

THE DIRECTOR'S VIEW

BRADLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS

January 2016

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"MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

Reading is a vital function of everyday life. Most of us read without even thinking about what we are doing, but there are many adults who struggle to even read the directions on a medicine bottle which

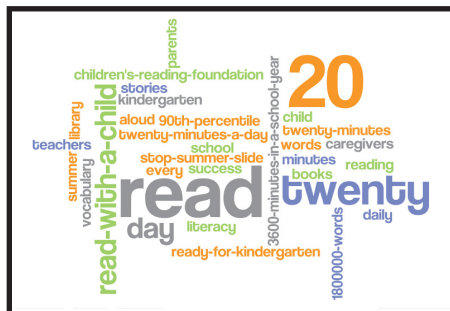
is a scary thought especially for their children. For people who struggle to read, day to day activities that are simple for most people

become a source of frustration, anger and sometimes fear. As teachers, community leaders, parents and grandparents, we can make a difference in the lives of children.



Reading is important because it develops the mind. The mind is a muscle and needs exercise. Teaching young

Read 20 Kickoff



Around the County with Joeli Poole - January's Theme is reading. This month Joeli talks reading with Commissioner of Education Dr. Candice McQueen, BCHS Heather Bischof's Events Planning class, WVHS CTSOs finding ways to promote reading, North Lee's Kristi Schalk's unique motivation tool, and Taylor's Top Readers Music Video. [Full Dr. McQueen Interview.](#)

[Watch January's Around the County Video.](#)

Watch Taylor's 2015 Reading Music Video - [Click Here](#)

Watch Taylor's 2014 Reading Music Video - [Click Here](#)

Readers are Leaders

Bradley County Schools New Initiative Launches

On Thursday, January 14th a new initiative was introduced in Bradley County. The Readers are Leaders Community Celebration highlighted ways to make students better readers and more literate citizens. "We are trying to make our students become the best that they can be so they are able to take jobs wherever they become available," said Director of Schools, Dr. Linda Cash.

The highly publicized event was attended by community, business and church partners, including Tennessee Commissioner of Education, Dr. Candice McQueen, Rick Donahoe from the International Children's Reading Foundation and Linda Vinson, Educational Consultant. Educators from across southeastern Tennessee were invited guests. Students took an active role in the event as well, highlighting student leadership.

The program stressed that students enter school at various levels. Some children enter kindergarten two to three years behind in language development. While students

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January Highlights

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WVHS Anchor Club reads with Charleston kids
Waterville's Generosity Tree

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Who Cares? Goal Academy does
Technology Tip - Zaption Lessons

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Carli Oliver, Black Fox Elementary
Michele Dunkle, Prospect Elementary
Jennifer Wilson, Parent Volunteer - Park View
Elizabeth Kaylor, Taylor Elementary Principal

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Elementary News

WVHS Anchor Club reads with Charleston Kindergarteners

Article by WVHS Senior Olivia Lee

Reading to children shapes the future of their lives. With Anchor Club, we are able to be apart of leading children in a positive direction for their future. Anchor Club has been given the opportunity to become involved at Charleston Elementary School by reading and playing educational games with their kindergarten classes. Personally, I desire to make my future occupation as an elementary teacher, so this opportunity allows me to begin practicing early.



At Charleston Elementary School, Anchor Club goes from 8:20 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. to interact with all of the kindergarten classes. We take one kindergarten class at a time in order to have personal interactions with the students. The students go to one station for a certain amount of time and rotate to the next learning station when time is up. The station I was able to work was the reading station. Everyone, including the “adults”, grabbed a copy of the same book. As expected, the children read at different levels, so some required extra help with sounding out words, while others could read exceptionally well. The students were able to work their brains and become confident when they discovered how to read new vocabulary words.

The entire reason for Anchor Club going to visit Charleston Elementary School is to help provide those kindergarten students a thrilling way to learn and become the best they can be by participating in the Read 20 program. It also provides

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Waterville's Generosity Tree



Since December's Uncommon Trait was Generosity, we wanted to teach our students at Waterville what that means, and also reward their efforts to put it into practice! We decided to put up a tree outside the school counselors' office and title it “The Generosity Tree.” Through classroom guidance lessons, the students were read *The Giving Tree*, and inspired to think of who in their life has given to them sacrificially. The 3rd-5th grade students were asked to write about this person, and Mrs. Vaughn put their writings up beside the tree.

We also took it a step further. After the guidance lesson, each teacher was given a stack of leaves. If they noticed a student doing something generous, they gave that child a leaf. The leaves have the student's name with a description of their generous act.

This activity sparked acts of generosity throughout our school. We are so proud of our students at Waterville!

Upcoming Events - February

February is National CTE Month

National School Counseling Week February 1st–5th

WVHS Academy Night - February 4th @ 6:30 p.m.

Waterville PTO Meeting - February 9th @ 6:30 p.m.

Join the Team!

LIVE TOBACCO FREE

Coordinated School Health in partnership with Bradley Co. Health Department

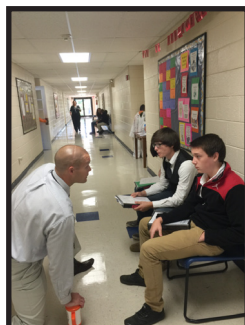
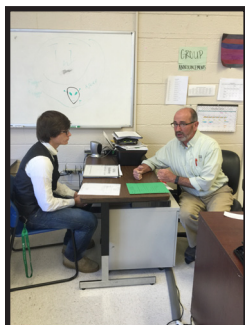
Secondary News

Who Cares?




