

RESA 4 Welcomes New Employees

RESA 4 Welcomes Returning Employee — Pam Butcher and New Employee — Jimmy Weber



Pam Butcher taught 29 years for Nicholas County Schools before becoming a principal. Following that, she worked for five years as the Special Education Director for RESA 4. She retired in 2012, but quickly discovered that she was happier working and decided to return to RESA 4 in a different position, as Director of 21st CCLC. She hopes to use her background in elementary education, special education and reading education to enhance the afterschool programs.

Jimmy Weber has taught in Nicholas County Schools for 23 years, the last four as principal at Richwood High School. He comes to RESA 4 as one of our School Improvement Specialists, serving Focus Schools. Married to Sarah Weber, fourth-grade teacher at Cherry River Elementary, Jimmy has two children, Gretchen and Ben, both students at Marshall University.



The RESA 4 staff welcomes Pam and Jimmy and we look forward to working with them both.



January 2015

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SUBSTITUTE TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

At least once a month, RESA 4 trains substitute teachers. They are required to complete six hours of classroom observation, ten hours on the online training, and two hours of training at RESA 4 before taking a test certifying that they are familiar with the laws, policies, and procedures necessary to substitute in a classroom. During the past three months, 67 participants have completed the training.

We are in the process of updating our training, both the online and face-to-face components. We want to make the online part more user friendly. If you have completed our substitute teacher program, or work with substitute teachers and wish to provide input as to suggestions for the program, please contact our offices.

THE RESA 4 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT team provides multiple professional learning experiences for teachers, instructional coaches, technology integration specialists, and administrators. Initial training and ongoing support sessions target content, instructional strategies, student engagement, and positive school culture. Professional learning opportunities include Instructional Practices Inventory (IPI) Level One, Classroom Instruction that Works, Next Generation Content Standards and Objectives, and Kindergarten Follow-up.

Instructional coaches meet monthly to engage in collaborative learning activities designed to support and strengthen coaching skills and focus on specific content needs. Upon request, RESA 4 staff completes diagnostic reviews and facilitates faculty collaborative conversations as they study the data.



Webster County High School STUDENTS GET HANDS-ON BROADCAST TRAINING AT MOUNTAINEER GAMEDAY

Seven Webster County High School students went behind the camera and inside the control room to see what it takes to pull off a major, live college football pregame show. Students in the digital media and video journalism program job shadowed professionals during a recent airing of Mountaineer Gameday.

Seniors Brandon Loftis, Trevor Ryder, and Linda Yeager; junior Alexis Davis; and sophomores Allyson Cogar, Madison Loughridge, and Tyler Ray went behind-the-scenes of the broadcast to check out producing, directing, technical directing, graphic operations, engineering, anchoring, and more. "It was quite eye opening seeing how much work goes into one broadcast. Everyone on the show from the production crew to anchors have to pull their weight and work together to get the show on the air," said senior Trevor Ryder. Sophomore Madison Loughridge said she was amazed at just how fast-paced the control room was, "it was interesting seeing just how fast everything happened in the control room compared to the studio. Everything in the studio was pretty quiet. When the anchors weren't on air, everyone was just listening and watching the air feed. The control room was like controlled chaos; people were constantly talking, checking video feeds, cueing reporters and anchors and more," said Loughridge.

Digital media teacher Jonas Knotts said that the students aren't just learning how a real world broadcast works, they are making some valuable contacts too. "The broadcasting world is very small and everyone

knows everyone. By working alongside people who do this for a living, it allows students to make contacts with people who can help them secure internships in college and their first job when they graduate," said Knotts. Senior Brandon Loftis' main interest is audio mixing and production. The chance to mix live audio was most appealing to him. "I'm really interested in learning audio production and recording technology. I got to check out how mixing for a live show is different from doing mix-down on a pre-produced event. It was great being able to check out their state-of-the-art system," said Loftis.

Students had the chance to learn how to put a live show together and see it through to air from television producer and ESPN veteran Chuck Scatterday.

"I never realized how much pre-planning goes into a live show. It was also surprising to see how much of it was taped beforehand. Chuck taught us some great techniques on how to make a show interesting and look

smooth to people watching. Even when things were constantly changing and chaotic in the control room, he kept everything looking clean and smooth on air," said senior Linda Yeager.

