

Principal for the Day

Hannah Welker will be principal of the day on March 19 at Capron. She is one of the morning anchors for WREX. She delivered Mike Winebrenner's Golden Apple to him last year.

Teacher Evaluations

Administratively, the principals gave out 76 summative evaluations. Forty-seven percent of those were excellent and none were unsatisfactory this year. For comparison purposes, under the old evaluation system used in 2013, 84 summative evaluations were completed and 33% were excellent; none were unsatisfactory. In 2012, 74 evaluations were completed; 38% were excellent and 4% were unsatisfactory.

Potential Poplar Grove Development

At this point, the Poplar Grove mobile home development has been voted down, but I would not be surprised to see the developer resubmit his application.

Boone County Special Education Cooperative

The BCSEC Board met on March 10 and one of the key things brought up was that District 100 didn't re-title or re-parcel the land that the BCSEC Building is on. Therefore, the title is solely in District 100's name. I am not sure what the impact of that is, except that it will require additional time on the part of District 100 to work through those issues.

PARCC Pilot Testing

As you should be aware, we will be conducting some pilot testing of the new PARCC Assessments at NBHS, NBUE and Capron later this spring. PARCC is planned to have two parts a PBA, performance based assessment and a EOY or end of year assessment. The PBA will be administered in a March to April window in general, while the EOY tests will be given in May or early June. Here is what is currently being piloted in the NB Schools online. NBHS is set to take some EOY paper versions of the exam. Capron was on the original list from Pearson, but seems to have dropped off momentarily.

School Name	Grade/Course	Subject Area	Number of Classes	Mode of Admin.	Component	Number of Sessions¹
NBMS	7	Mathematics	2	Online	PBA	2
NBMS	8	ELA	2	Online	EOY	2
NBUE	6	Mathematics	2	Online	PBA & EOY	4
PGE	4	ELA	2	Online	PBA	3

Overgrad.Com

On February 24th and February 26, 2014 the entire freshmen class created accounts on Overgrad; Heather Walsh is leading the process. The students were given a brief introduction on the goals and objectives of this new and innovative web-based platform as outlined by Overgrad's mission. The student began customizing their account by adding up-to-date courses, which track course rigor, course grades, adding standardized tests scores, and finally by creating college goals. This platform allows the students to begin tracking their progress towards admissions requirements in the schools they have expressed interest in as early as their freshmen year. By the end of March, all sophomore students will have created an account as well. The goal is to have all students in Grades 9-11 create an account by the end of April. Moving forward, in order to develop and sustain a culture focused on college success, we will begin training staff and students on how to keep their accounts up-to-date by utilizing the platform from any web-based device.

This is an opportunity for us to be on the ground floor of what I think is a compelling product. The goal is to be able to market our students to institutions of higher education through coursework and course rigor as well as the traditional test score method.

ISBE Budget Proposal and Governor's Address

The ISBE has proposed a budget that includes a \$1 billion dollar increase in state funding in order to fully fund GSA at the \$6119 (2010) level. However, some early reports anticipate a \$1 billion dollar cut in education funding. The Governor's March 26 budget address should provide some additional insights as to where he thinks things should fall. There is also talk of a 6 month budget to avoid any "voter unfriendly" cuts until after the November election.