

Kids First

Fleming County Schools

May 2014

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Dates to Remember:

- ◆ May 20—NO SCHOOL Election Day (Staff Work Day)
- ◆ May 20—Kindergarten Registration 8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m. FCFS Multi-Purpose Room
- ◆ May 21-28—District Testing Window
- ◆ May 26—NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Holiday
- ◆ June 6—Last Day for Students (full day)
- ◆ June 7—FCFS Graduation 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ June 9-11—Staff Work Days
- ◆ June 12—Closing Day for Staff

Flemingsburg Elementary Celebrates Camp Read-A-Lot



Flemingsburg Elementary School students enjoyed their 6th annual Camp Read-A-Lot on Wednesday, May 13. Twenty-two Kindergarten through third grade students, along with their families, participated in several camp themed activities, including listening to a book read by teacher Kathy Davenport, reading with flashlights in a tent, taking a nature scavenger hike, and a making words activity that concluded with the students spelling the word **CAMPFIRE**. Afterwards, everyone went outside to roast marshmallows, make s'mores,

and sing silly camp songs. Each student went home with a free book of their choice. Previous Family Reading Nights this year included a visit from Ronald McDonald, a Christmas themed night, and a Teddy Bear Clinic led by Primary Plus employees. Johna Bacon and the Family Resource Center assisted with the Family Reading Nights this year. Flemingsburg Elementary has led Family Reading Nights for students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade since 2005.



2014 Spring Test Dates

- ⇒ KPREP Test Dates for Fleming County Schools will be May 21, 22, 23, 27, 28
- ⇒ Alternate KPREP Window open thru June 6
- ⇒ Fleming County High School End-of-Course Assessment Window open thru June 6

KPREP Testing (Subject/Grade)

- Reading (3rd-8th)
- Math (3rd-8th)
- Science (4th & 7th)
- Social Studies (5th & 8th)
- On-Demand Writing (5th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 11th)
- Language Mechanics (4th, 6th)

FCFS EOC Testing

- US History / AP US History
- Biology / AP Biology
- Algebra II
- English 10

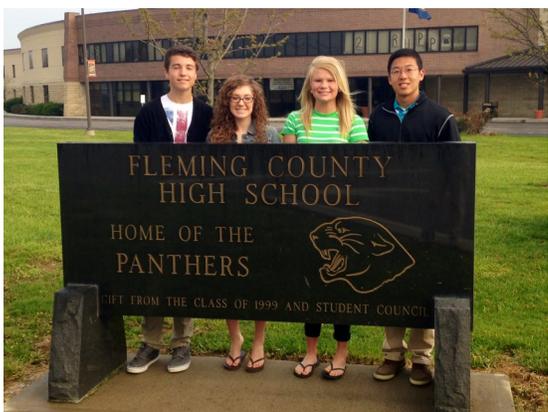
Fleming County Students Participate in STLP Championship

Fleming County Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) students participated in the state STLP Championship at Rupp Arena on April 22, 2014. Congratulations to all students involved for competing at the state level. State winners included:

- 1st Place in Bench Challenge – Chance Basford & Caleb Fannin, Ward Elementary
- 1st Place in Digital Music – Wesley Warren, Ewing Elementary
- 2nd Place in Digital Music – Jaeren Wallingford, Ewing Elementary
- 2nd Place in Digital Art – Christi Childs, Hillsboro Elementary
- 1st Place in UK Computer Science – Josh Donahue & Sean McCord, Flemingsburg Elementary
- 1st Place in Original Photo – Aubrey Watson, Simons Middle School
- 2nd Place in Graphic Design – Tabatha Bellamy, Simons Middle School
- 1st Place in Help Desk – Josh McCord, Breanna Flora, Bradley Edmond, Simons Middle School
- Top 50 Showcase Project – Ashley Shrout, Shelby Meade, Simons Middle School
- 2nd Place Heritage Project – Morgan Kegley, Fleming County High School
- STLP State Engineer – Lindsey Childs, Fleming County High School
- KYSTE STLP Scholarship – Lindsey Childs, Fleming County High School



2014 Governor's Scholars



Congratulations to FCHS juniors Henry Cho, Katie Pfeffer, Morgan Stephens, and Logan Wagner for being chosen as 2014 Governor's Scholars!

The Governor's Scholars Program is a summer residential program for outstanding high school students in Kentucky who are rising seniors. Students who are selected attend the program without charge. In the spirit of partnership, the Office of the Governor, the Kentucky State Legislature, and private enterprise come together to provide the financial support for the program.

In order to participate in the program, students must be nominated by their high schools and then compete on a state-wide level. Selection for the program is highly competitive, with an application process similar to that of prestigious colleges and universities. In addition to an academic profile that includes difficulty of course load, GPA, and at least one standardized test score, the application requires an outline of all extracurricular activities, a history of

volunteer service, and a list of job positions held. Teacher recommendations include both quantitative evaluation and qualitative descriptions of the student's performance and potential. The final component of the application is an original essay.

