



## Superintendent Weekly Note #27

Each week I will highlight some of our opening day themes:

**#3—If you want to be truly great, you have to work as hard to be a great teammate as you do to be a great player.**

**RIS Mission:** *Our mission is to inspire and empower all students to reach their maximum potential: **one student, one lesson, one day at a time.***

### **Things I CAN Control...**

1. My **ATTITUDE**
2. My **EFFORT**
3. My **BEHAVIOR**
4. My **ACTIONS** to be a Great Team Member

*Continue to focus on the RIS four core beliefs:  
It's about Kids! —Accountability—Transparency—Communication.*

☺ *Positives across the district.....*

### **Russell Primary School** (From the desk of Mr. Cassity)

- Congrats to our February Chick-fil-a Students and Staff of the Month! Thank you Steve and DeeDee Barfield for treating these awesome kiddos and Ms. Frye to lunch on Thursday:



**Russell-McDowell Intermediate** (From the desk of Mrs. Wright)

- It has been Book Fair week! Our Book Fair ladies have done an amazing job! (And we have made a lot of money for our library!)
- Our Code Club had its last meeting on Tuesday after school. A huge thanks to Mr. Jordan and Mrs. Casto for providing this awesome opportunity for our students!
- Students of the Month enjoyed a lunch out at Chick-fil-A this week. Congratulations to Lucas Westenhofer, Autumn Craig, and Gunnar Hignite!
- Our Core Essentials Assembly for the month was full of character education and excitement. Thank you Bridges Church and Chick-fil-A!
- Mr. Moore, Mr. Salyers, Mr. Casto, and RMS student Dakota Starrett met with our 5th graders to discuss expectations for middle school. It's hard to believe that it is already time to start our transition activities!
- Students attending breakfast on Friday were entertained with some beautiful performances at our monthly Breakfast with the Arts! We always have standing room only for this special event!



**Russell Middle School** (From the desk of Mr. Moore)

RMS GOOD NEWS for February 25<sup>th</sup>-March 1st

- RMS PTO provided a popcorn party to 273 students who made Honor Roll.
- RMS Choir Members participated in the All-District Chorus Festival
- RMS Doctor Seuss Day and Read Across America kicked off on Friday
- RMS KUNA-collected old shoes for WaterStep. WaterStep provides clean drinking water for communities around the world.
- RMS is excited about the new student we will be getting in 2032!



**Russell High School** (From the desk of Mrs. Chaffin)

- KMEA All District Choir performed Friday night at the Paramount Arts Center.
- Tristan Miller was named All District tournament team.
- Counselors are meeting individually with students to discuss scheduling options for next year.
- ROTC Honor Guard performed military funeral duties on Thursday.



- Girls' basketball team will participate in the Regional tournament this weekend at Morehead State University.
- Our **Latin** delegates had a great time and achieved some great awards over this past weekend.

**Academic Testing** (they awarded top ten in the state in each category):

- A. Classical Art
  1. 4th place--Nate Perry
  2. 5th place--Joe Ewing
  3. 7th place--Luke Russell
- B. Derivatives
  1. **Latin** IV/V
    - a. 5th place--Grant Darnell
    - b. 8th place--Nick Mineer
- C. Grammar
  1. **Latin** III
    - a. 8th place---Jeffrey Nance
  2. **Latin** IV/V
    - a. 4th place (three way tie)--Nick Mineer, Grant Darnell, and Will Scott
    - b. 7th place--Barrett Blevins
    - c. 10th place--Carmen Hsieh
- D. Mythology
  1. **Latin** III
    - a. 8th place--Jeffrey Nance
  2. **Latin** IV/V
    - a. 6th place--Nate Perry
- E. Reading Comprehension
  1. **Latin** II
    - a. 9th place--Jacob Nance
  2. **Latin** III
    - a. 10th place--Jeffrey Nance
  3. **Latin** IV/V
    - a. 3rd place--Carmen Hsieh
    - b. 5th place--Maya Abul-Khoudoud
    - c. 6th place--Mattie Hale
    - d. 7th place--Will Scott
    - e. 8th place--Joe Ewing
    - f. 10th place (tied)--Luke Russell, and Barrett Blevins
- F. Vocabulary
  1. **Latin** III:
    - a. 9th place--Leela Jackson

2. **Latin** IV/V:

- a. 6th place--Barrett Blevins
- b. 10th place--Nick Mineer

o **Spirit** (They award top 3 in each category).

a. Spirit leaders: Luke Russell, Joe Ewing, Nate Perry, and Grant Darnell.

b. Head spirit leader: Gabi Griffith

A. Daily Spirit Award (competing against 4 medium-sized schools)

1. First Place on Friday
2. Second Place on Saturday.

B. Banner

1. Third Place

a. Idea--planning committee (**Latin** III/IV/V)

b. Creators--Grant Darnell, Gabi Griffith, and Will Scott (felt part of the banner); Leela Jackson (drawing part of the banner)

