

Parent and teacher discussion project created

A parent and teacher discussion project created by the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence will be established in the Kentucky Tech school system beginning the first of 2002.

The discussions, called "Parents and Teachers Talking Together" (PT3), are a structured yet informal process that helps the two groups, parents and teachers, better understand each other, exchange ideas about improving education and accomplish specific goals to make those improvements.

Principals from the Kentucky Tech school system, comprised of 52 high school area technology centers and administered by the Cabinet for Workforce Development's Department for Technical Education, are learning about how the PT3 process works during a strategic planning meeting this week in Georgetown.

Robert F. Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee, said the collaboration between his agency and the Cabinet for Workforce Development is an important step in Kentucky's technical educational system.

"This partnership between the Prichard Committee and the Cabinet for Workforce Development offers both parties an opportunity to improve technical education for high school students across Kentucky," Sexton said. "We view this as an important step in our overall efforts on behalf of students, parents and teachers. We're excited about work-

ing with the cabinet."

Cabinet for Workforce Development Secretary Allen D. Rose, concurred with Sexton.

"We are pleased to enter into this project with the Prichard Committee," said Rose. "Not only are we proud to be associated with an organization synonymous with academic excellence, we are eager to see this project implemented for the benefit of the department's primary focus - technical school students in Kentucky."

The Prichard Committee provides PT3 training for local facilitators, an overall format and discussion questions, a checklist and directions for organizers and supplemental materials needed to hold a session.

PT3 sessions involve no more than 30 participants each and are sponsored by local groups such as Prichard Committee community groups, family resource centers or school councils.

The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence is a non-profit, independent group that advocates for improved elementary, secondary and higher education.

The Department of Technical Education's 52 Kentucky Tech area technology centers of high school students hands-on training and education in a wide array of technical fields, including health and human services, construction technology, business and graphics technology, manufacturing technology and computer networking and repair.

Academic Honor Roll



Shana Noe, daughter of Bill and Rosemary Noe of Mareburg, has a 4.0 GPA at Rockcastle County High School. She plans on attending Western Kentucky University or Centre College and possibly major in Business. Shana is a four year band member - Field Commander this year, member of the Beta Club, National Honor Society, V-Club, Leadership Team FCA. Shana's hobbies include working part time at Denny's Restaurant.

November 11th - 17th

American Education Week

For 78 years, the week before Thanksgiving has been celebrated by communities across the country as American Education Week. A special time to honor the teachers and school staff who educate the nation's 53 million school children every day. This year, American Education Week (AEW) will be observed November 11-17, providing the nation an opportunity to recognize the critical role public schools serve by caring for our children, and imparting American ideals.

"This year, it is fitting to acknowledge the importance of teachers and school staff who year after year teach generations of native-born and immigrant students to understand and respect America's core values," said National Education Association (NEA) President Bob Chase. "I urge the country to commemorate AEW by honoring America's educators for their vital role in reclaiming our nation's spirit."

"In the wake of September 11, teachers, school support professionals and other staff have bonded together to help children cope with overwhelming events, while experiencing their own shock and grief," Chase explained. "School staff across the nation have channeled feelings of anxiety into service, raising funds for relief efforts and sharing valuable lessons of hope and healing."

The NEA and the American Legion established American Education Week in 1921 as a way of highlighting the value of public education. Today, AEW has grown to include the 12 leading national education organizations, such as the PTA and groups representing principals, school boards and administrators.

The 2001 theme, "Together: Mak-

ing Public Schools Great for Every Child," reflects that the partnership between school, staff, parents and students is successful, a quality education is nearly guaranteed.

The theme also points out that everyone has a role to play in making public schools great - parents, neighbors, business, government, as well as teachers, principals, bus drivers and all other school staff.

For this reason, the Wednesday of American Education Week (Nov. 14) is designated "Educational Support Professional Day" to salute the unique role played by school support staff. 75 percent of whom live in the same neighborhoods as their students. Their shared socioeconomic class, race or ethnicity leads to powerful bonds with youngsters.

"No matter what their job at school - whether it's teaching math or typing attendance reports - school professionals impart lessons about respect, diversity and responsibility," Chase said. "These ideals will help students throughout life."

American Education Week activities span from poster contests and PTA hosted suppers to student gifts of handmade cards, personal essays, and other "thank you's" to school staff. Parents participate in read-ins, principals produce daily morning quotes about the value of education, and communities hold events to celebrate the good work being done in the nation's classrooms.

To learn more, visit www.nea.org/new. For local activities, contact the NEA state or local affiliate in your area.

For state-specific statistics, see www.nea.org/public/goodnews.

School Menus November 12-16, 2001

Breakfast: Monday: Ham biscuit or cereal, toast/jelly, juice and milk.

Tuesday: Cinnamon roll or cereal, toast/jelly, juice and milk.

Wednesday: Egg biscuit or cereal, toast/jelly, juice and milk.

Thursday: Nutri-grain bar or cereal, toast/jelly, juice and milk.

Friday: Scrambled egg with toast or cereal, toast/jelly, juice and milk.

Lunch: Monday: Chicken nuggets and roll, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert and milk.

Tuesday: Sub sandwich, baked beans, lettuce/pickles, chips, pudding and milk.

