

WILDCAT BULLETIN



Logan-Rogersville R-VIII
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Opportunity ~ Success ~ Excellence

Winter 2009

LOOKING FORWARD IN DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES

Michael J. Tucker, Ed.D.
Superintendent

We are fortunate that the Logan-Rogersville school district and community has had a tradition of high expectation. It is high expectations that encourages teachers to teach to their best and motivates students to achieve at their fullest potential. These expectations must not be diminished even during difficult economic times.

The State of Missouri remains focused on the task of educating Missouri's children even as budget issues continue to be addressed. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is embarking on the Race To The Top (RT3) initiative proposed by the Federal Government. The effort includes a focus on enhancing standards and assessments, improving the collection and use of data, increasing teacher effectiveness and achieving

equity in teacher distribution, and turning around struggling schools. The State of Missouri hopes to benefit from the RT3 initiative's competitive grant process in the coming years.

The Logan-Rogersville R-VIII School District is not immune from the current economic recession. In recent months we have seen a decline in local property tax revenues, sales tax revenue, and gaming revenues allocated to school districts from the passage of Proposition A last fall. Diminishing revenues require that the district look closely at fund balances and expenditures to make budget adjustments throughout the fiscal year. In October, the Governor's Office announced cuts in the state budget that directly impacted public education. Included in the cuts are reductions in Transportation (\$15,806,130), Character Education (\$375,000), Early Grade Liter-

acy (\$80,000), the Missouri Virtual School (\$2,328,000), and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Salaries and Expenses (\$873,184). We will continue to monitor the state budget as the year progresses and will pay close attention to the State of the State Address by Governor Nixon in January to see if further cuts to education are forthcoming.

As we look forward the Logan-Rogersville school district remains committed to the task of providing our children a high quality education. We greatly value the support of our community and will work to be good stewards of the resources that you provide the district. It is through your support and encouragement that students are provided educational **Opportunity**, they experience **Success** in the classroom, and are able to realize **Excellence** along the way.

THIS MESSAGE IS FROM ...

Shawn Randles, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent

The addition of a mass notification system, known as AlertNow, is fully operational and has delivered approximately seven messages thus far. The first test and message was delivered Thursday, August 13, 2009, at 6:15 PM to every student's home phone number. Since the initial test we have used the notification system for

reminders ranging from Parent Teacher Conference to early release. All messages delivered to date by the notification system have been non-emergency.

In addition to an emergency, the notification system is able to conduct surveys, send emails, and even translate in various languages. Near the end of the school year we will be conducting a survey via the notification system to garner your feedback.

Thank you for keeping all student contact information up to date and for working with the Logan-Rogersville School District to create the SAFEST environment possible.

Information and frequently asked questions for parents regarding the notification system are located on the district website at <www.logrog.net>. Just click on "Parent Notification System" for more details.

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BOARD MEMBERS

Tim Felton, President
J.D. Fielden, Vice Pres.
Barbra Fielden
Chuck Medley
Doug Pitts
Colleen Stone
Larry Zahn

BOARD MEETINGS

Monthly - 3rd Thursday
Exec. Session - 6:30-7:00 pm
Open Session - 7:00 pm
Administration Office
100 E. Front Street
Rogersville, MO 65742

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

**Carolyn Winchester,
Curriculum Director**

Embarking on the twenty-first century brings with it changes in education. Some of the “buzz phrases” that are finding their way into educational research are “student achievement in the twenty-first century” and the surge of “technology and education”.

As administrators, educators, and students, it will be challenging to tackle the impact of technology and the background of knowledge that students today have at their disposal. More importantly, how will it affect the educational career and the future career of our students?

The Logan-Rogersville R-VIII District is continuing to address student achievement as it has always been a priority for learning in the district. Achievement and accountability go hand in hand, so we are examining the results of our MAP data and EOC (End of course exams), we are looking at interventions to help increase the outcomes of these state mandated assessments, we are moving toward becoming a Professional Learning Community district-wide, and we are re-examining the need for upgrading our leadership and educator knowledge base with professional learning opportunities for all involved in the education experience at L-R.

“Student achievement” is not just the result of students’ taking responsibility for their learning. Mike Schmoker, educator and author, in the subtitle of his book “Results Now” uses the subtitle, “How we can achieve unprecedented improvements in teaching and learning,” as he addresses the concepts mentioned above. Taking a look at what we do, how we do it, and what are the results that will guide the district to continue to work on student achievement and the technology future of our students, faculty, and administration is imperative. Implementing these ideas will take our students to the level needed to be successful in the twenty-first century.

