



October 2017 Newsletter

Worth County Elementary School

Title 1 School – Wide School

Principal – Dr. Steven Rouse

Asst. Principals – Ms. Marilyn Herring and Dr. April Smith

Principal's Message

Welcome back from Fall Break! I hope that everyone is well rested and ready to get back to work. The faculty and staff at WCES are hard at work to ensure that your child is successful this year and that they are enjoying their time at WCES. I do want to take this opportunity to invite everyone out to our annual Reading Under the Stars event which will take place Friday October 13 from 6:00 - 8:00. Students will bring home more information regarding this event. I also want to ask you to please take the time to fill out our school climate survey. The link is listed below and will also be available on our Facebook page. We strive daily to give you and your child an educational experience that is not only academically rewarding but also one which will ensure your child will fondly remember their elementary school years. This survey gives us valuable data that tells us what we are doing right and in what areas we can improve. It is also this data along with a student survey and a teacher survey that determines our annual School Climate Rating. We are currently a 3 star school with a goal of becoming a 4 or 5 star climate rated school. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. As always, if you ever have any questions, comments, concerns or just want to brag on your child's teacher please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dr. Steven D. Rouse – Principal



ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

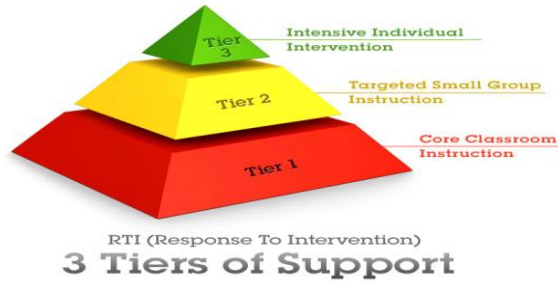
Working together to Reduce Chronic Absences . . . Attending school regularly is essential to students gaining academic and social skills they need to succeed. When your child misses school, they are missing opportunities to learn, socialize, gain confidence, and be inspired. Last year, 28% of WCES students were absent 6-10 days. Many of these absences were potentially preventable, including routine medical or dental checkups, traveling, or just not coming to school. If possible, please schedule your child's doctor/dental appointments in the late afternoon, or on days we have breaks and teacher work days.

Too many absences - excused or unexcused - can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year - that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month - can knock students off track. Starting as early as preschool and kindergarten, chronic absence - missing 10% of the school year - can leave third graders unable to read proficiently, sixth graders struggling with coursework and high school students off track or potential dropout for graduation.

At all Worth County Schools, students will be considered tardy after 8:00

Ms. Marilyn Herring - Assistant Principal

Response to Intervention (RTI)



Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-tiered approach to the early identification of students who have specific, targeted performance deficits. Students are identified through scientifically research-based screenings and/or diagnostic assessment. Worth County Elementary School will be using Reading Inventory (RI), Math Inventory (RI) and GA Milestones to identify students who have deficits in mathematics and reading. Those students who are identified will be receiving interventions in addition to the core curriculum to help improve their proficiency in meeting grade level expectations. The current interventions include MobyMax, Lexia, Sondag Program, Study Island, and Read Naturally.

If you would like to learn more about RTI, please visit <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Response-to-Intervention.aspx>.

Educationally yours,

Dr. April Smith

April Smith, Ed. D.

Assistant Principal/RTI Coordinator

Don't forget WCES is on Facebook
and Twitter



Find our school on FB at:

www.facebook.com/worthcountyelementaryschool

www.twitter.com/wcesrams We are also on
the web at: www.worthschools.net



October 13th - Reading Under the Stars

October 13th - 20th - Fall Book Fair

October 23rd - 27th - Red Ribbon Week

October 24th - Parent Teacher Conf.



Hello! I am Amy Boyett the Parent/Family Engagement Coordinator for WCES. I am looking forward to working with of you or if you need information on volunteering, or if your child needs extra educational material please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Amy Boyett

Parent Engagement Coordinator

(229) 776-8605

Parent Input Needed: Parent/Guardian input needed and appreciated year round here at WCES. If you have anything that you would like to share to help improve the services we provide to our students and families, please contact me at aboyett@worthschools.net or (229) 463-3107 or at (229) 776-8605.

Your input is also needed as to how funds reserved for Title I Parent Engagement are allocated for parent and family engagement activities. Currently these reserved funds are used for supplies for the parent engagement program at WCES. If you have any ideas on using reserved funds, please contact Christie Foerster at (229)776-8600 or via email at christie@worthschools.net.

