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### Johnson City Schools to Begin Spring Testing

TCAP has been the state’s testing program since 1988, and it includes TNReady, the state’s assessments in math, English language arts, social studies, and science. As the state has transitioned to higher academic standards over the past several years, and will continue to do so, our tests have become better aligned to what educators are teaching. The assessments now include rigorous questions that measure students’ writing, critical thinking, and problem solving skills. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take TNReady April 17 through May 5.

The following chart provides the district’s testing information for grades 3-8.

Grade	English/ Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies*
<b>3</b>	<b>Total time: 195 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 115 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 104 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Total time: 195 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 115 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 95 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Total time: 195 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 115 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 95 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Total time: 230 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 125 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 95 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Total time: 230 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 125 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 95 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Total time: 230 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 125 minutes</b>	<b>Total time: 95 minutes</b>	<b>Field test: 50 minutes</b>

\*Field testing is quality control for future test items. The social studies scores are not applied toward students’ test scores.

Science Hill students will take End-Of-Course (EOC) exams April 17 through May 5.

### Cherokee Elementary - Art Night

Students, parents, and staff on Thursday, March 9th, enjoyed a successful Art Night at Cherokee Elementary. Students and parents were able to walk the halls and enjoy the art of all students. In addition to the displayed art, students were encouraged to paint t-shirts and make and take flower collages. The McKinny Art Center brought in a craft for the children to make. Ten students executed talent show performances. There was also a photo opportunity for students to participate in: “Wings, What Lifts You Up?”



## Fairmont Elementary School - Science Club



What's all the Friday excitement about after school at Fairmont? It's Science Club at Fairmont! The Science Club at Fairmont started this year as an extension of the Second Edition, formerly Homework Club. The Science Club's goals are STEAM-based with many creative experiments and projects. The program is funded by the 21st CCLC grant. Terry Jones, coordinator, teaches the class along with Lori Sheehan, Ann Morrison, Jordan Jones, and Jan Blair. They plan lessons using chemistry, physics, biology, and geology elements to increase Math and Science vocabulary and non-fiction reading. The students meet in the cafeteria as they work together on their projects and experiments. The Science Club students who are in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade have a blast. For one of the October experiments, they created a form explosion in pumpkins to demonstrate a chemical reaction. Every Friday new students, who have heard about all the fun, join the growing group. Attending Second Edition programs like Science Club helps students complete

homework, improve organization skills, gain in achievement and be physically healthy. In addition, Science Club now allows students to experience motivating STEAM activities every Friday afternoon. There are plans to expand the club next year and to incorporate even more enriching activities.



## Lake Ridge Elementary School - Technology Transformation Continues

Lake Ridge continues to dream big and bring innovation, creativity, and collaboration to our students. All third and fourth grade classrooms recently went one-to-one with student laptops, and K-2 classrooms have benefitted from the addition of more tablets, allowing more students to access a variety of resources each day. The Library Media Center has added to its makerspace, and students have benefitted greatly. Students are able to explore, build, create, and utilize resources such as a 3-D printer, 3-D pens, ozobots, and building materials. This space has become the innovation hub for the school as students build problem-solving and critical thinking skills. In conjunction with the increased emphasis on technology, a team of teachers worked with students in the area of digital citizenship, and Lake Ridge was recognized as a Common Sense Certified School in the area of Digital Citizenship. This distinction recognizes Lake Ridge as a school that works to help students with the safe and appropriate use of technology. "We applaud the faculty and staff of Lake Ridge for embracing digital citizenship as an important part of their students' education," said Jessica Lindl, Head of Common Sense Education. "Lake Ridge deserves high praise for giving its students the foundational skills they need to compete and succeed in the 21st-century workplace and participate ethically in society at large." We feel our students now have the resources, tools, and training to successfully implement technology at an even higher level than before.



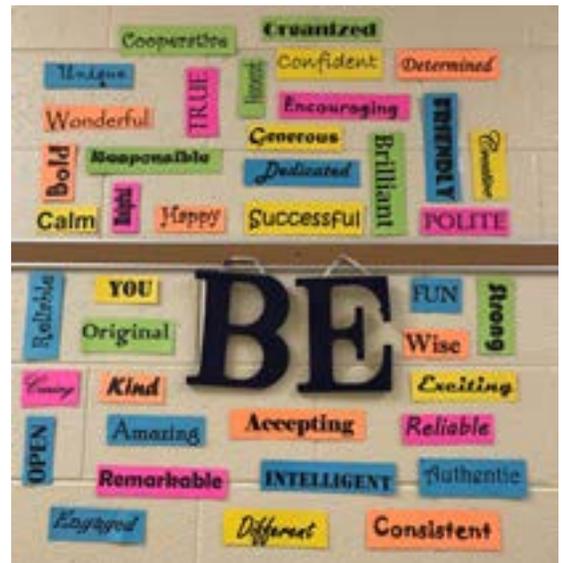
## Mountain View Elementary School - Family Reading Camp-Out Night