Students also received a special surprise visit from West Virginia University President Dr. E. Gordon Gee. Dr. Gee welcomed students to the university and hoped all of them will become Mountaineers. "It was amazing meeting President Gee. He is such a down-to-Earth person and very friendly. He wanted to know how we are doing in school and our plans for college. It was great to meet someone of his stature because we normally don't see such distinguished visitors in Webster County," said sophomore Tyler Ray.



WCHS MOUNTAINEER GAMEDAY

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Mountaineer Gameday is broadcast locally on WBOY-TV, WOWK-TV, WTRF-TV, and WVNS-TV. It is available across the mid-Atlantic on Root Sports and DirecTV. The job shadowing event was made possible by West Virginia University, The Mountaineer Sports Network from IMG, WV Illustrated, and WV Illustrated producer Chuck Scatterday.

About Webster County High School: Founded in 1974 and located in Uppergrade, West Virginia, Webster County High School is an accredited, public, combined middle and high school. With a student body of nearly 700, WCHS has a rich tradition of academic and athletic

excellence. Students have the opportunity to pursue a wide variety of Advanced Placement, dual credit, fine arts, vocational, and technical training courses.



21st CCLC Programs Up and Running

RESA 4 21st CCLC has afterschool programs running at 14 sites: Braxton County—3, Fayette County—5, Greenbrier County—1, Nicholas County—2, Pocahontas County—1, and Webster County—2. Each site offers homework help, tutoring in English/Language Arts, counseling, positive youth behaviors and healthy lifestyles and a variety of enrichment activities. At some sites students are enjoying activities that might include weightlifting, archery, or cake decorating. For their community involvement component, students at one site tied fleece quilts to deliver to a local nursing home. We are working to boost student interest in attending the afterschool program.

RESA 4 Team Attends AESA Conference

Representatives from RESA 4 attended the AESA (Association of Educational Service Agencies) 2014 Annual Conference, in San Diego, CA, December 4-7, 2014, Navigating the Opportunities of Collaboration.

One keynote speaker, Jeannete Walls, provided a great learning opportunity. Jeannette, who lived in Welch, WV as a child, and then moved to New York at age 17, spoke about her life that had many challenges, one that included being homeless.

She overcame many obstacles and was able to graduate from Barnard College and was a journalist in New York. Her memoir, *The Glass Castle*, has been a New York Times bestseller for more than six years. She is also the author of the instant New York Times bestsellers, "The Silver Star" and "Half Broke Horses," which was named one of the ten best books of 2009 by the editors of *The New York Times Book Review*. We were blessed to hear her message and were able to have a moment to talk to someone who grew up in West Virginia.



Jimmy Weber, Pam Butcher, Jeannete Walls, David Warvel, Judy Pomeroy, Sarah Lee and Cara Phillips

Before you know it the 2015-2016 school year will be upon us. With that in mind now is the time to start thinking about student schedules. There are a few different avenues to take when scheduling your students: either automatically or one-by-one or a combination of these. No matter which method of scheduling is used, there is no fast, easy way to schedule, but sufficient pre-planning can make the process run smoother. So start now and contact us if you have any questions.

Recently a letter was sent to each RESA 4 WVEIS County Contact discussing the early warning system (EWS) that is used across the state called BrightBytes. Similar to the state developed EWS that was previously used, BrightBytes ana-

WVEIS UPDATES

lyzes a student's attendance, discipline and transcript (grade) data to detect at risk students. The transcript data is a component that is not readily available in our RESA 4 counties as we have not, in the past, posted grades to the transcript files of our elementary and middle school students. Contact your WVEIS County Contact to discuss the need for using transcripts at all grade levels (1-12) and to set-up your school for transcripts to be utilized this year.

As always, remember the great resources offered on the WVEIS support page: <http://wveis.k12.wv.us/wveis2004/support.htm>

Keep track of due dates for various collections here: <http://wveis.k12.wv.us/wveis2004/calendar.htm>

Call or email with questions or concerns: Karen Turner, WVEIS Director, 304-872-6440, ext. 33 (note new extension) or keturner@k12.wv.us; Nicole Workman, WVEIS Specialist, 304-872-6440, ext. 12 or nlworkma@k12.wv.us

Focus Schools Changing School Climate with Academic Pep Rallies

School Improvement Specialists are working together with Focus Schools to implement Academic Pep Rallies as designed by Jostens Renaissance. This process brings all educational stakeholders together with the sole focus of creating a positive culture and climate focused on student success. In the schools implementing this process, students report feeling connected and belonging, not just attending.

