

## CHANGES ABOUND!

As we begin the 2007-2008 school year, changes abound throughout the school district, particularly in the area of administration. Retirements and relocations claimed a heavy toll on our administrative staff. Because of this, we have many new faces on our administrative team. We also have some familiar faces in new positions as we begin the school year. Hopefully, the following information will be helpful to you as you connect a name/face to a particular administrative position.

Mr. Rodney Wallace, former North Adams High School Principal, is now our Supervisor of State and Federal Programs. He replaces Mrs. Linda Stepp who retired at the conclusion of the 2006-2007 school year. Mr. Eric Meredith, former Peebles High School Principal, is our new Director of Business Affairs. He replaces Mr. Bob Strobl who accepted a similar position with Marietta City Schools. Mrs. Tina Hageman is the new Treasurer for the AC/OVSD. She replaces Mr. Eric Toole who accepted the Treasurer's position with Georgetown Exempted Village Schools. Mrs. Karen Young is our new Talented and Gifted Supervisor. She is replacing Mr. Harry Smittle who retired at the end of the 2006-2007 school year.

Moving out to the building level administrative assignments, there are quite a number of changes to note. Mr. Steve Schad is the new Principal at NAHS. Mr. Schad comes to our school district from Batavia Local Schools in Clermont County where he was the Assistant Principal at the high school. Mr. Greg Grooms is the new Assistant Principal at that same building. Mr. Steve Kempf is the new Principal at PHS. Mr. Kempf recently

retired from that same position at Eastern Pike High School. Mr. Joe Bennington is the new T&I Supervisor/Assistant Principal at the Ohio Valley Career and Technical Center. Mr. Bennington moved into that position following the retirement of Mr. Jack Hazelbaker. Mrs. Margaret Ann Charles is the new Principal at Peebles Elementary. Mrs. Charles recently retired following a successful career-long stint with Portsmouth City Schools. Finally, Mr. Michael Roades is the new Assistant Principal at West Union Elementary. Mr. Roades succeeds Mr. Chris Smith who left our district to become an Elementary Principal at Clermont-Northeastern Local Schools.

Well, there you have it. As you can see, we have quite a number of changes in our administrative staff. I almost need a scorecard myself to keep up with all of it! Certainly, the district lost several key productive administrators at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors. The key for this new District Administrative Team will be to keep the momentum going that has already been established in our district regarding school improvement. Much has been accomplished in the past few years. Yet, there is still work to be done. This new District Administrative Team will be committed to sustaining this positive momentum, and to help lead the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District to greater heights of success that have not yet been obtained.

**BLAST TUTORING TO RESUME AT WUHS**

After-school tutoring for students at West Union High School will resume on Tuesday, September 18, 2007. Tutoring sessions will run from 3:00 p.m. until 4:15 p.m., and bus transportation will be provided. BLAST tutoring is available to all students in grade seven through twelve, and is sponsored by Gear-Up. Please contact WUHS at 544-5553 for more information on this free tutoring opportunity.

### EARLY DISMISSALS

Last week, the AC/OVSD opted to dismiss school early on August 22nd, 23rd, and to close the elementary buildings on Friday, August 24th due to the excessive heat in the elementary buildings. Some may wonder why the high school students were dismissed when their buildings are all air conditioned. The reason for dismissing the high school students on August 22nd and 23rd was due to a lack of timely notification on our part to inform parents that we were considering a change in past practice. Realizing that older students might be needed to baby-sit for their younger brother or sister, we opted to dismiss all students early on these days. However, the temperatures in the elementaries were so uncomfortable by midday Thursday, August 23rd, that closing those buildings was the only sensible option. Again, keep in mind that this decision was made due to the extreme or excessive heat. We cannot and will not be able to close school every time that the temperature gets up to 90 degrees. But, triple digits or high 90's is another story.

Parents of elementary students need to have a plan in place for the next two years that would cover babysitting needs should we need to dismiss school early again due to extreme heat. Should this need come up again, our intent may/will be to complete the

normal school day for the high school students while dismissing the elementary students early. Thanks to our taxpayers, this problem will be resolved in two years when our new elementary buildings are completed.

If you have any questions about this article, please contact me at 544-5586. Thank you.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent