

THE NORTHWEST NEWS

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

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8

SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

Special Points of Interest:

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication and for getting parents to the Informational Meeting on Saturday.

TOP NEWS:

- **EXPLORE (eighth grade) and PLAN (tenth grade)** are teed up for **Wednesday, October 14**. Thanks to John Nickey in REA, the tests will likely be pre-slugged with your students' names.
- **REA DocuShare instructions** <http://www.mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Accessing REA Docushare Data Files.doc>
- **William E. White II, Executive Director, School Choice & Student Accounting, RE: Attendance** Several schools still need to catch up on attendance data entry for school days during the first 20-day period. It is always critical to be current with attendance data, but the urgency has increased this year due to H1N1 concerns. If you need assistance with issues related to recording attendance in SMS, please contact Data SIS or DataSIS Elementary.
- **PowerTeacher**-Teachers have access to PowerTeacher from inside the MCS network only. The target date for providing home access to SMS and PowerTeacher is **October 1**.
- **Linda Sklar, Division of Optional Schools and Advanced Academics**
All Advanced Placement teachers who are teaching a new Advanced Placement course should submit their syllabi to College Board for review by **October 1, 2009**. If they need assistance, please contact Sandra Lewis at 416-3471. Also, A.P. Coordinators may begin renewing previously authorized courses now. Questions? Call Sandra Lewis at 416-3471.
- **Judy Jackson, Exhibition of Student Work/Capstone Curator Meeting - Tuesday, October 6th at TLA Auditorium from 4:00-5:30 p.m.** Please ensure that your curator signs up in Avatar (course # 3465.4322) and attends to receive vital information about the Fall Exhibition of Student Work. Elementary and middle school principals, please e-mail the name of your curator to jacksonj3@mcsk12.net so they can be added to our list.
- **High School English Teachers and High School Curators** – are invited to attend a meeting with **Dr. Hamer on Tuesday, September 29th at East High School Auditorium at 4:15 p.m.** to discuss the **High School Capstone Project**.
- **Reminder ALL High Priority Schools:** According to NCLB law, parents and teachers must be given the opportunity to provide input as state and local leaders develop Alternative Governance and Corrective Action plans for High Priority Schools. In order for this federal mandate to be satisfied, please ensure that at least 2 parent representatives from your school attend an important **Parent Meeting in the near future. NCLB and REA will be coordinating this meeting.** Please provide your Regional Superintendent with the names of the two parents who will be in attendance. Additionally, please invite all of your teachers, although their attendance is not mandatory. **Copies of the letter that needs to go home to parents will be emailed or delivered to your school building for distribution to students. You should also begin work immediately on your School Improvement Plans. SIPs are due November 1, 2009.**
- **Your teachers should start developing EXCEL(STAR) reports** for students who warrant it. If students are at-risk of failing, a STAR report should be developed.
- **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.



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

We are asking Principals to designate one counselor to serve as the liaison between your school and our department regarding Student Support Services Programs, (i.e. Credit Recovery, eLearning, Extended Year and Extended Contracts). This designee will be responsible for verifying that the student is registering for the correct course, and helping to ensure that our students are successful.

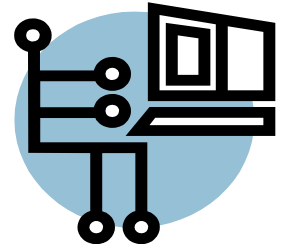
MCS eSchool courses Quarter 1 began **Thursday, September 17, 2009**. Students must check their email account for login information to start the eLearning course.

MIAA Advisory: See attachment

http://www.mcsk12.net/forms/ops/MIAA_Advisory1.doc

PBIS

REMINDER: High Schools must submit two students to Janice Johnson for the Student Advisory Board. This was due September 4, 2009. **Please submit ASAP to Mr. Bacchus.** The Code of Conduct result forms were due **August 27**. Please submit to Ann Sharp, Office of Safe and Drug Free School



*James Bacchus
Executive Director*

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION/LITERACY

Elementary principals will want to preview a new Mediasite presentation that explains to parents the new Standards-Based Report to Families. It can be found on the MCS Homepage, as well as in the Mediasite Catalogue of Presentations.

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

Here's a quick link to the video referenced above (you can copy and paste any video's url and it will take you right to that video). "Standards Based Grading Protocol and Report to Families."

<http://mediasite.mcsk12.net/mediasite5/Viewer/?peid=60f598ab0c3b41be98a8070cc29a3d28>

AIMSweb Progress Monitoring: The District will print the literacy probes for all schools. However, it will take a few weeks for the printing to be completed and delivered to your school. Please download the first two or three probes from the AIMSweb site and print them for teachers to use during weekly or biweekly Progress Monitoring.

