

# Johnson City Schools E - Newsletter

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## Letter from Dr. Richard Bales

Dear JCS Family,

As I embark on a new phase in my life, I come to the full realization that dreams really do come true. My time spent as an educator has been so rewarding. Teaching and learning have been integral to my life. I remember so fondly my first teacher, my first teaching assignment with my own students, my first school serving as principal and most recently serving as your superintendent for the Johnson City Schools.



Dreams are fueled by new learning. Each of us are poised to provide new learning for those around us. Whether you are a teacher, a parent, a business owner and employer, or simply a best friend. We have the power to make dreams come true by believing in someone and sharing our knowledge.

It has been a privilege to dream and learn with and from each of you. As you begin the new school year in August, I encourage you to continue to make dreams come true for those around you. New learning will always be powerful. You, my friends and colleagues, are the dream makers. Keep dreaming and learning!

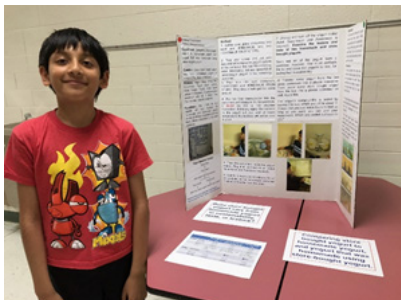
Until we meet again,

*Richard W. Bales*

Richard W. Bales



## Cherokee Elementary - Science Fair Winner



Science Fair winner from Cherokee placed first in biological division at the ETSU's Science Fair. Fourth grade student, Shreyas Sing, did a great job of representing Cherokee Elementary. We are extremely proud of his accomplishment. "According to my results, the Asian culture of yogurt was the best in taste and received the most votes for excellent, the best rank a tester could give on the taste of a yogurt," said Shreyas. "On the other hand, the other two received worse results, and I should mention that the store-bought yogurt was considered chunky by five people! After this, I decided I would stick to the yogurt my mom makes!" Way to go Shreyas!

## Fairmont Elementary School - The Name of the Game is **READING!**

Everywhere you look at Fairmont, in their spare time, students can be found enjoying a good book! This school year at Fairmont students have read 173,460 books with 26,700 being read on MyOn! One way book access is made easier is that several teachers are using a free checkout system for classroom library checkout. The program is called Classroom Organizer that is attached to the Book Source website. It allows students to use their iPads to check out books from the classroom library with minimum intervention from the teacher and it is free! You can find this wonderful resource at: <https://classroom.booksource.com/default.aspx>. Another opportunity to gain easy book access over the summer is through MyOn online and the library at Fairmont is open on selected days and times for checkout to our students. Keep reading, keep succeeding!



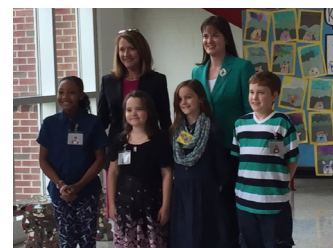
## Lake Ridge Elementary School - **STEM Day**



On May 10, Lake Ridge School held its annual STEM Day. Students had the opportunity to learn more about STEM-related careers and explore technology currently in the school. Students were able to learn from representatives from the Johnson City Power Board, TVA, Hands-On Museum, and Victory Orthotics. Students were also able to spend time in our Explore and Discovery area where they were able to engage with different technology centers. Stations were set up for coding, robotics, 3D printing, 3D pens, and other Maker-space activities. The excitement was evident throughout the day and was summed up by one of the kindergarten students who said, "STEM Day is the best day ever!" We hope the day will inspire our students to dream big and reach high!

## Mountain View Elementary School - **Mustang Pride**

Like most schools, we have been very engaged with end of the school year activities. However, over the last month, we've had a couple of very special events at our school. Mountain View welcomed Dr. Candice McQueen (Tennessee's Commissioner of Education) and Mrs. Crissy Haslam (wife of Governor Bill Haslam) on Tuesday, April 25, as a part of The Classroom Chronicles Tour. Dr. McQueen and Mrs. Haslam spent time visiting classrooms, reading with students, and talking to students and teachers. Both ladies shared how impressed they were with the love of reading demonstrated by the students at our school. On May 4, Mountain View held the "Evening of the Arts" Program. This annual program showcases the performing arts that are unique in Johnson City. The performance featured students in ballet, chorus, and strings. The evening was filled with entertainment. We are very proud of all that our students have accomplished this school year!





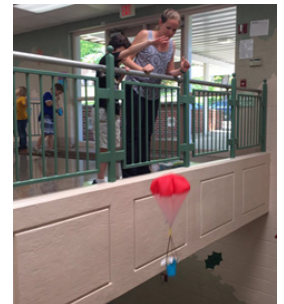
## North Side Elementary School - PreK's Field Trip to Bright's Zoo



PreK spent the last nine weeks preparing for summer and the next school year. Children have been busy spending their time on end of the year field trips. PreK spent weeks learning about zoo animals and exotic animals. We made lots of arts and crafts during class time and were able to take our field trip to Bright's Zoo in Limestone. Children experienced seeing lots of new animals and feeding giraffes. After the field trip, students spent their time preparing for their end of the year program. The students created props for the program through painting and cutting different items. Our programs have featured lots of songs and books about Pete the Cat. Our children worked hard and sang their hearts out for their families.

