



The Bridge



The Carrollton Bridge

Volume 7, Issue 2

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Important Dates

Oct. 12	Board of Education Meets, 6 pm, MVES
Oct. 13	Continuing Education Day for All Personnel
Oct. 14 and 15	TASC Examinations at CTEC; 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 15	Last Day of 1st Nine-Weeks Grade Period
Oct. 22	Report Cards Are Distributed
Oct. 26	Board of Education Meets, 6 pm, VCES
Oct. 26	Elementary School P-T Conferences
Oct. 27	Middle School P-T Conferences
Oct. 29	High School & CTEC P-T Conferences
Nov. 9	Board of Education Meets, 6 pm, BMS
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday Schools Closed
Nov. 16	Board of Education Meets, 6 pm, PES
Nov. 23 to 25	Out of Calendar Days Schools Closed
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day Schools Closed
Nov. 27	Out of Calendar Day Schools Closed

Greetings Everyone,

It is hard to imagine that we are already nearly two months into the school year. I have had the opportunity to be in all of our schools on a regular basis and I am impressed by what I have seen so far. We are not perfect, but I do see a vast majority of men and women of Barbour County Schools working to provide a top quality education to all of our students.

We just submitted a Needs Grant Application to the School Building Authority where we are asking for just over \$4.5 million dollars from the SBA in addition to just over \$2.3 million dollars from our local system. Our portion will be funded entirely through energy savings and conservation and is guaranteed by an Energy Services Company. The total cost of the project is just under \$7 million dollars and will be used mostly to upgrade HVAC systems and install central controls at seven of our schools.

I must admit that I have been amazed at how financially challenged our district is and how many schools are forced to hold fundraisers for basic supplies. School personnel already have the responsibility of educating our students and they should not be burdened with the added responsibility of raising funds for basic supplies.

I will be holding community meetings in the next few months to solicit input and ideas from members of our community on how we can optimize our limited resources. I will not have detailed PowerPoint presentations with pages and pages of financial data. We need to break our situation down in very simple terms and explain to the public what we are facing in a way that is easy to understand. One thing is perfectly clear to me, we must either find a way to decrease spending and/or increase revenues if we want to continue to provide a high-quality education to our students.

Finally, I wanted to thank Jeff Goff, President & CEO of BC Bank, along with his Board of Directors, BC Bank employees and shareholders for the unbelievably generous gift of \$1.75 million dollars toward the cost of the community athletic complex at Philip Barbour High School. This donation will allow us to have a state-of-the-art facility without having to spend a single dollar of Barbour County Schools' funds. I am hopeful that BC Bank's investment into our community will spur further investment and attract businesses and families to Barbour County.

Please continue to work hard and push our students to achieve as much as they can. They will thank you when they are old enough and mature enough to realize how much you cared.



Thanks,

BCBank, Promise Foundation to Help Longtime Dream Come True

Up to \$1.75 Million Made Available for Outdoor Facilities Project at PBHS

A pep-rally styled program at Philip Barbour High School on the morning of Friday, September 18, formally launched BCBank's support of a \$2 million construction and renovation project at the outdoor athletic and performance facility located at George Byrer Field on the high school campus. Members of the PB student body and the general public participated as a donation of up to \$1.75 million was made by the local business to the Promise Foundation of Barbour County, a 501C3 non-profit organization. It marked the largest single donation ever by a community bank of its size in West Virginia. BCBank officials and Philip Barbour students are shown above, lofting the ceremonial check at the conclusion of the program.



In addition to the original contribution of \$1.5 million towards the initiative, BCBank has made an additional \$250,000 available in the form of a challenge grant based on a matching factor of 1:1. Therefore, if an additional \$250,000 is raised through local sources, the fund will total two million dollars, the total estimated cost of construction. Those interested in donating to the Promise Foundation for facility renovations and construction can contact BCBank board of directors member, Brian Talbott. Also, through the end of the year, donations can be made to the Friends of George Byrer Field, a local volunteer group that has brought attention to the facility needs for the past two years. In January, the two funding streams will merge into the Promise Foundation account, with all proceeds doubling up to the \$250,000 threshold.



The facility, to be named BCBank Park, will include an artificial turf playing and performance field, an eight-lane track, a new field house, concession stand and public restroom facilities. The project is expected to be completed by August of 2016, in time for Philip Barbour High School's first football game of the season.

The check presentation was made by BCBank President and CEO, Jeffrey Goff, at the special ceremonies held at the Philip Barbour High School gymnasium. He spoke about the bank's desire to make a large and lasting positive impact on the community, seeing this as a catalyst to further growth in Barbour County. West Virginia Secretary of State, Natalie Tennant, also spoke at the presentation, in addition to representatives for Governor Tomblin, Senator Manchin and Senator Capito. Barbour County Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Woofert, and PB principal, Mark Lamb, represented the school system and community in expressing heartfelt appreciation for the generous donation and reflected upon the potential impact on both the school system and the community at large. Planning is already underway for the ambitious project and construction is expected to begin as early as weather permits in late-winter or early-spring.

