

# DEVIL DOG ADMINISTRATION NEWS

February 14, 2005

**SOUTH CONWAY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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Volume 1, Issue 2

## Deputy Superintendent: Jerry Owens

### Upcoming Events

#### February 11

Interim Reports

#### February 21

School closed

Realizing the need for a proactive solution for future growth and the need for newer facilities the South Conway County School District initiated a building program that would span several years. The first phase of the program was completed in December of 2004 with the completion of the Fine Arts Center. This 14,000 square foot facility ranks among the finest in the state. The Fine Arts Center will allow the district's art, band, choir, and drama departments to grow for many years to come.

The High School Addition, which consists of twelve new classrooms, a science lab, a new library, cafeteria, and administration offices as well as an attractive new entrance to the campus is progressing as scheduled. Projected completion of this facility is July 2005. The renovation and new construction at Northside Elementary is scheduled to begin in June of 2005. The architects have met with the faculty, staff, and community for the planning of the facility. It will consist of new classrooms, a new library, a new indoor physical education center, new administration offices, and a renovated cafeteria and kitchen. Upon completion of the one year project, grades 2 and 3 will move into the new facility and they will find a state of the art facility consisting of energy efficient HVAC systems, classrooms equipped with the latest technology,

and a facility built around the safety and educational needs of the students

In the fall of 2005, planning will begin for the K-1 primary facility that will be located at the present Reynolds campus. The architects will again solicit the input of faculty, staff, and community as the district again seeks to be proactive to the educational needs of the students. Safety, technology, energy efficiency, and the individual needs of students will be a high priority in the planning and design of the facility. Construction should begin in June of 2006 with a twelve month completion date.

With all of the district's building projects, safety as well as the uninterrupted education of all students is the highest priority. Research shows that better facilities tend to improve test scores, behavior, and morale. Maintaining existing buildings and completion of current building projects and putting into place short term and long term school plant management practices will insure that the South Conway County School District has the finest facilities possible.

We're on the Web!  
[www.sccsd.org](http://www.sccsd.org)

## Morrilton High School: Brian Bunch

The Morrilton High School web site, located at <http://sccsd.org/mhs> is run by our EAST lab and is edited by MAST students Jerrika Meyer and Bryan Hamby. The site features the Daily Announcements that are read to MHS students each day – we try to update this page before 9:00 each morning. This allows parents and community members to stay informed on the daily happenings at Morrilton High School.

Also included on the site are the weekly breakfast and lunch menus, sports pages, club activities, special events and the Counselor's Corner which features scholarships that are available to students and the deadlines for applying for those scholarships. A lot of hard work by our students goes into this web site and we hope you will mark it as one of your favorites and visit it daily. Please remember, the web site is a teaching tool and a work in progress so please forgive any potholes you might encounter as you travel the site.

## Morrilton Middle School: Robert Toney

Morrilton Middle School teachers are doing their best to get students ready for the upcoming ACTAAP, Arkansas Comprehensive Testing Accountability and Assessment Program, otherwise known as the BENCHMARK. This series of assessments will be given March 8-11 in the areas of Math and Literacy at grade levels 6,7, and 8. This year will be the first year for seventh graders to be tested.

School-wide, the MMS faculty gave a "practice benchmark" test on December 9 and 10. They used released items from the 2004 test to model the real thing. Students took the math portion on Thursday and the literacy on Friday. Results from the exam are giving teachers ideas about holes in classroom instruction which means they

should be able to see the things that they need to teach or re-teach.

All teachers have implemented math and literacy skills in their classrooms to prepare students for the ACTAAP in addition to the regular instruction in Math and English classes. Mrs. Shawnya Rogers uses math in many ways in her Career Orientation classes especially since they study job related issues such as salaries in different careers. Mr. Chris Aishman has a daily question that students answer in his 8th grade American History classes. Students are required to use CSRQ to answer their questions. CSRQ is the acronym for Complete Sentence that Restates the Question. This writing tool allows students to focus their answer on the con-

tent of the question rather than some other topic. Mrs. Kim Mitchell, 6th grade math teacher, discovered that some of her students had lots of problems with the open response items on the practice benchmark test, so she is diligently working to instruct students in their weak areas. Coach Wendy Porter has integrated an Arkansas based novel into her 7th grade Arkansas History classes to reinforce her instruction.

Parents can reinforce these across the board instruction techniques by asking their students how ACTAAP skills are being used in their individual classes. If we all work together, students will see the importance of education!

## River Valley Technical Center: Charles Bane

RVTC is off to a good start. We increased in student number by about 58%. This increase came about because of the addition of Wonderview school district sending students this year (19) and an increase in students from Perryville as well as more from the South Conway County School District.

