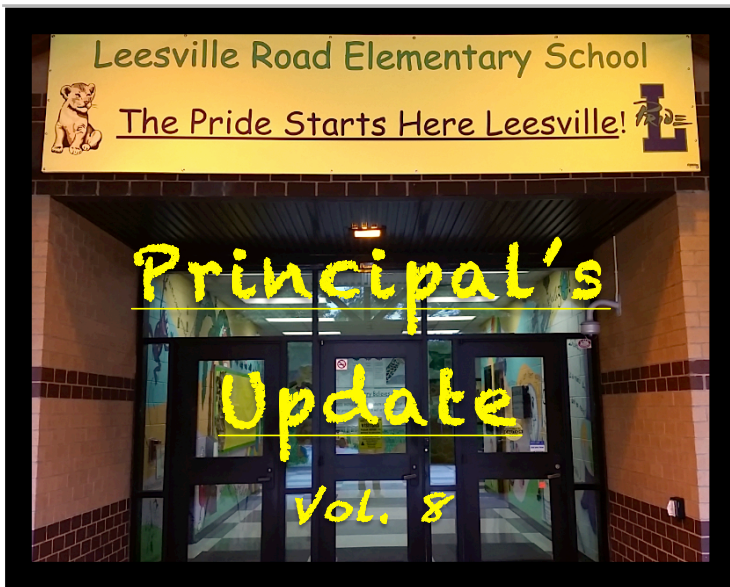


October 18, 2015



Building A Stronger Pride

There are so many programs and opportunities sponsored by our wonderful and active Leesville Elementary School PTA. One of them that is going on right now, even as you are reading this newsletter, is our largest and most impactful fundraiser, the Building a Stronger Pride Giving Campaign.

There are so many great qualities attached to this effort, including, but not limited to the fact that we are selling nothing other than stronger community, all students will benefit from the incentives and the final outcome, and finally, the largest benefactor, the school Library, will have an impact this year and in years to come. Furthermore, and my favorite attribute of this endeavor, is that this fundraiser is an effort that we, as a school community, are working toward together, without an organization or company that takes a huge bite of the proceeds and funds raised.

Dates to Remember... at a glance

Thurs., October 22: 3rd Annual LES Literacy Celebration Event

Fri., October 23: Leesville Elementary, Middle, & High Schools Tailgate

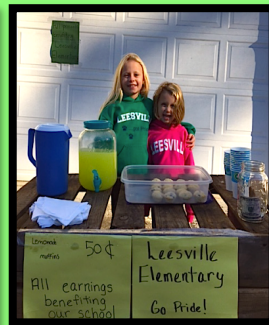
Fri., October 23: End of the 1st Quarter

Mon., October 26: Teacher Workday, No school for Students

Sat., October 31: Daylight Savings - Turn clocks back an hour

November 2 to 13: Leesville Elementary Canned Food Drive War

Far Left: Going "Old School" to keep the school community informed about our fundraiser progress, a lofty, but very achievable goal. Left: Leesville Cubs pull their own weight to contribute their fair share.



Don't forget everyone, that when (not if, but when) we reach our goal of \$35,000 raised, ALL Students and staff will have two opportunities send me, Mr. Cohen, swimming in a full size dunk tank. Talk about a real reason to fundraise ☺



The Kick-off Assembly to our Building a Stronger Pride Giving Campaign was a big hit with the Leesville High School Dance Team, special guest, Leo the Leesville Lion, and the promise of great school wide prizes for all of the students once we hit certain milestone amounts. For some reason, the incentive, which earned the greatest enthusiasm, was the promise to send me swimming in the dunk tank.



Coming Soon to a Leesville Elementary School Near You

This coming Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 pm is one of our most enjoyable and most well-attended annual events... We are excited to once again invite you all to Leesville Elementary School for our Literacy Celebration event.

Between the Kindergarten through 5th Grade Literacy activities, the free book and resources table, and the always tasty food trucks, everyone finds themselves satisfied with the evening. This year, however, with United Nations Day just a few short days past the event, we are giving the evening a little International flare with an around the world theme. The food trucks will feature Mexican food and Japanese food, and the stamps that show how many activities you visited around the school will be flags from all over the world. As always, students, who are able to earn 3 or more stamps throughout the evening may trade their stamped form for a homework pass from their teacher.



Other Ways That We Keep Our Pride Strong at Leesville Elementary School

Leesville has a wonderful PTA Sponsored Pride Pack program that provides bags of canned and other non-perishable foods to many of our families that are less financially secure. Our PTA takes this charge on each week because they understand that a true community looks after all members and does what it can to support the well-being of its children.

To show our school-wide support of this ambitious and generous venture, we are excited to pre-introduce our 2nd annual Food Drive War through the first two weeks of November. The goal of this challenge is to see which grade level will be able to raise the least amount of food in their grade level bin... yes, you read correctly, the least. Students and parents will be charged to bring bags and bags of food to fill all of the bins that are NOT their children's grade. The grade level that has their bins fill the least will win the war. Last year, this challenge raised over 600 gallons of canned and non-perishable foods. I have no doubt that this year will even exceed that. Look out for more news soon.

Stuff is always happening at Leesville Elementary School...



It is never too early for the Raleigh Fire Department to start recruiting for their ranks. Even Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. King, had a chance to see if this was in fact her true calling. I don't know, if this whole teaching thing does not work out for her, she may have found her back-up plan 😊

Ms. Watkins' class, upon earning a whole class reward, chose to rock a PJ Day for the whole class. They could have selected extra recess, a special video to watch, or a few other options.

The chance to roll out of bed and into school without changing out of their comfyies... I think that they totally chose wisely 😊.

This past Friday, October 16, prior to starting our Early Release Day professional development, our staff enjoyed the 2nd Annual Leesville Staff Chili Cook-Off. Nine staff members entered with the hope of being dubbed the 2015 Leesville Elementary School Chili Queen.



At the end of it all, when all the chili was gone and the votes were cast, it was Librarian Annie Reed to take the title.

Congratulations to all of our chili chefs for the best tasting contest I have ever had the pleasure to judge 😊