PRE K–12 MATHEMATICS

Stanford Math

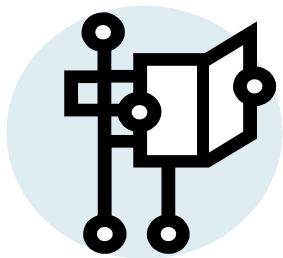
The Mathematics Department and EPGY Stanford University are pleased to announce that the 2009-2010 implementation of the Stanford Math Program is underway.

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.

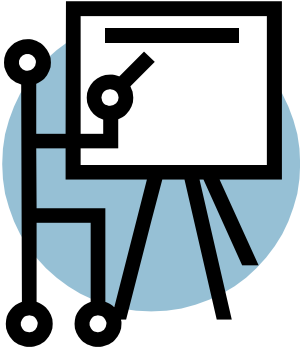
The NW will begin officially monitoring Stanford Math usage this week.

Please ensure that your school meets the 90 min goal and the 70% or higher CFA goal this week.

If you have implementation issues, please contact Suzanne Thomas.



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



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

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PDSCC Professional Development

This schedule includes additional professional development for all elementary schools.
<http://www.mcsk12.net/forms/ops/PD.xls>

Note: Please remember to bring the designated items to Teachscape training.

Teachscape Schedule is attached...please review sheets one and two to locate your school.

Only two persons representing your school that have already attended Days 1 and 2 should attend Day 3.

<http://www.mcsk12.net/forms/ops/Teachscape.xls>

**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.

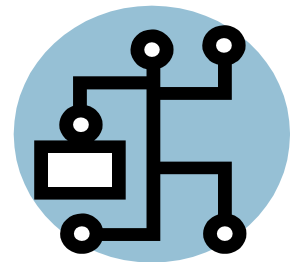
Technology Coordinators Meeting at the Teaching and Learning Academy, Auditorium, **October 1, 2009, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.** Sponsored by: Memphis City Schools Information Technology and Careers and Technology

**Curtis Timmons,
Technology
Department**

COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH: H1N1

Possible Flu-Related Absences There is no board requirement that students have a doctor's note for being excused for illness-related absences or for return to school.

- According to the Director of Public Policy for LeBonheur - on behalf of their CEO, "Not all children are recommended to see a doctor when they have the flu, since most are expected to recover without medical assistance." Further, should we require a doctor's note, this will result in "overcrowded waiting rooms, long waits and additional exposure to the virus."
- While caution and due diligence regarding the H1N1 virus are warranted and expected, please do not require children to have a doctor's note for obtaining an excused absence or for return to school. Certainly, if the child appears to still be suffering from flu-like symptoms, you should ask the parent to keep him or her at home until he or she has fully recovered for 24 hours.
- Please make sure you send home the letter Dr. Parks of Coordinated School Health and the MCS Communications department forwarded to all principals on Friday, September 4. Also, please take a moment to view Dr. Parks' interview located on the MCS website for critical information regarding H1N1. <http://www.mcsk12.net/>
- Memphis City Schools' H1N1 Hotline (901) 416-2569



**Dr. Neika Parks,
Director,
Coordinated School
Health**

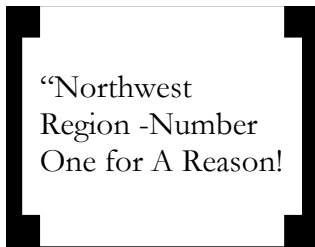
**MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS
NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE**

**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

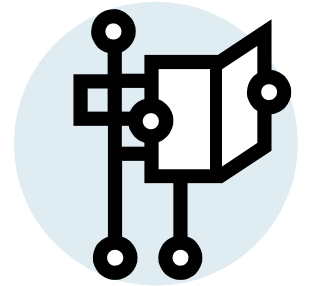
If you have any outstanding news for your school, please email Femetres Gray @ grayfemetress@mcsk12.net and also send your information to the MCS Insider. We want to see the NorthWest sparkle in lights!!!!



www.mcsk12.net

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thursday, October 8 End of First Quarter/ High Priority Schools should submit first draft of TSIPP
- Friday, October 9 Fall Break
- Monday, October 12 In-Service/Parent Teacher Conference
- Wednesday, October 21 Issue Report Cards for 1st Reporting Quarter
- Monday, October 26 Final draft of TSIPP should be submitted to Regional Superintendent
- Sunday, November 1 TSIPP due to State's Field Service Center



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