

# Fleming County Schools Flemingsburg Elementary School



## FES Friday Focus

February 2, 2018



### Positive Quote

"If a flower does not bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows not the flower." –A. den Heijer

### Happy Birthday

February 4- Kathy Davenport & Lidia Smith

February 5- Anita Murphy

### Weekly Events

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lesson Plans due in Google Drive or One Drive by 6 pm Sunday</li> <li>-Admin Team in Cowan's Office @ 8:15</li> <li>-Jennifer Stiedel-Jones @ FES</li> <li>-Third Grade Teachers have late run dismissal duty</li> <li>-FES New Teacher Meeting @ 3:45 in Library</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Library Check-Out Day</li> <li>-Third Grade Teachers have late run dismissal duty</li> <li>-Schoolwide PLC 3:45-5:15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--Grade Level PLCs in PLC Room</li> <li>-Jennifer Stiedel Jones, KDE Novice Reduction Coach, in grade level PLCs with FES</li> <li>-KTIP Cycle II Meetings Robinson &amp; Saunders</li> <li>-Third Grade Teachers have late run dismissal duty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Kevin @ NISL</li> <li>-KTIP Cycle II Meetings Messer &amp; Whaley</li> <li>-Admin Team in Cowan's Office @ 8:15</li> <li>-Third Grade Teachers have late run dismissal duty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Library Check-Out Day</li> <li>-Kevin @ NISL</li> <li>-Third Grade Teachers have late run dismissal duty</li> <li>-Academic Team Dance @ FES 6:00-8:00</li> </ul>

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### Upcoming Events

- SOS February 12, 2018 @ 2:15
- Testing Training @ FES February 13, 2018 @ 3:30
- SBDM February 20, 2018 @ 5:00 in FES Library—Notice the date has changed.
- Valentine Exchanges/Parties 1:45-2:30- February 16, 2018
- FCS New Teacher Induction Meeting- February 19, 2018
- FES Parent Cohort Meeting-February 19, 2018 @ 5:00 in FES Library
- FES Parent Cohort Meeting-February 26, 2018 @ 10:00 in PLC Room
- Schoolwide PLC February 27, 2018
- District-wide Vertical Team Meetings- March 6, 2018
- SOS March 12, 2018
- FCS New Teacher Induction Meeting-March 19, 2018

### Reminders

- Anyone wishing to submit an application to present at the Leading from KY Classroom Conference should do so by April 1<sup>st</sup>!
- February is Black History Month. Primary and Intermediate homerooms received a file of resources that can be used while planning instruction.
- Please remember to text anything you'd like posted to the FES social media pages to Kristen or Johna.
- W-2 forms can be picked up from the main office.
- As part of our school's formative quality review and our continuous improvement process, students in grades 4-6 will be asked to complete a survey within the next week. Intermediate teachers will receive an email containing the survey link.
- Please be sure to shut down your classroom computers/chrome books at the end of each day to conserve energy.
- Janice worked on the clothes closet over Winter Break. Please only add jeans or shirts to the closet that would fit elementary students. If you donate items, please make sure to take items out of bags and put them in the correct spot in the closet.
- ALL exterior doors to the building MUST be LOCKED at all times. This is essential to student and staff safety. If any students go out to recess after completing assignments, etc and are unaccompanied by an adult, the teacher must check the building door after the student exits.
- SBDM meetings are always on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 PM in our library. You are welcome to join us at any of the meetings. You can also access SBDM monthly meeting agendas and minutes on our school's webpage or by using this address:

<http://www.fleming.kyschools.us/5/Content2/64>

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### PLC Plus/Delta/Wishes

#### Plus

- \*Nice to learn from my colleagues! Thank you Bobbie Jo, Angel & Stephanie! (x8)
- \*Smekens Retelling Glove, Great resources for writing, Smekens was helpful & I can't wait to use it in my classroom(x5)
- \*Number talks was awesome! Can't wait to implement!(x5)
- \*Moving to the sessions/having transition time/loved having sessions(x3)
- \*Not rushed/fewer topics/easier to focus/great use of time/time conscientious
- \*Great refresher of strategies I can use in my classroom tomorrow!
- \*Learned a lot. Can't wait to use it!
- \*Well-planned fun for all!
- \*Applicable to all grades
- \*Snacks are always a plus! Thank you!

