PRIORITY SCHOOLS IN THE NEWS

United States Education Secretary Arne Duncan visits **Fern Creek High School** as part of visit to Kentucky – http://education.ky.gov/comm/news/Documents/R%2015-045%20Duncan%20visit.pdf

Franklin-Simpson High School unveils new greenhouse - http://www.ksba.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=6GBPUP2&dasi=3G32

Two **Hopkins County Central High School** students place in district talent show - http://surfky.com/index.php/news/local/hopkins/60157-middle-high-schools-talent-performances-with-17-acts?hootPostID=8dc3a4a85aa88c721cdcdc8cf554591a

Sheldon Clark High School launches Air and Space Academy - http://www.wkyt.com/wymt/home/headlines/Students-learn-to-fly-planes-in-Martin-County-300847221.html

Joseph "Jodie" Zeller tapped to be next principal at **Westport Middle School** - http://www.wdrb.com/story/28885763/joseph-jodie-zeller-tapped-to-be-next-principal-at-westport-middle-school

Nine low-performing JCPS schools could shed 'priority' label this year - http://www.wdrb.com/story/28894387/sunday-edition-nine-low-performing-jcps-schools-could-shed-priority-label-this-year

ITEMS FROM SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS, WEBSITES, AND THE FIELD

Academy @ Shawnee

Students, Staff, and Parents Volunteer at Academy at Shawnee Booth at Thunder Over Louisville

Many aviation enthusiasts and prospective students stopped by our booth to try their hand at flying an airplane. A number of new students expressed an interest in attending the Academy @ Shawnee's aviation magnet, many of whom were unaware the program even existed. "It is kind of hard to believe you can get your private pilot's license for FREE at a public school, but that's exactly what happens here!"

Fern Creek High School

Two Fern Creek students brought home medals at SkillsUSA State Championship on April 25. Colby Cox won first place in Computer Programming while Cody Wilder (pictured below) won second place in Pin Design.

U.S. Secretary of Education Visits Fern Creek

Fern Creek was honored to host United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Kentucky Commissioner of Education Terry Holliday, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, and several other dignitaries today. Our Fern Creek Communications students did a fantastic job capturing the visit and even got an exclusive interview!

Fleming County High School

Congratulations to Ashley Bowling, Mackenzie Purvis, Stuart Hurd, and JD McGinnis! They have been accepted into the 2015 Governor's Scholars program.

VFW Scholarships

The following scholarship winners were presented with checks by Rick Johnson, Scholarship Chairman for VFW Franklin Sousley Post 1834.

Pictured left to right – Rick Johnson, Winston Reeder - Post 1834 Scholarship ($200), Maverick Burnett - Post 1834 Scholarship ($200), Morgan Stephens - Voice of Democracy Scholarship ($500), Sydnee Hardin - Post 1834 Scholarship ($200), and John Johnson - Post 1834 Scholarship ($200)

Hopkins County Central High School

Kentucky P20 Innovation Lab — Growing Tomorrow's Innovators

Submitted by Lisa Carroll, Education Recovery Specialist

An ongoing concern exists that schools in the United States are not adequately preparing our students to succeed in an increasingly diverse, globalized, and technology-rich world. For too long, education leaders from all levels have worked in silos to prepare students for success. Many 'tweaks' have been made to learning systems, producing only limited results. To accomplish the goal of college and career readiness for all students, radically different learning experiences and environments must be created and new systems of support for learners must be delivered. Transformation of P20 systems requires learner-centered focus, incubation space for research and innovation, and unwavering collaborative support.

Kentucky's P20 Innovation Lab, which is hosted by the University Of Kentucky College Of Education, is leading the way to help schools in Kentucky transform education to deliver next generation learning and, ultimately, increase the number of students who are ready to succeed in college and career. Established in 2010 to link research and innovation to issues faced in P-12 schools and districts, the P20 Lab is providing tools, feedback and assistance to schools and districts as they redesign and rethink current policies, practices and programs to support 21st century learners. The P20 Lab is an incubator for identifying, implementing and evaluating prototypes that can be scaled at the district, state and national levels.

