



CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead



DISTRICT NEWS

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THEY'RE BACK!

- **On September 7, the West Clermont School doors opened** for another great year. The excitement was running high at our two new elementary schools. Students at Amelia and Withamsville-Tobasco couldn't wait for the doors to open so that they could enter their new schools for the first time.

Along with school staff and district administrators, **David Rice, Doug Bennett, Eric Waldmann and Vivienne Bross from Turner Construction** lined up to high-five the students as they entered the new schools. And there was also a furry bobcat greeting the children as the buses dropped them off at Withamsville-Tobasco.

West Clermont School District rated **Excellent with Distinction**

Dedication Ceremony on September 19 for West Clermont's two new elementary schools: Amelia and Withamsville-Tobasco.



DISTRICT NEWS



THEY'RE BACK!



WEST CLERMONT RATED EXCELLENT WITH DISTINCTION!

- **The official State Report Card has been posted. West Clermont School District has received an EXCELLENT with DISTINCTION rating!** The great news continues. We have five schools with EXCELLENT with DISTINCTION ratings: Amelia Middle, Glen Este Middle, Amelia Elementary, Clough Pike Elementary and Merwin Elementary.

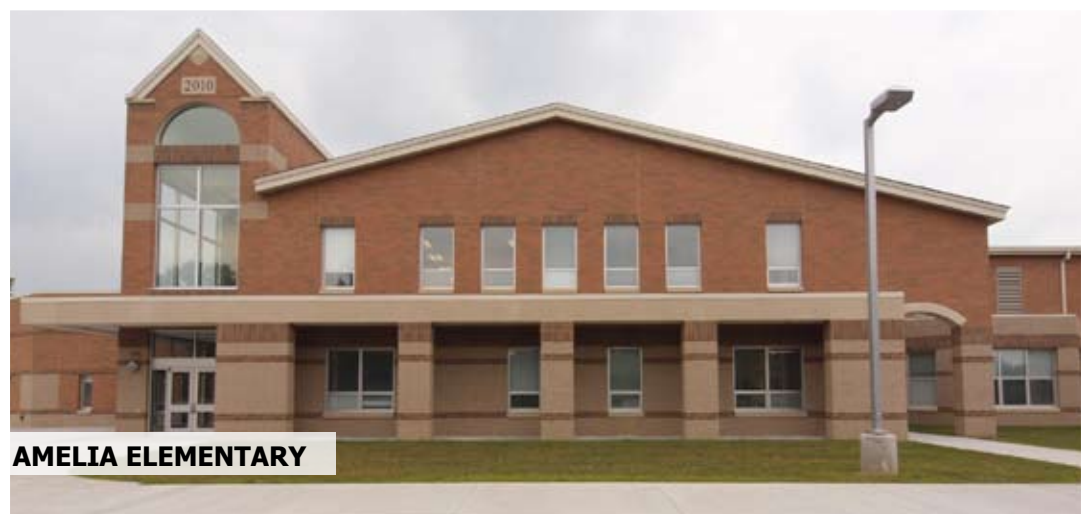
Holly Hill, Summerside and Withamsville-Tobasco elementaries and Amelia and Glen Este high schools all received an EXCELLENT rating (the highest rating a high school can receive is Excellent) Brantner and Willowville elementaries received EFFECTIVE ratings.

On behalf of the **West Clermont Board of Education members, Superintendent Gary Brooks** wrote a letter to all staff. He stated, "I am reminded of a Margaret Meade quote I have scrawled in one of my journals that expresses our feelings more eloquently than I:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

"On behalf of the West Clermont Board of Education, our students and community, thanks for being ... those people!"

- **A Dedication Ceremony will be held on September 19** for both new elementary schools. Amelia Elementary will be at 1:30 p.m. and Withamsville-Tobasco will be at 3:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.



- **Summer School isn't just for kids!** 100+ educators came back to school in June, July, and August for professional learning with a focus on 21st century skills and using technology in the workplace and the classroom. Workshops included free web-based applications for the classroom, advanced training in Microsoft Excel for support staff, SMARTBoard and student response system training, and exploring ways to engage students in new media. One of the most popular sessions was led by Dr. William Kist of Kent State University, author of *New Literacies in Action*. "We're following the technology component of the district strategic plan, with a focus on technology as a tool for student learning," said **Dr. M.E. Steele-Pierce, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning**.
- **On August 18, teachers from preschool through high school** gathered to learn about what's new in children's literature. **Dave Richardson**, Cincinnati State professor and Blue Marble literature specialist, introduced teachers to the best new books on the market.
- **A special thank you goes out to the Anderson Office of Coldwell-Banker/West Shell.** Under the leadership of **office manager Larry Jebson**, employees donated 20 new backpacks to West Clermont students.
- **Just this week, West Clermont received the 2010 Celebration Award for district-wide participation in Right to Read Week 2010.** Sponsored by the Ohio Council of the International Reading Association, this award is given when 100 percent of schools in a district participate in the program. In May 2010, all 8 WC elementary schools and both middle schools held a special week with visiting authors, guest readers, and school-wide assemblies. In addition, AMS, AHS and GEHS students participated in the first intra-district Ning book study. West Clermont will be recognized at the 34th Annual Reading Conference on October 23 at Kent State University. West Clermont will try to earn this award again next year by participating in Right to Read Week 2011, which will be held from May 16 through 20. **Instructional Supervisor Tanny McGregor** will coordinate this effort.



Kindergarten teacher Joe Stahl (W-T Elementary) shares free web-based applications with colleagues at an August "Tech Shoot Out."



Children's Literature Professor Dave Richardson.



Instructional Supervisor Tanny McGregor sorts backpacks to be distributed by the WC Central Enrollment office.

