

## Friday Update      September 15, 2006      Volume 4 #3

**Congratulations Carla Coble:** At the September 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting, Carla Coble was appointed Assistant Principal at Bunn Middle School. Carla graduated from Louisburg High School, Louisburg College, and Barton College and received graduate degrees from East Carolina University. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Carla to the Assistant Principalship.

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Assistant Principals' Academy Meeting	9/19	4:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Early Release Day	9/20	----	<b>Traditional and Year Round</b>
High School English Teachers Meeting	9/20	4:00 p.m.	Mitchell Media Center
Board of Education Meeting	9/25	7:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
BOE Policy Committee Meeting	9/26	5:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Hurricane Makeup Day	9/27	----	<b>Year-Round Calendar</b>
Band/Drama/Music Teachers Quarterly Mtg.	9/27	4:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Art Teachers Quarterly Meeting	9/27	4:00 p.m.	Mitchell Media Center
United Way Campaign Kickoff - Basketball	9/28	7:00 p.m.	Louisburg College Gym
PE Teachers Quarterly Meeting	10/5	4:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Foreign Language Teachers Quarterly Mtg.	10/5	4:00 p.m.	Mitchell Media Center
SHAC Meeting	10/6	8:30 a.m.	Child Nutrition Annex
BOE Meeting	10/9	7:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Principals' Meeting	10/11	8:30 a.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
Early Release Day	10/11	----	<b>Traditional Calendar</b>
Teacher Workday	10/16	----	<b>Year-Round Calendar</b>
AP's Meeting	10/17	4:00 p.m.	Riverside Campus – A107
STAC Meeting	10/18	4:00 p.m.	Laurel Mill Elementary
Hurricane Makeup Day	10/20	----	<b>Traditional Calendar</b>
BOE Retreat	10/23	12:00 noon	NC SBA Building – Raleigh

**First Thursday and Friday Update:** You probably noticed that we did not publish a *Friday Update* last week. We will not publish a *Friday Update* the week we publish a *First Thursday*. Next week, we will send you fliers advertising *First Thursday* and how to sign up for a free copy. Elementary schools, please send the flier home with the children. Middle and high schools, please make the fliers available in the front office, PTA/PTOs and boosters.

**Hurricane Makeup Days:** Makeup day for students on the year-round calendar is scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup> and traditional calendar is October 20<sup>th</sup>. Should you have any questions, please contact your principal.

**Donors Choose (\$\$\$):** This is a wonderful website that provides funds for classroom projects. Yesterday, I visited Bunn Elementary, and five teachers applied for and received \$500 - \$1,000. Go to the website ([www.donorschoose.com](http://www.donorschoose.com)) and describe your project. Donors surf the site and make donations directly to teachers.

**Rotary Essay Contest:** Franklin County middle school students have an opportunity to participate in the annual Rotary essay contest. Essays must be based on the four-way test which seeks to answer the following questions: 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned? 3) Will it build good will and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned? Local winners win cash prizes and the opportunity to move up to the district competition. If you are interested, please contact your principal. Or, call Dr. Bill Palich (Rotary Coordinator) at 496-1211.

**Recess/Punishment:** A reminder, elementary school students cannot be punished by holding them in from recess. If outside recess is scheduled, all students go out for recess. An example of an unacceptable punishment is the following: "If a student doesn't do his/her homework they must stay in from recess, complete their homework, and do calisthenics at their desk." Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Wendy Vavrousek or Marla Peoples.

**September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month:** Keep score on your health by getting a FREE Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Test (blood test) at Bull Creek Golf and County Club on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. If interested, call Franklin Regional Medical Center (test sponsor) for an appointment at 919-497-8460.

**Accountability/Testing:** The 2006/07 school year will see many of the usual things occur with testing, the ABCs and NCLB, but there will also be changes and additions. The following is a summary:

**Grade 3 Pretest**

Math scores will be delayed.

Reading scores will be ready as soon as testing is complete.

**Science Test for Grades 5 and 8**

2006/07 Spring Pilot Administration: We may get some results later this year.

EXTEND2 Science will test same grades and the same schedule.

**Reading 3-8**

The second edition will be administered 2006/07 (same as prior years).

Third edition will be field tested during last six weeks of school using a random sample of students (October notification).

**Math 3-8**

Will start getting 2005/06 results in late October

Sample test items will be embedded in 2007/08. (This will eliminate need for field tests.) Test will not be timed.

**High School**

EOC Science courses

Biology is only science course that will be in the ABCs for 2006/07.

