

TEACHER LINKS



Warren County School System, 2548 Morrison Street, McMinnville, TN 37110
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Congratulations to our Teachers of the Year!

Dr. Jerry W. Hale, Director of Schools

“Great teachers give us a sense not only of who they are, but more importantly, of who we are, and who we might become. They unlock our energies, our imaginations, and our minds. Effective teachers pose compelling questions, explain options, teach us to reason, suggest possible directions, and urge us on.”

Thomas Cronin, political scientist and educator

Warren County School System is fortunate to have many great teachers in our classrooms. With a job that continues to be more demanding, more challenging, and more rigorous, I am especially honored to offer my congratulations to our Teachers of the Year. Thank you for your continued efforts and energies on behalf of our students.

Bobby Ray Elementary *Annette Robertson, prek-4 grade*

Centertown Elementary *Sara Lee, prek-4 grade*
Rex Crabtree, 5-8 grade

Dibrell Elementary *Angie Pyburn, prek-4 grade*
Nancy McNeal, 5-8 grade

Eastside Elementary *Carol Barrett, prek-4 grade*
Leigh Hillis, 5-8 grade

Hickory Creek Elementary *Cynthia Duncan, prek-4 grade*
Brent Estes, prek-4 grade

Irving College Elementary *Desiree Hobbs, prek-4 grade*
Gail Curtis, 5-8 grade

Morrison Elementary *Monty Childers, prek-4 grade*
Tisha Cocke, 5-8 grade

West Elementary *Debra Wilson*

WCMS *Debbie Jennings, 5-8 grade*
Cindy Redmon, 5-8 grade
Donna Williams, 5-8 grade

WCHS *Franklin Fisher, 9-12 grade*

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Enhancing Student Learning

By Bobby Cox, Assistant Director for Teaching and Learning

(The following is an excerpt from an article written by Rick Stiggins and Jan Chappuis)

In recent years, we educators have expanded our thinking about what the assessment process can do; we have moved beyond using it simply to judge and grade achievement to using it to make changes in teaching that will lead to greater learning. We have come to refer to this as formative assessment. As this use of assessment has grown in recent years, it has taken on many labels: benchmark, common, short-cycle, and interim assessment. When used formatively, assessments help students grow rather than merely holding them accountable for their learning. However, in formative assessment as traditionally conceived, it is the teacher whose information needs are met. A useful analogy is to view it as a "global positioning system" for teachers to use to find out where students are now so they can adjust instruction to get them to the next level of learning. What's missing from this conception is an acknowledgment that students are crucial decision makers too, and that formative assessment must also meet their information needs.

If you would like to read this article in its entirety, please go to

<http://www.districtadministration.com/viewarticlepf.aspx?articleid=1362>

Warren County Schools Television (WCS-TV)

By Bonnie Collier, Professional and Community Development

Warren County Schools Television (WCS-TV) continues to add new programming on our line-up. If you have BLTV, you can catch the following shows beginning at 4:00 p.m. on channel 180:

4	:00	Discussions with Dr. Hale	Principal's Showcase	Warren County Coaches' Show	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Principal's Showcase	Warren County Commission Meeting	The County Beat
	:30	Spotlight on School Health	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Focus on Learning	Discussions with Dr. Hale	Warren County Coaches' Show		Warren County Coaches' Show
5	:00	Bobby Ray Elementary	Centertown Elementary	Dibrell Elementary	Eastside Elementary	Hickory Creek Elementary	Principal's Showcase	Warren County Sports
	:30							
6	:00	Irving College Elementary	Morrison Elementary	West Elementary	WCMS	WCHS	Spotlight on School Health	Warren County Sports
	:30							
7	:00	Warren County School Board Meeting	Principal's Showcase	Discussions with Dr. Hale	Warren County Coaches' Show	Focus on Learning	Warren County School Board Meeting	Discussions with Dr. Hale
	:30		Spotlight on School Health	Principal's Showcase	Warren County Sports	Warren County Coaches' Show		
8	:00	Discussions with Dr. Hale	Discussions with Dr. Hale	Warren County Commission Meeting		Warren County Sports	Spotlight on School Health	Discussions with Dr. Hale
	:30		The County Beat		Principal's Showcase		Warren County Coaches' Show	
9	:00	The County Beat	Warren County Coaches' Show	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Warren County Sports	The County Beat	West	Warren County Commission Meeting
	:30	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Focus on Learning	Focus on Learning		Discussions with Dr. Hale	Hickory Creek	
10	:00	Bobby Ray Elementary	Centertown Elementary	Dibrell Elementary	Eastside Elementary	Hickory Creek Elementary	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Focus on Learning
	:30							Principal's Showcase
11	:00	Irving College Elementary	Morrison Elementary	West Elementary	WCMS	WCHS	Watch. Listen. Learn.	Discussions with Dr. Hale
	:30							Spotlight on School Health

