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Anderson County Schools

Every Student, Every Day

Volume 2 Issue 3

Anderson County Community Connections

16th Annual Read Across America

DUTCH VALLEY ELEMENTARY



The students of Dutch Valley Elementary School celebrated Read Across American Day in a grand fashion. Student and teachers participated in activities that spread across the

week. These activities included daily dress up days, box tops collection competitions, and many guest readers. The biggest events of the week took



place on Thursday, March 2 on National Read Across America Day. The day was

filled with many guest readers including current UT Vols, Kahlil McKenzie and Justin Martin, several members of the UT Spirit Squad, WBIR news anchors Leslie Ackerson and Madison Wade, and local guest

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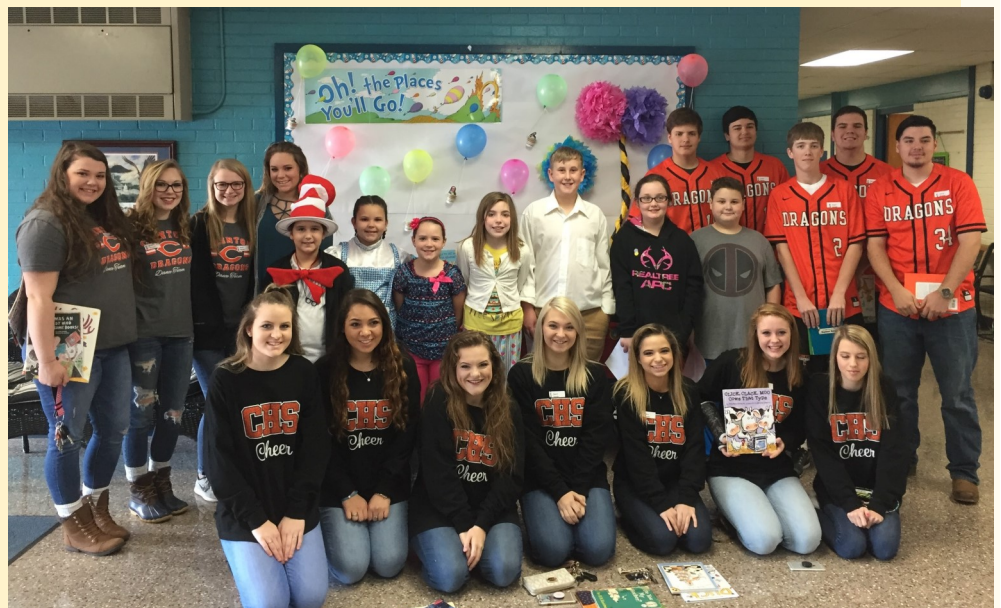
Shadowing continued from page 1

such as Dr. Tim Parrott, ACS Superintendent, SRO Kim Lay and AI, SRO Chris Templeton and members of the CHS Baseball Team, Dance Team and Cheer Squad. On top of all the events and guest, all DVES students were treated to a free book of their choosing. The goal of



the week was to highlight the importance of reading and to allow students to take time to enjoy hearing stories and reading them for themselves.

The staff of Dutch Valley is working with all students to improve their reading ability and has a school wide focus on reading. As the school playground fence says, "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader!".



LAKE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**“Today a Reader;
Tomorrow a Leader!”**

