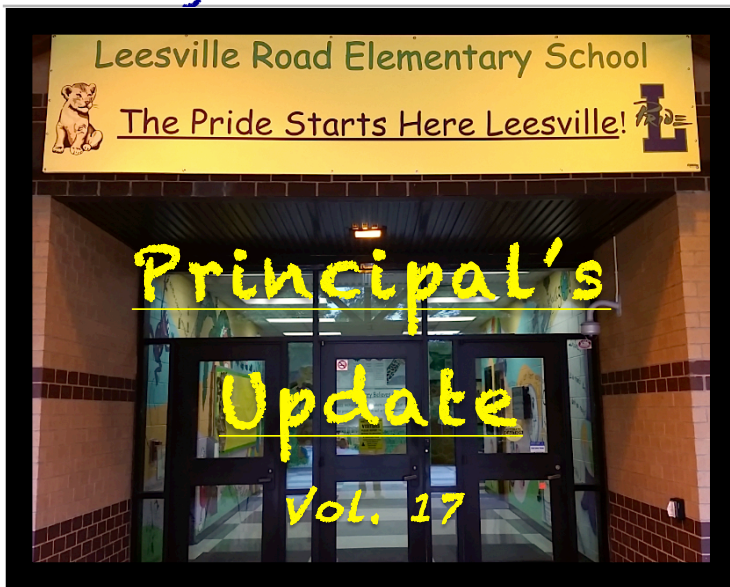


January 24, 2016



### A Dose of Winter

This has been a most atypical winter with beach worthy warmth one week and, well, our most recent spell of snow and ice the



next. Needless to say, the potential for distraction and a loss of continuity to the learning processes may be a real hindrance to the successful academic development and progress of our Leesville Cubs.

For this reason, let's all make a great effort to set our students up for success and to support every opportunity for their growth. Some easy ways to do this is to make sure that your child is at school on time every day and able to stay at school all the way through the end of the instructional day. And for those wishing to go even further, make sure that you are reading with you child at home for at least 20 minutes each night. If you show your children that these habits are important to you, they will become important to them as well.

As a final attachment to this commentary about the weather, please be informed that Wake County Schools has determined that February 15, 2016 will be the make up day for this past Friday's unanticipated day off.

### Dates to Remember... at a glance

**Thursday, 1/28**

**LES Spelling Bee Final**

**1/25 to 1/29**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wax Museum Presentations**

**Wednesday, 2/3**

**Board Advisory Council Meeting @ 6 pm @ Lead Mine Elementary School**

**Monday, 2/15**

**Snow Make U Day for Students and Staff**

**Friday, 2/19**

**Winter Carnival/Silent Auction Family Event**

### Coming Soon!



*I was amazed by our performance of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory 2 years ago, was thrilled with our production of Annie last year, but find myself so, so, so excited for our production of The Aristocats this spring.*

### Fitness and Achievement – A Winning Combination

There is a distinct and indisputable link between student fitness and achievement. When students are more active and their circulation is stronger, just about all of the body systems work more successfully. As we are always seeking the best way to accommodate the needs of our students, we are introducing our new mini-cycles into select classrooms to encourage an innovative "Read and Ride" opportunity.



### The Best PTA in the Whole Wide World



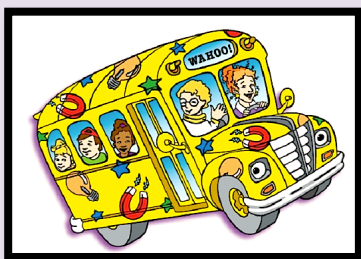
Leesville Elementary School is so grateful of our PTA, who regularly, and without fail, continues to make us feel special. They never miss the opportunity to demonstrate how appreciative they are for all the efforts of our faculty and staff to grow and develop our students and their learning. The most recent Hot Cocoa and Dessert Bar was a welcome sweet treat during our Early Release Day Professional Development meeting.



**Coming Soon...**

**Love the Bus Week**

At Leesville Elementary School, we try to emphasize the important impact that we all have on our students and how their day proceeds. For many of our students, their first introduction to their day is bus ride from home to school. A positive bus ride allows them to start their day off optimistically. Most of our bus drivers embrace this concept and do what they can to first get their students to school safely and also to get them to school happily. Often, when the responsibilities attached to this highly important post are considered, it is forgotten or overlooked about how much of a challenge this may be. For this reason, we are asking for our bus riding families to think about how they may express their appreciation and regard for our drivers and the importance of their role in starting our students' days off positively, so they may focus on being successful in school.



**A Distinguished Guest**

Leesville Elementary School was very fortunate to enjoy a visit from local, published author, Kelly Starling Lyons. Ms. Lyons facilitated three assemblies and did a wonderful job catering her presentations for the various ages within the audience. That being said, one common take-away for all of our students was a comprehensive and child-friendly perspective about what it takes to write and ultimately publish a book.

A special thank you to our wonderful PTA for arranging this presentation opportunity for our students, and future authors.

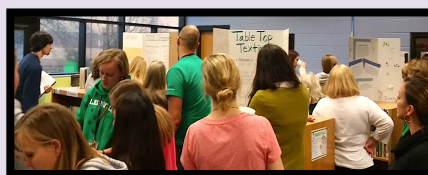


**Great Collaboration Leads to Great Opportunity for the Students at Leesville Elementary School**

All of the Wake County Schools have been asked identify a team of teacher leaders to champion the meaningful and sustainable use of technology resources as a platter for serving an engaging curriculum. At Leesville, our Teacher Leader Corp (TLC) includes Ms. Amanda Simpson (Kindergarten), Ms. Kerry Aldacosta (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade), Ms. Kelly Mandel (4<sup>th</sup> Grade), and Mr. Tommy ReBant (5<sup>th</sup> Grade).

Back on Friday, January 18, after the students went home for the Early Release Day, our TLC led our staff in an opportunity to learn from one another about the successful use of the technology resource, Discovery Education. This important educational tool provides suggestions about video resources, lesson plans, activity templates, and so much more that supports our students in their acquisition of the concepts and instruction promoted through the Common Core Curriculum Standards.

So, when your child comes home and tells you about a great video they saw in class or an engaging technology-based activity that reinforced their learning of X, Y, or Z, There is a good chance that these opportunities stemmed from this meaningful and collaborative cooperation among the wonderful teachers here at LES.



**Please Be Informed**

***Snow days are like credit card purchases... we enjoy them as they happen until we get the bill later. Please be informed that the Wake County Public School System has determined the following make up dates for the Friday, January 22 and the Monday, January 25 snow days:***

***Friday, January 22 will be made up for students on Monday, February 15.***

***Monday, January 25 will be made up for students on Thursday, March 24.***

***Both of these days, previously identified as Teacher Workdays, will be regular school days with regular school hours. Please make note that March 24 was originally to be the first day of the Spring Break for Students, so please plan your vacations accordingly.***