

WELCOME 2006!

Here it is---the New Year has arrived. As with every new beginning, there is another beginning's end (2005) that causes us to reflect. At the December 19, 2005 board meeting, we recognized two of our teachers on reaching a milestone achievement in their careers. These two teachers are **Monica Acox**, Family & Consumer Science teacher at Peebles High School, and **Debra Collins**, Language Arts teacher at West Union High School. What was the cause for this celebration? These two teachers are the latest members of our teaching staff to successfully complete an intense and rigorous program to become "National Board Certified." This accomplishment commands the attention and respect of all of us who are associated with education. Congratulations, ladies. We are proud of you, as well as all of our National Board Certified teachers working in the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District.

Another beginning came to an end at the December 19th board meeting. We said goodbye to three individuals who have served the public, the students, and the staff faithfully as board members. Though Mrs. Bess and Mr. Swayne had been board members for but a couple of years, they served during a period of transition in our district. That is not an easy thing to do. Yet, they were very faithful, always accessible, and gave it their best efforts to do what they felt was best for children. You can't ask for much more than that. And, then, we also said goodbye to Mrs. Lewis. Having been a faithful public servant through her boardmanship the past twelve years, she was indeed "the matriarch" of our school board. As with Mrs. Bess and Mr. Swayne, her leadership on this board will be missed.

But, it's a new year. We have a new trio of board members anxious and ready to serve the district in Mrs. Beth Jenkins, Mr. Timothy Naylor, and Mr. Kent Bauman. I feel completely confident in sharing with you that these individuals, coupled with Mr. Jeff Ryan and Mr. Mike Hughes, are going to do a wonderful job of putting students' needs first. Congratulations and best wishes to each of them as they begin this journey together. With our proposed new building project, along with our efforts to move up from "Continuous Improvement" to "Effective" to "Excellent," they already have full plates before them. There are a number of positive initiatives that are going on in our school district, and more on deck for 2006. It is going to be a busy year, and, hopefully, a good year for our school district.

P.A.S.S. COMPLETES FUNDRAISER

Recently, People Advocating Superior Schools (P.A.S.S.) completed their second and, hopefully, final fundraiser in preparation for the May bond issue. We had so much help in making this project a success---from the Project Chairperson, Joy Bauman, to all of the helpers throughout the district who sold raffle tickets, and to all of the people throughout the area who purchased raffle tickets.

You were all instrumental in making this fundraiser a huge success. In the end, PASS made in excess of \$7,700.00 on this particular fundraiser. The North Adams raffle was held on Saturday, December 17th. The \$2,000.00 winner was Julie Bryan of Fayetteville.

Four second place winners of \$500.00 each were Wilma Breeze, Amber Dubbs, Willa Lawhorn, and Dan Beasley.

The Peebles raffle was held on Tuesday, December 20th. Maranda and James Young of Young's IGA in Peebles were the grand prize winner of \$2,000.00. Four second place drawings of \$500.00 each went to Tammy Cluff, Sandy Ryan, Jim Walls, and Linda & Dave Worley.

The West Union raffle was held on Friday, December 16th. The lucky first place \$2,000.00 winner from that raffle was Tony Williams of Peebles. Second place drawings of \$500.00 each were awarded to Margaret Blevins, Melinda Baldwin, Sally Toole, and Kelly Cooper. Many thanks to Sally Toole for donating her winnings back to PASS!

This fundraiser consumed a great deal more time, energy, and effort by a lot more people to realize a successful project completion than what the fair parking project required. But, together we accomplished our goal. Again, I can't begin to name and thank all of those who helped with this project. However, Joy Bauman was the project chairperson and the driving force behind all of us. Many thanks to Joy for never wavering in her enthusiasm with this fundraiser. In my next article, I will revisit the proposed bond issue in May, and focus on improvements needed at the high school facilities.

UPDATE ON P.A.S.S. MEETINGS

You will recall that in a recent article, I mentioned that PASS was scheduling meetings in the farthest corners of our school district to inform and educate the public as to the components of the proposed bond levy. I had shared the dates and times with you, but I now have the locations to share as well. On **Tuesday, January 10, 2006**, PASS will be meeting in the old **Jefferson School** gymnasium at **7:00 p.m.** On **Thursday, January 12, 2006**, PASS will conduct a meeting in the old **Sinking Spring School** gymnasium at **7:00 p.m.** Then, on **Thursday, January 19, 2006**, PASS will meet in the old **Winchester School** gymnasium at **7:00 p.m.** If you live in any of these areas, be sure to mark your calendars and attend the meeting in your area. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 544-5586. Thank you.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent