Announcements for the 10.14.14 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Fleetwood schools lauded for academic success

By David Mekeel
Reading Eagle

The Fleetwood School District has been honored for its academic achievements, and will be rewarded with a chance to share its tactics with others.

The district has been named by the state Department of Education as one of 17 districts statewide to take part in the Governor's Expanding Excellence Pilot Mentoring Grant Program. The program is designed to pair high-performing schools with low-performing schools to help increase student achievement.

"It certainly is very rewarding," said Dr. Paul B. Eaken, superintendent. "It's a great feeling."

Fleetwood qualified for the grant program because of its high math scores on the state's annual School Performance Profiles at the middle school. Schools that scored over 90 in a specific area were eligible to apply for the program.

Fleetwood was the only local district to be included in the program.

Amaal Awadalla, assistant superintendent, said the district has placed a lot of focus on the middle school math program over the past few years, implementing things like increased instructional time and the use of instructional coaches.

As part of the grant program, the district will put together a plan that other schools can use to boost their students' performances. That plan will be submitted to the state and then presented during the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators and the Pennsylvania School Board Association's school leadership conference in October.

"We have to kind of replicate what we did so that another school can take it and learn from it and use it in their building," Awadalla said.

The district will also eventually be paired with a school deemed "low-performing" in math, which it will pick from a list of schools provided by the state. Fleetwood will help that school in implementing Fleetwood's plan for improving achievement in math.

Fleetwood received $25,000 from the state to complete its plan. The school Fleetwood is paired with will get $10,000 to help implement it.

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FLEETWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Two new principals welcomed

Stephen Herman and Gangi Cucciuffo aim to build relationships

By Laura Dillon
For 21st Century Media

FLEETWOOD » Two new principals have taken the helm at Fleetwood Area School District.

High School Principal Stephen Herman started at Fleetwood High last December and has recently begun his first full year as the school's principal.

"It was a difficult transition in the middle of the school year," said Herman. "It's a busy time of year, and then you add the tasks of coming on as an administrator."

However, Herman anticipates a successful school year.

"It's a great group of students," he said. "They are polite and interested in their education."

One of Herman's greatest tasks as a new principal is building relationships with parents, students and faculty.

"We have held parent meetings and scheduling meetings," he said. "As far as the staff, we are holding faculty meetings once a month, and just getting out in the halls and stopping to talk is a big part. Whether it's staff or students, it's all about relationships."

Fleetwood High School is implementing changes in curriculum as well.

The students are on a moderated block schedule two days a week, and through Career Path

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Principals

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ways, the course catalog is offering new and varying options for students.

"We are incorporating the career aspect so students can make informed decisions," said Herman. "We're looking for high-interest course work that will draw students in and get them interested in a particular field of study."

Herman began his education and career as an administrator in Colorado, where he taught chemistry and physics. For the past four years, he was Principal at Millersburg High School, his Alma Mater.

Herman looks forward to the changes in the school's curriculum.

"We just started, and so far the feedback has been great," he said.



LAURA DILLON - BERKS-MONT NEWSPAPERS

Fleetwood High School Principal Stephen Herman.



COURTESY PHOTO

Fleetwood Middle School Principal Gangi Cucciuffo.

At Fleetwood Middle School, Gangi Cucciuffo is also a fresh face for the district. Cucciuffo took over the position of Principal after Christopher Redding left to become principal of Andrew Maier Elementary School in Blandon.

"Mr. Redding was on my interview committee, and he has been a great help to me in the transition," said Cucciuffo. "Every time I talk to him, he is so excited about where he is and what he is doing. Elementary is fun, and I think he is looking forward to the change."

Cucciuffo is equally excited about his move to Fleetwood.

"The community is tight-knit, and the kids are fantastic," he said. "They want to get to know me as much as I want to get to know them."

Cucciuffo plans to spend the first half of the year building relationships.

"I want as much parent involvement as possible," said Cucciuffo. "I hope to hold parents' nights to discuss issues that might affect the kids. This is a partnership, and a partnership is only as strong as its partners."

Cucciuffo is also working diligently to get to know his teachers and staff.

"I pride myself on building relationships," he said. "When we know each other's philosophies, it makes it easier to work together."

Cucciuffo believes it's important to get to know his staff for who they are inside and outside of school.

"If we don't have a mutual respect for who we are outside of work, we can't achieve as much together," he said.

Cucciuffo comes to Fleetwood after a long career in education. He attended Alvernia University for Elementary Education and was hired as a third grade teacher at Lauer's Park Elementary in Reading. There, he was promoted to Curriculum and Instructional Supervisor.

