

## Friday Update      September 29, 2006      Volume 4 #5

| Meeting                                  | Date  | Time       | Location                    |
|--|-------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 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     |
| Early Release Day                        | 10/11 | ----       | <b>Traditional Calendar</b> |
| Principals' Meeting                      | 10/12 | 8:30 a.m.  | Riverside Campus – A107     |
| 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   |

**Congratulations and Best Wishes to Betty Faye Collins:** Betty Faye Collins, Director of Child Nutrition, is retiring from Franklin County Schools after 30 years of dedicated service. Mrs. Collins began working with the school system in 1977 at Edward Best Elementary School. Thank you, Mrs. Collins, for a job well done!

**Congratulation to Jama Gilliam Stallings:** Jama Stallings has been named Director of Child Nutrition for Franklin County Schools. Mrs. Stallings is a Bunn High School and Wesleyan College graduate. She has been working in the Child Nutrition Department for seven years and currently serves as Child Nutrition Supervisor.

**Principals' Meeting Rescheduled:** Several principals questioned the wisdom of having a principals' meeting the same day as an early release. So, the October Principals' meeting is rescheduled for Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, and November Principals' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Discipline and NCWISE:** Principals, please have your school's discipline incidents entered in NCWISE on a daily basis.

**Safe Schools:** Principals, if you have not had a Lock Down Drill, please do so ASAP, and email Monty Riggs to let him know the date of the event. Also, please have Critical Incident Response Kits in order at this time.  
(Monty Riggs)

**Public Alert Radios:** Principals, a letter was mailed in August to all principals from the Departments of Education, Commerce, and Homeland Security regarding NOAA Public Alert Radios. NOAA is providing these radios free to all public schools! Your school can request one at <http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov/> "Public Alert Radios are being distributed to public schools in your community to help safeguard your children. With 24/7 capability, these radios are always on guard to alert school personnel to terrorist threats, emergencies and weather conditions in your immediate area, even when other communication lines are unavailable."  
(John White, NC Weather)

**Principals' Training Program at NCSU:** North Carolina State University is beginning a new cohort to train the next generation of principals. This is an excellent program from which many of our current principals and assistant principals graduated. If you are interested, please call Diane Marks, and she will send you a preliminary application.

**Praxis I and II Preparation Seminars:** North Carolina Model Teacher Education Consortium (NCMTEC) is offering Praxis I and Praxis II Test Preparation Seminars in October and November 2006. Participants need to register now. Seminar participants can be reimbursed the test fee and seminar fee upon submission of scores to NCMTEC. Please see [www.ncmtec.org](http://www.ncmtec.org) Praxis Seminars Page for forms and details. (NCMETC)

**Master Classes at NC Writer's Network Conference** offer intermediate and advanced writers a chance to delve more deeply into creative nonfiction, fiction, fiction/creative nonfiction, and poetry. The conference, Many Voices: One Community, is set for Friday, November 10 through Sunday, November 12 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, in Research Triangle Park. The Master Classes are offered Saturday, November 11, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and are limited to 15 students each, who must also be conference registrants. Registrations must be postmarked no later than October 16, 2006. See [www.ncwriters.org](http://www.ncwriters.org) for complete guidelines. (NC Writers' Network)

## ***Curriculum and Instruction***

**Blackboard:** 157 Franklin County teachers have been trained to use Blackboard. Blackboard is a powerful tool which allows users to post announcements, assignments, and tests, as well as communicate with students and parents through the internet. If you are interested in using Blackboard, please contact the technology facilitator at your school. (Susan Leisy)

**WFSG Visit:** I want to thank the principals and their staffs for especially productive meetings with Carlene Murphy concerning the progress with Whole-Faculty Study Groups this past week. Every school has made tremendous progress in this initiative from the previous year. We look forward to the benefits of the Instructional Council Meetings and have heard many good things from the principals about the work our teachers are doing in their classrooms. There will be a new publication emerging from the WFSG contingent featuring Franklin County Schools. More important, the students of our district continue to benefit from the efforts of the reflective practitioners we are all becoming. Remember the annual WFSG conference this coming February in Augusta, Georgia. Franklin County Schools again will be a prominent part of this conference. We know that every school will want to send representatives.

**QTL Training:** Six teachers from each of our high schools will participate in Quality Teaching and Learning training on October 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, and 16. The specific location and times will be announced. The Centers for Quality Teaching and Learning are in a formal partnership with Whole-Faculty Study Groups, and some of their representatives attended our sessions with Carlene as well. The strategies learned in QTL will be very good topics for our WFSGs. We have received excellent reports from elementary teachers who have already received this training. Middle school teachers also will be offered this opportunity in the near future.

**Biotechnology:** Franklin County Schools is involved in a partnership with Novozymes and Vance-Granville Community College in offering a new biotechnology program to our students. North Carolina is a national leader in biotechnology. Franklinton High School has the distinction of being the first high school in North Carolina to offer a biotechnology course. Five other high schools in our state will follow suit next semester. Biotechnology is a field of work that offers endless possibilities for our students and for our economy. Congratulations are in order to the CTE department for their work in the grant and in obtaining course approval that made this vision a reality.

(Eddie Ingram)

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