#### Delta

- \*Not quite enough time in the learning labs **Yes, timing is always a challenge! Remember the presenters are teachers @ FES and would love to sit down with anyone individually if you have questions or needs!**
- \*Email the link from Edmond's session **Stephanie did this directly following the PLC. Thanks Stephanie!**
- \*I wanted more time in the math talk session. **This may need to be a focus for another PLC! You can always see Angel or Bobbie Jo if you have specific needs.**
- \*More primary writing resources needed. **Please let me know specifically what you need.**
- \*Things felt rushed, especially the survey. (x2) **Could have done the survey on my own. We could have taken the survey on our own. The likelihood of all faculty being able to give their input before the window closed (February 9<sup>th</sup>) was much higher if we completed it as a staff. Because of completing it together, we already have the results back!**
- \*None (x17)
- \*No chocolate- I'm gaining weight because of medicine and had to be very limited on what I ate- darn. **Sorry- please let me know if you have anything directed toward us reaching our goal of distinction that I can help with!**
- \*Sanders and leg warmers (x3)

#### Wishes

- \*Loved the learning labs! I would like to have more learning labs! (x4)**Awesome! We will use stations again!**
- \*Our two sessions today would be great if they were hands-on! (x2)**We actually shifted from that concept today based on feedback from the last PLC session!**
- \*Science curriculum map (x2)**This definitely needs to be a big piece of the conversation at a district-wide PLC**
- \*Opportunity to go to Smekens training **We have several teachers that attended the training this summer and they all brought back the binders full of resources. Edmond, Mineer, Singer, Moran, Masters, Montgomery, Price and Meadows all attended last year and can help! Also please email me!**
- \*Would like to learn about whole brain teaching /learning strategies. **Good idea!**
- \*Social studies at lower grade levels. **Could you please email me specifics about what you mean (resources, training, teaching materials)?**
- \*RTI/groups/implementing technology **Please email specifics so we can help address the need!**
- \*I want to watch Bobbie Jo do a number talk sometime! **Great idea! Reach out to her and set up a time! Let me know if I can help!**
- \*Google Classroom share-out **Please email me specifics about the need.**
- \*I would love to watch Mrs. Vice do a number talk and have Mrs. Edmond demonstrate writing in my room. **Go for it! Reach out to them and collaborate! Let me know if I can help.**
- \*Would like to see a number talk for multiplication. **Perhaps Angel can help! Touch base with her- I'm sure she'd love to collaborate. Let me know if I can help!**
- \*Science-quick activities with little supplies **Another great idea for an upcoming PLC!**

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### Message from Kristen

"If a flower does not bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows not the flower." –A. den Heijer

I love this quote. It's important to the work we do each day. We face obstacles in student learning on a daily basis and are presented with the great opportunity to explore and experiment with ways to overcome and help our students succeed. We must remember to look our instruction in the mirror- could it be the way we taught a standard didn't meet an individual student's learning style or didn't click for whatever reason? This doesn't mean the instruction was poor, but rather that all students learn differently.

School is a lot like a garden. Some plants are resilient and can achieve great growth independently. There are others that require little attention- water here and there and they grow. Others need devoted green-thumbs with all the tools they come with.

Reading the quote above brought to mind the children's book, Leo the Late Bloomer. We must remember that when teaching a lesson, what worked for most of the class may not work for all. Much like what Leo needed, sometimes we have to teach the same standard three different times and in three different ways in order for everyone to get it. Teaching the same lesson in a louder voice or in a slower way won't cut it.

There are those rare incidences where your garden doesn't work out as planned that season. There is great value in reflecting in these occasions. There are lessons to be learned and changes to be made. As frustrating as this can be for schools and educators, we have to remember this is one of the best ways to learn and improve. Sometimes we have to fail to succeed.

Another thought about this quote: Have you ever thought about what a little Miracle Grow can do for every plant or student? Regardless of a student's current status, we can always push them further with the right mix. Just like what happens to the most beautiful flowers when they are fertilized regularly, providing students with the exact prescription of strategies and instruction can take their success further than they ever imagined.

Let's remember this quote in the days ahead. Let's challenge one another to do what is equitable for our students, and not always equal.

Have a great weekend,

-Kristen