While earning his Master's, Cucciuffo became Assistant Principal of Oley Valley Elementary and then went on to spend seven years in administration at Highland Elementary, Ephrata Middle and Intermediate Schools.

Cucciuffo plans to get acclimated before considering any changes.

"I want to get my feet under me and get to know the school and students as they already are," he said.

The upcoming year is one full of promising plans for the two new administrators. For both Herman and Cucciuffo, it will be all about building relationships, making connections and learning what is in the best interest for students.

HOMECOMING

Fleetwood hosts Homecoming Parade and Festival

By Chris Young
Fleetwood Rec Board

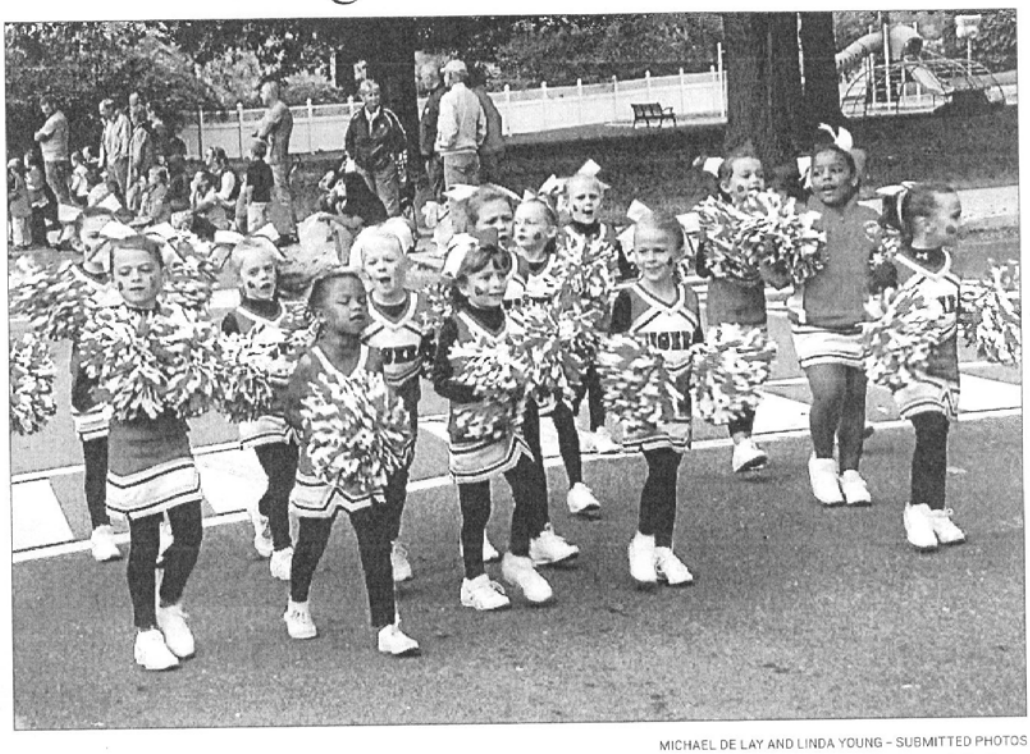
Fleetwood hosted its annual Homecoming Parade Friday, Oct. 3, followed by Homecoming festival after the parade in Fleetwood Park.

The goal of the Fleetwood Rec Board's Homecoming Festival was to provide a venue for people to attend after the homecoming parade so the community could continue to express support of the FASD homecoming. The festival included food sold by the Willow Creek PTA and Safe Grad, free moon bounce, free hayrides and mini train rides, game and information booths by 10 different school and community organizations, DJ music and dancing, carnival amusement rides, and a huge bonfire led by the Fleetwood Area Youth Cheerleader Assn.

We were extremely pleased with the turnout and enthusiasm with an estimated 2,000 people attending the event.



Fleetwood hosted its annual Homecoming Parade Friday, Oct. 3, followed by Homecoming Festival at Fleetwood Park.



MICHAEL DE LAY AND LINDA YOUNG – SUBMITTED PHOTOS

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High School

1. On Thursday, October 30, 2014, the fall blood drive will be held on the auditorium stage from 7:15 AM-1:00 PM (last appointment given is 1:00). The blood drive is open to students 17 years and older, faculty and staff members, parents, relatives, and community. Email or call Bonnie Fansler in the High School Health Room at ext. 2531 by Monday, October 27th if you are interested. Please consider being a part of this important health promotion! Thanks!
2. On Friday, October 10th, the 9th grade class went on a field trip to Gettysburg.
3. The German club will be attending the Reading Liederkranz's Evening of German on Tuesday, November 4, from 6 PM to 10 PM.
4. Congratulations to October's Students of the Month!
5. Congratulations to this year's Homecoming King and Queen!