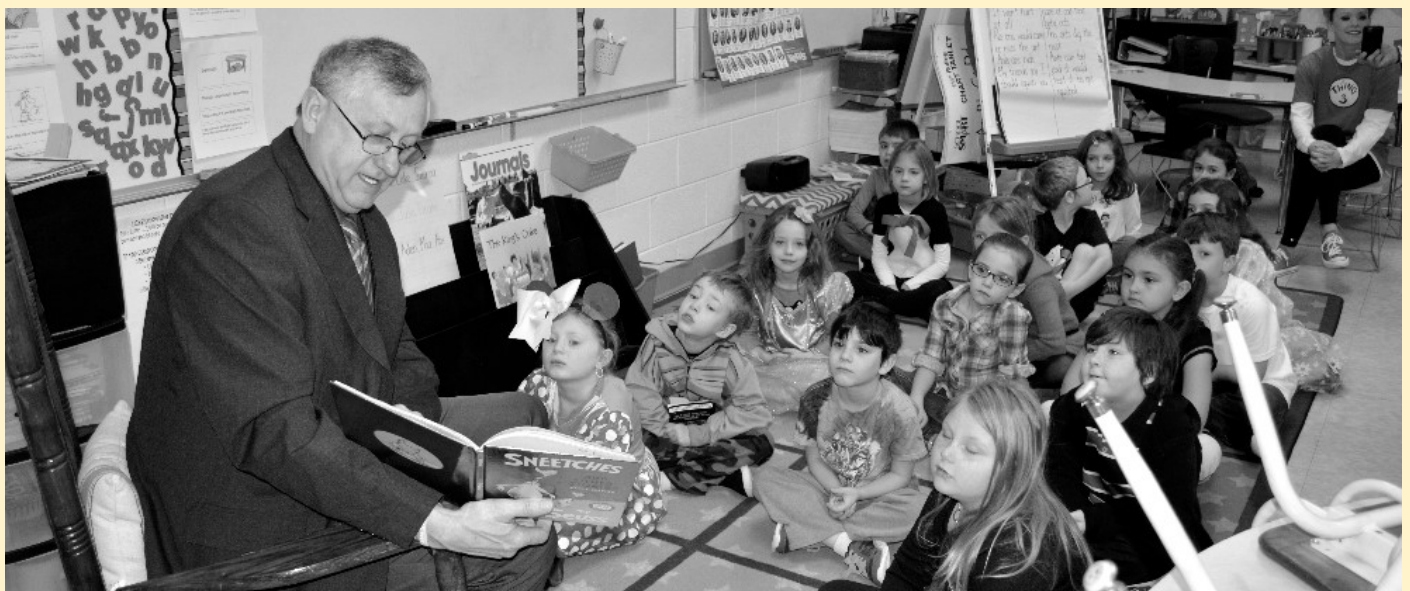
Students at Lake City Elementary joined millions of their peers across the country to celebrate the sixteenth annual Read Across America event, which celebrates Dr. Seuss’s birthday and the joys of reading. To honor the good



doctor and celebrate the fun and value of reading, Lake City Elementary School dressed as their favorite literary character and participated in a special program by taking the Read Across America Reader’s Oath. They even enjoyed green eggs and ham for breakfast. Pictured top right are the MOST IMPROVED READERS who were recognized during the special assembly. They are (top row) Dakota Isabell; Branson Tackett; Andrew Cook; Lakely Ridenour; Alex Carroll; Dylan Thurman; Maddie Braden; Tiffany Horne;

Ashlyn Sharpe; Cheyanne Hargett; Madison Buttry; Landon Cogdell; Krystine Brown; Lezleigh Bolinger; Amanda Foust; (middle row) Michael Izquierdo; Laklee Wade; Logan Godsey; Allie Nelson; Danisyn Ivey; Jade Daugherty; Peyton Kitzmiller; Garrett Riggs; Preston Ridenour; Carlos Flores; Kaylynn Seiber; Lainey Phillips; Trista Lowery; (front row) Zander Beets; Emma Lindsay; Joseph Berrian; Cindle Justice; Sophia Johnson; Arianne Braden; Landon Wade; Carmen Navarro; Jayden Harness; Katie Miles; Taber

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RTI²B – Norwood Elementary School

The Tennessee Department of Education and Tennessee Behavior Supports Project together has identified Norwood Elementary School as an (RTI²-B) Model of Demonstration school and asked the school to participate in coaching networks and communities of practice to assist in implementation efforts of other schools. Of the 1800 schools across Tennessee, only 25 schools are chosen as Model of Demonstration Schools. Norwood Elementary School received a Silver Award for their high level of implementation in Tier I of (RTI²-B).

