



Pointed in the Right Direction!

Kevin P. McCarthy, Regional Superintendent

Terry L. Brown, Regional Director

October 19, 2009

1. **URGENT!!!! Student ID's:** The time has passed for getting your student ID pictures to the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools. According to the **attached document**, we have one school that has completed the process and two others who are in the printing stage. Surely the data chart needs updating. This information is being shared at the regional superintendents' meeting tonight. If you listen closely, you may here the explosion. It is critical that every Northeast region school immediately get student pictures taken and submitted to Sarge Pinkney's office. He has authorized the use of ISS teachers for a couple of days to help get this done.
2. **PowerTeacher: Reminders & Remote (Home) Access from Bill White:** Make sure your teachers know that Chancery SMS, PowerTeacher, and Docushare can be accessed outside the firewalls of MCS. Reference the email sent to you and your teachers by Bill White on 10/15/2009 at 5:08 PM. There is some critical information provided in the email, but way too much to include here. As I told you in principal's meeting, I have documented proof from a chronic complainer that home access works and does not spontaneously explode your computer.
3. **5 Day Suspensions:** Take a close look at your suspension data for any students who received a 5 day suspensions or higher. These students, by law, should have a behavior intervention plan to improve their chances of being successful in a regular school setting. Angela Nichols will be sending a survey via Survey Monkey to assess the possession and use of the BIM CD's we distributed last year. We need 100% participation on the survey to know how to proceed.
4. **PreK/ KK/ 1st Grade Sample Parent Letters:** The sample parent letters are for the second nine weeks grading period. These letters are also included in the Report to Families Teacher Guide. Every PreK, KK, and 1st grade teacher should have already received a guide. Teachers who do not have a copy of the Report to Families Teacher Guide can access one on the MCS website, via the C&I webpage. The letters are also being forwarded to you by Terry Brown.
5. **Headsprout Training:** Kindergarten and interested SPED teachers will be trained on Headsprout on October 20, 2009, at the Northeast Region office from 3:30 – 5:30. Teachers who plan to attend must register in AVATAR for course # 4006.4915. First grade teachers interested in getting additional support in Headsprout may attend "Using Headsprout" at the Northeast Region office on October 19, 2009 from 3:30 – 5:30. The course # is 1961.2671.
6. **Speaking of Regional PD -** Last week we held a PD on Differentiated Instruction at the regional office. This, in my opinion, is one of the highest need areas in the region. It also provides a direct support for the A & B teachers as described by you earlier this month. We had room for 50 and 25 originally signed up. By the day of the training, the number had dwindled to 15 and 11 actually showed up. Urgent update: Only 25 teachers signed up for the Learning Express Folio. Unless your school had 100% on the writing assessment last year then you should be sending representatives to this training. See #7 below.
7. **Learning Express Training:** Refer to the memo attachment you received last week regarding the training dates for teachers who administer the Learning Express Formative Writing Assessment.
8. **PSAT/Explore/Plan:** If you gave the PSAT at your school this past Saturday, please send the names and social security numbers of the adults that need to be paid to Julie Ballard in John Barker's office. You can call the information in at 416-5533 or fax it in at 416-5708. **Explore** results are due to arrive at the BOE today, October 20, 2009, and the **Plan** results are expected to arrive tomorrow, October 21, 2009. The results can be picked up in the BOE Avery Lobby between the hours of 8 a.m. and p.m.
9. **Fall Student Exhibition:** We have two student exhibitions under our belts, so the expectations for high-level student work and presentations are immense. I trust planning is well underway in your buildings and you have made the necessary improvements in the process that gives students choice and ownership in the project. **The date of the Fall Student Exhibition is November 12, 2009.**



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10. **Indoor Environmental Quality Plan from Joyce Woods:** Your Indoor Environmental Quality Plan reports are due to the office of Risk Management no later than January 30, 2010. It is important to note that the IEQ is a part of your audit requirements. Ms. Woods sent you two attachments to assist you in preparing these reports in an email dated September 30th. Let's attain 100% on-time submission of these reports for our region.

11. **Behavior Corner from Angeletta Giles:** Northeast Team! This year our emphasis is on becoming **Specialists in Behavior**. Each week I will be sending articles or websites for us to research best practices in order to sharpen our skills and be excellent at our craft. My hope is that you will review the material and share it with the faculty/staff weekly (I have attached an example from Ms. Bradshaw at Cypress). These are key interventions that will address problems you might be having in your buildings. This can be done via email, newsletter, hand-outs presented in faculty/team meetings, or an article you print and place in their mailboxes. Access the following link, <http://www.indiana.edu/~safeschl/index.html>, to research some Behavior Management Tips you would like to share with your faculty/staff.

➤ NorthEast News

1. We are proud of the following students and teachers who represented our region so expertly at the 2009 Mid South Fair School Art Contest. The following awards and scholarships awarded were:

Memphis College of Art \$3,500 Scholarship Winners

- Annie Do, Cordova High School. Amy Shamblin, Art Teacher
- Megan Wallace, East High School. Dorothy Northern, Art Teacher

Memphis-Germantown Art League Merit Award Winner

- Annie Do, Cordova High School. Amy Shamblin, Art Teacher

Best of Show Award-Grades 10-12 Division

- Lisa Zhou, White Station High School. Charles Berlin, Art Teacher

Overall Best of Show

- Lisa Zhou, White Station High School. Charles Berlin, Art Teacher

SEND US SOME NEWS FROM YOUR SCHOOL!!



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Coming Up.....Important Dates

Tuesday, October 20

Headsprout training for Kindergarten and interested SPED teachers at the NE Region office from 3:30-5:30 (PDMS # 4006.4915)

Tuesday, October 20

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30

Wednesday, October 21

Issue Report Cards for 1st Reporting Quarter

Tuesday, September 29

High School Redesign Grant Meeting at BOE in Room 260 at 3:30

Monday, October 12

Workshop on Behavioral Intervention for HIV/STD and Teen Pregnancy Prevention from 8:00 – 11:30 in the TLA Multi-purpose Room

Saturday, October 17

PSAT Test (All High Schools)

Saturday, October 17

High School Redesign Roll-Out (Craigmont HS and Kingsbury HS)

Thursday, November 12

Fall Student Exhibition

Tuesday, November 17

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30 (National Parent Involvement Day)

Tuesday, December 15

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30 (Culture Celebration)

January 4-15

DIBELS Benchmark Dates

Tuesday, January 19

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30

January 27- May14

DIBELS Benchmark Dates

Tuesday, February 16

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30

Tuesday, March 16

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30

Tuesday, April 20

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30

Tuesday, May 18

Parent Assembly Meeting at TLA from 5:30 – 7:30