



Kevin P. McCarthy, Regional Superintendent

Terry L. Brown, Regional Director

October 26, 2009

Pointed in the Right Direction!

1. **URGENT!!!! 2009 Report Card Review from John Barker:** Immediately review the **draft** of your **State Report Card** data. This must be done no later than 11 a.m. on October 28, 2009. If you have any corrections or comments, send them to John Barker via phone or text (416-5533 or 487-6598), fax (416-5708), email, or in person (Room 304 at the Board office). Public release of the final results will be early next week at a date yet to be determined. This is the only chance you will have to review the **draft** of your school's data to ensure accuracy. Remember that principal names listed on the report card will reflect who was principal at your school for the 2008-09 school year. Refer to the email you received from John on October 26th for the links to access your school's report card.
2. **On the subject of grades from Dr. Rod Richmond:** Does every teacher in your building have a clear and concise rationale for their grading procedures? Is it in writing? Does every student and parent have a copy? Have you considered comparing report card grades with Formative Assessment Performance? What exactly are teachers' grades measuring? Passive compliance or authentic engagement? How do you know?
3. **Assistant Principals' Professional Development:** (It is understood that buildings with multiple AP's may send individuals to any regional meeting). All professional development is from 8:00 – 3:00 with opening remarks by the regional superintendent and professional development beginning at 8:45 a.m. Assistant principals are **expected to bring homework from last month**. Bring one math or language assignment based on the objectives given at last month's meeting. Bring six copies of the assignment and six copies of the student work samples so that groups can discuss the alignment of student work to the standards (these may be the same samples that the PDSCC brings from your school). If you have questions about homework contact Tishsha Miller at 416-3456. If you have already registered in AVATAR this year, you do not need to do anything. If you have not registered please do so. The professional development session will continue the Standards in Practice work from last month using the school work samples to explore the alignment of student work to the Tennessee standards. In addition, they will explore "Climate Control" strategies for increasing customer satisfaction and loyalty. Region 4 – October 27, 3014.3836, Region 1 – October 28, 3007.3833.
4. **Assistant Principals** – I apologize for missing your meeting this month. I had to decide between CompStat and the meeting and I had to choose CompStat. Do not confuse my absence with anything other than scheduling. I am extremely proud of the good work you are doing on behalf of our students and enjoy and value our time together.
5. **STAR/Excel Plans** – On your data dashboard is a tab for Excel plans. Make sure the number of plans listed on this tab includes all of the plans in your school, the plans are up to date and focused on the individual child's needs, and every child who needs a plan has one.
6. **High School Principals** – Many of you have heard a rumor that proms may be cancelled by the district. FALSE! If you ever hear such a crazy rumor, call me so I can refute it or check into it.
7. **Exhibition of Student Work/Capstone Information from Judy Jackson:** See the file attached to the memo email.
8. **Teacher Evaluations** – It is now November. For any teacher who needs support as part of his/her evaluation, you should have already done at least one informal and one formal evaluation with clearly defined expectations, timelines for improvement, and a plan for ongoing review of progress. All of this must be documented. Please do not submit a teacher as non-reelect without this documentation. Regardless of whether there is concern about performance, all components of the evaluation must be included for every teacher going through the process. If a teacher is new to your building, you must track down the evaluation file(s) from the previous schools(s) to make a complete file in your school. (Here comes the soap box: I will not sit through another review of our evaluation files by the state department where we look like we do not know what we are doing. If you have questions or need help, ask **now**.)
9. **Technology Conference** – Dr. Richmond's memo included important information about the technology conference. Please read and consider sending a representative or more.



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10. **Student Councils Conference from James Bacchus:** The Tennessee Association of Student Council is hosting its annual state conference for high schools at **Central High on Saturday, November 7, 2009.** Currently only one MCS high school has registered other than the host school. Additionally, most of MCS high schools listed a Student Council sponsor on the Yearlong Supplement report for 08-09, and many have for 09-10. Do not miss out on this opportunity. Every Northeast high school should be well represented at this important conference. **Have your sponsor contact Erin Starnes at Central High for registration information.**
11. **Elem. ED Plan RTI Focus Schools from James Bacchus:** The final phase focus group training for ED Plan RTI has been scheduled for **Thursday and Friday October 29-30.** The training will be held at the NE Region Office, next door to Treadwell Middle School (formally Treadwell High) from 8 AM - 3 PM. We will provide one sub per school to assist with coverage. Please send James the names of your team that will be attending by **Wednesday, October 28, 2009.** (For Selected Elementary Schools Only)
12. **Student ID's:** Please ensure we have 100% compliance with this mandate. Send Tanya Harris an email simply stating your approximate percent completion or status in this process.
13. **TN Framework for Evaluation:** Attached is the address to the website for the TN Framework for Evaluation. Make sure every teacher's file is complete with the following components: Summative Report, Summary Report, Planning Information Record, Observation Notes, Reflecting Information Record, Appraisal Record, Unit/Lesson Plan Analysis, Educator Information Record, and Future Growth Plan.

http://www.state.tn.us/education/frameval/doc/comprehensive_assessment.pdf
If they read in PDF, use pages 47-64
14. **Fall Student Exhibition:** **The date of the Fall Student Exhibition is November 12, 2009.** High level student work is a must for the Northeast region.
15. **EPGY Stanford Language Arts and Writing from Susan Dold:** EPGY Stanford Language Arts and Writing Program is now available to your schools. This online program, a companion to Stanford Math, can be used as an intervention for students in grades 4-8 or as enrichment for students reading at or above the second grade level. It may also be used with high school students who are truly struggling in English Language Arts. To gain access to the program, teachers should go to the online registration system (AVATAR) and register for course 4079.4992, EPGY Stanford Language Arts and Writing Introductory Professional Development. They will be asked to watch a video on Media-Site and pass a short assessment. Upon successful completion of the course, teachers will be instructed to e-mail Nick Stutzman of Stanford and me. Stanford will then allow access to the system. This step is very important; please remind your teachers to e-mail us and tell us where they teach. Otherwise, their access to the system will be delayed.
16. **Behavior Corner from Angeletta Giles: Behavior Management – Proactive Measures-** Most of what happens in a classroom must be closely controlled by a caring, trustworthy adult. Order, limit setting, and structure are essential in a classroom setting. Teachers should take every possible **proactive measure** to ensure the most appropriate learning environment. See the attached file to the memo email for information to share with your teachers.



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➤ NorthEast News

1. Congratulations to Doug Jones at Scenic Hills. He is the proud grandfather of a precious baby girl born this past Thursday. I am sure his wallet is already full of pictures just waiting to be shared and empty of money grandpa has spent on precious grandbaby.
2. The Northeast family is proud of Abigail Topham at Cordova Middle School. Not only is she a fantastic student, but has recently been crowned a State Champion cross country runner. She finished the race 31 seconds faster than her closest opponent. Way to Go Abigail!!!

SEND US SOME NEWS FROM YOUR SCHOOL!!

Coming Up.....Important Dates

October 29-30

Elementary ED Plan RTI Focus Schools' Meeting at the Northeast region office from 8-3 (for selected schools only)

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