

Murfreesboro

City Schools

Murfreesboro City Schools - February Newsletter

Mitchell-Neilson hosts We "♥" the Arts

Mitchell-Neilson School will host the We "♥" the Arts art show and auction on February 18 at 5 pm.

This event will showcase music, dancing, storytelling, a heart maze and artwork completed by local artists and MNS Leaders.

Save the date for the Northfield Elementary Renaissance Festival

Northfield Elementary will host their Renaissance Festival on Friday, February 26 starting at 4 pm.

There will be games, inflatables, a book fair, silent auction, chili supper, and bake sale.

Unplug and Read!



Remember to Unplug & Read during the month of February!

Unplug & Read is a community wide initiative encouraging adults, families and children to unplug from televisions, computers and video games to enjoy the pleasures and educational enrichments of reading.

For ideas on how to participate during Unplug & Read month visit readtosucceed.org

Director's Update

What an exciting time of year!
It's a great time to be alive and living in Tennessee!

Every day brings new successes in our growing school district that now has exceeded 8,400 students. And some days also bring challenges. Two of the most recent challenges are snow and state testing.

Snow

Beautiful. Clean. White. And it can wreak havoc on school days. But shout outs go to the following people for helping the recent snow days be relatively uneventful:

- ESP for providing safe activities for children so parents could continue their daily work.
- The MCS Maintenance Department for applying ice melt so our schools could be ready to re-open...and for giving us advice about street conditions.
- The MCS Transportation Department for ensuring buses were ready to roll...even in the coldest weather.
- The Communications Department for answering 3:30 a.m. phone calls from me and getting information out as soon as possible.
- The City's Street Department. This is a large city. But the main roads were ready when our buses needed to resume service.

Testing

Monday, Tennessee's students attempted the first day of online TNReady assessment. However, because of issues beyond any school district's control, the process did not work. As a result, the State has decided to move back to

United Way Offers Free Tax Assistance



The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$62,000 or less. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. For more information visit www.yourlocalvita.org or call (615) 971-8678.

2016 MCS Career Fair



Murfreesboro City Schools will host our 2016 MCS Career Fair on Saturday, March 19 at Scales Elementary from 9:30 until 11:00 am. Prospective teachers are encouraged to bring resumes and/or portfolios and be prepared to interview. Classroom videos will also be accepted as part of candidate portfolios.

Virtual interviews will also be offered beginning in late February. Additional details coming soon.

Child Find Appointments



If you suspect an infant, child, or young adult has a developmental disability, MCS offers early intervention services to help. These services are available at no cost to the family.

Services start at age 3 or birth for auditory and/or visual impairment and Murfreesboro

paper/pencil administration. Currently, we are in the process of receiving information from the Tennessee Department of Education about what calendar windows will be available for testing.

As you know, there will be two parts of the TNReady tests which are replacing the previous TCAP tests. There is a Part I-that we tried to begin on Monday--and a Part II that will be given in April/May. Part I and Part II scores will be combined for the final TNReady student scores.

Again, when we have the Part I assessment dates confirmed, we will communicate additional information to parents and the community.

As we begin our seventh month of the 2015-2016 school year, I want to thank our teachers, administrators, and support staff for maintaining their focus on student learning. And I want to thank parents and this community for their ongoing support of Murfreesboro City Schools.

Linda Gilbert

Teachers of the Year

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------------------|
| BF | Deeann Stephens | Sanita Smith |
| BR | Stephanie Turner | Rebecca Few |
| MNS | Rachel Prater | Matt Clarady |
| SC | Beverly Soapes | Xan Laskco |
| HG | Cheri Purdie | Meredith Gilliland |
| CLA | Carrie Smith | Elizabeth Shepherd |
| SG | Rachel Haynes | Angela Pope |
| OCE | Jennifer DeFere | Luke Hill |
| DS | Jenny Newsmen | Charlotte Young |
| NF | Mary Orcutt | Kelley Ruth |
| JPE | Spring Harris | Kenne McWhorter |
| RR | Julie Parrish | Erin Lebo |

residency is required.

Appointments are available for March 22 at Northfield Elementary. Parents must contact Kelly Blanchard at (615) 893-2313 to request more information or schedule appointment .

Bradley Theater Performances



Bradley theater students will perform Lion King Jr. April 8, 9,15,16, 22 and 23. Tickets are available for evening and Saturday matinée performances. Day performances are sold out.

Tickets will go on sale at Bradley beginning in March. and will be available at the Center for the Arts on the day of performances.

Bradley's 1st grade students will perform Frog and Toad at Patterson Park, May 4th at 6:30 pm. Their performance will be followed by 6th grade students performing Dig It at 7:00 pm. Admission is free.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration for students entering school for the 2016-17 school year is scheduled for May 5th and 6th.

Registration hours for Thursday, May 5, are Bell Time through 5 p.m. On Friday, May 6, you may register during school hours only.

Students must be 5 years old by August 15, 2016, to register for kindergarten.

District Teachers of the Year:

Julie Parish



Meredith Gilliland



Dates to Remember

Feb. 15	President's Day - Holiday
Feb. 15	Discovery School Science Olympiad Parent Meeting
Feb. 19	Cason Lane Father Daughter Dance
Mar. 1	Presidential Primary- In Service Day
Mar. 2	National Read Across America Day- Dr. Seuss Day
Mar. 10	MCS Festival Choir

To register you must provide your child's Official Birth Certificate, Tennessee Dept. of Health Certification of Immunization and verification of your address in the form of a current utility bill.

Spring Wellness Challenge

The Spring Wellness Challenge for MCS employees is fast approaching. The 6-week challenge begins February 15th and ends March 25th. Click [HERE](#) to create or log in to your account. Enter 615-893-2313 when prompted for your phone number and you will be entered into the MCS contest. You can then download Streaks for Small Starts from your app store and begin logging your progress.

Weekly giveaways will be awarded during the challenge and a winners choice grand prize will be awarded to the top three participants!

Mar. 15	Teacher of the Year Reception
Mar. 17	Parent Teacher Conferences
Mar. 22	Child Find Appointments
Mar. 25	Good Friday - Holiday
Mar. 28	Spring Break Begins
Mar. 29	MCS Art Show Begins at City Hall
Apr. 8	"Lion King Jr." presented by Bradley begins
Apr. 14	Boro Book Battle
Apr. 28,29	Discovery School presents "Into the Woods, Jr."





In the News....

[MCS School Calendar set for '16 -'17](#)

[Bradley Students Shine at Festival](#)

[Specialty STEM license plate sought by MCS Teacher](#)

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