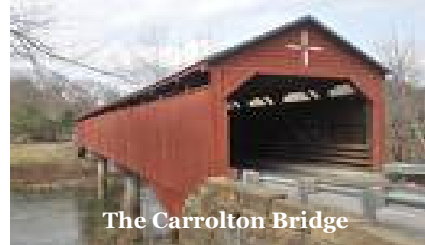


The Bridge



The Carrolton Bridge

Volume 4, Issue 1

October, 2012



Important Dates

- Oct. 5** ISE Day: No School
(tutoring available)
- Oct. 6** GED Examinations:
CTEC at 8:00 a.m.
- Oct. 8** Bd. Of Education Mtg.
@ BOE Office; 6 p.m.
- Oct. 19** Last Day of 1st Nine-
Weeks Grading Pd.
- Oct. 22** Bd. Of Education Mtg.
@ BOE Office; 6 p.m.
- Oct. 26** Report Cards Are
Distributed
- Oct. 30** Elementary School
PT Conferences
- Nov. 1** Middle School PT
Conferences
- Nov. 2** Elementary School
PT Conferences
- Nov. 5** High School & CTEC
PT Conferences
- Nov. 6** Election Day —
- Nov. 10** GED Testing, 8 am,
CTE Center
- Nov. 12** Veterans Day Holiday
Schools Closed
- Nov. 13** Bd. Of Education Mtg.
@ BOE Office; 6 p.m.
- Nov. 19
to 23** Out of Calendar and
Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 26** Bd. Of Education Mtg.
@ BOE Office; 6 p.m.

Hi Folks,

First of all, I want to thank all of you for allowing me to address you at your September meeting. The food was great and the company even better. Your contributions to our kids are greatly appreciated – on their behalf, I thank you!

The leaves are turning and falling, the weather a tad crisper, and the Forest Festival was well attended and as great as ever – sure signs that Fall is definitely in the air. I am not sure where the time goes but we have been in school now for seven weeks and it seems like just yesterday Doug was bugging me for a letter for the September Bridge. The October version will be short, I promise!

Lately, my attention always turns to the November 6 General Election with our Levy and Bond. We are all aware of the great tradition of the partnerships between the community and our schools. It is a tradition we must continue. It is the foundation of success for our students.



Our students are our future; they need our help and they need it now. In education, our lives have been, and continue to be, “for the kids.” I truly hope that everyone will seriously consider the issues, make an informed decision and vote for the future of our students as well as our county’s future by voting “Yes” for both the Levy and the Bond. We must be the voice for our students to afford them the opportunities found in each of those election items.

As always my door is open. I encourage each and every one of you to please contact me if you have questions regarding the Levy, the Bond or any other issue concerning our school system. Please remember—it truly is “*For the Kids!*”

BMS Music Program Benefits From “Save the Music” Grant

Belington Middle School recently received a much-needed and much-appreciated boost when it received a \$30,000 “Save the Music” grant from the VH1 Foundation. The BMS music department will use the funding to purchase more than 36 new instruments, along with textbooks for students and teachers.

The VH1 “Save The Music” Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring instrumental music education in America's public schools, and raising awareness about the importance of music as part of each child's complete education. Since its inception in 1997, the VH1 Save The Music Foundation has provided \$48 million in new musical instruments to 1,800 public schools in more than 100 cities around the country, impacting the lives of over 1.8 million children.



Save the Music representatives, along with the middle school's students and school officials, celebrated the award with a special event in early September. The Hawk marching band was on hand to add to the festivities and express thanks for the generous contribution.

Kasson Observes Grandparents Day

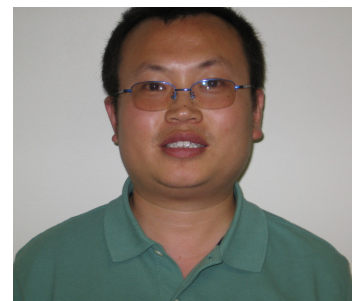
The students and staff at Kasson Elementary-Middle School continued a ten-year tradition when Grandparents Day was celebrated at the school on September 11. The observance of Grandparents Day began in Fayette County (WV) in the 1970's and is set for the first Sunday after Labor Day each year. Grandparents are essential family and community members and serve as living links to our heritage.



Some 70 grandparents from the KEMS area participated in this year's activities. Several are shown here spending time and enjoying meals with their grandchildren in the cafeteria during lunchtime.

PBHS Hosts New Chinese Guest Teacher

Philip Barbour High School was recently selected to host a native Mandarin-speaking teacher from China for the 2012-13 school year as part of the Chinese



Guest Teacher grant program. Xiang Li, above, was welcomed by Barbour County Schools in August. The \$10,000 College Board/Hanban award provides funding to assist in the Four Key Elements of a Chinese Confucius Classroom, including enrichment in: curriculum and instruction, integration and culture, partnerships and leadership. The grant also provides for a rich inventory of 1,000 volumes of books, audio-visual, multi-media materials and coursework that will immediately form the foundation for the school's new Chinese language library.