**For a complete listing of WCS-TV, channel 180 programming, please go to: <http://www.warrenschools.com/1630101151527837/site/default.asp>

Thanks to the following sponsors for their donations to WCS-TV:

Bridgestone Warren Plant
Caney Fork Electric Cooperative
Cumberland University
Dr. Pepper Bottling Company
Yorozu Corporation

Christie Allison's Observations

- Idea from Kristin Helton, Reading Interventionist at Hickory Creek Elementary Kristin shared the following website with me, www.starfall.com This website is free. It has reading activities for younger students.
- It can be used to motivate children to read with phonics. It has a systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice. It is perfect for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, homeschool, and English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL). There are activities for students to do, games to play, books to read, and books to print. Kristin says that she uses this as a supplement to the DIBELS program. She prints off the little readers and sends them home for students to read at home for extra practice. She said it is one of the best websites she has used for reading. She said that her students absolutely love the website.

School Cafeterias Earn Excellent Health Scores.

By Jean Wix, Director of Food Service



A focus on safety and nutrition while preparing meals is a top priority for school nutrition professionals. The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 required each school to implement procedures for serving meals under safe and sanitary conditions based on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles. These principles identify and eliminate school food safety hazards at every step - from purchasing and receiving, to storing, preparing and holding. These standards and regulations are among the toughest in the industry.

To achieve these strict safety regulations, all of the Warren County School Nutrition Professionals have attended specialized training. Every School Cafeteria Manager is certified in "Serving It Safe", which is a Food Safety Curriculum. It is essential that all employees practice good food safety habits continuously.

These stringent standards and continuous employee training have helped Warren County Schools maintain exceptional food safety records. Under federal law, schools are required to receive a minimum of two health inspections a year.

Following are the health scores received for the first inspection this school year:

Bobby Ray	92
Centertown	97
Dibrell	88
Eastside	91
Hickory Creek	92
Irving College	93
Morrison	93
West	92
Middle School	87
High School	93

Staff Development for Special Education Teachers

By Linda Wilson, Director of Special Education

On January 3rd, Warren County's special education teachers participated in two training events focusing on transition. This topic is receiving considerable attention on both national and state levels. Evidence of its importance is demonstrated by the fact that local school systems are monitored on compliance with IDEA's regulations related to the preparation of students for postsecondary education and career readiness, along with its inclusion in the new RACE TO THE TOP standards.



Gayle Feltner, Middle Tennessee Coordinator of Transition with the State Department of Education, was one of the speakers on the morning of January 3rd. Her goal was to help Warren County prepare its students, families, and teachers for better "Transition Outcomes." She discussed vocational assessment, measureable post-secondary goals, community involvement, post-school adult living, and employment. Pattie Hall and Loria Richardson, of The ARC of Tennessee, introduced Warren County's designation as Middle-Tennessee's recipient of the Wal-Mart/ ARC collaborative training grant. As a result of The ARC's efforts, a "Student-Directed IEP Initiative" will be piloted and will result in students and families receiving training in how to increase their own meaningful participation in IEP meetings.

Information for Technology

Rv Katrina Halev

PowerTeacher

Just a reminder that we have a new attendance feature to check past attendance of your classes. Just click the backpack after you login to PowerTeacher. New link has been added on the left side of the screen labeled Attendance Summary.

The following is a list of some websites that Microsoft is providing to teachers and students. Check these out when you get a chance.

