

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Security Monitoring Systems Installed at Lee County Middle and Lee County High Schools

The Lee County School System regularly undergoes school safety audits, both internal and external (Kentucky Center for School Safety) to ensure that we are maintaining safe and secure school environments at all facilities. Student safety is always a priority and the district continually takes measures to address identified needs.

During the month of February, the facilities at Lee County Middle School and Lee County High School received a safety upgrade. An electromagnetic door, call button, and camera system were installed at the front entrance of each building. All four schools in the district now have a monitored front entrance with all doors remaining locked throughout the school day.

Visitors and guests to the middle and high school will now use a system much like those at the elementary schools. A call button has been installed at the far left entrance door of both buildings. Visitors will use this call button to gain en-

trance to the facility. The system also has audio capability, and building staff monitoring the doors will be able to hear and view visitors from the inside office area. Visitors and guests will be permitted to enter once approved. The security system also has the capability to record and save images.

The district will continue to evaluate our facilities and take necessary steps to ensure a safe school environment for all children and staff. An upcoming meeting is planned for district and school administrators with Lee County Emergency Department leaders to discuss collaboration on Crisis Plans and Interventions.

All stakeholder(s) having questions regarding school safety are encouraged to contact the school principal or a central office administrator. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we implement this new security system at Lee County Middle and Lee County High Schools.

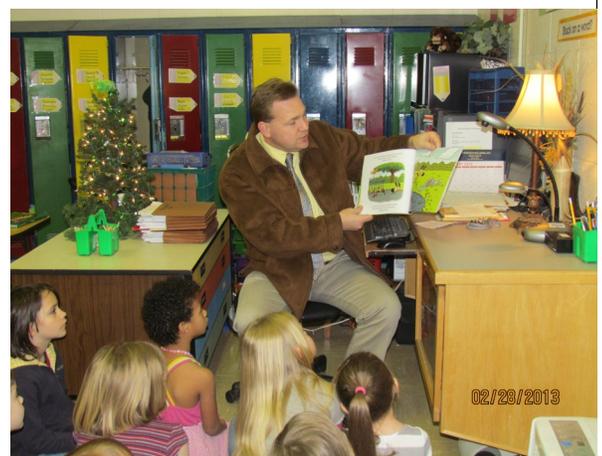
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Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2nd - Dr. Seuss's birthday! Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids and books. On Friday, March 1st, in honor of Read Across America Day, Superintendent Evans read to students at Southside Elementary and Beattyville Elementary Schools.

School Health
 By: Dee Thomas, RN MSN
 Lee County School Nurse

The Importance of Hand Washing!

Hand washing is easy to do and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of many types of infection and illness in all settings—from your home to your schools. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community. As you may know, all of our schools have recently had students with common illnesses such as the flu or gastroenteritis. These are highly contagious diseases that can be reduced by simply giving more attention to good hand washing techniques.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say that keeping hands clean through improved hand hygiene is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others (CDC, <http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing>). Despite its simplicity, hand washing is an activity that most people do not do as often as they should. By not washing their hands regularly, people can get sick and spread their illnesses to others.

Clean hands mean good health for students, food service staff, teachers, administrators and the entire school community!



The Lee County Board of Education will meet with the District Facility Local Planning Committee in a special work session at the Lee County Central Office 242 Lee Avenue in Beattyville, Kentucky on Thursday, March 21st, at 6:00 P.M.

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 <i>School Dismissed KEA</i>	5 <i>School Dismissed KEA</i>	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 <i>Special Board of Ed Mtg. Southside Elem. @ 6:00 P.M.</i>	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IMPORTANT NOTES



- March 14th Second Strategic Planning Meeting at 6:00 P.M. Lee County Board of Education
- March 15th School Dismissed
- March 15th Kindergarten Registration 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lee County High School Gymnasium
- March 18th Superintendent/Parent Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Lee County Board of Education
- March 21st Lee County Board of Education and Local Facilities Planning Committee Special Work Session at 6:00 p.m. Lee County Board of Education
- April 4th & 5th School Dismissed KEA
- April 16th Lee County Board of Education Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Southside Elementary Library
- May 4th Lee County High School Prom
- May 19th Lee County High School Graduation

Lee County Board of Education Chairman, William Owens, shown below with his family, received the 2013 Warren H. Proudfoot Award for Outstanding School Board Member at Kentucky School Boards Association's Annual Conference held February 21st through the 23rd in Louisville, Kentucky. The award is sponsored by the Kentucky PTA and the Kentucky School Boards Association.



SCHOOL DISTRICT LOSES \$165,000.00 DUE TO MID-YEAR CUTS

FACES POSSIBLE 8-10% ADDITIONAL FUNDING LOSS IN THE UPCOMING 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

At the September 18, 2012 board meeting, the Lee County Board of Education was proactive in trying to stop reductions in education funding and cuts to federal programs by adopting a resolution to urge Congress and the Administration to mitigate across the board cuts (sequestration) included in the Budget control Act of 2011. Board members and school district administration knew at that time how devastating a loss in federal funding would be to our district as we were already experiencing cuts in state and local funding.

Lee County has received \$165,000.00 loss in funding this school year due to a reduction in State SEEK funding and Federal programs including Title I, IDEA-B Rural & Low Income, Gear UP, 21st Century, and Title IIA. The Kentucky Commissioner of Education has advised districts to plan for the worst case scenario and budget for an additional 10% reduction in education funds for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. The estimated loss in federal funds within the 8-10% range are as follows: 8% - \$101,846.54, 8.5% - \$108,211.94, 10% - \$127,308.17.

Given the budget cuts and adjustments our local community has made in recent years, due to decreasing revenues and increases in expenditures, there is simply very little, if anything else, left to cut. These reductions in education funding will adversely affect the quality of our education programs and will result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, loss of extracurricular activities, and teacher and staff lay-offs.