

Welcome,

Once again it is wonderful to note that special education in Sevier County has gotten off to a great start and has already proven to be productive for our students. This successful start is due to the collaboration and cooperation that exists among teachers, administrators, and parents. It is very clear that everyone is focused on the students and meeting their needs.

I recently had the opportunity to visit with individuals from several school systems across the state and have gained some good insights and ideas. One particular practice that seemed to be very successful and highly recommended is based on Catching Kids Up by Max Thompson. He promotes a balance between preview of concepts and activities that will be taught in the general education classroom and any needed remediation that may need to follow the instruction. The general idea is for students to be pre-introduced to the concepts and vocabulary at some point before receiving the actual instruction. Remediation, as needed, would then follow. Positive comments about this practice came up in several different school systems, and I felt that it was interesting and worthy of sharing.

As much as I enjoyed gathering new ideas and insights, even more enjoyable was sharing with others the many effective strategies being implemented in our own schools. I am very proud of the commitment and dedication demonstrated daily in classrooms in all our schools. I encourage everyone to use this newsletter to share successes, specific ideas and strategies that you have found useful with all of us. Please contact Dr. Kaye Thomas with ideas or success stories you would like to share. Thank you for all you do.

Sandy Enloe

Guidance and Self-Discipline

Cecil L. Blankenship

As a teacher, you are one of the most influential people in a student's life. Your attitudes toward guidance and self-discipline will lay the groundwork for a student's attitude, self-concept and emotional feelings. A student's attitude toward challenges and setbacks in life are strongly influenced by your own reactions to life. In order for a student to develop the courage and strength to face challenges in life, he/she needs a strong role model with whom to identify. A strong role model, such as the teacher, assists a student in developing a strong self-identity, which includes developing pride in his/her self, family, school and culture. Students also need to learn self-discipline and need to be encouraged to stick to a task until it is complete. Two of the most important ingredients for success in life are: (1) a good attitude toward self, others and work, and (2) the willingness to stick with a job until it is complete.

A teacher can help instill pride and self-discipline in a student by encouraging him/her to take on new challenges in life with the fullest intent of succeeding. If, however, he/she fails, help the student understand that most failures are only temporary and that tomorrow is a new day and the sun will rise once again with a new opportunity for success.

Did you know... that over 3,000 students have been sentenced to the Sevier County Juvenile Detention Center over the past five years? Whether these students spend one day or several months at the detention center, they must be educated while they are there. Administrators met with Director Steve Layman to discuss how to better meet the needs of these students. Acquiring books and lesson plans for detainees is a major problem. The group decided to handle the situation much like the ALC. After a call from the detention center, the school will fax lesson plans. Parents will be responsible for bringing the books. You may contact Mike Pearson, teacher, at mikepearson@sevier.org for more information.



AREA 10 SPECIAL OLYMPICS
2006-2007

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Area 10 Bowling	Oct. 5	9:45	West End Lanes
Area 10 Adult Bowling	Oct. 7	10:00	West End Lanes
<i>State Fall Tournament Bowling/Soccer</i>	<i>Oct. 22-23</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Hendersonville, TN</i>
Area 10 Basketball	Nov. 17 (snow date - Nov. 21)	9:45	Seymour
Area 10 Adult Basketball	Dec. 9	10:11	Russellville Primary
Area 10 Skills (basketball/volleyball)	Jan 19 (Jan. 23)	9:45	Russellville Intermediate
<i>State Winter Games</i>	<i>Jan. 28-30</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Gatlinburg, TN</i>
Area 10 Volleyball	Feb 9 (Feb. 13)	9:45	Morristown East High
<i>State Unified Basketball</i>	<i>March 2-3</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Memphis, TN</i>
Area 10 Adult Volleyball	March 10	10:00	Russellville Primary
Area 10 Aquatics	March 13 (Mar. 14)	9:45	Carson-Newman
<i>State Traditional Basketball</i>	<i>March 16- 17</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
Area 10 Powerlifting	March 23	9:45	Rutledge High
Area 10 Track and Field	April 11-12 (April 13)	9:45	Jefferson County High
<i>State Summer Games</i>	<i>May 18-19</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>