These students applied for the Governor's Scholars Program in the fall of 2013 and were selected by a local committee to represent FCHS as state level nominees. The students were then chosen as finalists by a GSP Statewide Selection Committee. Aristofanes Cedeno, the Executive Director of GSP, comments, "As usual, our Statewide Selection Committee faced some very difficult choices in selecting the 2014 Scholars from such a highly competitive field of outstanding young Kentuckians."

Fleming County High School celebrates the success of these students, and looks forward to hearing of their wonderful GSP experiences.



SMS Junior Beta Club

SMS Jr. Beta Club members worked on treats for Teacher Appreciation Day. The Beta Club also provided donuts and desserts for SMS staff members!



FCHS Choir Receives Distinguished Rating



On April 24, the Fleming County High School Choir participated in a KY Music Educators Association contest hosted by Montgomery County High School. The choir performed two songs; "With a Voice of Singing" by Shaw and "Be Not Afraid" by Courtney. The choir was judged on their singing and sight-reading abilities. Overall, the choir received a Distinguished Rating! Congratulations! We are FC!!

Math is Fun!

Students in Mrs. Susan Brewer's 3rd grade class at Ewing Elementary enjoyed learning math as they built towers from index cards. They learned about pyramids and tessellations and mainly about PATIENCE and being very, very careful with their movements! Their diligence paid off in the end!



PEP Grant

The Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) provides grants to LEAs and community-based organizations (CBOs) to initiate, expand or enhance physical education programs, including after-school programs, for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Grant recipients must implement programs that help students make progress toward meeting state standards.

The 3-year grant will be implemented in all of our schools. The grant includes money for equipment, training, evaluation and other materials. The Project Director is J.R. Price, who worked with Mike Russell of Advanced Fitness Solutions to write the grant. Congratulations!

11 Tips to Turn Every Student into a Close Reader

(Excerpted from: *Up Close: Strategies for Close Reading*; “11 Tips to Turn Every Student Into a Close Reader”; by Samantha Cleaver; The Great Books Foundation)

Close reading is not a skill that most students come to us with. Nurturing higher level skills takes time and lots of practice. You can use these tips to strengthen close reading in your classroom or with your own children at home.

Be a Close Reader Yourself Modeling close reading through your class discussion is as important as direct instruction in close reading.

Teach “Stretch Texts” The purpose of teaching close reading skills is to enable students to read increasingly complex texts over time. When choosing texts to use with students, think about the purpose behind each text. Look for stories or articles that raise authentic questions and could be interpreted differently depending on the background knowledge of each student. Be sure to assign “stretch texts”, which are texts that you wouldn’t expect students to read independently, such as a critical essay or short piece of philosophy.

Teach Students to Look for Evidence This is probably the most central skill of the Common Core standards. Push students to go beyond recounting facts and plot points. While planning, think about the higher order questions you can ask in class and in written assignments that require students to look for and provide evidence for the statements or claims they make.

Always Set a Purpose for Reading After students have read a text once, help them dig deeper by setting a specific purpose for reading it again. That purpose could be to track a concept or theme, or to analyze how an author uses a literary element or creates tone. This causes students to return to the text and really focus.

Differentiate Your Instruction Even if students aren’t able to close read a novel independently, they can still apply strategies to a passage. There are a number of ways to address students’ needs and a variety of entry points (oral reading of a text, working in small groups, use of picture books, as well as novels, short stories, and articles).

Focus on Making Connections Focus student reading experiences around connecting with and remembering the text. Ask questions that help you understand if students understand the text and where they need to dig deeper into the big ideas. Focus on how the text relates to what the student has previously read and what else they might learn about the topic after reading this selection.

Model it First If students are new to close reading, spend some time modeling how to think about a prompt/question or how to annotate the text. Use a document camera to project and model the process. After a few pages of guiding them/modeling for them, release the students to try it on their own.

Let Them Make Mistakes If students have misinterpreted the text, ask them to explain their thinking or help you see the connection they’ve made. This gives them the opportunity to practice finding textual evidence. The important thing is that students clarify and refine their thinking strategies, not that everyone has the same “right” answer.

Close Read Across the Curriculum Expand the process across the curriculum to other texts and content areas. Close reading can happen anywhere.

Use Student Questions to Drive Discussion Compile a list of student and teacher questions that come from the text. Review the list of questions with the students, identifying the ones that are similar and answering some of the factual questions that only require a short answer. Together, the class discusses the questions that are the most interesting and worthy of further exploration. This is a great way to help students learn to ask higher-order questions and to write good thesis statements.

Listen to Your Students When students’ questions and ideas about the text take the lead, the class will be much more invested in the reading. The role of the teacher will be to keep the students focused on the close reading process. If a student makes an assertion, can the class find the textual evidence for it? If not, why not? Is a new theory needed? As you probe into your students’ questions, you’ll learn more about where your students are and give them opportunities to engage deeper with the text.

