

Administrative Bulletin to Board Members November 14, 2014

Superintendent Report

Educational Foundation Meeting

- A. *Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program* – This is a State program that will allow the Educational Foundation to accept donations from businesses and they can then reduce their state tax obligation by 75% of what they donated to an organization with this status. It will be necessary for us to approve this issue since the foundation is in essence a subdivision of the district.
- B. *Pearl Evans Scholarship Trust* – Since the Pearl Evans Scholarship Trust has been set up for the Southern Fulton students it is important for our board to approve who will be handling that trust. In the past this has been handled by an outside banking company which we believe has not been a good fiduciary manager. In the last four or five years they have allowed the total sum in the scholarship fund to continually decrease. The foundation is committed to serve as trustee for this fund and insure the balance does not drop below its present level. The present balance is \$93,000. The foundation will place these funds in an endowment which will allow only the earnings from the funds to be spent.
- C. *Board Member* – Because of Dave Smith’s work schedule he finds it extremely difficult to attend the foundation meetings and asked that he not be reappointed to the foundation board for another term. Therefore, the board will need to appoint a different board member to serve on the foundation board.

Teacher Performance Evaluation Report

Now that the School Performance Profile has been completed by the State the administrative team will be working to complete final teacher evaluations from last year. Once we have this completed and the report submitted to the State we will be sharing that report with you. Please understand that I indicated at the last board meeting during my presentation it is mathematically impossible to fail any teacher using the PDE 82-1 evaluation form that is mandated by Legislation.

Board Presentations

We will have two presentations at the board meeting. First, Meredith will be presenting on the school performance profile and I will be presenting tentative fund balance with regards to the high school project.

Principal Report

Warfordsburg FFA Members Receive Highest Degree – Rebecca Mosemann

Two more Warfordsburg FFA members’ names were written in the history book for receiving their American Degrees at the 2014, 87th National FFA Convention held in Louisville, Kentucky. Graduates from Southern Fulton High School and members of the Warfordsburg FFA, both Michael and Justin Fogal were among the approximately 3,500 American FFA Degree recipients this year at the Convention. That number represents less than half of one percent of all FFA members, making it one of the

organization's highest honors. In addition to their degree, each recipient received a gold American FFA Degree key. Michael Fogal is currently employed by Eaders Butcher Shop and plans on continuing his career path of butchering with the hopes of someday owning his own shop. Justin Fogal is employed by Ramsey's Septic Service and Fogal's Excavating and has plans on continuing to follow his current direction of employment. Congratulations to both individuals on their great achievement.

Gifted Program – Angela Adams

The Gifted Program at the high school has been very busy this school year. Students are busy preparing for a play they are going to perform for the pre-schoolers. The students designed every part of the play themselves, including the set, but did talk me into providing Oreos and milk for the children. I will buy the Oreos and milk out of my own pocket so it will not be an expense for the school. In addition, the students love the "20 Questions" trivia game I developed. I choose a subject and create clues for it which and place in their folders daily. Students are allowed to guess once a day and while they are allowed to use outside resources, they are not allowed to ask teachers for help. The clues are deliberately very broad and get more specific as they go along. The student who answers correctly first wins a candy bar which I provide. The students loved the first subject, which was Cuzco, Peru, and said they were going to research it more as they had never heard of it before. The students love the contest and have asked me to continue it for next year.

Future Gifted Program activities include such activities as science experiments, reading stories to others, field trip and individual activities. The class is currently working on a volcano science experiment to present to their class. It is hoped they will present one science experiment for each of the remaining marking periods. Two of the students have started reading stories and do related activities, approved by Mr. Bard, to the Life Skills students once a week. Individual activities include band activities, preparation for the European trip and individual research activities. Students are required to write a log each time they meet for class which gives a brief description of what they did and how it relates to their GIEP.

Fannett-Metal Visit

On November 13, 2014, the administrative team from the Fannett-Metal School High School came to observe teachers at the Southern Fulton Jr Sr High School. Mrs. Hendershot has been working with Mr. Whitsel (FM principal) to arrange a visit, at the request of Fannett-Metal in order to talk to teachers and observe classroom instruction. They are looking for instructional strategies and motivational techniques in order to increase their student achievement. Fannett-Metal is a similar-sized school district with demographics that are closely aligned with Southern Fulton. The team from Fannett-Metal spent 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. observing classrooms and speaking with staff members. It was a great way to collaborate and share information.

Max Teaching Strategies: Grade 4

The Intermediate Unit has been trained on Max Teaching Strategies that are instructional methods used to motivate and encourage student participation in classroom lessons. Donna Waleski visited the 4th grade classrooms and observed all three teachers during the morning session in order to understand the dynamics of each classroom. During the afternoon, Mrs. Waleski worked with the teachers to provide strategies that could be implemented into their classrooms in order to increase student participation. The teams of 4th grade teachers were appreciative of the professional development and continue to make advances in their endeavors to implement the PA Core Standards.

