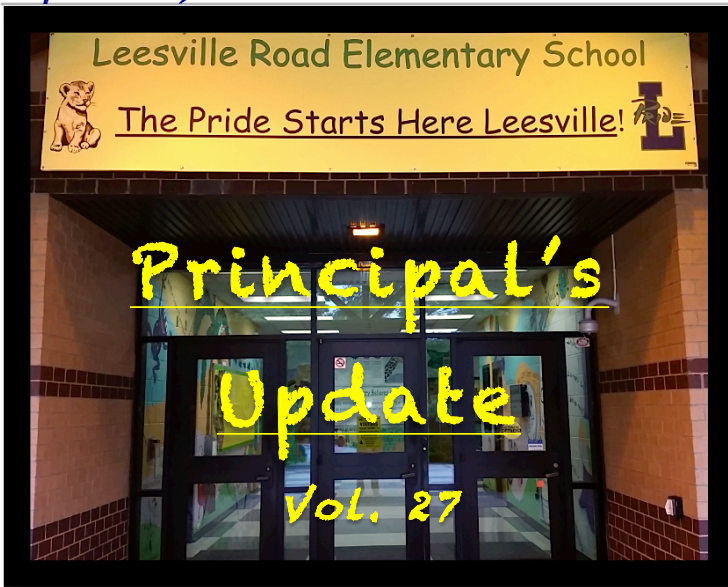


April 17, 2016



Professional Development And a Growth Mindset at LES



The faculty and staff have had two wonderful opportunities this past week. The first was a visit from Dr. Valerie Falkner, a professor in the School of

Education and recognized authority in the development and processes surrounding math instruction. Dr. Falkner spoke to us once before and will do so again next month and always sparks our interest and causes us to think. Her most recent visit was on equity of educational opportunity and how we address the differentiated needs of our diverse learners. Dr. Falkner has an ability to speak to and reach all of her audience, regardless of grade level or content area taught.

Two days later, at our monthly Faculty/Staff Meeting, the Leesville faculty took a critical look at how we are teaching and promoting writing strategies to our students. We will be employing a process referred to as "Almost There" Writing, which we believe will encourage the highest order reasoning and critical thinking skills. As a school, we have been discussing the processes we will employ for a deliberate and intentional role-out of what we believe to be an innovative instructional approach.



Dates to Remember... at a glance

Wednesday, April 20

Board Advisory Committee Mtg. @ 12:00

Thursday, April 21

Bookworm Pajama Party @ LES (Book Fair will be open)

Monday, April 25

Inclement Weather Make-Up Day

April 27 to April 29

5th Grade Washington DC trip

May 2 to May 6

Leesville Elementary School Faculty/Staff Appreciation Week



The Book Fair is Back!

Between the preview session on this past Friday and the grand opening of the Monster Book Fair during yesterday's LES hosted Regional North Carolina Science Olympiad, we are off to a great start.



After taking a stroll around the library and perusing the many, many titles, I am convinced that there is something for everyone to enjoy. I also hope that you will all take an opportunity to review the wish lists developed by the teachers for their classroom libraries and collections. We have always appreciated the generosity of our parents and community.



This year, the PTA has also decided to initiate a Coin War... bring your pennies on Monday, your nickels on Tuesday, dimes on Wednesday, Quarters on Thursday, and any/all types (including paper on Friday. These contributions will allow us to send every one of the Leesville students home with a great book from the Fair. Also, as an added incentive to contribute to the Coin War, if the girls raise more money, I will take a pie in the face... if the boys contribute more, than Ms. Lay will take a pie in the face. Come on boys! 😊



A Very Exciting Saturday at Leesville Elementary School

I hope that you all enjoyed your weekend, although I cannot imagine that you all had the chance to enjoy it as much as I did. This past Saturday, I had the opportunity to experience two of our amazing Leesville Cubs Clubs perform their culminating events after a long and effort filled year and season. I started my Saturday in Durham, at the American Tobacco Campus between the Durham Bulls Ballpark and the Durham Performing Arts Center, to run in the Girls n the Run 5K event. While I was running with my daughter, I did take the opportunity to check in and cheer on our own Leesville Girls on the Run team. While their performance through the 5k run was awe inspiring, it was their outstanding camaraderie and positive attitude that impressed me most. I love this program and have enjoyed seeing how it has impacted the lives and development of our incredible third through fifth grade girls.


Directly following the 5K, I hopped into my car and raced to the school where I was able to catch up with our Leesville Science teams at the North Carolina Regional Science Olympiad. These students, under the instruction and facilitation of our own 3rd Grade Teacher, Karli Eller, and Science Specialist, Julie Fruit-Cobb, have been working on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) and Environmental Sciences challenges, all in preparation for this big event. What a thrill it was to see these eager Leesville scientists representing our school and community with such enthusiasm and critical and creative thinking.

Both our Girls on the Run and our Science Olympiad participants were the perfect ambassadors for our school and showed everyone why we say that the Pride Starts at Leesville Elementary School!



Coming This Thursday...

We are excited to remind you of the PTA sponsored Bookworm Pajama Party this Thursday evening. Put on those comfy, cozy pj's and join the school community for great company and some terrific read-alouds by our own Leesville Faculty and Staff, who will be reading some selections from the Monster Book Fair. And parents, while your children are enjoying their story times, you may check out the awesome collection of books available for purchase in the school library. Just like in the winter, this event promises to be a wonderful community time for all... I sincerely hope to see you all there!



**Coming
Soon!**

Bookworm Pajama Party

~ Wear your PJs and enjoy an evening for the whole family ~

more information to come!

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sponsored by
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