Microsoft® AutoCollage	Create photo collages with your students to use as posters, covers for projects or mementos of school outings. All they have to do is pick a folder, press a button, and in a few minutes AutoCollage creates a collage.	To download the trial version*: http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/cambridge/projects/autocollage/ To download* a complimentary full version of AutoCollage for your school: http://partnersinlearningnetwork.com
Microsoft® Flashcards	Flashcards is a Microsoft® Silverlight® Web application where you can create, share, and study online flashcards. Find a deck in the community, or create your own.	http://www.educationlabs.com/projects/flashcards/Pages/default.aspx
Bing™ Maps	This is a great way to make history or geography come to life. Simply select a location and explore cities at eye level and in 3D. Download Microsoft® Silverlight® for a richer experience.	http://bing.com/maps/explore/
Microsoft® Chemistry add-in	Empowering students, teachers and chemists to easily author documents in the language of chemistry.	www.educationlabs.com/projects/chemistryadd-in/Pages/default.aspx
Microsoft DreamSpark™	DreamSpark is simple; it's about giving students Microsoft professional tools at no charge.	www.dreamspark.com/
Microsoft® Education Labs	Test out software prototypes designed specifically for the education sector by both community members and Microsoft product teams. It's a great chance to provide feedback that will shape the technology of the future.	http://www.educationlabs.com/pages/default.aspx
Microsoft Educators Web Site	Teacher guides, complimentary software applications and online resources as well as news and teacher blogs.	www.microsoft.com/education/teachers/default.aspx
Microsoft® Faculty Connection	Training resources, software and tools, news, publications and downloads.	http://www.microsoft.com/education/facultyconnection
Imagine Cup	The Imagine Cup is the world's premier student technology competition, open to H.S students. Every year, the Imagine Cup encourages students from all around the globe to come up with creative ideas using technology to help solve the world's toughest issues. Students are rewarded with prizes including an all expenses paid trip to the world finals and much more!	www.imaginecup.com

Microsoft® InkSeine	InkSeine is a prototype ink application from Microsoft Research. It is designed from the ground up to have a user interface uniquely tailored to pen input.	http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/projects/inkseine/
Microsoft Innovative Schools	Resources, expertise and technology for schools.	http://www.microsoft.com/australia/education/schools/partners-in-learning/innovative-schools.aspx
Microsoft Innovative Teachers	A site dedicated specifically for inspired teachers. Find out how you can become involved in the Innovative Teacher program.	http://www.microsoft.com/australia/education/schools/partners-in-learning/innovative-teachers.aspx
Microsoft Interactive Classroom	Create in-class polls and share them over a wireless network in real time. Plus share notes and content with students during lessons using Microsoft® OneNote®.	http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?displaylang=en&FamilyID=d93f4cb5-e2bb-4543-a3bb-cd6a8ecb42cc
Kids Corner	A great site for your students with fantastic tips and tricks, answers to all kinds of questions, kids' courses and a secure place to connect with other students.	http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/beginner/bb308754.aspx
Kodu™	Kodu is a new visual programming language made specifically for creating games. It is designed to be accessible for children and enjoyable for anyone. The programming environment runs on the Microsoft® Xbox® or PC, allowing rapid design iteration using a game controller (or keyboard) for input.	http://fuse.microsoft.com/kodu
Microsoft® Live@edu	Complimentary hosted email, calendars, online work spaces, instant messaging and more for everyone in your school.	http://www.microsoft.com/liveatedu/
Microsoft Live™ Labs Pivot	Visit this site to see interesting ways of displaying information to inspire your students.	http://getpivot.com
Microsoft® Live Sync	Sign up for this complimentary service that lets you synchronise files across your work computer, laptop, Mac® or PC and mobile phone so you always have the latest version handy.	http://www.mesh.com
Marvin	A multimedia and animation tool that lets students create animated stories using avatars.	http://www.marvin.com.au/
Microsoft Mathematics	Plot graphs in 2D and 3D, calculate numerical results, solve equations or inequalities, and simplify algebraic expressions in Microsoft Word® and OneNote®.	http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?displaylang=en&FamilyID=ca620c50-1a56-49d2-90bd-b2e505b3bf09
Microsoft® Mouse Mischief™	Allows you to create Office PowerPoint® presentations that children can interact with in class using multiple mice.	http://www.microsoft.com/multipoint/mouse-mischief/default.aspx