## South Side Elementary School - Digital Learning Day Take 2!

Our first digital learning day at South Side was such a success, we decided it was time for another one! Students at South Side were sent on a top secret NASA mission to explore different planets in outer space. Their mission was unlocked by scanning QR codes that revealed different tasks. Each grade needed to complete all tasks to gain levels towards reaching their ultimate goal. After grade groups completed their tasks and explored uncharted territory on a new planet; they received a code that opened a box with a prize inside! Tasks included digital presents on their planet and creating safe landing devices. The day closed with a school wide assembly where students watched and helped fly a real drone! The whole school enjoyed taking a different approach to traditional lessons!



## Towne Acres Elementary - 50 Years Tell a Story



This year marks the 50th anniversary of Towne Acres Elementary School. May 5th was a day of celebration for the faculty, staff, and students of our school. Students spent the morning studying major events, fashion trends, music, and people from the past five decades to help gain an idea of how our world has changed since Towne Acres opened. Thanks to our wonderful PTA, students continued the celebration by having some delicious cake at lunch. After lunch, teachers and students enjoyed a show put on by the ETSU Jazz Band and Gray-

scale Choir. This was a great opportunity for students to experience a live concert and interact with a great performance. Finally, we ended the day with a pep rally put on by our PTA and cheerleaders. We also took this time to celebrate Dr. Barnett's time at Towne Acres and his new position as Superintendent of schools. A lot has happened over the past 50 years, and we are excited to see where the next 50 will take Towne Acres!

## Woodland Elementary - Read to Be Ready

In the last year, Tennessee residents have likely heard the phrase "Read to Be Ready," but what exactly does it mean? "Read to Be Ready" is the campaign launched by Tennessee's Commissioner of Education and Governor to unite all Tennessee stakeholders around one goal: By 2025, 75% of third-grade students will be reading at or above grade level. Woodland Elementary is taking purposeful steps to help reach this goal. Nine Woodland teachers were selected to receive intensive coaching to improve their understanding of content and student learning with the aim of improving instructional practice. At a recent family involvement event, Woodland parents were presented with information about the initiative and how they can help their young readers. In addition, at the school's last faculty meeting, all teachers were updated on this year's "Read to Be Ready" progress and were shown effective vocabulary strategies to implement. Students at Woodland Read to learn about something of substance, and their teachers are helping them utilize the skills of reading to gain the knowledge and understanding needed to Be Ready for college or the workforce upon high school graduation!



## Indian Trail Intermediate - Students Prepare to Attend and Depart



As the end of the year approaches, students throughout Johnson City Schools are preparing for change. Next year, 4th graders will move from their elementary schools to 5th grade at Indian Trail Intermediate. Indian Trail's 6th graders will move on to 7th grade at Liberty Bell Middle. On May 8 and 10, 4th graders and their families took a guided tour of the expansive building and were given an opportunity to ask questions about curriculum, related arts, and transportation. While some of the students and their parents can feel overwhelmed at first, faculty tour guides assure them that the team structure of the school makes it easier for newcomers to adapt. Indian Trail 6th graders toured Liberty Bell on May 15 and 16 with their classmates

to witness a typical school day. LBMS teachers gave them a tour of the three academic buildings, as well as the gym and cafeteria, and 6th graders were able to see how large the campus is and ask questions. Students and their families will also have orientation on parent night.

## Liberty Bell Middle - Ten Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse

Liberty Bell's brand-new drama club, the Patriot Players, had their inaugural production of "Ten Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse" by Dan Zolidis in early May. They worked hard on every aspect of the show including costumes, makeup, set design, scene construction, and making props along with being wonderful actors. They performed not only three weekend shows for the public, but also did four shows in a single day for their peers, teachers, and administrators! Each performance was practically flawless, and the players were nothing short of amazing. The best part was a comment from 7th grade math teacher, Theresa Bumgarner, who said, "I don't know what you've done with these kids, but Gloria has found her voice! She has so much confidence now after being in this show!" For co-sponsors Lynnea Hunter (7th ELA) and Emily Broadhead (chorus) this was worth every minute of hard work. We look forward to next school year and the second season of the Patriot Players!