PRIMARY SCHOOL LIBRARY IS “AWESOME!”

**Karen Rumker,
Primary Librarian**

Our new Primary School Library has evoked the word “AWESOME!” from nearly everyone who has entered the doors. The Library is a large, kid-friendly room with wonderful ambient light and cheerful decorations. The students enjoy coming to the library as a class to listen to stories, learn literacy skills, and checkout books to take home. The Primary teachers encourage reading at home and many students visit the Library on a daily basis looking for fun and factual books to share with their families.

Thankfully, the students are able to find a wide variety of books in our well-stocked library. Our School District supports the Standards set by The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and provides the library with budget money to purchase new books each year that are highly recommended, star reviewed, age-

appropriate and of interest to the student population.

In addition to our budget money, several fundraisers are held each year. The Primary School held the first Book Fair of the year on November 5th. Thank you to everyone who attended this event and made it a HUGE success! An increase in sales and a bonus reward resulted in over \$2800 in Scholastic Books as profit. If you missed this

Book Fair, there will be Book Fairs held at each of the other schools later this year – watch for the advertisements.

Another fundraiser at the Primary School this fall was the Grandparent’s Dedication Program. During our kindergarten Grandparent Visitation Day, the grandparents were given an opportunity to donate money, in honor of their grandchild, to purchase new library books. Many generous donors contributed funds so that a new book could be purchased for each kindergartener this year, resulting in 162 new books for the library!

While the Primary Library has been able to provide lots of great reads, our other libraries are still striving to meet State Standards. If you would like to help, check out the LREF Book Boosters Program on our school website and purchase a book through Amazon.com to boost our libraries!



PRICELESS!

**Jennifer Katzin,
Elementary Principal**

Box of Staples ...\$1.09, Package of Paper ...\$1.30, Roll of Tape ...\$1.45, Students’ Work**PRICELESS!!!**

When you walk down the halls of Logan-Rogersville Elementary school you will see a lot of student work displayed on the walls. You might read some facts about tigers and giraffes, a short-story, or a friendly letter. You will linger over beautiful artwork or be moved by a poem. You’ll admire a huge wreath that

honors our nation’s veterans. All of these things are creations by our students. They are not placed on the walls for the sole purpose of decoration. Displaying students’ work lets them know that

we, as adults, value what they do. They see our pride in their accomplishments. It allows parents to view and be a part of what the kids have done in their classroom. It also

allows the students to see what their peers are creating and learning so they

can learn from each other. There is great value for children in “showing off” their talents. We hope that you will take the time to stop and look, read a story, or admire some artwork. You

will understand why we value these displays as “PRICELESS!”

*“Box of Staples ...\$1.09, Package of Paper ...\$1.30, Roll of Tape ...\$1.45, Students’ Work ...**PRICELESS!!!**”*

SIXTH GRADE TRANSITIONS TO UPPER ELEMENTARY

**Teri Jernigan,
Upper Elementary Principal**

The sixth grade class has been officially moved from the Middle School to the Upper Elementary beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. Many of

the sixth grade teachers have applauded the move mainly because of age-related issues. The students have an opportunity to rotate classes yet remain within a familiar setting. Because of the change made this school year, the sixth grade teachers, as well as

many parents, now see sixth grade as a transition between elementary and middle school. The students' sixth grade experience will help them to better adapt to the middle school environment when they become seventh graders.



Sixth grade students rotate from classroom to classroom at the Upper Elementary.



NEW TECHNOLOGY AT LRMS

**Allison Boyer,
Librarian / Math Teacher**

We have added new technology at the middle school this month. The school recently purchased a Classroom Performance System (CPS) and two Interwrite Mobi Interactive Whiteboards from elnstruction.

The CPS unit consists of 32 "clickers", which are small remote control devices that allow students to respond to questions from their teachers. This allows for immediate feedback for teachers as to the students' comprehension of the lesson. Students can enter either a multiple choice, yes/no, true/false, or numerical answer. Each clicker has an LCD screen that allows the student to see

the answer they have entered. The CPS unit is small and can easily be used in any classroom.

The CPS unit "allows for immediate feedback for teachers as to the students' comprehension of the lesson."