Microsoft Partners in Learning Network	Join the global community of educators who value innovative uses of information and communication technology that improve learning outcomes. Collaborate with like-minded colleagues; participate in discussions and accessing lesson plans, tools and more.	http://partnersinlearningnetwork.com
Microsoft® Pro Photo Tools version 2	Find the tools for editing metadata in photographs including latitude, longitude and other location details.	http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?familyid=184075d2-40b5-4172-88ae-878f81896d4d&displaylang=en&tm
Microsoft® Photo Story	An easy way for students to create multimedia presentations.	www.microsoft.com/photostory/
Microsoft® Photosynth™	Students can reconstruct a scene or an object in 3D from photographs and publish it over the Internet.	http://photosynth.net
Microsoft® pptPlex	This complimentary download* works with Microsoft® Office PowerPoint® to let you zoom in and out of slide sections and move directly between slides that are not sequential in your presentation.	http://www.officelabs.com/projects/pptPlex/Pages/default.aspx
Microsoft® Ribbon Hero™	A game for Office Word, PowerPoint, and Excel® 2007 and 2010, designed to help you or your students boost your Microsoft Office skills and knowledge in a fun way.	http://www.officelabs.com/projects/ribbonhero/Pages/default.aspx
Microsoft® SeaDragon	SeaDragon allows you to zoom in and pan around any image on the Web. Just give us the URL to an image on the Web.	http://seadragon.com
Microsoft® Songsmith	Songsmith generates musical accompaniment to match a singer's voice. Just choose a musical style, sing into your PC's microphone, and Songsmith will create backing music for you. Then share your songs online, or create your own music videos.	To download the trial version*: http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/projects/songsmith/ To download* a complimentary full version of Songsmith for your school: http://partnersinlearningnetwork.com
Microsoft TeacherTools	How tos, templates, tutorials and lesson plans plus a teachers' network where you can connect with others.	http://www.microsoft.com/australia/education/teachertools/
Microsoft® Touch Pack for Windows® 7	This site offers a collection of Microsoft games and applications for your multi-touch PCs and laptops running Windows 7 including Surface Globe, a program that you can use to explore the earth as a flat 2D or immersive 3D experience.	http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?FamilyID=b152fadd-82e4-4ddb-a46a-aebe49944428&displaylang=en-Overview
Microsoft® Worksheet Generator	Create your own maths worksheets in minutes. You can generate multiple maths problems based on a sample – from basic arithmetic through to algebra.	http://www.educationlabs.com/Projects/MathWorksheetGenerator/Pages/default.aspx
MSDN AA	MSDN Academic Alliance is a faculty-based subscription providing teachers and students access to a comprehensive range of Microsoft tools, including, Windows 7, VS2010, Expression 4, Windows Server and much more.	Sign up and take advantage today! www.msdn.microsoft.com/en-au/academic

Windows Live® Movie Maker	A fast, easy way to turn photos and video clips into great-looking movies and slideshows that you can share with students, other faculty or on the Web.	http://download.live.com/moviemaker
Windows Live® Photo Gallery	This complimentary download* lets you load photos and videos from a camera to their PCs. They can crop, recolour and retouch photos to create impressive panoramics.	http://download.live.com/photogallery/
Windows Live® SkyDrive	25 GB of complimentary storage so your students don't need a USB. Sign up using your Windows Live® ID	http://skydrive.live.com
Windows Live® Workspaces	5 GB of complimentary online storage where you can share files.	http://workspace.officelive.com/
Windows Live® Writer	A complimentary blogging tool for students. They can share comment, photos and videos on almost any blog service: Windows Live®, WordPress, Blogger, LiveJournal, TypePad, and many more.	http://download.live.com/writer
Windows® PowerToys	PowerToys are additional programs that developers work on after a product has been released to manufacturing. They'll add fun and functionality to your Tablet PC experience.	http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/powertoys/tabletpc.msp
WorldWide Telescope	This amazing virtual telescope brings together imagery from ground and space telescopes from around the world, so students can explore the galaxy, the solar system, the planets and their moons.	http://www.worldwidetelescope.org/Home.aspx

For Your Information!

