Middle Valley Teacher Receives Lowe's Grant

Sierra Downing, a first grade teacher at Middle Valley Elementary School, was recently selected to receive a Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation in the amount of $5,000.00

According to Ms. Downing, "This project is an innovative initiative designed to be another step toward transforming our current science program to a multifaceted 21st century learning space that incorporates creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration. The 3D Printing Lab at Middle Valley will bring 3D technology into all elementary classrooms to meet essential STEM goals/standards, expose students to the latest technology, and improve digital literacy that sets the stage for future technology-based learning at all levels. During core math and science classes, students will learn digital literacy, participate in creative problem solving, become innovators and inventors and work together collaboratively using lesson plans that incorporated 3D printing and design software. I am so thankful to Lowe's for giving this wonderful opportunity to our students and can't wait to see where our STEM program will take us in the coming years!"

State of the System

Dr. Bryan Johnson, Superintendent, will address the state of Hamilton County Schools on Thursday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. at Chattanooga School for
Arts & Sciences (CSAS). The superintendent will discuss the needs of the district, while also highlighting achievements over the last year and outlining plans for continuing improvement. The event will also feature student performances and showcase student projects.

Listening Sessions

We want to hear from you! Superintendent Dr. Bryan Johnson is hosting a series of Listening Sessions across the district to gather feedback from Hamilton County families, community members and staff.

In order to achieve our goal of becoming the fastest improving school district in the state of Tennessee, we need family, community and staff support every step of the way. Your input is vital to the success of Hamilton County Schools.

Here is the information for the North River Listening Session:

- Feb. 11, 6 p.m., Red Bank Middle School (Rock Point)
- **Feb. 12, 6 p.m. Loftis Middle School (North River)**
- Feb. 26, 6 p.m., East Brainerd Elementary (Missionary Ridge)
- March 4, 6 p.m. Wallace A. Smith Elementary (Harrison Bay)
- March 5, 6 p.m. Orchard Knob Elementary (Opportunity Zone)

While it is preferred families and staff attend the session in their learning community, everyone is welcome at any of the sessions. We hope to see you there!

School Climate Surveys Open

We are interested in learning more about how parents, teachers, and other school staff feel about their schools. Please be honest in your answers and tell us what you really think. The purpose of the survey is to measure the climate in schools to provide data that will promote effective and efficient allocation of resources and identify relationships between conditions for learning and academic outcomes. You responses will help us understand more about what makes school a good place to be and how changes may be made to improve it.
Hamilton County Culture of Attendance for Academic Success

Did you know . . .

- Every day your child attends school, the more doors of opportunity are available for him/her.
- Tennessee students who are chronically absent in 9th grade are 30% less likely to earn an “on-time” diploma.
- A high school dropout will earn $200,000 less than a high school graduate over their lifetime, and almost $1 million dollars less than a college graduate.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 31 - Magnet Schools applications close
Feb. 1 - Applications for Future Ready Institutes, Early College, & Open Enrollment Schools open
Feb. 7 - State of the System Address
Feb. 11 - Listening Session, Red Bank Middle School (Rock Point)
Feb. 12 - Listening Session, Loftis Middle School (North River)
Feb. 26 - Listening Session, East Brainerd Elementary (Missionary Ridge)
Feb. 18 - Presidents’ Day - NO SCHOOL
Feb. 19 - My Future Schools Fair for Future Ready Institutes, Early College, & Open Enrollment Schools
Feb. 23 - Magnet Schools placements announced
March 4 - Listening Session, Wallace A. Smith Elementary (Harrison Bay)
March 5 - Listening Session, Orchard Knob Elementary (Opportunity Zone)
March 15 - Applications for Special Programs and Open Enrollment Schools close
North River Schools

Allen Elementary | Big Ridge Elementary | Daisy Elementary | DuPont Elementary | Hixson Elementary

McConnell Elementary | Middle Valley Elementary | North Hamilton County Elementary

Soddy Elementary | Hixson Middle | Loftis Middle | Soddy-Daisy Middle | Hixson High

Sale Creek Middle-High | Sequoyah High | Soddy Daisy High

Do You Have a Story to Share?
We love hearing your stories. If you have something you think we should know about, tell us!

Submit Your Story