To reach this high level of implementation, Norwood developed a school-wide behavior system, an acknowledgement system and discipline procedures for problem behaviors. The school leadership team monitors discipline data and works with students in various ways to replace problem behaviors. This one-on-one approach to discipline can provide individualized counseling, small group accountability and foster a partnership with families to develop positive learning habits for all students. The school staff worked for two years to create school-wide behavior expectations and lesson plans to teach the students. They also created staff videos to model expectations for the students. These behavior expectations are taught and modeled often to ensure consistency. The acknowledgement system used is the Jag Buck. Students can earn bucks for meeting behavior expectations, showing



excellent effort and making positive choices. Students can spend these Bucks in the Jag Store run by parent volunteers. Norwood also has several programs in place to support a student's social-emotional growth such as "Why Try?", "Character Counts" and behavior health visits by Cherokee Health Systems. All of these strategies create a holistic approach to behavior and academic success.

The Model of Demonstration Schools process is constructed to recognize schools for successful implementation of Response to Instruction and Intervention for Behavior (RTI²-B). The purpose of this recognition is to promote schools sharing their practices, share examples of how the framework is being implemented and celebrate each school's effort and dedication to meeting the needs of all students. Along with other forms of recognition, RTI²-B Model of Demonstration Schools will be featured on the Tennessee Behavior Supports Project website, publicized during trainings and workshops and shared with TDOE. Norwood Elementary was highlighted at the 2017 Partners in Education Conference (PIE) in Nashville and will be recognized at the Superintendent's Study Council Conference in September.

L.E.A.D. - Law Enforcement against Drugs

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department and the Anderson County School System have partnered for a new evidence based drug prevention program called Law Enforcement against Drugs (L.E.A.D). Too Good for Drugs, a 10-week program taught by a school resource officer, puts social and emotional learning to work through fun and interactive lessons, building the self-confidence young people need to make healthy choices and achieve success. The program promotes positive, pro-social attitudes and behaviors, while fostering healthy relationships, resistance to substance abuse and conflict and resistance to negative peer pressure and influence.

In the ninth week, the students



Pictured - Corporal Paul Day, Deputy Kim Lay, 1st Place Audrey Lake, 2nd Place Chloe Sapp, 3rd Place Jonathan Farmer and Lt. Kenny Sharp

participate in a poster contest on the effects of alcohol or tobacco on the body. Contest winners were Audrey Lake (1st Place), Chloe Sapp (2nd Place) and Jonathan Farmer (3rd Place). This program is sponsored by the Anderson County Sheriff's Department.

D 2 D - Direct to Discovery

Two of our elementary schools, Grand Oaks and Fairview, were chosen to host D2D curriculum specialists as they were piloting a kindergarten through 2nd grade observation tool. With the assistance of Kate Frank, a literacy specialist from Syracuse, New York, D2D trainers observed several classrooms, interviewed teachers, and evaluated their own observation tool to be used nation-wide. Anderson County will also benefit from the training session with feedback from D2D regarding current K-2 literacy practices.

Two coaches, Candace Eubanks and Lyndsay Foust, attended the Teachers College Institute of the Coaching of Writing hosted by Columbia University in New York City. Both coaches were able to learn side by side with other academic coaches from across the United States. They were in New York City public schools teaching and practicing coaching moves. This approach to continuing education and professional development is currently being used in schools in Anderson County.

Amvets Americanism Contest

Students at Norwood Elementary School participated in the Amvets National Americanism Poster and Flag Coloring Contest sponsored in part by Amvets Post #2 in Oak Ridge. Students in grades K-1 were asked to color a picture of the American Flag and then answer questions relating to the construction of the flag. Students in grades 2-5 were asked to create a poster that communicates “Why is it important to vote?” The school-level winners received gift cards for 1st and 2nd place and all entries will be submitted to the regional judging for a chance to win national recognition. Listed and pictured below are the school-level winners for Norwood Elementary School.



School-wide Poster Contest winners grades 2-5:

- Gabrielle Daniels, 2nd grade - 1st Place
- Autumn Hammonds, 4th grade - 2nd Place Tie
- Andrew Richard, 4th grade - 2nd Place Tie

School-wide Flag Coloring Contest Grades K-1:

- K - Sydni Taylor, 1st Place
- K - Chloe Rose- Forbes, 2nd Place
- 1st - Calleigh Long, 1st Place
- 1st - Maya Brown 2nd Place

State winners included:

- Calleigh Long - 1st place in the 2nd grade division;
- Autumn Hammonds - 2nd place in the 4th grade division;
- Sydni Taylor - 1st place in the K-1 division. Her work will go to the National Convention and she could win a National Prize.