New Staff Members Welcomed

The opening of the 2015-16 school year finds a total of twenty new professional and service staff joining the ranks of Barbour County Schools. By the end of September, the following personnel were adding their skills and talents to provide the best possible educational experiences for Barbour County students. Best wishes for a productive and rewarding year are extended to:



- ◆ Jeffrey Woofert, Superintendent of Schools
- ◆ Erin Ward: Teacher at Philippi Middle
- ◆ Holly McDermott: Itinerant Speech Pathologist
- ◆ Heather Cottrill: Teacher at Volga-Century
- ◆ Erin Kuncher: Counselor at Philip Barbour
- ◆ Jessica Lucchesi: Teacher at Philippi Elementary
- ◆ Ashley Workman: School Nutrition Director
- ◆ Jennifer Weyandt: Teacher at V-C & Mt. Vernon
- ◆ Nathan Linger: Teacher at Philippi Middle
- ◆ Debra Conover: Principal at Junior & VCES
- ◆ Rachel Mayle: Teacher at Belington Elementary
- ◆ Justin Wood: Teacher at PMS and BMS
- ◆ Jennifer Carpenter: Teacher at Philippi Elem.
- ◆ Sara Pavkovich: Teacher at Philippi Middle
- ◆ Eric Eisenbrey: Teacher at Belington Middle
- ◆ Shanda Ross: Teacher at Belington Middle
- ◆ Samantha Butler: Teacher at Philippi Middle
- ◆ Violet Shaver: Cook at Philippi Elementary
- ◆ Amanda Eriksen: Teacher at Junior Elementary
- ◆ Briana Emigh: Secretary/Aide at Mt. Vernon

“Stuff the Bus” Project Helps Kids Prepare for Successful School Year



Students in Barbour County’s nine schools received a helping hand from a local business through the summer-long “Stuff the Bus” project. Perfectly Pampered Salon of Philippi partnered with the board of education and county commission in leading a campaign to fill a school bus parked on the Barbour County courthouse lawn with supplies and materials to help school children get off to a good start in 2015-16. Business owner, Susan Jones (above left), explained that such outreach programs, and the partnerships that result, benefit both the students and the community.

YWCA Is Sponsoring Project on Racism Essay Contest during October

YWCA Wheeling has announced the 2016 Project on Racism Essay Contest, also known as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest. The Project on Racism Essay Contest honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., while encouraging students’ creativity through essay writing. Compositions are to be based upon a quote from a 1957 speech by Dr. King. Students are invited to submit their entries on or before Friday, October 23. The YWCA encourages you to consider incorporating the essay contest into your fall curriculum. Everyone who participates is a winner! For more information, interested teachers and student writers should visit:

CdcoDirector@ywcawheeling.org

Board of Education Helps Dedicate New Sun Shelter Pavilion at Kasson School



A large sun shade structure, located on the main playground at Kasson School, was dedicated at the September 28 Board of Education meeting held at the school. Made possible through a 2013-14 grant of \$8000 from the American Academy of Dermatology and volunteers from Sunrise Construction Company, the large pavilion will provide shelter from the elements and an outdoor learning area for students at the school. Shown above are students, school officials, board members, PTO representatives and Sunrise owner, Doward Matlick at the recent ribbon-cutting ceremony.

You Can Help Build The Bridge

Articles, photos, announcements or features for The Bridge from your corner of the school system are always welcomed. Remember that, while the newsletter provides news and information for county school personnel, it is also viewed by parents and the public through the BCS website. It's a good way to let your colleagues and citizens know about the many great and interesting things happening in your school or department. It also serves as a valid form of documentation. Please do not feel that you need to forward complete or polished documents; simply provide the basic information (5 W's & H). If you need assistance, just let me know at dschiefe@k12.wv.us. Thanks, as always, for all that you do!



Eagles Observe Grandparents Day on September 11th

In keeping with a long tradition at the school, on September 11, 2015, Kasson Elementary-Middle School invited students' grandparents to come and eat lunch with them in honor of National Grandparents' Day. The event was well attended, with seventy-seven grandparents sharing meals with their families. The students enjoyed the event so much that they suggested having another grandparents' luncheon later this school year.



Garden Party Underway at KEMS

With the help of Master Gardeners, Bob Wilkins, Lou Mitchell, and Mary Beth Lind, KEMS has received a grant with which to build a raised bed garden behind the school. On September 12, the master gardeners, KEMS staff, students, and parents got together to build the beds and to fill them with soil. Then on Monday, September 14, students began planting produce that is maturing during the fall growing season. Vegetables include chard, gold beets, carrots, lettuce, and scallions. Students are learning how to divide the beds by square footage and how many seeds for each crop need to be planted per square foot. Older students will be conducting soil testing and charting growth.

