

Brooklyn Bridge

A monthly newsletter connecting you to Wetzel County Schools' County Office

VOL. 3, ISSUE 3



Sources of
Strength
Activities



Student
Advisory
Groups



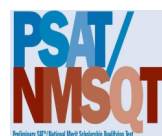
Certification
Renewals



Welding
Students
Team up with
Ace Hardware



Spring Trips



PSAT/
National
Merit



Menus for
Schools



NAS Training

SOURCES OF STRENGTH PROMOTES GENEROSITY CAMPAIGNS



The Sources of Strength Peer Leaders across Wetzel County have worked diligently to promote Generosity Campaigns for the months of November and December. Pictured above are the Peer Leaders from Long Drain School. As part of their Generosity Campaign, the Peer Leaders lead a school-wide can food drive. Together the students and staff collected 668 cans in total to be donated to their local food pantry.



The students of Valley High School have initiated several activities in association with the Sources of Strength Program for the month of December. The Peer Leaders ran a schoolwide Generosity Campaign by collecting canned goods, which were donated to the Clarksburg Mission Community, a homeless Shelter in Clarksburg, WV. The Peer Leaders also participated in a schoolwide kindness activity where they greeted each student as they entered the high school.

To follow Wetzel County Sources of Strength activities, follow us on our Instagram account. [**wcsourcesofstrength**](#)



Superintendent's Student Advisory Groups



Hundred High School



Magnolia High School

Mr. Toman meets once a month with his Student Advisory Council groups. As a member of the Council, the students are the voice for their school. During their monthly meetings, the groups discuss ways to improve the schools and better their educational experience. Topics of discussion include academics, facilities, and post-graduate opportunities.



Paden City High



Valley High School



Certification Renewals

REMINDER: All certifications that expire as of June 30, 2019 can be applied for and renewed beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2019. All teaching and/or administrative renewals (Form 4) are now completed online along with all non-certified coaching certifications. **DO NOT** pay the \$35.00 renewal fee until your application has been approved and you have received an email instructing you to do so.

Most other renewals, including but not limited to Renewals for 1st Class/Full-time Permits, Out-of-Field Authorization (Form 1/1A), Long-Term Substitute Permits (Form 2L) and Short-Term Substitute Permits (Form 2S) are still paper applications. Certification Renewal fees are \$35.00 and must be paid in advance. Once you have completed your application, return it along with a copy of your paid receipt to the Personnel Office to be submitted to the WVDE.

In most cases, official transcripts reflecting six (6) hours of approved college course work are required for certification renewal. There are several ways to submit your transcripts: 1) Send directly to County Office; 2) Send directly to WVDE (we would still like a copy but doesn't have to be "official"); 3) Send electronically to Jo Anna Filliez; or, 4) Sent to you but delivered to the Personnel Office unopened.

All renewal instructions can be reviewed on the West Virginia Department of Education website. Click under "Educators" and then "Apply/Renew Certification" you should be able to access any information that you need. If you have questions, please contact Shane Highley, Assistant Superintendent, or Jo Anna Filliez, Records/Certification Coordinator.

Trainings

Wetzel County Schools website
www.wetzelcountyschools.com

Don't forget to use the ERO system to register and check for updates!

[http://
ero5.eschoolsolutions.com](http://ero5.eschoolsolutions.com)



Ace Hardware and Wetzel County Welding Students Work Together to Benefit First and Second Grade Students

Ace Hardware managers Missy West and Rick Myers donated PVC pipe and elbows to Wetzel County Schools for the purpose of making "reading phones" for First and Second Grade students. Welding Instructor, John Shepard, along with a few of his students, cut the pipe into 4 inch pieces. The pieces then had an elbow connected at each end to construct a reading phone. Each First Grade class in the county received a class set, while Second Grade classes received a set of 10.

These phones are a fabulous tool for reading instruction because they allow students to "hear" their own voice. The pipe funnels the child's voice directly to their ear. This intentional focus on hearing sounds helps the students acquire phonemic awareness, a critical element to developing necessary proficient reader phonologic processing pathways.

Phones also improve a student's focus and attention, help maintain classroom "quiet" as students must speak softly, and provide a level of privacy to struggling readers, possibly helping them to overcome their reluctance to read aloud. Teachers were very excited to receive them.

Spring Extracurricular Trips

THIS IS A REMINDER TO ALL SCHOOLS:

Spring trips will begin on Monday, March 18, 2019 and conclude on Saturday, June 8, 2019. Please submit forms for Spring trips to the Transportation office by Friday, January 18, 2019.





Menus for Schools

MedProcure, LLC

Wetzel County Schools Lunch Menu App

WCS lunch menus can now be found at the tip of your finger!

The App MENUS FOR SCHOOLS can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store for free.

Once the app is downloaded, simply select West Virginia and type in New Martinsville. Since Wetzel County Schools all use the same lunch menu, the school option to choose is “All Schools – Wetzel”

Not only will you be able to see what’s on the menu for today, but you can also look to future dates and see nutritional information for each item listed on the menu.



PSAT/National Merit

PSAT 8/9 and NMSQT 10/11 have been given to students in these grades. The NMSQT is used as practice for the SAT, as well as for National Merit. The PSAT 8/9 is also used as practice for the SAT to help our students with the college admission test, and for the PROMISE scholarship.



NAS Training



On December 14, 2018, Pre-K teachers, Pre-K aides, Social Workers, School Psychologists and other Special Education Staff attended a professional learning opportunity on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), conducted by Dr. Amy Carlson of the WV Autism Training Center at the Performing Arts Center in Wheeling, WV.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome is a group of problems that occur in a newborn who was exposed to drugs while in the mother's womb and who experience withdrawal symptoms following birth. These children are not born addicted, they are born in withdrawal. Every 25 minutes, an infant is born who is suffering from withdrawal from opioids. Another statistic that is alarming is that nearly 1/3 of children entering foster care do so in part because of parental drug abuse. In West Virginia, 29,000 children are being raised in Kinship Care (children being raised by their grandparents or another relative); in Wetzel County alone it is 64%.

NAS effects 4 areas: the brain and spinal cord, gastrointestinal tract, sensory systems and the respiratory system. NAS is not a life sentence, although children born with NAS can have lingering effects, such as, impulsivity, aggression, attention deficits, sensory needs and often miss school regularly due to the medical issues that occur.

Professional learning opportunities such as this will assist our staff in providing interventions and strategies for our students who are experiencing developmental, behavioral and cognitive problems.

