



Superintendent's E-Mail Newsletter

"Staying in touch..."



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*"Building a
foundation of
excellence.....
.... one student
at a time."*



What A Musical Month!

In the span of four short weeks Spring Cove residents were jolted out of their winter blahs with two amazing musical productions, "Little Shop Of Horrors" and "Seussical." As a school employee, it always gives one a great sense of pride when you see students performing in these outstanding programs. Our community is still buzzing (and humming) about these great shows. I want to say THANK YOU to the many, many staff members who made these productions possible. I also want to recognize the talents and poise of our students. These shows provided an outlet and an opportunity for a whole group of students who might not otherwise become involved in an extra-curricular activity. It took a lot of hard work! Thank you everyone!

Budgeting, Bonuses and Bailouts

As you are probably aware, we are well into our annual budget process. One new step in that process is our first Budget Workshop meeting scheduled for March 30 at 7:00 p.m. In previous years, we have tried to squeeze our budget discussions into a regular board meeting format. The budget dialogue is a give and take process that is best served in a dedicated meeting. One new factor in this year's budget discussions will be the newly created Federal Stimulus Funds that are being funneled through the state budgets to be allocated to local school districts. Despite the rumors you might have heard, there are no bailouts or bonuses in the funding for Spring Cove. However, we will see additional funding available for some short-term relief and one-time purchases. Everyone at Spring Cove has a role to play in making this an efficient and effective school district. Your help is appreciated, and we ask everyone to stay tuned as we work our way through some very challenging economic times.

*"History is a
race between
education and
catastrophe."*

*- H. G.
Wells*

3rd Annual Celebration Of Excellence

Once again the Spring Cove Educational Foundation will take an evening to celebrate and recognize our excellent staff and students. We hope you will join us on Thursday, April 23rd, when we recognize our **Educator, Support Staff and Volunteer Of The Year**. Congratulations to **Jerome Conlon, Don Olear, and Ronald and Catherine Easley**, who were selected by the Foundation for these awards! A number of 2008/09 Venture Grants will also be showcased, along with a special musical performance and an art exhibition. It all takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the Middle School. Please join us for a fun and memorable evening!

“Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.”

-Abraham Lincoln



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Graduate Cohort Opportunities

I would like to take this opportunity to inform our teaching staff about two unique educational cohort opportunities in our region. First is the National Board Certification program through Duquesne University. Because of federal and state grants, Duquesne is able to offer a **seven-week preparation course** in Altoona at **NO** cost to teachers or their districts. Through this course, teachers can secure a state grant and a federal grant, which will cover **all** but \$65 of the \$2,565 cost for certification. It also counts for Act 48 credit. **Because such funding and preparation courses may not exist next year, any teacher interested should take the leap this year.** Kim McElhatten attended a meeting and has more information, or you could directly contact Rosalie Dibert at 412-979-6916 or dibertr@duq.edu.

Duquesne's National Board Certification Program Site

<http://www.centerforteachingexcellence.net/>

A second opportunity is being shared by Dr. Gary Robinson at Hollidaysburg Area School District. Wilkes University is initiating a new cohort in their Masters' Degree program. To start this cohort, they will be offering the following courses this Summer at the Hollidaysburg Area High School:

**ED 519 Issues , Laws, and Trends in Education - Instructor: Dr. Paul Gallagher
Dates: May 12 - June 18 Times: Tues. & Thurs. - 4:30 – 8 PM**

**ED 522 Curriculum and Instruction - Instructor: Mr. John Wilson
Dates: June 29- July 16 - Times: Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs. - 12:30 - 4 PM**

Interested teachers may apply online at www.wilkes.edu/applyonline or call:
1-800-945-5378 (ext. 4670) for an application packet.



Words Of Wisdom.....

.....From First Graders

These words of wisdom aren't from our First Grade students, but a First Grade teacher from another school district gave her students the first half of several well-known proverbs and asked the children to complete the remainder of the proverb.

“Strike while the.....bug is close.”

“Don't bite the hand.....that looks dirty.”

“Never underestimate the power of.....termites.”

“A penny saved is.....not too much.”

“Children should be seen and not....spanked or grounded.”

“A bird in the hand.....is going to poop on you.”

“You can't teach an old dog new.....math”

“Where there is smoke there's.....pollution.”