



Philippi Covered Bridge

The Bridge

Volume 8, Issue 1

September, 2016



Important Dates

- Sept. 2 CE Day: No School for Students
- Sept. 5 Labor Day Holiday: Schools are Closed
- Sept. 9 Homecoming at Philip Barbour High School
- Sept. 12 Board Of Education Meets; 6 p.m.; BOE
- Sept. 26 Board Of Education Meets; 6 p.m.; BOE
- Oct. 10 Board Of Education Meets; 6 p.m.; BOE
- Oct. 18 TASC Exams Given and 19 at CTE Center
- Oct. 24 Board Of Education Meets; 6 p.m.; BOE
- Oct. 14 Last Day of 1st Nine-Weeks Grading Pd.
- Oct. 21 Report Cards Are Distributed
- Oct. 25 Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 27 Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 1 High School Parent-Teacher Conferences

Greetings Everyone,

I am thrilled to welcome back all returning Barbour County Schools team members and to welcome our newest members. The 2016-2017 school year promises to be one that will push us to accomplish even more than we did last year.

The school year started off well with Trista Dalton being named one of seven finalists for the West Virginia Teacher of the Year Award, and the opening of the new BC Bank Park facility. We improved our test scores from the previous year and will jump at least ten counties in regards to the proficiency levels of our students on the General Summative Assessments. While moving ten spots from 55th in the State to at least 45th in the State is a good start, it is just that, a good start. Our students have the ability to compete with anyone in the State and I believe we have the staff to push them to reach their capabilities.

We are in the process of downsizing the central office staff and this reduction will result in changing responsibilities for some staff members. Teresa Childers moved on to RESA VII and Glenn Sweet is retiring at the end of December. Connie Mundy was selected to take over the Title I, Elementary Curriculum and Pre-K responsibilities. We will post this week the position of Personnel and Attendance Director that will also be responsible for Secondary School Improvement and be the WVEIS county contact. I have taken on the role of District Test Coordinator and will be in charge of any School Building Authority requests that we make at the district level.

Our students deserve to get the best educations that we can give them and we need everyone to do their part if we are going to accomplish that objective. Serving our students takes a commitment of excellence from all of us, and I am hopeful that we will push each other to do what is right for our kids.

I hope that each of you has a safe and productive year.



Trista Dalton, County Teacher of the Year, Is 2016 State Finalist



Trista Dalton, middle left above, was named the 2016 Barbour County Teacher of the Year in a ceremony held at Philip Barbour High School in June. The county has received word that Trista was named one of seven outstanding educators selected as finalists for the 2016 West Virginia Teacher of the Year award.

Entering her 11th year as an educator, she has entered her sixth year at the high school complex, teaching traditional and New Tech mathematics classes. Well-respected by students and colleagues alike, Ms. Dalton challenges her students to constantly think, question, analyze and grow as individuals. She strives to create an atmosphere of mutual respect and open communication, a place where students know that they are cared for, where mistakes aren't criticized, and where successes are celebrated.

Rosa Grose Named Barbour County School Service Person of 2016

During the year-ending county assembly in June, school officials announced that Rosa Grose had been selected as the county's School Person of the Year for 2016. Rosa has begun her 20th year in the local system in a variety of capacities, and has served as the secretary at Philippi Middle School for the past six-plus years.



Ms. Grose's sunny disposition and willingness to pitch in as a volunteer when needed make her a popular member of the school staff. Among her greatest joys are helping and encouraging those who are struggling, academically or otherwise, and then celebrating with them when "the light goes on" and they find success. Among the tributes paid by fellow staff members and students were these words by her principal, David Neff: "She keeps the ship afloat... she's always been a dependable person looking out for the needs of the students and going the extra mile to improve things."