Middle School

1. *5th grade in Motion* (to raise money for the playground) will be held on October 16th.
2. On October 16th, the 6th grade class will be going to Camden, NJ for a field trip to Adventure Aquarium and Battleship New Jersey.
3. Red Ribbon Week is being held October 27th –October 31st:
   - **Monday** - Saying no to drugs is no sweat -sweatpants and sweatshirts
   - **Tuesday** - Team up against drugs - favorite team apparel
   - **Wednesday** - Join the fight against drugs - camo, red/white/blue
   - **Thursday** - We "Mustache" You to Shine Drug Free - neon colors/mustache apparel
   - **Friday** - These paws don't touch drugs! - Fleetwood/red/white clothing
4. Student Council Dance is October 24th

Richmond Elementary

1. Unity Day will be held on October 22nd – wear orange for anti-bullying
2. Red Ribbon Week is being held October 27th –October 31st:
   - **Monday** – "Be a Star, Say No to Drugs" – wear red for pledge signing
   - **Tuesday** – "Team Up Against Drugs" – wear a sports team shirt
   - **Wednesday** – "My Future is Bright, No Drugs in Sight" – wear bright colors
   - **Thursday** – "Say Peace Out to Drugs" – wear tie-dye
   - **Friday** – "Say Boo to Drugs" – wear orange and black
3. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, November 25th and Wednesday, November 26th
4. Richmond students enjoyed a presentation by the Walnuttown Fire Dept. on October 6th concerning fire prevention.
5. Richmond students continue to enjoy the Science Explorers Club after school program on Tuesdays.
6. Beginning October 20th students at Richmond will be participating in the FORCE Program, an after school program designed to supplement physical education classes and creates Fun Opportunities for Recreation and Cool Exercise!

Willow Creek Elementary

1. The PTA "Boofest" will be held on Friday, October 24th from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
2. Career Day will be held on Friday, October 24th – portray what you want to be when you grow up!
3. Red Ribbon Week is being held October 27th –October 31st



Pinwheels for Peace, September 19, 2014

Athletic Office

1. Fleetwood Activity Booster Club and FASD will be honoring all fall senior athletes. The remaining recognition nights are as follows:

Girls' Volleyball	Tuesday	10/14/14	6:45 PM
Football & Cheerleading	Friday	10/31/14	6:30 PM

From the desk of Dr. Eaken

FLEETWOOD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT

Teaching all students how to have good behavior

By Dr. Paul Eaken
Superintendent

We are excited to announce that each building in the Fleetwood Area School District now has a structured program to teach and recognize appropriate behavior in school. The new program emphasizes being prepared, treating everyone with respect, displaying integrity in all of your behavior, making good decisions, and exceling in everything you do.

Studies have shown that students who attend schools with a structured behavior support program have lower discipline rates and higher achievement than students who attend schools without this program. The School-Wide Positive Behavior Support Program changes the emphasis from responding to inappropriate behavior to communicating clear expectations for student behavior, teaching students how to respond to social problems, and recognizing appropriate (or positive) behavior.

After a year of planning, the high school launched its positive behavior support program on the second day of school this year. The day included instruction on the specific behavior that is expected in school, information on how positive behavior will be recognized, team-building activities in a game format, and a speaker from the community. Student surveys indicated that the program launch was viewed as a fun day that conveyed an important message about the school's values and expectations.

The high school program was developed to align with the positive behavior program at the middle and elementary schools. It is part of our continued efforts to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready for college or career.

The program reflects the hard work of teachers, school psychologists, counselors, nurses, principals, and students. Lessons were developed to teach students appropriate behavior not only in class, but in the hallways, bathrooms, cafeteria, and on the bus. Students were surveyed and interviewed to identify their expectations for school, and the problems that they felt must be addressed to improve the school.

The high school program includes the opportunity for students to earn 'Tiger Cash' by displaying appropriate behavior in school. Tiger Cash may be used to purchase school supplies, spirit wear, and activities (such as a private lunch with a group of friends or a free pass for mini golf). Fund raising events will generate income to support events and incentives.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 3 - Early Dismissal for Students. Homecoming Parade, 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 4 - Homecoming (including Girls' Soccer and Football games)

Oct. 13 & 14 - No School for Students, Teacher In-Service

The Board of Education meetings on Oct. 14 and 21 at 7 p.m.