Dr. Dana Winningham, coordinator for TTU's Leadership licensure program, has provided us with information about changes that are being made by the SDE concerning administrator licensure requirements. If you are in the "old" Instructional Leadership program at TTU or have graduated and did not apply for an administrative license you have until 9-1-2011 meet the requirements for licensure. Otherwise, the SDE will require that you meet the requirements of the "new" leadership program. Please note Dr. Winningham's email. If you have questions about this please contact Dr. Winningham at dwinningham@ntech.edu.

Two Groups:

1. Those that have the BAL or the PAL endorsement
 - a. No changes in renewal requirements or until 2014
 - b. After that date, no BAL or PAL will be renewed
 - c. Everyone must meet requirement for NEW ILLB or ILLP endorsement
 - d. Do not have to go back and take the PRAXIS
2. Those that have graduated or will graduate by August 2011 from a University with an approved Leadership Program and do not hold the BAL or the PAL.
 - a. Must take and pass the PRAXIS Exam and request BAL before Sept. 1, 2011
 - b. NO new BAL license will be given after Sept. 1, 2011
 - c. Only Aspiring (ILLA) and ILLB licenses will be given after that date.
 - d. To receive the initial ILLB, teacher must meet all the new requirements of the new program, complete an additional degree from a University that has an approved New Leadership Program, and pass the PRAXIS Exam.

Principal's Meeting Notes
12/16/2010

- Katrina Haley
 - Internet sites – More security on internet. Please remember students use our internet servers, too.
 - Please remember – do NOT stream video or radio stations (this includes Pandora).
- Roy Pierce
 - Health insurance – Those who chose partnership plan will need a health screening. A group of nurses will be at WCHS and WCMS on March 30-31 from 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. for health screenings. Or, employee can have screening at his/her own physician's office. This includes spouses, if on employee's plan.
- Sonja Walker
 - AED's need to be moved to school gyms if not already there.
- Donnie Caldwell
 - Pest management handout for custodians.
- Robin Phillips
 - OCR seminar – bullying; Bullying forum for parents was held on Dec. 9. May add a cyberbullying policy. OCR is going to monitor this very closely.
 - Have a 2nd person in room while interviewing students.
 - Bullying policy should be in all school handbooks. Specify person and phone number as the contact person. Have a policy with uniform offenses/consequences.
 - Would like to see reports done at the time of incident, rather than when an investigation by OCR has begun. Do not name students or punishment (This would be a FERPA violation.). Just show how investigation took place.
 - Bobby Pennington is available for in-service, if needed.
 - Once a person at each school is designated as contact person, we will provide training for them.
 - Anonymous reporting mechanism is also needed at each school so that students can report anonymously. We are considering adding something to our website, as well.
 - Be sure and keep copies of any kind of training you do with your staff on this.
 - Cases can be brought forward up to 6 months after student's 18th birthday. It's hard to know what happened if we don't have good records. If no records, then the assumption is nothing was done.
 - Roy Pierce is contact person at the district level for our system.
- Bonnie Collier
 - Spelling Bee – Dec. 16 at WCMS
 - Teacher of the Year list: Parts I, II, and III to Bonnie by January 14, 2011.
 - Dan Long presentation information (Jan. 3, 1:00-3:00 at WCMS)
 - Data team list for each school
 - Please send information if you know of a student or employee who has done something extraordinary. We would like to feature them on WCS-TV.
- Bobby Cox
 - First to the Top notebook
 - Will be scheduling Battelle for Kids training
 - Will be training data teams so that schools will have usable, valid information for TSIP and planning
- Dr. Jerry Hale
 - Contact Robin Phillips if you need further information on bullying prevention/procedures.
 - School board meeting tonight (12/16/10)

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“Educate Every Child
 Every Day.”



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.warrenschools.com

January 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 9:00-11:00 Teaching/Learning Meeting	13	14	15
16	17 MLK Day- No School	18	19 Report Cards Distributed 3:00-4:30 pm 9-12 New Teacher Training	20 10:30-12:30 Irving College Appreciation	21	22
23	24	25	26 10:00 am Principal's Meeting	27 6:00 pm School Board Meeting	28	29
30	31					