The Interwrite Mobi is a compact and portable interactive whiteboard. It has the same features as a Smartboard but is handheld and can be used from anywhere in the

classroom. The Mobi can be used in conjunction with the CPS unit or can be used alone with other applications such as PowerPoint or Word. The unit can also be used by students at their desks, allowing for immediate feedback without having to get up in front of the class. The Mobi can be used with an existing computer and overhead projector and is portable, allowing for multiple classroom use.

We are very excited about these new additions to our instructional materials. Technology has proven to play a vital role in education today. These additions will not only aid teachers in the classroom, but they will also increase student learning and achievement.

WE ARE LRHS!

**Teresa McKenzie, Ed.D.
High School Principal**

The high school staff has made a commitment to work together to ensure that Logan-Rogersville High School is one of the best high schools in the State of Missouri. Each Friday morning, teachers are collaborating on strategies for continuous improvement. The work began with in-depth conversations about the mission, vision, and goals of Logan-Rogersville High School guided by four fundamental questions: 1) Why do we exist? 2) What kind of school do we hope to become? 3) How must we behave in order to create the kind of school we hope to become? 4) What steps are we going to take and when will we take them?

Through lengthy discussions and the analysis of performance data our

mission became clear. Every student, teacher, and staff member must 'Be LRHS.' The "L" stands for **Lifelong Learners**. We believe that education is a journey, not a destination. The process of learning and the desire to learn are skills more valuable than merely learning content. The "R" stands for **Respectful, Responsible, and Focused**. These are the three main character traits we expect one in our building. We do not only educate, we also foster the development of young citizens. These characteristics are the foundation for our behavior expectations. The "H" stands for **High Achievers**. Student achievement is the measure used for determining high

quality schools. Curriculum and instructional strategies are constantly being revised to ensure that L-R students are equipped to continue to excel on State and National assessments. Finally, the "S" stands for **Successful**. Our primary goal is to prepare all students for college, for career, and for life. We offer a variety of opportunities through courses, clubs, and sports for students to find an outlet to experience success in a supportive environment.

Our desire is for Logan-Rogersville graduates to 'Be LRHS' long after they leave our hallways. The high school will continue to use the collaborative time each Friday to make our mission a reality for every student.

We are LRHS!

ESL PROGRAM SUPPORTS ENGLISH LEARNERS

**Derry Byrom,
ESL Teacher**

The 2009-2010 school year marks the sixth year of Logan-Rogersville's English as a Second Language (ESL) program. Since the program began in 2003, the number of students served by the district has increased from two to eighteen. We continue to see diversity in the language spoken by our English language learning (ELL) students. While the majority of our students are Russian speakers, we also serve students whose first language is Romanian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Presently we serve students in four of our five district buildings. Mrs. Clara Shannon works with students at the Upper Elementary in grades four and

five. Mrs. Derry Byrom works with students at the Primary, Elementary, Upper Elementary and Middle School.

Students are offered services after being identified as ELL through a home language survey and being adminis-

tered a language proficiency assessment. Upon parental consent students are allowed to receive instruction in listening, reading, speaking, and writing

English. Due to a lower number of students, we are able to create small groups or one-on-one learning environments for our ELLs. Settings such as these allow for concentrated work toward each student's individual language goals.

Our goal is English language proficiency in both interpersonal communication and academic language. For students in the upper grades this continues to be a difficult task because the language required for school stretches beyond the narrative language used in the lower grades. Reaching academic language proficiency is not a quick process. For some students it can take anywhere from 5-10 years. In the upper grades our language focus is predominately the development of vocabulary in science, social studies, math, and language arts. We also consider the student's content area grades in our exiting process.

We continue to see improvement in our current students. Many are working their way toward proficiency and are nearing monitor status. This is the stage prior to being exited from the program. Language learning is an individual process, and we see that each ELL student is making progress and

"While the majority of our students are Russian speakers, we also serve students whose first language is Romanian, Spanish, and Vietnamese."

ROGERSVILLE MO 65742

POSTAL PATRON

ECRWSS

District Website
www.logrog.net

DISTRICT PHONE / FAX NUMBERS

-	Pn 753-2891 / Fax 753-3063	Central Office
-	Pn 753-2813 / Fax 753-3960	High School
-	Pn 753-2896 / Fax 753-3182	Middle School
-	Pn 753-2996 / Fax 753-7033	Upper Elementary
-	Pn 882-2626 / Fax 881-3444	Elementary
-	Pn 881-2947 / Fax 753-5027	Primary School

LOGAN-ROGERSVILLE R-VIII SCHOOL DISTRICT
Administration Office
100 E. Front St.
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