Hopkins County Central High School is committed to taking a team of eleven individuals, including a student, to participate and implement what is learned throughout this lab experience. One of the directives from the lab experience is to select an initiative to implement throughout the school. HCCHS has selected Student Agency. Student Agency gives a true voice to students in decisions being made at the school for their education experiences and programs. From this decision came the inclusion of the student in the training. The inclusion of the Hopkins County Central Senior marks the first time that a student has been an active team member in the program. Our participants include:

Monica Huff, Student

Marty Cline, Secondary Director

Jeff Jones, Assistant Principal

Laura Latham, Curriculum Specialist

Zach Hibbs, Teacher

Michael Murrah, Teacher

Sarah Tyson, Teacher

Melissa Gilkey, Teacher

Kevin Fritz, Teacher

Stephen Wood, Teacher

Lisa Carroll, Education Recovery Specialist

If you would like any additional information about this experience, please contact any of the people listed above at 270-825-6133.

Knox Central High School

Students Celebrate New Partnership with Berea College

A high school pep rally isn't typically news in Knox County, but the rallies held at Knox Central High School and Lynn Camp Middle/High School on April 2, 2015 were like none other.

There was no mention of sports, and the only cheering to be heard had nothing to do with athletics. It had everything to do with college and career readiness and helping students set and reach their dreams.

With a blood-pumping music and a spirit line of upperclassmen, cheerleaders, and Berea College staff, and PartnerCorps volunteers giving high fives to students as they entered the gym via a literal red carpet, the stage was set for an entertaining and enthusiastic start to one of Berea College's newest grant programs through Partners for Education: the Berea College/Knox County Full-Service Community Schools Program.

"We had two primary purposes with these pep rallies: to introduce the Berea College Partners for Education Programs as well as recognizing seniors who are going on to college and military after graduation," said Kelli Moore, project director for the Full-Service Community Schools Program.

Over the past four years, Berea College Partners for Education has brought five grant programs to Knox County Schools:

- GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs), which prepares and encourages students to pursue post-secondary education and training.
- Investing In Innovation (i3), which encourages students to take the more rigorous Advanced Placement courses to help prepare them for college.
- PartnerCorps, which is an AmeriCorps programs that provides mentoring to all students at Knox Central High School through 22 volunteers.
- AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) which provides parent and community engagement services.
- Full-Service Community Schools Program, a multi-faceted program that links community resources and services to schools.

"Our partnerships with Berea College are a key component of our plan to ensure that all students are college and career ready upon graduation," said Kelly Sprinkles, Superintendent of the Knox County Public Schools.

"The mentor type services allow for all of our high school students to not just be known by an adult, but to build a relationship where conversations about struggles in school and plans for the future can freely be shared."

Sprinkles added that the school district is already seeing positive results of several Berea programs including increased enrollment in Advanced Placement courses and an increase in the number of students pursuing higher education after graduation.

During the rally on Thursday, students learned more about the newest program being offered by Berea College, the FSCS Program .

"The Full-Service Community Schools Program seeks to build connections and partnerships among schools and community organizations," said Moore. "Through these partnerships, we seek to improve the well being of the community and the lives of students and their families through academic, health, career, and social services. Our overarching goal is to develop students into successful members of a thriving community."

The FSCS Program seeks to guide students to make decisions throughout their school years that put them in a place where they have many positive choices after they graduate. The program include a broad array of services, such as tutoring, financial literacy for families, job training, community service and leadership development, career counseling, youth work programs, mentoring, health and wellness, summer programming, and referrals to social services.

Lincoln County High School

Congratulations to our 2015 Governor's Scholars!

All eight of our students who applied were selected to participate in this year's program. We are proud of all of you!

Landrea Smith, Grayson Yaden, Abby Fultz, Hunter Faulkner, Peyton Lewis, Clark Bridgman, Katie King, and Teron Mitchell

Metcalfe County High School

Recently, MCHS seniors who have obtained college and/or career ready status were presented with flashdrive lanyards and mobile boosts. The majority of the 73 seniors awarded this recognition so far are pictured below. The college/career readiness rate for the class of 2015 is currently over 80%! The lanyards and boosts were purchased with FRYSC monies from the Race to the Top Kidfriendly grant.

Newport High School

Congratulations to these FBLA students on their win at the FBLA State Competition! L to R: Advisor Jennifer Michael, Vanessa Tafolla, Miriah Combs, Janiah Miller, and Kyle Wade. Not pictured: Nekko Beal, Dorian Cosby, Ethan Snapp

Perry County Central High School

The PCC Band attended the KMEA Band Festival this weekend and returned with a PROFICIENT score! They scored a 2 on a scale of 1 to 4. It was their goal from the very beginning of the year to score Proficient, and they achieved it! Even though about 65% of these students hadn't touched an instrument before this year, and about 85% hadn't played before last year, they proved themselves among other top bands in our district. They've worked very hard through the last couple months, and it paid off. Congratulations once again and a big thank you to Mr. Grieb who works very hard with this program.