Biology will field test using a random sample during the last four weeks of the course—fall and spring.

Physics, Physical Science and Chemistry will field test all students enrolled in the courses in the fall and spring—no ABC results.

Physics field test will be on-line.

**EOC Math Courses**

Delayed score reporting as there will be new achievement level and scale scores.

Tests will not be timed.

**EOC Social Studies**

No changes for 2006/07; tests are not timed.  
Will have embedded items to eliminate field testing

**English I**

New edition for 2006/07, delayed scoring, not timed  
New scale scores and achievement levels

**OCS (LHS)**

Extend2 will be given in OCS Math, OCS English I, and Life Skills Science II to all students enrolled in the courses.

It will be considered a field test and operational.

**Exit Standard Testing**

Applies to all first time 9<sup>th</sup> graders for Algebra I, Biology, English I, Civics and Economics, US History

If not proficient on first testing, must retest; if still not proficient, must provide intervention and retest again to get course credit.

**Writing Grades 4, 7, and 10**

Date for testing has been changed to March 13 due to late start of school.

Writing test for high school OCS will be operational for 2006/07.

Results for all levels will be included in the performance composite.

**Computer Skills On-line**

No changes for 2006/07

**NCCLAS**

EOC courses will start in late fall, finish in January.

Grades 3-8 and 10 will start reading, math, writing in January.

Science will be a pilot for all students in Grades 5 and 8.

**EXTEND2**

Available for Grades 3-8 in reading and math, science Grades 5 and 8, writing Grades 4 and 7

Writing field test at Grades 4 and 7 for all EXTEND2 students

Practice samples for the EXTEND2 will be released later this fall.

**EXTEND1 (replaces the AAP)**

Experiencing slight delays

Should be ready early November

**NAEP**

BES will test 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

BMS will test 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Scheduled for late January or early February

**IPT**

All initially enrolled LEP students must be given this proficiency test within the first thirty days of enrollment. In February, all identified LEP students will be given the annual administration of the IPT which will include speaking, listening, reading and writing.

**Field Testing**

A schedule of field tests for FCS should be out in late October. Some will involve all students enrolled in a course or assigned to alternate assessments. Some teachers will be asked to participate in special studies or validations. Some random samples of students in various subjects will participate in comparability and validity studies.

**Whole-Faculty Study Groups (WFSG):** Carlene Murphy and Carl Clauset are writing a new book about WFSG. The opening chapter will include a vignette from Bunn Elementary School, and Franklin County Schools will be the source of vignettes for each chapter. We will have the opportunity to review, approve and edit every reference to our schools. From what I can tell, this will be a wonderful opportunity to let people know about the wonderful work you are doing for all our children.

Carlene Murphy will be with us beginning September 25<sup>th</sup>. She will meet with principals to discuss action cycles and feedback that principals and their assistants give to the groups. Hopefully, everyone is planning or has planned for their first instructional council meeting.

As you know, our goal is to have a minimum of three IC meetings this school year. It is essential for groups to share their plans with each other in order to identify best practices.

*Thinking leads man to knowledge. He may see and hear, and read and learn whatever he pleases, and as much as he pleases; he will never know anything of it, except that which he has thought over, that which by thinking he has made the property of his own mind.*  
--- Pestalozzi

I challenge every member of every WFSG to think critically for professional growth during your meetings.

As I attended a Principals' Executive Program session this week, I was reminded of the importance of implementing professional learning communities in our schools. Our WFSG initiative is very much aligned to this research driven concept.

-- Eddie Ingram

**Great Website #1:** Kelly Simonsen, CRT at Youngsville Elementary, recommends this great website – [www.webenglishteacher.com/poetrygeneral2.html](http://www.webenglishteacher.com/poetrygeneral2.html). This site has wonderful activities for every grade level. This is a ★★★★★ website; tell me what you think!

**Great Website #2:** I discovered this civics website when I was researching resources for high school social studies teachers. It's called the *Civic Education Consortium*, and it's sponsored by the **NC Institute for Government** at UNC/CH. It's also a ★★★★★ website; tell me what you think. <http://www.iog.unc.edu/programs/civiced/index.html>

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE – IT'S A SAFETY THING!** If you don't have a badge, please contact Joy Thorne at 496-4159.

**FCS Beliefs:** Thoughts to ponder: 1) Effort is as important as ability. 2) When we provide students with engaging schoolwork, they will learn more than they learn now. 3) If you think you can and you work hard, you will get smart.

**Have A Great Weekend,  
Bert L'Homme,  
Superintendent**