Kasson PTO Receives Equipment Grant from JJ Watt Foundation

The Kasson Middle School Eagles will be sporting new basketball uniforms this winter, courtesy of the J.J. Watt Foundation. Based on the premise of "Dream Big, Work Hard," the organization reflects the philosophy of its founder, who cites the early support of others for his eventual success in the NFL. The funding request of \$4000 was made by KEMS PTO officers, Tracy Knotts and Jennifer Phillips.



Warm Welcome Extended to New County School Staff

The opening of the 2016-17 school year finds a total of thirteen new professional and service staff joining the ranks at Barbour County Schools.

As September gets underway, the following personnel began adding their unique skills & talents



to provide the best possible educational experiences for Barbour County students. Best wishes for a productive and rewarding year are extended, alphabetically, to: Matthew Auvil, Bus Operator; Stephanie Burge, Teacher, PMS; Casey Cleavenger, Teacher, Itinerant/BMS; Janet Dudley, Child Nutrition, County Office; Heather Echard, Teacher, PES; Lara Hendershot; Teacher, BES; Stephanie Henthorne, Teacher, PMS; Ronald Keener, Principal, PBHS; Patricia Levesque-Gosnell, Teacher, PBHS; Sara Lindamood, Teacher, PMS; Toby Poling, Teacher, Itinerant/JES; Danielle Sanson, Teacher, PES; Kenadee Taylor, Interpreter/Aide, BMS.

Appreciation Expressed to Retirees

The Barbour County Board of Education, Superintendent, Jeffrey Woofert, and the administrative staff of Barbour County Schools have expressed appreciation for the dedication and service of the ten professional and service staff members who concluded their careers in education between July, 2015 and June, 2016. They were recognized at a countywide ceremony in June prior to the close of the school year. Best wishes for happy and healthy retirements are extended to the following employees, who represent some 300 years of experience:

- Patricia Cleavenger
- Marjorie George
- Cathy Mahoney
- Gary Marsh
- Tim McDaniel
- Agnes Murphy
- Deborah O'Brien
- Stephanie Short
- Rita Streets
- Janis Sweet



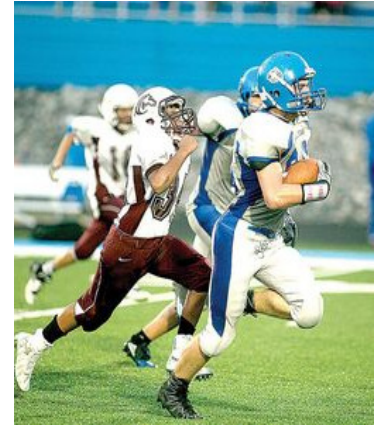
Mt. Vernon Garden Project Provides Harvest

Being careful not to miss even one red cherry tomato, fourth graders at Mt. Vernon Elementary School are shown gathering vegetables for the school salad bar. The children planted enough veggies to share with their families and the community through the summer. MVES principal, Ashley Workman, commended the students on their pride in the project and noted that they are excited about the upcoming pumpkin harvest in October. The school plans to plant one more crop as the weather cools...sugar snap peas in September.

Inaugural Barbour County Middle School Football Squad Has Strong Start

For the first time in county history, Barbour County is fielding a single, combined middle school football team. Student-athletes from Kasson, Belington and Philippi have joined forces to field a healthy roster of more than two dozen players. Declining numbers at PMS and BMS made the move a logical one, adding depth to the roster and more quality practice

opportunities. The Barbour squad has opened the 2016 season with convincing wins at Clay-Battelle and at home against South Middle School. The move has added interest to the new season and will afford players up to three years to blend before reaching the high school program. The new team is led by head coach, Nick Mayle, and assistant, Brandon Antion.



Barbour CTEC Offers Fall Healthcare Pathways Cluster; Spring Career Pathways Curriculum Being Planned

WEST VIRGINIA ADULT EDUCATION

Career Pathways



Healthcare Professions

Career Pathways Programs support the transition from adult education to the next step in an established occupational pathway in Career and Technical Education Centers or Community and Technical College Systems. Career Pathways courses help adult students develop the skills, content knowledge, and learning strategies they need to enter and succeed in the next step in the pathway and/or employment.