We have programs in Auto Service Technology, Auto Collision Repair, Computer-Aided Drafting, Construction Technology, Information Systems Technology and Medical Professions Education. When students

complete a program of study at RVTC, they will have earned up to 5 elective credits at UACCM or ASU-Beebe.

Students can learn the basics for entry-level occupations such as Certified Nursing Assistant and CPR certification in Medical Professions. They can obtain a good deal of knowledge in the three shop classes and can get enough training in the computer classes to get into some entry level position in those areas.

In the Auto Mechanic and Collision Repair shop classes, students work on their

own vehicles and others from private individuals. The Construction Technology Class has done a lot of projects this year from building storage buildings, building cabinets for the new band room and building other types of furniture for the school and Kids First. The Computer-Aided Drafting class has drawn plans for outside use and the Information Technology classes have done brochures and programs for the school and power-point programs for different teachers to use in their classrooms.

## After School Programs: Annette Henderson

### Description of Programs

**ADAP-** Grant received from DHS Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention programs to serve 105 students in K-5 grades. The program emphasizes strengthening protective factors to address at-risk activities. The program operates K-2 at Reynolds and 3-5 at North Side Monday - Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 while school is in session.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century-** Grant received from ADE 21<sup>st</sup> Century CCLC programs to serve 72 students in grades 4-8 and will serve 48 during a summer session. The program emphasizes academic assistance in math and literacy skills using Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, and Accelerated Writer. The program operates Monday - Thursday 3:30 to 6:00 while school is in session and during the month of June for the summer session.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Intervention-** District sponsored Intervention program serves students who are concerned about their Benchmark score or are performing poorly in class. The program focuses on assistance in math and literacy using materials from Curriculum Associates.

**Math Tutoring-** District sponsored tutoring for MHS math students. The before and after school tutoring serves any math student with an emphasis on Mastery Learning Algebra I students. The tutoring is provided Monday - Thursday 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. and immediately after school for one hour or more as needed to serve students.

**Outreach Tutoring-** Federal funds support this program for 30 students in grades 3-9 from the Mt. Carmel Community Center

area. The program emphasizes assistance in math and literacy skills using Accelerated Math, Math Facts in a Flash, Mastery Learning objectives, Accelerated Reader, and Literacy Lab strategies. The program operates on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30.

### Students targeted by the Program

**ADAP-** Any student in grades K-5

**21<sup>st</sup> Century-** Students in grades 4-8 who scored below basic on state assessments and those in need of academic assistance

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Intervention-** Students performing below basic in class and those who want additional preparation for the Benchmark exam.

**Math Tutoring-** Students who have not mastered a Mastery Learning math competency, those performing below basic in math class, or those in need of academic assistance with a math skill.

**Outreach Tutoring-** Students performing below basic in math or literacy class, or those concerned with improving skills to perform well on the Benchmark exam.

### Measured Program Effectiveness

**ADAP-** Students are administered pre and post tests. Assessment instruments from the model programs are used as well as grade level CRTs. 9-week classroom teacher evaluations are also performed.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century-** STAR math and reading tests are administered as well as the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program, Learning Today Assessment.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Intervention-** Curriculum Associates assessment and the MMS practice benchmark

are administered.

**Math Tutoring-** Classroom performance, End of Course assessment data, STAR math and reading assessments are analyzed.

**Outreach Tutoring-** STAR math and reading assessments, Benchmark data, and classroom grades are analyzed.

### Program Teaching Staff

**ADAP-:** Reynolds Teachers- Stephanie Nicholson, Pam Baker, Sheri Coyle, Christie Olson, Carolyn Wright/Elem. K or 1-6, Instructional Aides- Rita Bowens, Cheryl Deaton (share a position), Helen Bowens, Portia Rice, North Side Teachers- Janie Ussery, Betty Mitchell, Mary Turpin/Elem. 1-6 and Special Education, Instructional Aides- Carla Washington

**21<sup>st</sup> Century-:** Debbye Beck, Ann Hall, Sherrye Rogers, Betty Humphreys, Jan Mendoza, Kim Mitchell, and Diane Johnson (share a position).

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Intervention-:** Coordinator/consultant- Sharon Wilson/English 7-12 & Admin. 5-12, Math Teacher- Bob Newman/Math 7-12, Literacy Teacher- Beth Fullerton/Elem. 1-6, Instructional Aide/Jessica Franklin/certification pending

**Math Tutoring-:** Math Teaches- Mara Cawein/Math 7-12, Math Teacher Veronica Hebard/Math 7-12,

**Outreach Tutoring-:** Math Teacher- Duchess Hunter/Special Education, Literacy Teacher- Nina Magie/Elementary Reading Specialist, Instructional Aide- College Student from the community.