GOAL Academy cares by helping at-risk students to be healthy, legal, unselfish, productive adults.

The power of care, according to Dr. Walt Celusta, catches up the brain up to three years. So the caring staff of GOAL is making a huge difference just by showing up, caring for students' holistic needs, and by building relationships with at-risk students. The small group and individualized attention that students receive at GOAL Academy helps them close gaps, catch up in academics, be self-aware of their behavior, and so much more. With the help of community partners and the GEAR UP College Access Grant, GOAL is able to help students to prepare for college and career.

Students at GOAL have college & career awareness opportunities: College Visits, Job Shadowing, Team Building Skills, Regularly Scheduled College Access Meetings, Career Fairs, Resumes, Mock Job Interviews, Career Day speakers, School Based Business, Leadership/Communication/Decision Making Skills, and Work Based Learning.



Goal Academy College and Career Awareness Opportunities



Bradley County Schools Presents

JamboREAD

What: Family Reading Time with Flavor!
Visit a participating location and read a book with your child!

Special Offers!

When: Wednesday, February 3, 2016
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Special Guest Readers!

Where: Participating Bradley County Locations

- All Hardee's	- Stevi B's
- Cici's Pizza	- Chick-fil-A
- All Zaxby's	- Deli Boys
- McDonald's	

FAMILY FUN!
(Apt 40, 25th Street, & North Lee Hwy McDonald's ONLY)

Food Discounts!

Offers and Discounts Vary by Location

Special Thanks to The Cleveland Public Library for loaning baskets of books to each participating location for this event!

Zaption Interactive Videos

Looking for some new ideas for using technology in the classroom? Try creating a Zaption lesson. Zaption can make any online video interactive. Short answer, true/false, discussion questions, and more can be easily inserted at crucial points in the video to enhance comprehension. Each lesson can be viewed individually by the student or collectively as a class using Zaption's presenter mode. Presentation mode allows students to



interact with the lesson using their cell phone. Zaption is free for teachers to use (limited number of questions/cannot upload your own videos). The paid version is \$89 per year and allows more questions, multiple videos, and uploading of your own videos to Zaption. Check out this Zaption lesson on [Screencasting](#) on The Spill Website.

(See Technology page 4)

County Spotlights



Student Spotlight - Carli Oliver - Black Fox Elementary



Teacher Spotlight - Michele Dunkle - Prospect Elementary



Parent Volunteer - Jennifer Wilson - Park View Elementary



Administrator Spotlight - Elizabeth Kaylor - Taylor Elementary

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children to read helps them develop language skills, increases their ability to listen and comprehend, and allows them to dream. With a book we can experience so many adventures. TV and video games have their place, but they are more like amusement than adventure. This type of amusement does not always involve thinking and stretching the imagination. However, with reading, children can go anywhere in the world. They can be a king, or an explorer, or a princess, or...the possibilities are endless.

I encourage you to read to a child. As you read stop and ask what he or she thinks will happen next, dive in and think about the story. Challenge him or her to come up with a different ending. Ask the child to illustrate what was best liked about the story. But most of all just take the time to read and spend some time with a child. Bradley County: Let's Read 20 minutes a day.

(Charleston from page 2)

a short break for the kindergarten teachers to plan and organize their day ahead. The students spark imagination and expand in their knowledge and vocabulary when sounding out the words in the books and spelling words in an exciting game. The children gain confidence and higher education when we read with them and they participate in the educational games. It becomes an exciting part of their day and ours; the kindergarten students actually seem to enjoy reading when they see their leaders enjoying learning.

I personally have a longing for becoming an elementary school teacher in the future. I have learned how reading at least twenty minutes a day with children can impact their future. I believe reading with students broadens their imagination while also becoming masters of comprehension and thinking skills. Not reading to children puts them at a disadvantage for their future; it has been proven how reading can shape students' lives when it comes to their behavior and future education plans. As a future teacher, I long to provide my students with the best resources in order for them to have a successful future. One day they will be our community's future doctors, lawyers, teachers, and artists.

Reading is essential for successful futures and should begin at young ages. This is the reason Anchor Club visits Charleston Elementary School, so we can be a part of leading young children in the right direction for their future. The Read 20 program will develop students to think creatively and become superior in comprehension, memory, and overall exceptional students. I have been blessed to participate at Charleston Elementary for the past few years; it has not only impacted the kindergarten students, but it has also made a difference in my life.

(Readers are Leaders from page 1)

typically make a year of growth, catching up is very difficult. Bradley County has set a goal of having 90% of third graders on reading level by the year 2021. In so doing, students will be on a trajectory for success in whatever career path they so choose. One of the main components in this initiative is for parents to begin reading with their children from birth. In addition, all students are encouraged to read at least 20 minutes a day.

For more information visit- [The Children's Reading Foundation](#)
[Click here to view "The Parts of the Parent Reader"](#)

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We want to know what technology you are using in the classroom. Join the Technology Chat room and tell us what technology you are using in your classroom - Click here - www.todaysmeet.com/BCSTechnology.

Next month Technology Tip - Today's Meet Chat Rooms.