Out of 50 students competing across the state, NWES had 3 of them!

Read to be Ready

The second component of the state's Read to be Ready initiative, Shared Reading, was recently rolled out to all K-5 classroom teachers. During a two hour Professional Learning Community (PLC) held at Claxton Elementary, coaches led a training for teachers to learn about this best practice that can be incorporated in all areas of the curriculum

Anderson County Youth Ambassadors

On February 22, Anderson County Youth Ambassadors from Anderson County High School, Clinton High School and Oak Ridge High School attended Prevention Alliance of Tennessee (PAT) Day on the Hill at the State Capitol. The students met with Lt. Gov. Randy McNally and Representatives John Ragan and Dennis Powers to present drug and alcohol prevention statistics and information about tobacco prevention.



Students visit with Lt. Governor Randy McNally

This trip was sponsored by ASAP of Anderson County.

Read Option

Pictured below are football players from Anderson County High School reading to elementary students at Clinch River Community School (CRCS). The players sit with the kids during lunch each Friday and take turns reading short books to the students. This new initiative, cleverly named "Read Option," began at the end of January by Anderson County coach and CRCS PE teacher Sean Jessie. If time permits, the football players and elementary students take a few minutes to go into the gym and toss around a

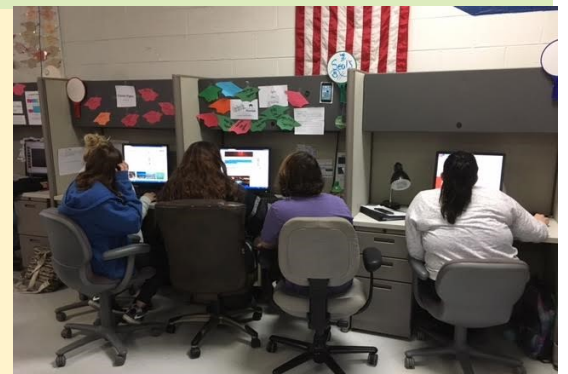


Read Option - ACHS football players and CRCS students

football. The students, young and old, look forward to Fridays with each other.

Innovation Academy

Bridge Academy students are able to work at their own pace using online curriculum. Anderson County Online Learning Academy (ACOLA) students also come into the Bridge classroom for extra help when needed. More information coming next month on this program!



Empty Bowls at Lake City Elementary School

The Empty Bowls event at Lake City Elementary School to raise funds to help fight hunger in our community was a huge success. The Second Harvest Food Bank will receive \$3,000 (all proceeds) from this event! This amount will help feed over 9,000 people. Thank you, Lake City Elementary Community!



High School News

Recent Data

- Top 5 Colleges selected by Anderson County Graduates
 - Roane State Community College
 - Pellissippi State Community College
 - University of Tennessee – Knoxville
 - Tennessee Technical University
 - University of Tennessee – Chattanooga

- What percentage of seniors graduate with early postsecondary credit hours?

	<u>Enrolled</u>	<u>Earned</u>
Tennessee	41.0%	26.0%
Comparable Districts	41.2%	32.0%
Anderson County Schools	44.0%	42.0%

Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica

Sofia Olvera won the 2017 Bertie Green Junior Travel Award through the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH) at Clinton High School. This award is given to only 24 students from over 24,000 SHH chapters. Sofia applied for the scholarship by submitting written and oral work in Spanish. She will be traveling to Guatemala this summer with the other 23 winners.



Clinton High School student Sofia Olvera

SPECIAL EDUCATION

In January of this year, a team of students participating in a pilot Work-based Learning Experience began delivering mail from Central Office to each individual school in the Anderson County School system, including Office

a day, hand deliver the mail three days a week on three different routes in the county with the Transition School to Work Coach.

One benefit of the Work-based Learning Experience is to give students the opportunity to develop, apply and fine tune work and social skills that can be used in future employment areas. When staff and students were asked what they thought about this program, their responses were overwhelmingly positive. Ms. Gilliam at Claxton Elementary, "I like the fact knowing there is a specific day that we can count on our mail going out, even if



of Technology and Head Start. Ms. Kim Towe, Director of Special Education,

has been looking for ways for our students to learn and use work skills from their classrooms in the working world. Ms. Towe and Ms. Melanie Lamberson, Case Manager of the Transition School to Work Program, began brainstorming and came up with a couple of plans. One plan is a mail-delivery program that involves students from Anderson County High School, Clinton High School and Clinton Middle School. The Clinton Middle School students sort mail and put it in labeled delivery bags three days a week; then the high school students, a team of two



we do not have someone going to Central Office from our building. I know that you all will get it there for us."

