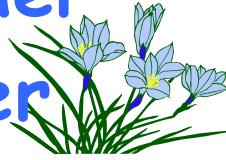




# New Teacher Newsletter



## Spring has Sprung!

Spring has finally arrived and we are well into "Test Time in Tennessee!" Spring signals testing for Tennessee schools and Tipton County has reached the midpoint of the testing season. Gateway and End of Course Exams will be administered in the middle and high schools May 6-13.

*"We are what we repeatedly do.  
Excellence, therefore, is not an act but  
a habit."*

*--Aristotle,  
Greek philosopher*

## County-wide New Teacher Meeting

The final County-wide New Teacher meeting will be held Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at Munford Middle School. We will "Wrap Up" the year with CIAA and MMS as our hosts. Please join us as we celebrate the school year and tie up loose ends.

## Summer Institutes

If you are interested in professional development opportunities for the summer offered by the Tipton County Board of Education, be sure and check out what is available. The deadline for applications is April 25, 2008.  
[http://www.tipton-county.com/Summer08\\_PD.htm](http://www.tipton-county.com/Summer08_PD.htm)

## I Make a Difference

The Coordinated School Health Program will honor faculty and staff members who have "Made a Difference" in your life or your students' lives this school year. Through this program, those honored will receive recognition for their often behind the scenes dedication and hard work. Honorees will be chosen from a group of nominees made by Tipton County School staff members. You may nominate someone by writing a one page summary about how the person has "Made a Difference" as a school employee or by using a copy of the nomination form at [http://www.tipton-county.com/Health/I\\_Make\\_a\\_Difference\\_Nomination\\_Form.doc](http://www.tipton-county.com/Health/I_Make_a_Difference_Nomination_Form.doc). Please send nominations to Sherrie Yarbro at the Central Office via inter-office mail or email [syarbro@tipton-county.com](mailto:syarbro@tipton-county.com). From the nominations, several employees will be chosen by a panel of judges and honored in May. The deadline for nominations is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please take this opportunity to recognize those who make a difference for you and/or your students.

## Harry Wong: First Days of School

If you received a First Days of School at the beginning of the school year which belongs to the Tipton County Board of Education, please turn those in at the County-wide New Teacher Meeting on April 29, 2008 or to Marion Samuel at the Central Office via inter-office mail.

## "Test-Time" Strategies for Teachers

Teachers experience their own test anxiety during testing. There are several things that teachers can do to put themselves at ease as well as their students.

- Discuss the purpose of the test and how it can help students progress academically
- Have realistic expectations of student's performance while encouraging them to do their best
- Create an uncluttered test environment
- Become familiar with the materials and procedures to be used with the test
- Read the Test Administration Manual carefully for instructions and information
- Encourage your students to be present on test day(s)
- Anticipate and eliminate test disruptions
- Assure that student demographic data is marked accurately
- Monitor your students throughout the test to make sure they are making appropriate marks in the right place

Although many of these things may seem like common sense, the anxiety of testing can make the simple seem monumental! For more information see State of Tennessee Test Taking Strategies for Students, Parents and Teachers

<http://tennessee.gov/education/assessment/tsteststrategies.pdf>

## Upcoming Events

May 5	County-wide Technology Committee Meeting - 9:00a.m.
May 6	Gateway Math & Foundations II End of Course Tests
May 7	Gateway Language Arts & English 9 End of Course Tests
May 8	Gateway Science & Physical Science End of Course Tests
May 9	Gateway Make-up Tests
May 13	U.S. History End of Course Test
May 15	Brighton High School Graduation
May 16	Munford High School Graduation
May 19	Covington High School Graduation
May 21	Last day for students 11:30 dismissal

## County-wide Mentors

Elementary School -Dorothy Davidson

[ddavidson@tipton-county.com](mailto:ddavidson@tipton-county.com)

Middle School -Jane Spray

[jspray@tipton-county.com](mailto:jspray@tipton-county.com)

High School - Marion Samuel

[msamuel@tipton-county.com](mailto:msamuel@tipton-county.com)