WVU Extension Service Offers "Germ City" Program to Local Elementary Schools

Barbour County's West Virginia University Extension Service is offering its popular "Germ City" program to local elementary schools. The program, which addresses more than a dozen DOE content standards in wellness and health, involves a 10' by 7' by 3' handicap accessible tunnel which is black-lighted inside to illuminate pretend germs. Following a preliminary lesson, children visit Germ City before and after hand washing. Even though hand-washing is a key for preventing disease and keeping



healthy, it is often forgotten, skipped or done improperly. Whether its before eating, after using the restroom, playing with pets, coughing or sneezing, or playing with toys or outside, hand washing is the front line of defense against illness.

For more information on the Germ City program, interested educators may contact Barbara Wolfe at the WVU Extension Office in Philippi.

Board of Education Announces Annual LSIC Presentation Dates

In a departure from the format of recent years, the Barbour County Board of Education will host the mandatory annual Local School Improvement Council presentations at the Board Office meeting room prior to regularly scheduled meetings throughout the remainder of the fall. On a trial basis, the nine LSIC teams will make their presentations, two schools per meeting, during the next five BOE meetings, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Membership of the LSIC is comprised of teachers, service personnel, bus drivers, parents, business and community representatives. The councils provide a direct link with local school boards through an annual meeting at which all school aspects inclusive of academics, athletics, discipline, school climate, facilities, needs, improvement and recommendations are presented and discussed. The schedule is as follows:

October 22: Volga-Century & Junior

November 13: Belington Elementary & Middle

November 26: Kasson El/Middle & Mt. Vernon

December 10: Philippi Elementary & Middle

December 17: Philip Barbour H. S. Complex

Les Edinger Motivates the Eagle Flock



Kasson Elementary-Middle School hosted a guest speaker during September who addressed the *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* with the student body as part of the "Leader in Me" school-wide program. Students will learn each of the habits and are currently focused on Habit #1, which is being proactive. Kasson held a balloon launch on the first day of school and students described how they were going to be proactive in launching their goals.

Les Edinger, a retired administrator and teacher, led the students in the special activities. Les began his teaching career in 1971 and has worked with boys and girls during his entire tenure as an educator. Over the years, he learned many things that he now likes to share with others. Les and his wife, Sharon, have written a book entitled *Strike Three, But Still Swinging*. Les' retirement dream is to expand his role to other areas and travel the region as a motivational speaker.

— Odds' N' Ends —

➤ **Early Retirement Notice:** The Finance and Personnel Offices would like to remind those personnel who are contemplating retirement in June of 2013 that they should notify the Board of Education in writing as soon as possible of their intentions to assist in staffing decisions for 2013-14. Those who submit such formal notice by January 15 will become eligible for an incentive bonus (\$500 for professional staff and \$250 for service staff).

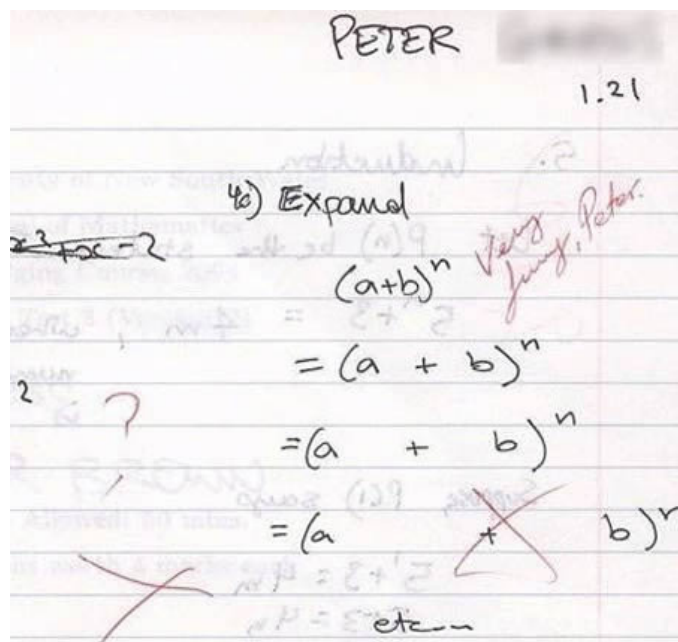
➤ **ISE Day Reminders:** The following schedule will be observed by Barbour County Schools during the five Instructional Support and Enhancement (ISE) Days:

- 8:00—11:00 a.m. Staff Dev/PLC/Meetings
- 11:00-12:00 noon: Lunch
- 12:00 noon—2:00 p.m. Tutoring Services
- 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Faculty Senate

The ISE dates for 2012-13 have been established as: October 5, December 21, February 18, April 22 and June 3.

➤ **Dominion Grants:** Educational grants from the Dominion Foundation for up to \$10,000 are available to provide elementary and secondary educators with the tools they need to revitalize math and science programs through the study of energy and the environment. Six awards were presented in West Virginia last year. For more information, see: <https://www.dom.com/about/education/grants/index.jsp>. If you have a great idea and need assistance, contact Doug Schiefelbein.

True Funny Exam Answer



Mom's Follow-Up Letter to Teacher



(Here's the reply the teacher received the following day)

Dear Mrs. Jones,

I wish to clarify that I am not now, nor have I ever been, an exotic dancer.

I work at Home Depot and I told my daughter how hectic it was last week before the blizzard hit. I told her we sold out every single shovel we had, and then I found one more in the back room, and that several people were fighting over who would get it. Her picture doesn't show me dancing around a pole. It's supposed to depict me selling the last snow shovel we had at Home Depot.

From now on I will remember to check her homework more