## Science Hill High School - Solar Go-Kart Team



The Science Hill Solar Go-Kart team participated in the inaugural Upper East Tennessee Go-Kart Challenge. The event was held at Bristol Motor Speedway. The team finished 12th in the speed race, 9th in the endurance race and 4th in the car show. We finished tied for 11th place overall. The team performed well, overcoming several problems that arose during testing, including the destruction of the drive motor due to overheating. The team had to learn electrical wiring, welding and construction techniques as well as how to incorporate the solar panels. Overall it was an outstanding learning experience. The team is looking forward to next year's competition, and will definitely be finishing better. Special thanks to Dr. Flanary who administered the race this year, Dr. Decker and Brent Sluder and the welding department.

# Congratulations Johnson City PTAs!

At the Tennessee PTA Convention in April the following PTAs, students and administrators were recognized for excellence.

**Tennessee PTA  
Outstanding  
Superintendent**  
Dr. Richard Bales

**Tennessee PTA  
Outstanding  
Principal**  
Mr. James Jacobs

**Tennessee PTA  
Outstanding Local Unit  
High School**  
Science Hill

## Tennessee PTA Partnership Awards

**Advocacy  
Award of Excellence**  
Liberty Bell, Science Hill  
**Award of Merit**

**Collaborating with  
the Community  
Award of Merit**  
Indian Trail,  
Science Hill

**Student Success  
Award of Excellence**  
Science Hill  
**Award of Merit**  
Woodland, Indian Trail,

**Mary Jo Clark Volunteer-  
ing Service Award**  
**Award of Excellence**  
Science Hill  
**Award of Merit**  
Liberty Bell, Indian Trail, Johnson  
City Council of PTAs

**School Decision  
Making  
Award of Excellence**  
Science Hill  
**Award of Merit**  
Liberty Bell, Johnson City

**Communicating  
Award of Excellence**  
Science Hill  
**Award of Merit**  
Indian Trail

### Student Winners

#### Reflections Winners

Sophie Gaudiano	Dance Choreography	Science Hill
Elizabeth Miller	Dance Choreography	Science Hill
Ansley Reed	Film Production	Indian Trail
Nathan Conner	Film Production	Indian Trail
Elizabeth Treece	Film Production	Science Hill
Diana Dalton	Film Production	Science Hill
Diana Dalton	Literature	Science Hill
Jordan Hallman	Photography	Liberty Bell
Jubilee Adkins	Visual Arts	Woodland
Annabelle Eanes	Visual Arts	Woodland
Evan Luke Brown	Visual Arts	Cherokee

#### Safety Poster Competition Winners:

“Safety starts at home”

Rushil Patel	Towne Acres
James Mcallister	Towne Acres
Rhianna Whitehorn	Fairmont
Vedant Patel	Towne Acres
Katharine Ning	Liberty Bell
Ella Turner	Indian Trail
Sermyah Mayo	Liberty Bell

#### Citizenship Essay Competition

##### Winners:

“How can I be a responsible citizen?”

Inaaya Luqman Aziz	Towne Acres
Yogi Patel	Indian Trail
Sarah Nipper	Indian Trail

#### Iris Award

One member for every child in the school  
Towne Acres – One of 6 schools in the state

#### Membership Challenge Award

16% increase over last year  
Towne Acres

#### Lois Jean White Leadership Enhancement Award

Indian Trail – only school in the state

#### 300 hours of power

Woodland – one of 3 schools in the state

#### Apple Award

100 percent teachers and faculty

Fairmont	Mountain View
Indian Trail	Towne Acres
Lake Ridge	Woodland

#### Early Bird Award

Cherokee	Liberty Bell
Fairmont	Mountain View
Indian Trail	Science Hill
Lake Ridge	Southside
	Towne Acres



## JCSPF - SURPRISE! Celebrates Success

The Johnson City Public Schools Foundation is helping celebrate student success through scholarships and awards. Founded in 1990, the Foundation was established to fund innovative programs and activities in our schools. As an organization with 501(c)3 status, several individuals and groups use the Foundation to provide scholarships to Science Hill High School graduating seniors. The Foundation holds the funds for the scholarships and provides the donors with a tax-free process for their donations. More than \$11,157,836 in scholarships and awards has been offered to this year's senior class. The Johnson City Public Schools Foundation is honored to play a part in recognizing outstanding student achievement in Johnson City Schools.



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## For Your Information!

### Science Hill's Graduation Moved to Mini-Dome

Science Hill's Graduation will be held in the E.T.S.U. Mini-Dome on Saturday, May 27 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Guests may park in lots located on the West Side of the Dome. Handicapped parking is available on 1st and 2nd levels of the parking garage. General seating is available on both sides of the Dome. Handicapped seating and special seating for hearing-impaired individuals will be located on the Dome floor. For questions, please contact 423-439-7103.

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, or write to Johnson City Schools, P.O. Box 1517, Johnson City, TN 37605

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.

Johnson City Schools prohibits discriminations on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability. Johnson City Schools does not condone or practice discrimination in admission or access to, treatment of, or employment in, its programs or activities. Any person who feels he or she has been discriminated against may make an inquiry or file a complaint.