Ms. Rambo from Norwood Elementary, "This mail service is amazing! With these kids doing this, now everyone in our building knows the mail goes out on Tuesday's regardless."

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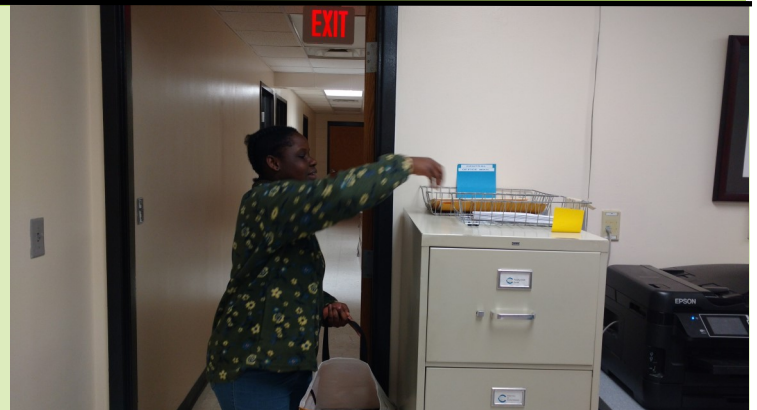
Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships Recipients

Students eligible for the Hope Scholarship must obtain a 21.0 average composite ACT score which is specified for full admission into Tennessee institutions of higher learning by all students.

School-Year	Males - %	Females - %	All Students - %
2012 - 2013	31.9%	36.8%	34.4%
2013 - 2014	37.6%	35.2%	36.4%
2014 - 2015	44.2%	34.9%	38.9%
2015 - 2016	50.6%	50.5%	50.6%

Special Ed cont. from pg 8

Students: Carlton from CHS, "I like collecting the mail from each school. I like working with my friend, Jamie. I've gotten to see Elk down around Dutch Valley Elementary School. So you could say that I get to do work and see things that I have never gotten to do before. I think I can organize better because of what I've learned." Jamie from CHS says, "I love seeing the different people when we deliver the mail. I think this is



important to all the schools. They need to get their mail. I love it!"



We hope the program will provide a hands-on learning experience students can utilize to apply their skill in a work environment. Our goal is to help each student who wants employment upon completing high school, gain the tools necessary to become confident employees in the adult working world, actively contributing as a member of their community.

HEAD START/ PRESCHOOL

This [link](#) highlights a Preschool Recruitment video created by Claxton Elementary School pre-k teacher Courtney Simpson to increase enrollment and the mandated waiting list for next year.

The preschool department has a new partnership for vision screenings. Focus First is supporting children and families by providing vision screenings for the Head Start and Pre-k programs.

Head Start and Early Head Start parents were provided the opportunity to learn sewing skills through a partnership with "Forget Me Not Fashions." Janet Donaldson, a member of the sewing team with "Forget Me Not Fashions," provided onsite training at no cost to parents. Ms. Donaldson and her group

makes clothes and donates them to the preschool families. The picture below was taken during a hands-on sewing class where participants made decorative pillows, learned the proper technique of sewing on a button, and other basic sewing skills.



LCES Read Day Continued from Page 3

Jarnigan; Lucas Allen; Tyler Harness - Not pictured: Anthony Martin

Also, classes had visits from special guest readers. Below Dr. Tim Parrott, Director of Anderson County Schools, reads to Mrs. Bullock's first graders. Lake City Elementary School honored their principal, Henry Baggett and assistant principal, Renee Branham in February. We used the Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory theme. Pictured are our principals in their Wonka hats accepting a huge candy card from Brandon Phillips and Seth Martin. Behind them is Mrs.

Meredith's fourth grade class who did a program to show their appreciation to our principals. Thank you, Mr. Baggett and Ms. Branham!