Mountain View just wrapped up our Book Fair activities. We had our “All for Books” campaign the week of February 27th. During the week of March 6th, we had our Book Fair and Spirit Week. On Thursday, March 9, 2017, we hosted “Family Camp-Out” Night! Over 150 students, families, teachers, and staff enjoyed shopping at the Book Fair and dinner. The highlight of the evening was a live magic show performance by Sherry Grant from Sevierville, Tennessee. The performance, “Eggs, Elephants, Hats, and Ham,” was centered on Dr. Seuss. It wowed the crowd and left them wanting more! Mrs. Grant emphasized the importance of reading and where it can take you, even if you never leave home! We would like to thank our students, families, teachers, and staff for supporting our Book Fair!

## North Side Elementary School - Friendship & Life Skills

It has been a wonderful start to our second semester around North Side. Mrs. Robinson, our guidance counselor, has been working with students on friendship skills and learning how to make good choices when we get “mad/angry.” Most classes who earned their special celebration of life skills enjoyed either a fun centers guidance lesson or a special movie on friendship. This was an opportunity to observe students sharing, taking turns, and problem-solving. For the last nine weeks, we are looking forward to completing our unit on anger/mad feelings. The next guidance units of study will be extending our Life Skills practice and learning about how to be a good citizen inside and out of the school.



## South Side Elementary School - Digital Learning Day



It was very odd at South Side that day; The Cat in the Hat came to play. He snuck in and stole our favorite snack and promised without some work, we would not get it back. So to our classes we ran to find our digital codes, but the work we had to do took us down different roads. STEAM projects, reading, writing, and math each grade set out on their own path. A code was given after all our tasks were complete; we were that much closer to eating our sweet treat. Together we met to watch Dr. Littleford open the locks, so the Cat in the Hat left our snacks in the box. Digital Learning Day was a success and so much fun! Digital learning tasks for everyone.

## Towne Acres Elementary - Second Grade Success

Thanks to a generous donation Towne Acres' second graders are becoming familiar with several technology resources. Earlier this school year, fifteen HP Stream laptops were anonymously donated to Towne Acres and are now being used by second-grade students. Students are using their new HP Streams to engage in programs which provide standards-based instruction and review, like FrontRow and Study Island. The donation has also helped students complete daily routines more efficiently, including Accelerated Reading and XtraMath. These laptops are creating new opportunities as well. Students are using their devices for Kahoot and Plicker quizzes. These programs provide great review opportunities, as well as instant feedback for teachers. Along with the guidance of their teachers, Towne Acres' second graders are learning how to be positive digital citizens. We are thankful that our students will be prepared to continue their digital learning and enter into our digital society.



## Woodland Elementary - Engaging Classrooms



Woodland Elementary School's faculty and staff want the very best for their students - our common mission throughout the district. In particular, the Woodland staff consistently seeks to learn from the very best. With that guiding compass in mind, four of Woodland's teachers traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, to visit the Ron Clark Academy during the fall semester. A former Disney Teacher of the Year and New York Times bestselling author, Ron Clark, provides educators with inspiring and transformative methods within a passionate school culture. For an example, Clark encourages educators to stand upon their desks as a reminder "that we must constantly look at things in a different way." Mary Archer, Jessica Belcher, John Hughes, and Chris Simerly were inspired by Clark's team and their innovative strategies for motivating students to learn. Upon their return to Woodland, the visiting team shared several inspirational best practices with the entire faculty and

staff. They are providing ongoing job-embedded professional development to support the widespread implementation of these innovative strategies. Woodland educators are lifelong learners always willing to go above and beyond to help all students "soar with greatness!"

