

NFES NEWSLETTER

October, 2011

VISION: ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

MISSION: Providing Children Success

Principal's Note: I am pleased to be able to report to you that the opening of the 2011-2012 school year has progressed very smoothly. Students have quickly returned to their school routine of working and studying hard at school and at home. Our "Open House" and annual "Family Picnic" was well attended. Thank you for all of your support.

Halloween Fest: Since the NFES PTSO Executive Committee has hesitated to hold a "Fall Festival" this year, a group of fourth & fifth Grade parents have decided to hold their own "**Halloween Fest**" on **Saturday, October 22nd** from **5:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Profit from the Halloween Fest will go to help with the cost of sending our fourth and fifth grade students to the state capital in Charleston next spring. Please mark you calendar and plan to attend the Halloween Fest.

Fall Heritage Day: The NFES faculty is planning on holding a "**Fall Heritage Day**" the afternoon of October 21 during school hours. All students PK-6 will be participating in this celebration. Additional information will be sent to you at a later date.

Election Day Holiday: This is a reminder that school will NOT be in session on **Tuesday, October 4, 2011** because it is election day for our next state Governor.

Please Note: School will be in session on **Thursday, October 6, 2011.** The calendar printed on our "Parent and Student Handbook" listed this date as a staff workday. This calendar was also posted in the Pendleton Times as a staff workday. **School will be in session next Thursday, October 6th.**

Accreditation: North Fork Elementary has received "Full Accreditation" from the state by making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) based on the state's WESTEST2 test which was administered in May to our third through sixth grade students. Fewer than half of the public schools in West Virginia met the federal standard. Congratulations goes out to students, teachers and parents for this accomplishment.

The measurement of Reading/Language Arts proficiency for NFES was 60.86 percent which was an increase of 23.71 percent over the 2009-2010 results. The measurement of Mathematics proficiency for our school was 54.34 percent which was an increase of 7.92 percent over the 2009-2010 results. The students and staff worked very hard last year with the goal of improving our WESTEST2 scores. We are very pleased with these results and are working hard to make improvements next spring.

Mountain Institute: Our fourth, fifth and sixth grade students made their annual trip to the Mountain Institute the first week of September. Below are comments students wrote after participating in their activities at the Institute: "I learned how to get the strike and dip of a rock and that limestone fizzes when you pour acid on it." "I just loved the fact that we got to walk to a lot of places and learn a lot of stuff I never knew about rocks and especially habitats."

Constitution Play: Our sixth grade presented a “Constitution Play” in our gymnasium on September 14 for our third, fourth and fifth grade students. This play was well received by our students. When Mrs. Waybright asked her students to write down what they had learned, they wrote the following:

“I learned the Preamble to the Constitution. I want to do another play.” “A lot of rumors were spread during the Constitutional Convention that were not true.” “I learned the names of the people who didn’t sign the constitution.”

Girl’s Basketball: Our girl’s basketball season has started. Mr. Rob Vance will be coaching our junior varsity team and Mrs. Michelle Vandevander will be coaching our varsity team again this year. We will be having nine (9) games beginning on October 13th. Our schedule is as follows:

October 13 th	North Fork at Franklin Gold	6:30 p.m.
October 20 th	North Fork at Franklin Blue	6:30 p.m.
October 22 nd	Brandywine at North Fork	10:00 a.m.
October 25 th	Franklin Gold at North Fork	6:30 p.m.
October 29 th	Franklin Blue at North Fork	10:00 a.m.
November 1 st	Franklin Blue at North Fork	6:30 p.m.
November 7 th	North Fork at Franklin Gold	6:30 p.m.
November 17 th	Brandywine at North Fork	6:30 p.m.
November 19 th	North Fork at Brandywine	10:00 a.m.

Please Note: All Franklin and Brandywine home games will be played in the Pendleton County High School Gymnasium. Please plan to come out and support our North Fork Braves!

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: We are very pleased to be able to inform you that NFES has been selected again this year to participate in the **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**. This program provides all of our children with a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables. This healthy snack will be provided at no cost to your child 2-3 times per week at the end of the school day. We will **not** be selling the regular snacks on days children will be receiving fruits or vegetables.

The goal of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is to:

- ❖ Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices
- ❖ Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience
- ❖ Increase children’s fruit and vegetable consumption
- ❖ Make a difference in children’s diets to impact their present & future health

This program is seen as an important catalyst for change in efforts to combat childhood obesity by helping children learn more healthful eating habits. The FFVP introduces school children to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have had the opportunity to sample. We hope your child will enjoy this program.

Box-Top-For-Education: Please start saving your “Box Tops”. NFES will be participating in the “**Box-Top-For-Education**” program this year. Box Tops for Education has a long history of helping schools like ours earn extra cash for schools nation-wide. Ms. Lori Wright has agreed to be the Coordinator of this program. Please begin saving your “Box Tops” and when you have accumulated 20 – 25 tops, place them in a sandwich bag and send them to school.

Fifth Grade Field Trip: On Sept. 27th, our fifth graders embarked on a special journey to their first college. This lucky class paid a visit to JMU which included a campus tour, a science on a sphere show and lunch at the University cafeteria. In addition to this special opportunity, the fifth grade made a stop at the Frontier Cultural Museum in Staunton where they relived the life and immigration of the Irish to America. The day was informative and enjoyable.