Wednesday: Vegetable soup and crackers, sandwich, veggies and dip, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Fish with bread or corn dog, macaroni 'n' cheese, cole slaw, manager's choice of veggie, jello and milk.

Friday: Chili, chips 'n' cheese or sandwich, potato wedges, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Mt. Vernon Message

There are several activities coming up this week. If you want to purchase a yearbook, you will need to send in your order form and money by Friday, October 9.

Our Long Range Planning Committee will be meeting in the MVES Library on Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m.

MVES Family Resource Center is sponsoring another program for our students on Monday, October 12 at 8:40 a.m. The program is entitled "The Waltons."

Mt. Vernon Elementary School's Site Based Decision Making Council will meet on Monday, October 12 at 5:00 p.m. in the conference room.

Our Parent Teacher Group (PTG) will also be meeting on Monday, October 12. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Fourth grade students will be performing.

Parents of primary students can plan ahead by marking your calendars for our first Parent/Teacher Conference. Conferences will be 3:30-6:00 on Thursday, November 15.

Watch for sign up sheets to come home with your child.

Mr. Lee's fifth grade students complete research on Native Americans and presented them to parents last Friday. Pictured below are students with their parents. Cody McGuire showed his research on Geronimo to his mother, Lisa McGuire. Cody Mize showed his re-

search on Crazy Horse to his mother, Ruby Mize. Matthew Jones showed his research on Sacagawea to his mother, Jessica Carpenter.

Project wisdom narrators for last week included: Stella Young, parent; Debbie Cummins, fourth grade teacher; Valerie Alexander-Brown, resource teacher; Regina Rice, student; Chris Cornelius, physical education teacher. Thanks to all the participants. The quote for this week is: "If I keep my good character, I shall be rich enough."

Last week's art prize winner was Dalton Rhodus. He chose a horse folder as his prize. Congratulations, Dalton!



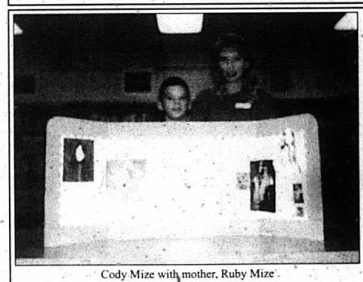
Dalton Rhodus
Weekly Art Prize Winner



Cody McGuire with mother, Lisa McGuire.



Matthew Jones with mother, Jessica Carpenter



Cody Mize with mother, Ruby Mize

RES Achievers

Academic Achievers

Mrs. Renee Jurdett 5th Grade: Jonathan Gadd, Stacey Hundley, David Polly, Samantha Bishop, Grant Burdette, Dustin Rader, Miranda Damrell, Raquel Bullock, Megan Mazurek, Jamie Todd and Erica Isaac.

Mrs. Gabbard's 4th Grade: Laura Dollins, Andrew Pensel, Molly Coffey and Miranda Lowery.

Mrs. Midkiff: Brooke Bowlin, Tonya Brock, Rachael Hale, Dalton Hill, Jeffrey Isaacs, Pamela Johnson, Hannah Ponder and April Sparks.

Vieth's 4th Grade: Angel Bishop, Justin Clark, Amanda Blunt, Robbie Miller, Courtney Damrell, Aaron Robinson, Katie Cope, Matt Lunsford and Jaleah Owens.

Perfect Attendance

Renee Burdett: Jonathan Gadd, Jared Harding, David Polly, Samantha Bishop, Dustin Rader, Buck Blair, Raquel Bullock, Dustin Barnett and Nicky Shelton.

Mrs. Gabbard: Miranda Lowery, Laura Dollins, Blake Parsons, Cole Abney, Seth Adams, Johanna Ballard and Nathan Reynolds.

Mrs. Midkiff: Dalton Hill, Pamela Johnson, Amber Lewis, Chris Perez, Ashley Vanwinkle, Damien Spanke, Jennifer Newby and Tommy Spencer.

Vieth: Courtney Isaacs, Russell Edder, Matt Dekauwe, Shawnee Burchett, Patricia Newby, Aaron Robinson, Logan Isaacs and Katie Cope.



Feelings of patriotism rose throughout the nation in the wake of the September 11 tragedy. These feelings were very evident at Rockcastle County Middle School where student members of H.E.R.O.E.S. (Helping Everyone Round Our Entire Society) rallied together to obtain American flags for the classrooms. Students felt everyone should have the opportunity to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag, but many of the classrooms didn't have flags. H.E.R.O.E.S., members of the Social Studies Circle in the after-school 21CCLC, wrote letters to representatives of Woodmen of the World requesting flags for each classroom. On Monday, October 29th, field reps Ms. Sandy Bullock and Ms. Jean Towery visited R.C.M.S. to present the flags to the H.E.R.O.E.S. Members of the circle then distributed the flags to classrooms. This is one of many service projects the group is providing for the school and community. Above, Mrs. Burton's Social Studies tribe the H.E.R.O.E.S., who are apart of the RCMS 21st Century Community Learning Center Survivor: Circle of Learning, proudly display the American flags that they requested from Woodmen of the World. The flags will be distributed to every homeroom in the Rockcastle County Middle School.

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