Worth County Local Education Agency/District Level Parent & Family Engagement Policy/Plan

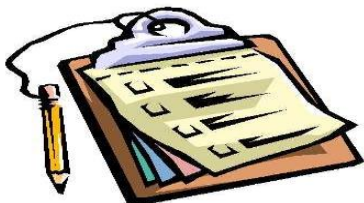
The Worth County School District revised the Local Educational Agency (LEA)/District Level Parent & Family Engagement Policy/Plan during the May 24th revision meeting that was held at the Worth County Board of Education. The updated [policy/plan can be found on the Worth County Schools website\(www.worthschools.net\) under the Parents tab. If you would like a hard copy of the policy/plan or to have it emailed to you](#), please contact me, Mrs. Boyett, by giving me a call at (229)776-8605 (or (229)463-3107, stopping by the Parent Resource Office, or by dropping me an email at aboyett@worthschools.net. If you have questions regarding this document, please contact Mrs. Christie Foerster at [229-776-8600](tel:229-776-8600) or via email at christie@worthschools.net.



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Ensuring Georgia's future"

Title II, Part A Guidance - Right to Know Parent's Right to Request a Teacher's and a Paraprofessional's Qualifications:

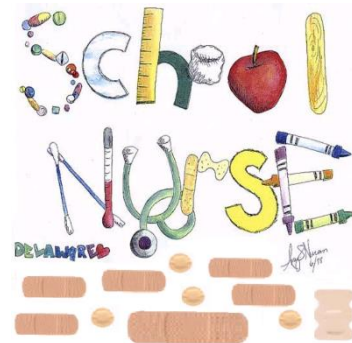
- By law, WCS D is required to notify parents that 1) Please notify the front office immediately of phone number change they may request information regarding the teacher's or the paraprofessional's qualifications, including the following:
- Whether the teacher/paraprofessional has met the Georgia Professionals Standards Commission's certification requirements for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Georgia qualifications or certification criteria have been waived;
- The college major and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher;
- Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.



WCES Parents/Guardians:

I am asking that you please take the time to fill out our school climate survey. We strive daily to give you and your child an educational experience that is not only academically rewarding but also one which will ensure your child will fondly remember their elementary school years. This survey gives us valuable data that tells us what we are doing right and in what areas we can improve. It is also this data, along with a student survey and a teacher survey that determines our annual School Climate Rating. We are currently a 3 star school with a goal of becoming a 4 or 5 star climate rated school. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. The link to the survey is listed below.

<http://gshs.gadoe.org/Lists/Parents/NewForm.aspx>



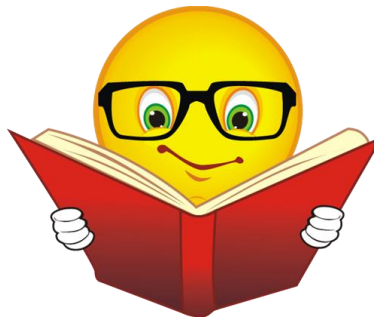
- 1) Please notify the front office immediately of phone number change
- 2) Please notify the school nurse of medical/health changes.
- 3) Students are not allowed to transport medications to and from school unless it is an inhaler or diabetes medication, if a student needs to take any medication at school, please come by the clinic and fill out the necessary forms.
- 4) The Date for Help a Child Smile visits are:
- 5) Please keep sick students at home. If a student is sent home with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, our protocol is for them to stay out of school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications such as: Tylenol, Motrin or ibuprofen.
- 6) Any medication in the clinic that is not picked up by a parent by the last school day of the year will be discarded.

LeAynn Roberts, School Nurse



Mark your calendars as we have our 5th annual Reading Under the Stars at WCES Friday, October 13th from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. We will have free hot dogs, chips, and drinks as well as S'mores! We will also have our Scholastic Book Fair in the media center. Flyers will come home Tuesday! We hope to see all of our WCES families there!!

Crissy J. Turner, Media Specialist





WORTH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PURPOSE, DIRECTION & BELIEFS

Purpose Statement

To ensure a quality education for all students leading to graduation and productive citizenship.

Direction

- Our direction for the Worth County School District is for our graduation rate to reach 80% or above, and for students to meet or exceed established accountability measures.
- We will achieve this direction by providing high expectations, a relevant and rigorous curriculum, data driven standards-based instructional practices, appropriate interventions, and celebrations of success as we move forward.
- As a result of our success we will attract and retain high quality teachers, provide a foundation for community economic growth, and prepare graduates for post-secondary success.
- Readily accessible technology resources improve teaching and learning;
- The system should employ and retain highly qualified personnel who demonstrate a high degree of professionalism;
- Job embedded professional learning results in improved instruction and increased student achievement;
- Prompt and regular attendance by all leads to improved performance;
- Effective and open communication is essential for the achievement of educational goals.

Beliefs

- All students can learn and are unique learners;
- Education is a shared responsibility of the student, home, school and community;
- Schools should maintain a safe and structured learning environment;
- All students should meet or exceed educational standards provided by a rigorous and relevant curriculum;
- All decisions should be driven by accurate and relevant data;
- College and career readiness activities prepare students for the future workforce;
- Students engaged in co- and extra-curricular activities perform better;