

August 13, 2009



The Panther Page

Dear Parents,

As a faculty, we want to welcome you to Page Middle School. This is a year of change. We have change in:

- State Standards
- grading policy
- focus
- student enrollment
- exploratory
- staff
- common assessment
- Superintendent
- Math placements

Each week I will address a change that is taking place and let you know the change and how it will affect your student.

State Standards

The State of Tennessee has adopted a set of State Standards that are rigorous in content and will require a different way of thinking and solving problems. In preparation for this year, all content area teachers have worked this summer to plan their teaching units, develop learning targets, and formative assessments that will be standard focused.

We have made many curriculum decisions based on the rigor of the standards and the implications for instruction. We will have several "Java with Josie" sessions to keep you informed. This is a transition year across the State of Tennessee for all of us.

One of the implications of these Standards is that we will not offer Algebra I to the seventh grade students. Those seventh grade students presently enrolled in Algebra I will be presented those new standards that are required and they will move at a pace commensurate with their achievement. We will prepare these students to be successful, to learn advanced skills and be prepared for the Algebra I Honors curriculum (8th grade) that is presented at a more advanced level than previously taught. We are meeting on the 18th of August at 6:00 with all of the previously enrolled 7th Grade Algebra I parents to discuss.

Grading Policy for 2009 – 2010

- Grades will be weighted as follows:

Tests/projects: 60%

Quizzes/Class assignments: 20%

Homework: 20%

- A student will have until Monday of the following week to complete classroom/homework assignments before a zero is given.
- We will not do test corrections this school year
- Projects that count as test grades will be considered as follows:
10 points per late day and weekends count as one day
First day is 90%
Second day is 80%
If the projects is turned in the lowest grade is a 55

Meeting the Superintendent Candidates

Page will again host the three superintendent candidates as they visit our county. Today we will welcome Mr. Looney, tomorrow Dr. Carroll and on Thursday, Mr. Dearden.

Members of the Page Middle School Student Council will tour the candidates and have lunch with them.

We have divided the list below in smaller groups and we want to thank each student for agreeing to help us with the visits. We also want to thank PAC and the PTO for preparing a welcome gift for each candidate. We are looking forward to the visits.

Cody Campbell

Claire Elliott

Savannah Fulmer

Lizzy Kroeger

Mac Moore

Katie Pierce

Cody Sadler

Molly Wells

Celica Westbrook

Alex Wallace

Hays Morgan

Club Updates

- The Guitar Club will meet every Monday afternoon until 4:15 in Portable 1. Members must have a guitar at home and have some knowledge of how to play guitar. It is for all types and styles of guitar playing. We will begin on August 24th
- The Rudderville Ramblers are getting back into the swing of another year of performing. If your child plays fiddle, banjo, dobro, mandolin or acoustic guitar and would like to be a part of the group, please contact Susan Underwood susanu@wcs.edu. The group has their first rehearsal this week and will meet each Thursday until 4:00 in room C-7.

History Day Club

Who: any 6th, 7th, or 8th grader who enjoys history and being creative!

What: create a History Day project to compete at the regional, state, and national level

When: Wednesdays from 2:30-4:00

First meeting :

September 2nd

Where: Ms. Constantine's room (D-2) at Page Middle School

Contact: Mrs. Gilbert
(stephanieg2@wcs.edu) 472-4760 Ext. 7513 or Ms. Constantine (suzic@wcs.edu) 472-4760 ext. 7552

National History Day Website: www.nhd.org

Congratulations

To: Hannah Berny who submitted an essay to the Kenny G Foundation about what playing the saxophone has meant to her as well at the PMS band program. Her essay won and she is receiving an alto sax for herself and one for the school. We are so proud of her.