FREE LDC Workshops

Please join the Kentucky Department of Education in partnership with Reach Associates to learn about the Literacy Design Collaborative. We are offering **FREE LDC Workshops** for teachers new to LDC and for teachers experienced with LDC. On June 9 (Experienced Training), 10 & 11 (Introductory Training), teachers from across the state will be taking advantage of these workshop days to learn about LDC and to work on designing LDC modules for classroom use.

June 9--Experienced LDC Training

June 10 & 11--Introductory Module Workshop (6-12)

June 10 & 11--Introductory Module Workshop (K-5) **Please note date change from the original flyer.*

Location: Embassy Suites, Lexington, KY

Times: 9:00-4:00

Registration is at www.kellyphilbeck.com.

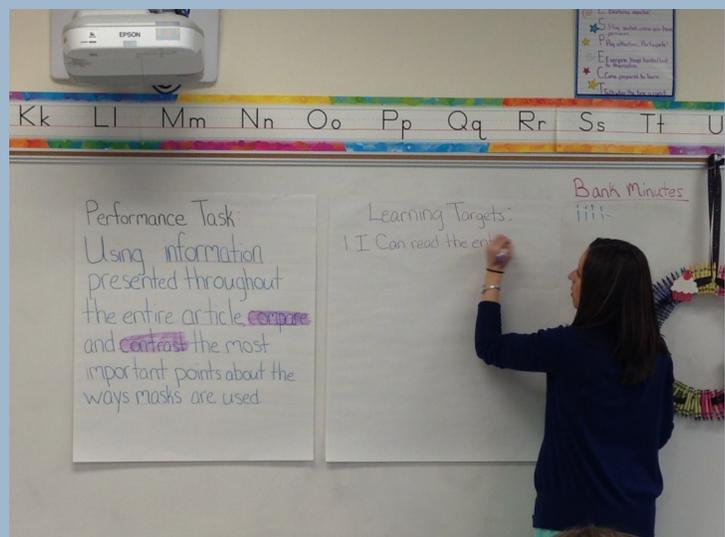
Learn how to use LDC to...

- naturally integrate reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening standards into a cohesive literacy module.
- design writing tasks to address standards.
- build an instructional ladder to strengthen students' ability to analyze tasks, cite evidence, take notes, apply vocabulary, develop speaking and listening skills, and engage in the stages of the writing process.
- use LDC's K-1, 2-3, 4-5 **NEW** template tasks and LDC's 6-12 Template Task Collection 2 for each of the three modes of writing.
- explore LDC's CoreTools features—Module Library, Mini-task Library, and Module Creation Tool. Perfect for ELA, science, social studies, and all specialty classes!

LDC also provides teachers with a powerful tool to address the domains of TPGES.

LDC in Action at EES

3rd grade teacher, Alexa Hardin, leads a teaching task deconstruction activity where her students develop the "I can" statements.



Happy June Birthdays!



Theresa Garrett	6/1	Judy Denton	6/16
Deborah Ishmael	6/1	Rick Johnson	6/17
Melissa Harmon	6/2	Joyce Dryden	6/17
Amanda Norris	6/2	Christopher Jones	6/17
Gregory Blanton	6/3	Rachel Robinson	6/18
Susan Viens	6/3	Allyson Martin	6/19
Sharon Elam	6/5	Rhonda Schwartz	6/20
Karen Kirby	6/8	Soundra Burrell	6/23
Charlene Hall	6/9	Shawna Singler	6/25
Evelyn Kelly	6/9	Jeff Perkins	6/26
Melissa Conley	6/11	Martin Brandenburg	6/27
John Vice	6/11	Kristin Horn	6/27
Jennifer Andrews	6/12	Gwendolyn Hargett	6/28
Julie Moore	6/13		

Cancelation Form for Summer Checks

In order to request that your Direct Deposit and/or Savings Deposit be canceled in order to receive your "summer checks" at the June 20, 2014 payroll date, you must complete a Cancelation Form. Forms are available from school secretaries or you may request a form from the Central Office. If you choose this option, once "summer checks" are finished and distributed, you will immediately be put back on direct deposit and/or savings for the new fiscal year.

Birth Announcements!

Congratulations to Melissa and Josh Plank on the birth of their son, Tanner Wade. Tanner was born on April 24, weighing 8 pounds 3 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches long. Tanner is welcomed home by his big brother, Trevor.

Congratulations to Corbin and Sarah Marshall on the birth of their daughter, Ivy Lyle. Ivy was born on May 1, weighing 7 pounds 8 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches long. Ivy is welcomed home by her big brother, Denton.

Congratulations to Cindy and Michael Combs on the birth of their son, Reese Alexander. Reese was born on May 2, weighing 7 pounds 8 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. Reese is welcomed home by his big brother, Michael.

Congratulations to Sadie and Matthew Hamm on the birth of their son, Jackson Wayne. Jackson was born on May 10, weighing 7 pounds and measuring 18.5 inches long. Jackson is welcomed by his grandmother, Angela Jackson.