The Healthcare Professions Career Pathway includes:

- Exploration of various career paths within the medical field
- Review of human anatomy, physiology, and disease processes
- Introduction to healthcare systems and language
- Development of effective communication with clients and staff
- Overview of common technical skills required in healthcare
- Employability skills specific to health science careers
- Customer Service Certifications Levels I & II
- CPR/First Aid/AED Certification

Course Begins
September 27, 2016

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

For more information contact:

(304) 457-4807 ext. 379



— Odds 'N' Ends —

➤ **Recycling Success at PBHS:** Statistics compiled at the end of the 2015-16 school year at Philip Barbour High School show a success story regarding the recycling efforts of the staff, students and public. Program coordinator, James Poling, reported that the school collected over 8500 plastic bottles (500+ lbs.), over 2200 aluminum cans (64+ lbs.) and more than 12 tons of paper and cardboard. Spurred by a Keep America Beautiful / Coca Cola bin grant, the Environmental Science students spearheaded the effort. Where the recycling trailer needed to be emptied three times during all of 2014-15, the rate increased to every three-to-four weeks during 2016. The high school staff and students appreciate the cooperation of all in helping to keep the school and its grounds tidy and in conserving precious resources.

➤ **Fall TASC Testing Dates Announced:** Barbour County's Adult Education program has announced the first semester testing dates for the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC). The first session of the year will take place on October 19-20, with the second offering set for December 14-15. Those passing these high school equivalency exams can take a big step towards a better future. For more information about the TASC or preparation classes, please contact the Career and Technical Education Center at 304-457-4807.

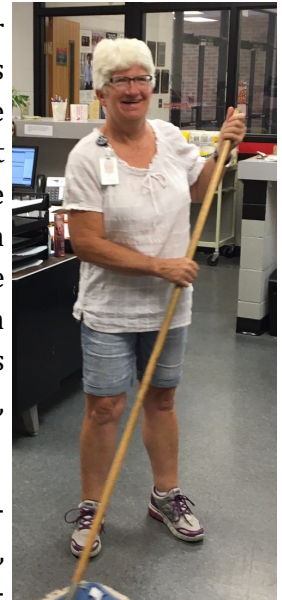
➤ **Elementary Science Fair Planned:** All students and teachers in grades 3-5 are invited to participate in the 2016 elementary science fair. The top three school-level winners in each grade will be eligible to participate in the county science fair, to

be held in the Philip Barbour High School auditorium, on Friday, December 9, beginning at 9:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Charla Reger at the BOE office at cjreger@k12.wv.us.



RESA 7 Names Barbour County's Mary Shaver as Service Person of the Year

RESA 7 has named Barbour County's Mary L. Shaver as its 2016 Service Person of the Year. Mary becomes the first local staff member to earn the award since the county began the regional participation. She currently serves as custodian at Kasson School, where she is beginning her fourth year, and 8th overall in the county.



Beyond the dependable completion of her daily duties, Mary is also an active volunteer at the school and in the community. Her training in maintenance areas helps tremendously at the school, and she helps oversee the KEMS garden project. Her supervisors and co-workers note her contagious smile and optimism, as she rarely misses a day and routinely goes beyond her job description to make the school shine.

JES, BES Summer Camp A Success!

Students from Belington and Junior Elementary Schools spent three wonderful summer weeks learning about "The World around Us." Made possible through a LIREC (Literacy in Rural Education through Collaboration) grant, the activity focused on learning about communities far and near, along with transportation and space topics. Featured were books that were read aloud, arts and crafts, lots of movement, and nutritious daily breakfasts and a snack to end the day. Special visits were made by the Belington Police Department and Emergency Squad, USDA Soil Conservation, the Junior Fire Department and Superintendent Woofert. The camp concluded with a family picnic and an assortment of fun events.