

Weekly Memos - October 30, 2017

Superintendent's Weekly Message: Central Becomes Community Service Center



In recent articles from varied meetings, there have been discussions around the board offices consolidating. The primary purpose for this effort is to offer our citizens/taxpayers a one-stop location to provide better service, reduce additional overhead, and improve organizational efficiency. As I have often mentioned, the percentage of my decision-making is broken into four areas - 30% as a parent (son attends Oakland); 30% as a taxpayer; 30% from community input/feedback; 9% from past experiences as a leader. Our administrative offices are widespread throughout the community, which is a disservice to the community and a strain on us to make connections for working together on projects, etc . We have the main board office

(Market Street), business office (Market Street - across the street), cafeteria and attendance offices (Midland Drive), technology and academics offices (Jefferson School), transportation and maintenance offices (Yancey Street), and inventory/supply center (Central School and Northwest School). For better service and efficiency, I proposed to the board that we consolidate all offices and what additional spaces we might have, we could provide nonprofits (i.e. wrap around services) an opportunity to lease. When you think about this concept, it is a win-win for our community. We would have all offices in one location to streamline our work. We would reduce overhead tremendously in addition to our payments for rent in one of the buildings we are currently occupying. We would generate revenue from tenants (i.e. nonprofits/wraparound services) for leasing space in our community center. We would have an auditorium that could be used to host many events where we would collect payment for rental, in addition to a training center. By providing families and the community with a one-stop shop, we would position ourselves for the continued growth in our school system and community. There are so many more possibilities that I could share around consolidating our offices in conjunction with providing rental space for nonprofits/wraparound services; however, I think you get the picture. While Somerville Elementary has charm, Central Elementary School is more structurally sound and cost efficient and would provide more space for unimagined opportunities. Fayette County Public Schools continues to strive to make our school system a community school system, where everyone can be involved and contributions along with support are appreciated. In closing, we have begun the planning for our transition to Central Elementary School, which will become the Fayette County Public Schools Community Service Consortium Center. More info to come on the new building improvements and changes that will happen this year. Stay tuned.



FCPS Cares Fundraiser



Hickory Withe First Baptist Hosts Community Breakfast

In the spirit of true fellowship, members of Hickory Withe First Baptist Church held a community breakfast to offer continued support of the Zac pac ministry to Fayette County Public Schools students. This ministry assists families in need by sending high protein foods home with students in their back packs on Fridays. Our partnership with HWFBC allows student needs to be met on many different levels. We are most grateful of their support along with all the many other churches and faith-based organizations who are championing our public school system.





Community Supports Arise2READ

With year one under its belt, Arise2READ is off to a great start! New volunteers from area churches have joined forces with returning mentors to help second grade students increase their reading fluency skills. With this winning team, students are sure to soar!



Strong Parent Volunteering in Schools

Volunteers add great value to our school system, as well as a layer of support that allows us to achieve many goals. At Fayette County Public Schools, we enjoy support from church and community partners, local businesses, and lots of parents! We expect that our parent volunteers would be those of students, but this Arise2READ parent volunteer was one of an FCPS employee. What a powerful message that carries to the community when everyone is willing to help students succeed.





Bus Drivers Appreciated for a Job Well Done

The week of October 22-28 marked School Bus Driver Appreciation Week, and Fayette County Public Schools wanted to recognize drivers for a job well done. School leaders greeted drivers at the bus and presented them with bags full of treats. We depend on our drivers to transport students safely each day, and their role is critical to student success.



Running for Fun!

During Red Ribbon Week, students at Buckley-Carpenter Elementary found a fun and healthy way to support both their school and community through a Costume Fun Run! Through a donation to support Fayette Cares, students and teachers came dressed in costume and participated in a Fun Run around the school. What an entertaining and innovative way to get students involved!





After School Services Offered for Middle and High School

This month, Fayette County Public Schools implemented Beyond the Bell, an after school program for middle and high school students that offers academic support, enrichment and physical activity. Opportunities are provided for students to rotate through ELA, math and enrichment stations. This program is free of cost to students and transportation is provided.



Students Explore Early Postsecondary Opportunities

A wide range of opportunities await those who attend Fayette-Ware Comprehensive High School, and students took time to explore their options during Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPSO) Week. Students investigated colleges by asking questions and examining all of their options. Those who may want to choose the career path spent time at TCAT Whiteville, where they explored options in automotive, information systems, HVAC, industrial maintenance, and the medical field. So many choices for our students!





Fayette-Ware Girls Cross Country Wins Again

The Fayette-Ware girls cross country team continues to blister the competition as they captured another title at the Lemoyne-Owen Classic last week. They also nearly swept the medal stand as 5 girls finished in the top seven. Mary Mayden finished 1st overall, followed Clara Johnson in 2nd, Sarah McKinley in 3rd, Kate Ayala took 4th, and Kaylie Moody finished 7th. The girls will look for continued success as they compete in the Regional Championships held at Crockett County.



Fayette Ware Girls' Soccer Finishes Historic Season

The Fayette-Ware Lady Wildcats soccer program closed out its historic season one game short of reaching the Region 8-AA final last week. They made the journey to Kirby High School to take on the Kirby Cougars. The Wildcats had many opportunities to score early in the game as a few shots caromed off the crossbar and the Cougar goalie made some difficult saves. Kirby took a 1-0 lead only to see freshman Sara Sudduth tie the game 1-1 before halftime. Sara again found the back of the net in the 2nd half to even the score at 2-2. Kirby held on to win 4-3 after a late goal by fellow Wildcat freshman CiCi Hunter and the Wildcats couldn't find the equalizer. The Wildcats will lose 3 seniors from this year's team and will look to reload and rebuild for next year.