The Tribe

The Tribe is a group of 18 current 7th graders, 10 girls and 8 boys, who have been singing together as a special chorus since the beginning of 6th grade. They are talented and dedicated singers. They have given up elementary recess time and class time at the high school to develop their skills and abilities. As 6th graders, they performed at the high school chorus concerts in addition to the regular elementary concerts. This year, they performed at Hancock United Methodist Church for the community Veteran's Day service. All of their performances have been extremely well received. The high quality of singing and the energy and enthusiasm with which they perform is remarkable. They are a true credit to Southern Fulton excellence.

The Frontier Barn Quilt Trail of Fulton Co.

How exciting and uplifting it is to see the results of these young students hard work, talents and interest in supporting The Frontier Barn Quilt Trail of Fulton Co., PA.. As you may be aware, the Frontier Barn Quilt Trail of Fulton Co., PA was formed back in June of this year by a group of interested volunteers to create a trail of barn quilts (brightly painted boards attached to barns, businesses and houses) throughout Fulton Co. Our goal is to have a barn quilt in every township and borough in Fulton Co. by June of 2015. A few months ago I contacted Carolyn Mottern to discuss the possibility of her students assisting in painting the barn quilts. Carolyn discussed it with her students and they were excited about participating in this community project. Carolyn got back to me and we started to make arrangements to get material together for the first quilt block. About a month ago we delivered the material, I gave the students a brief training on how barn quilts are laid out and some tips on painting. From that point the students took over the project and the proof is in the pudding. What a beautiful job they have done on completing this block. Not only did they do a great job in painting, they had to work from a rectangular example that had to be adjusted and scaled to fit on a square board. Artistic skill was only a one part of this project, mathematics and drafting skills also played a big role in correctly sizing the borders, the triangle patches and the willow pattern. We are very happy with the finished project and each student should be very proud of their completed work. Congratulations to Southern Fulton High School on their participation in this project and a great finished product. This quilt block will be installed on a barn located on Crossroads Rd. and once installed we will forward the exact location so the students can enjoy and show off their great work.

Thanks goes out to you and Southern Fulton High School for supporting this wonderful community project. In closing, it is our hope the students wish to continue participating in painting other blocks providing it fits in with the art student curriculum and the high schools approval.

Thanks again for all your support.

Mike Crampton

Frontier Barn Quilt Trail of Fulton Co., PA

High School Dean of Students Report

Veteran's Day Assembly

We held a Veteran's Day assembly on Monday. The band and the seventh grade elite Tribe group performed. We then joined a live webcast from the Tower of London commemorating Veteran's Day.

Tribe to Hancock Methodist Church

On Tuesday, we travelled with the Tribe to Hancock Methodist Church to take part in their annual Veteran's Day program. Our students represented themselves very well, and we heard many positive comments. They were so impressed that they already invited us back for next year. In addition, the students attended the ceremony, and had the honor of listening to a Vietnam veteran give a very moving and motivational talk.

Mellott Company Visit

The Mellott Company visited our seniors on Thursday to continue their series of values presentations. This will lead us to our scholarship winner panel, and ultimately culminate in \$10,000 being awarded to members of our senior class.

Tiffany Graham Visit

Tiffany Graham will be meeting with all juniors and seniors during English class on Friday. She is from Pittsburgh Technical Institute, and always presents a very informational and entertaining presentation. She has been a friend of the district for years, helping students prepare for life after high school.

Elementary Dean of Student Report

Elementary Veteran's Day Assembly

The Elementary School had a Veteran's Day Assembly on Tues., Nov. 11. We had nine veteran's that joined the assembly as well as a family member of a deceased veteran. The kindergarten students sang the National Anthem, some of the morning announcers led the Pledge of Allegiance, and some of the 6th grade students read poems about veteran's. In addition, Ava Hull read her winning VFW Patriot's Pen essay, "Why I Appreciate Veterans." The 5th and 6th grade Elementary Chorus ended the program by singing several songs. Several classrooms stopped to shake the hands of the veterans or say "thank you" as they were dismissed to their rooms. We also had some students that had written thank you letters to the veterans and they handed them to the veterans before leaving the assembly.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Things are underway for the Parent/Teacher Conferences that will be held on the 25th and 26th. Tomorrow is the deadline for parents to turn in their conference papers, expressing interest and the day and time they can meet. Teachers are already working to accommodate the parents as best as possible.

Santa's Shop

The PTA is preparing to set up for Santa's Shop next week. They will be using the stage to set up. They will have parent volunteers as well as some students from the high school. Friday will be the last day to shop. It will be in conjunction with the Parent Luncheon scheduled for Friday. As parents finish eating, they will be permitted to shop on stage with their child.

Elementary Yearbooks

Elementary yearbooks are now on sale. The cost is \$13 for each yearbook. We are also having a contest for each grade level where one student's art work will be chosen to be in the yearbook as an introduction page for that grade. Furthermore, 6th grade students will be voting on the cover for the yearbook.