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Anderson County Schools

Every Student, Every Day

Volume 1 Issue 4

Anderson County Community Connections

Principal for a Day

This year Anderson County and Clinton City Schools hosted the first ***“Principal for a Day”*** on Tuesday, November 29. Members of our community including City Councilmen, Anderson County Chamber of Commerce, County Commissioners, local business owners and other stakeholders were invited to visit a school in either the Anderson County School system or Clinton City School system as principal for the day. These individuals shadowed the school’s official principal and team administrators. All community members and principals met for lunch at ACCTC (pictured right) to share out what they discovered. This was an opportunity to hear many great things about both school systems. They were invited to speak and share their thoughts on both areas of strength as well as areas that might need attention. This day was such a huge success that many participants spoke about how they would like to see this opportunity offered several times throughout the school with the hopes of making ***“Principal for a Day”*** a

regular tradition. We would like to thank all of those who were in attendance.

Mayor Terry Frank said “I wanted you to know what a great experience I had and how thankful I am that you put together such a program to bring in all sorts of folks from the community to get the best kind of experience—hands and eyes on! Thank you so much. I learned a lot today. Your team does a fantastic job.”

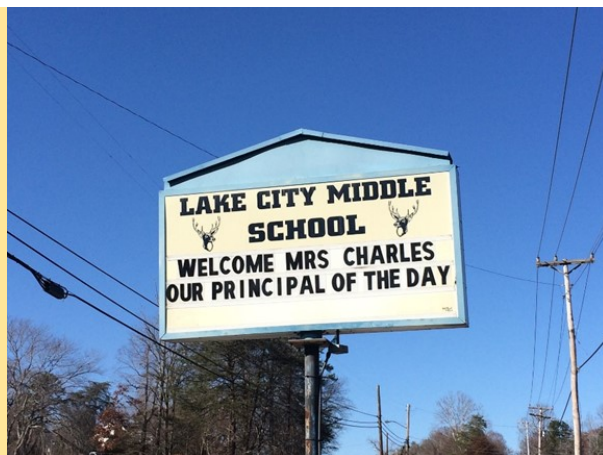


County Commissioner Phil Yager, Mayor Terry Frank, Principals Karen Cupples and Henry Baggett enjoyed lunch following their Principal for a Day duties.

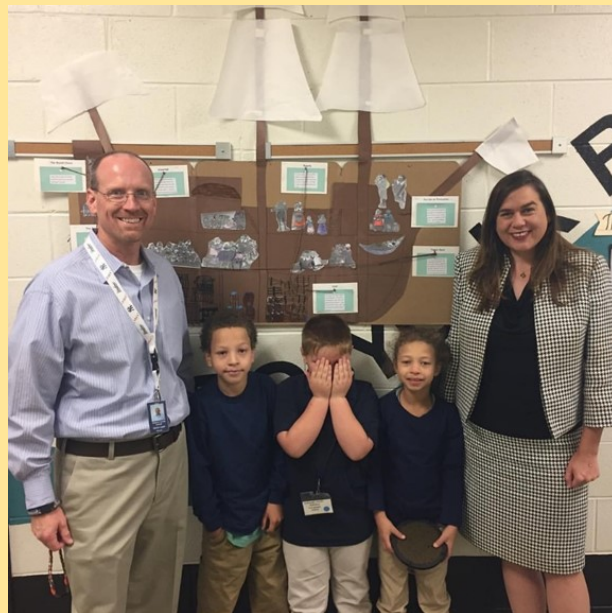
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Claxton Principal Jennifer Coleman said “I think this was a great opportunity to begin building relationships and partnerships with our community. While I was anxious about how it would go in the beginning, it ended up being very relaxed. I like that there was no pressure to ‘put on a show,’ but more focused on communicating our schools strengths and needs. Definitely interested in doing it again!”

B. J. Baxter, Director, MMC HealthWorks/ Covenant Health said “What a wonderful idea to engage community leaders by having them have a firsthand experience inside our schools to see the



Emily Abbot visited Clinch River Community School and Principal Darren Leach



myself the wonderful job your educators are doing. Thanks again. . .you are off to a great start in your role as Director!”



Commissioner Tim Isbel visited with Lake City Elementary students and Principal Henry Baggett

needs as well as the great passion and commitment of teachers and staff. It was truly a privilege to participate. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Norris Middle School with Jeff Harshbarger. The luncheon with the sharing of experiences was especially appreciated. I keep hearing good things about our schools so it was good to see for

LAKE CITY DONATES TO GATLINBURG WILDFIRE RELIEF FUND

On Friday, December 2, Lake City Elementary School students and staff made a significant donation of \$1,089.00 to help our friends suffering from the devastating wildfires in Sevier County. Staff and students said they feel blessed to live in a community that is so generous and caring of others!

