

## 2015-2016 Board of Education Report

We have had a busy year as a District Guidance Department! There were several building structural changes and many challenges associated with moving and setting up the new buildings. There have been several new programs implemented as well and we have risen to the challenges placed before us, and we have exceeded several expectations.

As a group we worked together to host the District Guidance Advisory Council. It was exciting to offer information to a diverse group of members, and it was helpful to hear from our stakeholders. We collaborated with the members on our current guidance focus areas. The council is comprised of parents, former counselors, current students, and other interested community members.

Our District Guidance Counselors have seen a noteworthy rise in individual and responsive services. It is important that our counselors be available to students and parents as situations arise. There are a sizable number of students with a variety of problems that must be dealt with on a daily basis. The addition of a School Social Worker has helped tremendously at the elementary level.

### New Activities for 2015-2016:

- ❖ District Guidance – District Guidance Advisory Council, revised Emergency/Crisis Plan
- ❖ District Guidance – Monthly collaboration during Early Release Time on Fridays
- ❖ Secondary Guidance – Implementing the use of Academy structure for enrollment purposes
- ❖ Secondary Guidance – Individual pre-enrollment meeting with each rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade student
- ❖ Elementary Guidance – Utilizing the ideas of the Leader in Me program in multiple buildings
- ❖ High School – membership on teams that support the High Schools That Work initiative
- ❖ Horizons – conducted more career readiness activities, students earned more scholarships and more students will be attending post-secondary education opportunities
- ❖ Lake Career and Technical Center – participated in Osage High and Camdenton Middle Schools Career Fairs, held OBE Kindergarten tours, began the College Connections Program with State Fair Community College, and had STEM presentations from Universal Technical Institute
- ❖ Oak Ridge – Brought in the Watch Dog program for dads to come in to work with students at school
- ❖ Hawthorn – Established recess play groups, and created an extensive attendance plan working toward having 90% attendance, implemented a Tier 3 behavior support as part of PBS, formed a Parent Advisory Group
- ❖ Dogwood – Started implementation of the use of a Therapy Dog, Participated in a Career Fair with LCTC students
- ❖ Hurricane Deck Elementary – Created a free clothes closet, a group of students spoke at the School's Dedication Ceremony and also presented at the MAESP meeting in March
- ❖ Osage Beach Elementary – presented at the MSCA Conference with over 30 students. Continued success with the Leader in Me program and new construction

### 2015-2016 needs:

- ❖ Continued work on the District Guidance Manual
- ❖ Hire one or two School Social Workers
- ❖ Add an additional High School Counselor

**Departures:** Elizabeth Pogue, Evonna Surette, and Laura Poignant will be leaving due to family re-location.

Respectfully appreciative of the continued support the Board of Education provides to the District Guidance Counselors!