## Indian Trail Intermediate - Gives Back to Community

Indian Trail Intermediate knows how to help those in need. Many students and groups have pulled together to complete projects and collect donations with helping individuals and organizations in mind. On Wolf Hall, students collect can pop tabs throughout the year and recycle the tabs and use the funds to donate to the Ronald McDonald House. These donations help provide for the children and families staying at the House. In addition, Wolf Hall is planning a trip to a local nursing home where they will perform and play games with the residents. Student Ambassadors have organized several projects: a clothing drive for Anna's Closet, the resource used for students who are in need of clothes in emergencies. On "Teddy Tuesday," donations were collected for the fund dedicated to the memory of ITIS' head custodian; students who cannot afford lunch have access to this account. This ambitious group of leaders has also assembled a food drive to help the animals of the Washington County Shelter. Lastly, ELA teacher Mrs. Wilcox, inspired by 6th grade novels relating to Afghanistan and WWII, is coordinating an "Adopt a Soldier" program in which her students write letters of gratitude and send care packages to their soldier stationed in Afghanistan.



## Liberty Bell Middle - 2017 State-Wide Day of Percussion



The 8th Grade Percussion Ensemble had the great honor of performing at the 2017 State-Wide Day of Percussion. The one-day event was held at Vanderbilt University on Saturday, March 4th. Ten groups were selected to perform and LBMS was the ONLY middle school group to receive that honor. Two groups were high school ensembles (Science Hill was one of them!) and the rest were from the major universities across the state. This was a sensational opportunity for these young musicians, and they were excited to be able to represent Johnson City Schools. The students participated in clinics and demonstration sessions throughout the remainder of their day, and they were thrilled to

meet with Dan Moore, a marimba specialist. Members of the LBMS 8th Grade Percussion Ensemble are: Eric Mullikin, Preston Trent, Caleb Bumpass, Reid Preston, Luke Lawson, McKinley Reed, Kate Onks, Derrick Fylde, and Ethan Rodriguez. The ensemble is under the direction of Mr. Kevin Howard, LBMS Band Director.

## Science Hill High School - Showstoppers

The Science Hill High School Showstoppers provide opportunities for students to participate in a variety of theatrical performances. The Showstoppers produce two major productions per year, participate in acting and speaking tournaments throughout the state, and perform in improvisational acting shows from September to May. In October, the Showstoppers performed Neil Simon's comedy "Fools" in the Showstopper "Studio 535" performance venue and will be performing the comedy "The Grimm Brothers Spectaculathon" on March 24th and 25th in Science Hill Auditorium. The Showstoppers have also



attended six competitions this year, winning over 130 individual awards and five team sweepstakes awards. The Showstoppers have also hosted four improvisational acting performances in "Studio 535," with two more shows scheduled on April 21st and May 19th. Along with the "Grimm" production, the Showstoppers are currently working on a one-act play and two interpreter's theatre performances for the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League competition in Memphis. Look for the Showstopper Showcase performance featuring these group performances in April! For more information about Showstoppers, contact Richard Marshall at 232-2161.

## Johnson City Public Schools Foundation Field Trip



The Johnson City Public Schools Foundation has been taking field trips to area schools. Visiting in classrooms where the Foundation has awarded grants is a great way to see how funds are being used. In every visit, both students and teachers have been excited to show Foundation board members their new purchases. The field trips have included visits to Penny Reece's first grade classroom at Woodland where students were using Ozobots, Robots, and iPads to learn coding skills. At Liberty Bell Middle School board members learned how a creative use of a familiar tool (specially designed comic books) were used to teach important science concepts in Chris Bowen's classroom. In the library of LBMS, Dr. Hawley has used Foundation grant funds to purchase different tools for her Makerspace area of the library. Going to the library has taken on a whole new meaning for students

who can now design and print 3-D objects, work with science concept kits, and use Legos and other building materials to solve problems. More field trips are planned for the future as a new round of teacher grant requests will be funded soon. If you would like to donate to fund more teacher grants, please email [foundation@jcschools.org](mailto:foundation@jcschools.org) for more information. Your donation is tax deductible.

## For Your Information!



The Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH) has issued the following immunization requirements for students entering 7th grade.

Students must show proof of two immunizations:

- **Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster ("Tdap")**
- **Verification of immunity to Varicella (chickenpox) – two doses or date of disease**

Please provide documentation of these immunizations on an official Tennessee Certificate of Immunization. This documentation can be faxed directly to the Office of School Nurses at 218-0544 or delivered to the office at Indian Trail Intermediate School by May 25. Your child will not be able to attend the first day of 7th grade without this documentation.

Please contact your primary care physician or the Johnson City/Washington County Health Department to schedule an appointment.

District E-Newsletter is published by the Johnson City Schools Communication Department.

For more information contact the Communications Department at (423) 434-5233; e-mail: [burdm@jcschools.org](mailto:burdm@jcschools.org), or write to Johnson City Schools, P.O. Box 1517, Johnson City, TN 37605