C. T-Shirt

1. Second Place (three way tie, which is very rare)

- a. Idea--Maya Abul-Khoudoud
- b. Creator--Leela Jackson

D. Role Call

1. First Place

a. Creator--Nate Perry

b. Performers--Nate Perry, Maya Abul-Khoudoud, Carmen Hsieh, and Mattie Hale

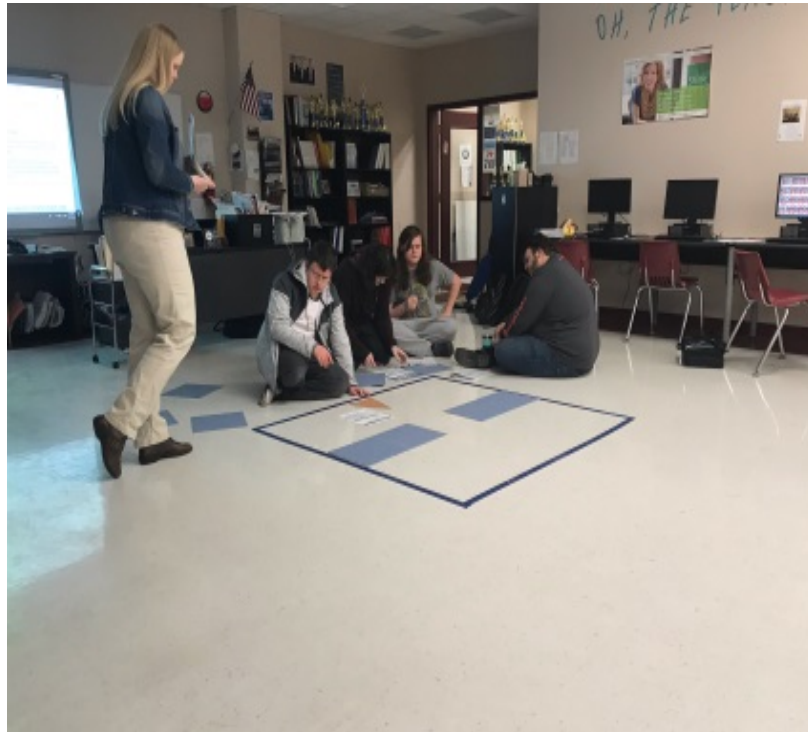
E. We won the Spirit Stick

This is awarded every year to the school that earned the most points in the last four categories. The school has the right to carve its name and year into the stick, which is the old table leg. Russell in 2006 won the stick by two points, which was the closest margin of victory until this year when we won it by one point. Russell has won it the second most since its creation in 1989 with seven victories.

**Russell Area Technology Center** (From the desk of Mrs. S. Thompson)

- Our Skills Student Organization competed at their Regional Competition on Saturday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>! We are so proud of our students and their hard work in preparing! Thank you to Mr. Parsons for organizing and leading the trip for our young people! We are so proud of them all!
- Josh Griffith, Joe Ewing, & Pierce Rice presented in the Glockner Dare to Dream Pitch Contest on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. We are so proud of their hard work and project! Thank you, Mrs. Wilburn, for leading the way on this endeavor and providing the trip for them. This is a great opportunity!

- So proud of our Pre-Nursing/MNA students and Ms. Layne! They completed their second round of Clinicals at Oakmont this week! Our young people are enjoying giving back and spending time interacting with their residents.
- Congratulations to Aiden Sammons for passing the PowerPoint 2016 Certification! We are so proud of him & his hard work! He now has all three MOS Certifications completed! Way to go, Aiden & Mrs. Phipps!
- We are so proud of our building and so thankful for the hard work and support of our Russell Maintenance Team, Mr. Dave Craft, Mr. Dennis Chambers, and Mr. Sean Horne. Mr. Roy Craft keeps our building clean and shining! Mrs. Tammy Hall created two beautiful banners welcoming our students to the building! How very blessed we are to have such great people keeping our buildings safe, functional, and clean! Also, our Maintenance Department donated floor tiles to Mrs. Phipps' classroom for her AP students to do a live coding puzzle! It was a lot of fun for our students & a great hands-on learning project!



**Russell Preschool** (From the desk of Mrs. Staton)

**Mrs. Moore**

This week, we focused on rhyming. We learned three new nursery rhymes. We used our fine motor skills to create books to share and read with our families. We are looking forward to Dr. Seuss rhyming activities next week.

**Mrs. Grizzle**

This week we read a class favorite, *Goodnight Moon*; learned a new fingerplay, Five Little Sheep; new nursery rhyme, Mary Had A Little Lamb; and met a new Frogstreet Friend, Victor the Vulture. We also loved retelling the story, creating more patterns with stickers, and creating a starry painting. We were over the moon to enjoy another week together in Room 207!!

### Mrs. Boyer

This week in Pre-K was out of this world. Our little astronomers loved learning about outer space, the Solar System, and constellations. We ended our week watching a space launch.

### Mrs. Delong

This week we have been working on our math skills. We have been working on writing and recognizing our numbers and played several math games. We have also been working on our "more or less" skills and adding to numbers.

### Mrs. Stephens

We have had a great week learning about Dental Health. We discussed how to brush our teeth, how to floss and to visit the dentist every year! We talked about making healthy food choices and categorized healthy and unhealthy food using a visual. We practiced flossing teeth (using Playdoh and yarn) and got to take home a toothbrush! We read several books about Going to the Dentist, books about teeth and made our own tooth craft! We also added 2 new additions to the classroom-Our new Hamsters that the kids named Tinkerbelle and JoJo! We learned that they have teeth too!

### What's happening at central office / district this week?

- **February Board of Education Meeting**—Monday, March 25, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Central Office board room. **This is an open meeting and a great opportunity to learn what is going on in the district. Great leadership opportunity!**

**It's a great day to be a Red Devil! Have a great week Russell!**

--Sean