Veteran's Day at Norris Middle

Norris Middle School was proud to work with the Norris Lion's Club on Veteran's Day to honor those who have dedicated their lives to protecting our nation's freedom. Norris Middle School's



Veteran's Day celebration at Norris Middle School

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) led a wonderful program to recognize

veterans from the surrounding community. Veterans marched from the Norris community post office to the flagpole in front of the middle school where students waving American flags and gathered to show their support. Band director, Brock Jones, played a beautiful rendition of taps as the flag was lowered to half-mast in memory of those veterans who are no longer with us. NJHS members then read the names of the veterans in attendance and presented them with a card made by students expressing their gratitude. NMS students then invited veterans to lunch in hopes to learn more about their years in the service. Norris Middle School teachers and students thoroughly enjoyed a day spent recognizing veterans!

UTRUST AND ANDERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS CELEBRATE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS DR. TIM PARROTT

Dr. Parrott, ACS Director, and Greg Deal, ACS Assistant Director, meet Ernest T Bass, aka ACS Preschool Education Coordinator Ted Fletcher on November 17, Superintendent Appreciation Day in Anderson County Schools. All school staff and students, along with Central Office staff celebrated with a "Darling Family" theme. Staff members were encouraged to celebrate by donating \$1 to dress in their favorite "Darling family" attire. All money raised will go to a local charitable



Assistant Director Of Schools Greg Deal, Director Of Schools Dr. Tim Parrott and Ernest T. Bass (aka Ted Fletcher)

NMS Students Lend a Helping Hand

The students at Norris Middle School collected 808 food items for the Good Neighbors Program during a food drive



NMS students prepare baskets with community members

last week. This feat is amazing when you factor in the school raised over \$1,300 for the Sevier County fire relief fund during the same week! It really shows the caring students and families that make up Norris Middle School.

The 8th grade was led by Mrs. Pemberton's 1st block class in the collection of 128 items. In the 7th grade,

Mrs. Horak's 1st period Language Arts class rounded up 58 items. The number one class for donations was Mrs. Bingen's 1st period math class who secured 167 items. Mrs. Bingen's students earned the right to help package the "baskets" to be delivered. The class walked from NMS next door to Norris Religious Fellowship Church on Monday, December 12 and helped many community volunteers pack the boxes to be distributed on Tuesday, December 13.

The students who helped with the baskets had great time helping others and were rewarded with the satisfaction of sharing a little love to those in need.



Huge Turnout for Community Connections Event at Norris Middle

Norris Middle School (NMS) along with Andersonville (AES), Fairview (FES), and Norris Elementary Schools hosted a Community Connection event on Tuesday, November 1st in front of Norris Middle School. Anderson County Schools Director Dr. Tim Parrott set the date and asked NMS to plan an event. A team of teachers from all 4 schools involved met and put it all together. The team included; Rachel Pemberton from NMS, Michelle Irons from NES, Jamie Linkes of AES, and Rachel Blakney of FES. These teachers planned and arranged the entire evening which featured bounce houses and corn hole for the kids and families while everyone sat around tables on the majestic NMS lawn and chatted. Over 500 people including Central office staff, teachers,

Community members enjoy an evening on the lawn at NMS



parents, and even community members with no school-age children

mingled and discussed many of the great things Anderson County Schools are doing. Free pulled pork BBQ and hamburgers were provided and served by a hard working team of volunteers from

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First Baptist Church of Norris.

At 7 pm Dr. Tim Parrott, Anderson County Director of Schools was introduced to the more than 500 guests. Speaking for about 20 minutes as the golden sun dropped below the fall horizon, Dr. Parrott shared his vision of the school system and answered some questions from the community. After Dr. Parrott’s message a drawing for door prizes was held by NMS Principal Jeff Harshbarger and a lot of helpful students. Door prize sponsors included; Sweet Café, Loy Johnson Real Estate, David Erb Allstate Insurance Agency, Navus Automation, Auto Image Car Detailing, GT Tire, HS Construction & Excavating, Museum of Appalachia, and The Velvet Pug Gift Shop.

The Community Connections tour that Dr. Parrott is on will continue as it rolls through Norwood at Norwood Middle School on January 31st at 7 pm and concludes in Rocky Top at Lake City Middle School at 7 pm on March 14.

CMS cheerleaders invited the Sevierville cheerleaders to a special dinner before their basketball game last Friday night. This invitation was to help their fellow cheerleaders feel supported after the terrible fires that destroyed much of their

county. The girls bonded and were so appreciative of the gesture.

Money and supplies were also donated and given to the school at the game.



PLANT A PROMISE AT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

On Monday, November 21, CHS students from the Ag department, the Snapdragons Landscaping Club, SADD Club/ ASAP Ambassadors, and the Anderson County Health Department planted over 300 tulip bulbs on the Clinton High School campus. The SADD Club/ Ambassadors were able to get 300 students to sign a "Plant a Promise" banner the week before, promising not to use tobacco products. The clubs hope that when the tulips bloom in the spring, it will be a reminder of the promise the students made to not use tobacco.

CHS Students planted 300 tulip bulbs



SPOOKY STREETS AND TREATS FESTI-

On October 29th, the Spanish Honor Society at Clinton High School participated in the “Spooky Streets and Treats” Festival sponsored by the Ridenour & Ridenour Law Firm. The students created a Día de los Muertos themed photo booth and provided coloring pages for kids to color when they stopped by to get candy out of Boogers the Witch’s nose. Everyone had a blast and the SHH

won the booth competition and \$500 prize.