Flatwoods Elementary held their first rally on October 7, 2014 hosted by Fred and Wilma Flintstone and Betty Rubble and their student leadership team. Students celebrated success on their first two benchmark assessments, attendance, and effort. They even had a few challenges amongst grade levels. Those second graders sure can jump rope without spilling their buckets of boulders.



The **RESA 4 Bus Operator Training Program**, working in conjunction with the WVDE Office of School Transportation, facilitated certification classes for prospective bus operator trainers, and recertification classes for existing trainers in our six counties. A certification class for new candidates, conducted by the WV State Bus Inspectors, was held at Flatwoods, on November 17-21, as pictured, with two participants from Nicholas County, and one from Braxton. A second class was held in December to accommodate training additional applicants. As a result of this intensive certification training, RESA 4 acquired four additional trainers: **Steven Herndon** and **Charles Rose** in Nicholas County; and **Marcy Westfall** and **Charles Smith** in Braxton County.

Many thanks for all your efforts!



Academic Pep Rally Held at Richwood Middle School

Richwood Middle School had their inaugural Pep Rally on January 13, 2015, hosted by the crew from Duck Dynasty and their student leadership team. Students celebrated participation in their SPLASH afterschool program, GEAR UP, attendance, and academic achievement. Challenges amongst the classes revealed that grade eight has some students versed in graphic design and Mr. Jayden Looney has a future in cosmetology.



The rally concluded with the staff leading an energetic activity reminding all that RMS is working hard joining academics, character, and kids for success.



Department of Technology

The RESA 4 computer repair department has been very busy at work over the last three months. We are currently working on several projects and have also completed several over the past months. The repair staff is currently working on installing cameras at Greenbrier West High School and finishing up a lab at Webster County High School. Our repair staff has completed jobs at Meadow Bridge High school installing fiber there as well as network issues at Webster County High School.



For any questions regarding the computer repair department please contact Aaron Williams 304-872-6442 ext. 37.

RESA 4 extends best wishes to Dana Thomas, who recently retired as the 21st CCLC Director. Dana's educational career also has included serving as Director of the RESA 4 Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.

Also, leaving RESA as our Special Education Director is Scott Cochran, who recently accepted the position as the Interim Superintendent of Webster County Schools, due to the retirement of Dr. Martha Dean.

MEDICAID UPDATE

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and enjoyed the time off with their families. The Medicaid program has gone through a few recent changes such as a new procedure code for Targeted Case Management, for which we are now billing. I would like to thank all of my county contacts and providers for their help with the many ongoing changes that occur and their willingness to try to adjust to those changes.

One of the other big changes to the program is that Vickie Mohnacky, the Medicaid Coordinator from the WV Department of Education, retired at the end of December. She was a great asset to the program and will be deeply missed. There will be a learning curve and transition period while her position is filled, but through contact with the other Medicaid ladies, we hope to keep things running steady by working together while the new Medicaid Coordinator gets set up. We are looking forward to the upcoming quarter and wish all the counties a productive new year.

*Misty Carpenter
Medicaid Specialist*



Front row seated: Vickie Mohnacky, Karen Wojcik, Lindsey Hull
Standing: Kim Turner, Kelly Morrison, Misty Carpenter, Sandy Shoup, Terri Stewart, Donna Miller, and Lorrie Karickhoff

RESA 4 Resource Catalog

Request online (*Library Department* at <http://resa4.k12.wv.us>)
Call 1-800-251-7372, ext. 17 or fax 304-872-6442

Strategies – Multi-Subject Areas

CATALOG No.