The band's "celebration selfie" from the bus ride home

Congratulations to the Perry County Central Choir and Mrs. Thompson for an overall Distinguished rating on their Choral Assessment at Union College!

Senior Signing Day

On April 30, Perry County Central hosted its first Senior Signing Day. The event was similar to athletic signing days, except that it honored students who will be attending college. It was open to every senior who has been accepted at a college or university.

Board member Debbie Hignite and Chairman of Perry County Board of Education John "Punkin" Combs present acceptance letter from Georgetown College to senior Shawn Wooton.

Perry County Central principal Michelle Ritchie presents University of the Cumberlands acceptance letters to Kiana Couch and BreAnna Begley

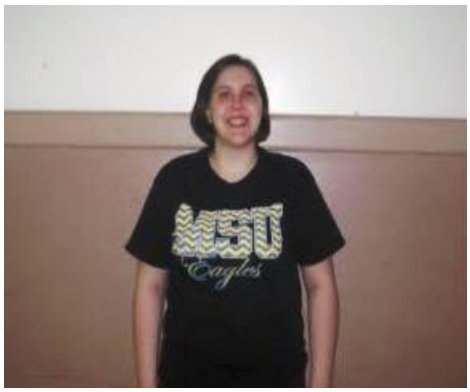
Alice Lloyd College representative Mary Turner with her class of 2015 recruits

Morehead State representative Gabe Schadle's selfie with his PCC seniors

Hazard Community & Technical College President Greiner with the largest ever number of acceptances from a PCC senior class

University of Pikeville representative Cory Gannon with his seniors

Congratulations to Darcy McDaniel on her Art Leadership Scholarship to Morehead State University! Darcy is considering studying either photography or art history.



Darcy McDaniel

Pulaski County High School

FBLA Excels at State Conference

Recently several members of FBLA competed at the state conference held at the Galt House in Louisville. The PCHS FBLA earned an amazing eight awards at the conference. As a result, several members advanced to compete at the National FBLA Conference to be held in Chicago June 29-July 3.

State winners:

1st Place - Laura Hancock (Impromptu Speaking)
3rd Place - Kaylee Abbott (Insurance and Risk Management)
3rd Place - Brennan Perkins and Hannah Shawen (Mobile App Development)
3rd Place - Kyra O Conner (Accounting II)
3rd Place - Megan McKenzie, Emily Dick, Jean Weaver, Tawney Gould, and Heylee Hart (Bulletin Board)
4th Place - Noah McAlphin, Micah Adkins, and Jesus Avina (Public Service Announcement)
4th Place - Pulaski County Chapter (4th largest chapter in Kentucky)
5th Place - Jaylan Roberts, Alyssa Black, and Austin Barron (Management Information Systems)

DECA Competes at International Conference

Pulaski County High School DECA recently returned from competing at the International DECA Conference in Orlando, Florida. These DECA members placed in the top three in their events at the state competition and then competed against the best of each of the 50 states and five other countries.

Although these students did not make it to finals, the majority of DECA students from Pulaski County were recognized for scoring in the 70th percentile at the conference in their event. Over 17, 000 students attended the conference and competed in a variety of events related to marketing, retailing, business plans, entrepreneurship, community service, and other topics. While some took tests and performed in role play scenarios before a judge, others wrote 11- 30 page written projects and presented them to judges. Many people from the community and PCHS helped the students prepare for their competition and complete their projects.

Students attending from PCHS were Bradley Correll, Kelly Brunson, Katie Corder, Bailey Pierce, Andrea Rookard, Hannah Phelps, Lucas Dick, Kayla Butler, CeCe Roberts, Braxton Witt, John Nelson, Yasmine Sadrinia, and Lauren Murphy, along with advisor Lisa Hurt and chaperone Viola Correll.

Westport Middle School

Every year one eighth grade student is recognized by the counselor for his or her hard work, maturity, and positive changes. Ruth Trowel was recognized on April 22 for making good choices and using her leadership skills to help others make those same choices. Fortunately for Westport, we have so many students who deserve this award that it's hard to name just one!