
- All counselors are expected to attend.
- Counselors unable to register in Avatar should attend. (Avatar login and password is the same as desktop login)
- All ninth grade students must have a completed **Focus Plan of Study (Grad Plan)** in Ed Plan by **September 21, 2009**. The instructions and guidelines were provided in the **September 1, 2009**, Counselor's in-service.



*James Bacchus
Executive Director*

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Read 180-IMPORTANT!

- Before the beginning of the school year, middle- and high-school principals received a list of students who were eligible for Read 180. That list was based on the *projected* enrollment for each school, but now that school has started, the list has been updated using each school's *actual* enrollment. Because of the high rate of student mobility during the beginning of school, principals will probably find this updated list very helpful in placing students who were not projected to be at their school as of a few weeks ago, but who are at their school now.
- This information does NOT apply to the eight Striving Readers schools, where Read 180 placement must follow the protocols of the Striving Readers grant.
[http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/READ 180 candidates \(updated 08-31-09\).xls](http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/READ%20180%20candidates%20(updated%2008-31-09).xls)
[http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Read 180 enrollment guidelines.pdf](http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Read%20180%20enrollment%20guidelines.pdf)

**Dr. Linda Kennard,
Executive Director, C & I**

SRI Testing Window:

Northwest Region **September 8 - 18**

If you have any questions regarding Read 180, please contact LaTisha Bryant at 416-2932.

- AIMSWeb Mathematics materials are being delivered to schools from printing and should be complete by the end of the week. The deadline for entering data into the management system will be extended until **September 22, 2009**. Please make sure that teachers read the instructions for the new tests in grades 2-5.

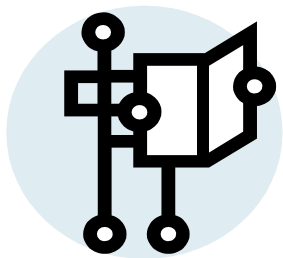
PRE K–12 MATHEMATICS

Stanford Math

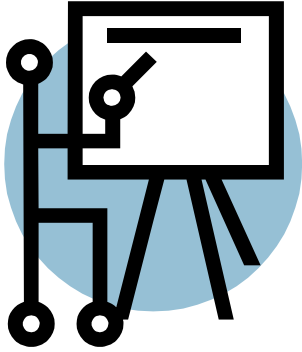
The Mathematics Department and EPGY Stanford University are pleased to announce that the 2009-2010 implementation of the Stanford Math Program is underway.

Please begin placing your intervention students on the program for the required 90-100 minutes immediately. Stanford School Support Associates are visiting schools to assist with startup efforts.

The first district-wide usage report will be distributed this week. For more information, please contact Nicholas Stutzman (stutzman@stanford.edu).
[http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Algebra Support.doc](http://mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Algebra%20Support.doc)



*Suzanne Thomas, Ed.D.,
Executive Director, PreK-12 Mathematics,*



*Myra I. Whitney,
Associate Superintendent
Professional Development
& Staff In-service
901.416. 5930*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Reminder:

Assistant Principals, Region
1 Meeting September 14,
2009, **Class Code 3007.**

Principals' Meeting Septem-
ber 15, 2009, **Class Code
2994**

AVATAR/PDMS INSTRUCTIONS

All teachers and administra-
tors should register in
AVATAR.

**Isaac Wright,
Staff Development
Coordinator -**

Monitors Avatar Platform

For questions e-mail:
WrightI-
saacA@mcsk12.net

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Working remotely is becoming a Reality!

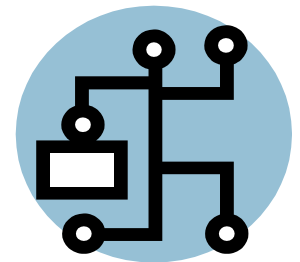
The Technology Department is pleased to announce that starting October 1, 2009, school and administrative personnel will have the option of accessing Chancery SMS, PowerTeacher Gradebook, and district email from home or any location where a internet connected computer exist.

The goal is to make MCS technology more accessible for employees anytime, anywhere. Detail instructions on how to gain this remote access is forthcoming. Additionally, remote access to other district web applications will be made available on an ongoing basis. Stay tuned there is much more to come. **Anytime anywhere = convenience and productivity**

**Curtis Timmons,
Technology
Department**

EXHIBITION OF STUDENT WORK

- The Fall Exhibition of Student Work will be held on **Thursday, November 12, 2009.** As a district, we will follow the same procedures that were implemented during the Spring 2009 Exhibition of Student Work.
- In grades 5, 8, and 12, the students will create a special, exit-grade Exhibition of Student Work through participation in a Capstone experience. Grades 5 and 8 will complete their Capstone projects during the 2nd semester for their Spring Exhibition of Student Work. Senior English students will participate in a year-long Capstone that will serve as both their Fall and Spring Exhibitions of Student Work. A detailed overview of the ESW Capstone Project can be accessed through the following link: <http://mediasite.mcsk12.net/mediasite5/Viewer/?peid=c06960388ea546a58c2e90a5d777526e>
Please share this Mediasite with teachers in grades 5, 8, and 12.



**Judy Jackson, Director,
Exhibition of Student
Work**

**MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS
NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE**

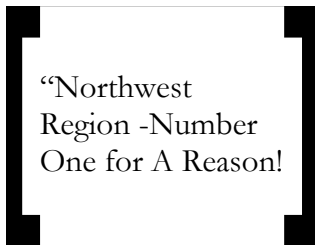
**Please send all KUDOS to Femetres
Gray**

673 Vance Avenue.
Memphis, Tn. 38126

Phone: 901.416.7387
Fax: 901.416.7390
E-mail: grayfemetress@mcsk12.net

Congratulations to Vollentine Elementary. They have received a Resource Grant for eBooks from Sylvan Dell.

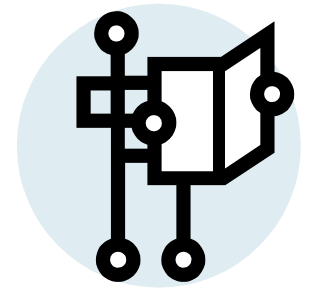
If you have any outstanding news for your school, please email Femetres Gray @ grayfemetress@mcsk12.net and also send your information to the MCS Insider. We want to see the NorthWest sparkle in lights!!!!



www.mcsk12.net

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Assistant Principals, Region 1 Meeting September 14, 2009, Class Code 3007
- Tuesday, September 15 Transition Day for Surplus Employees
- Principals' Meeting September 15, 2009, **Class Code 2994**
- Wednesday, September 16 End of Progress Reporting Period 2
- Wednesday, September 23 Issue Progress Report for Period 2
- Thursday, October 8 End of First Quarter
- Friday, October 9 Fall Break
- Monday, October 12 In-Service/Parent Teacher Conference
- Wednesday, October 21 Issue Report Cards for 1st Reporting Quarter



*To view 2009—2010
School Calendar,
please visit
www.mcsk12.net*