- 1400.38 **Teach Like a Champion: 49 Techniques That Put Students on the Path to College Grades K-12**
(Doug Lemov, 2010) – Described by the author as a set of field notes from years of observing highly-effective teachers. The result is a two-part collection of techniques, delivered in “how-to” detail by chapter and theme, which can be quickly accessed to use “tomorrow.” *Part One: Teach Like a Champion: The Essential Techniques*; *Part Two: Helping Students Get the Most Out of Reading: Critical Skills and Techniques*. **Includes DVD** of “See It in Action” clips. **[13 copies]**
- 1400.06 **Differentiated Instruction: Different Strategies for Different Learners – 101 Kid-Tested Strategies K-8**
(Char Forsten, Jim Grant, Betty Hollas, 2002) – Strategies for immediate use (with grade levels, goals, and reproducibles) are organized by: classroom management, community building, teaching tools, literacy, math, and assessment. **[3 copies]**
- 1400.08 **Differentiation: From Planning to Practice, Grades 6-12**
(Rick Wormeli, 2007) - Rick Wormeli devotes his first chapter to defining differentiation (using easy-going examples that seem natural and easy), stressing the “responsive mindset.” Other scenarios reveal missed opportunities, and how to look for opportunities to differentiate. Book design includes margin notes of practical tips/key ideas along with commonly accepted practices, which the author assures “are universally applicable, whether you teach fifth grade or twelfth grade, language arts, or calculus.” Guidance for multiple subject lessons from design to evaluation. **[5 copies]**

Strategies – Math

CATALOG No.

- 1400.16 **Good Questions: Great Ways to Differentiate Mathematics Instruction, Grades K-8**
(Marian Small, 2009) - Features two universal strategies which teachers can use to differentiate instruction for all students: **Open Questions**; **Parallel Tasks**. Five content chapters (*Number and Operations, Geometry, Measurement, Algebra, Data Analysis and Probability*) illustrate application in Pre-K-2, Gr 3-5, and Gr 6-8, with teaching tips and how-to’s for creating open questions. The many questions/tasks demonstrated (nearly 300 open questions) can serve immediate use or as models for planning. **[2 copies]**
- 1400.17 **Hands-On Math Projects with Real-Life Applications, 2nd edition, Grades 6-12**
(Judith Muschla, Gary Muschla, 2006) – “Stand alone” projects with flexibility to be used with **various grade levels and ability levels**. *Part One*: Includes how to’s for incorporating math projects in the classroom, class structuring /environment, problem-solving skills development for students, organizing for assessment, and sources for creating projects. *Part Two*: 60 Projects - science, social studies, language, art/music, sports/recreation, and life skills. Teacher information pages define goals/development of the project; reproducible student guides. **[5 copies]**



Child and Adult Care Food Program—CACFP

Contact **Vickie Johnson**
CACFP Coordinator
304-872-6440, ext. 24

The Child and Adult Care Food Program is required to furnish annual training for day care providers who are enrolled in our program. The topic this year is “**Creditable Foods.**”

Multiple trainings have been conveniently held in three counties in October. Make-up trainings will be scheduled in the spring. Below are pictures of classes providing instruction on proper nutrition meeting federal guidelines for day care children.



West Virginia Wellness Network Takes Form

In the Spring of 2014, leaders from the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE), West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' Bureau for Public Health (WVDHHR-BPH) and Regional Education Service Agencies (RESA) met together and formed the West Virginia Wellness Network, formerly known as the Coordinated School Public Health Partnership.

The new program will be coordinated under the direction of the WVDE, Office of Child Nutrition and RESA. The students in West Virginia schools come from a wide variety of backgrounds and circumstances. The WV Wellness Network will assist county school districts in establishing a cooperative wellness program to provide schools, families, and communities with resources to make healthy and

informed decisions that can help prepare students for academic success.

The Regional Wellness Specialist, **Jody LeRose**, will be available to provide professional development opportunities and technical assistance in the following areas:

- *Health Education*
- *Physical Education/Physical Activity*
- *Tobacco Prevention*
- *Bullying Prevention*
- *Nutrition Education/Nutrition Guidelines*
- *Substance Abuse Prevention*
- *Mental Health Services, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, and School Based Health Centers/Health Services.*

Contact **Jody LeRose** at jody.lerose@k12.wv.us

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Main Phone Numbers

**304.872.6440
 800.251.RESA
 (800.251.7372)**

**Telephone 'Help Desk'
 Lines**

**WVEIS 304.872.6440 ext.
 33 and 12**

**Substitute Calling
 System**

**304.872.6440,
 ext. 37 and 29
 (available from 6:00 am
 until 2:00 pm)**

**Fax Number
 304.872.6442**

Braxton County

David Dilly, *Superintendent*
 Kathy Parker, *Board Representative*

Fayette County

Dr. Serena Starcher, *Superintendent*
 Lou Jones, *Board Representative*

Greenbrier County

Sallie Dalton, *Superintendent*
 Bob Toothman, *Board Representative*

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 Bob M. O'Dell, *Board Representative*

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West Virginia Board of Education