



FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Dear Bobcat Families:

This year will be my last as the principal of CCC. As some of you know, I have accepted a principal position in Denver, Colorado. The opportunity is a life-long dream to live in the mountains. Also, my wife and I will be closer to my children. However, I am leaving CCC with a heavy heart. The families, students and staff of CCC are truly wonderful. Because of our work and collaborations, the school has made dramatic strides. Our double English and Math programs are showing great promise. The seminar and after-school enrichment programs are providing academic support as we add rigor to our already outstanding curriculum. Our upper classmen are regularly participating in construction projects that give back to the community.

Our most recent community service projects are showcased in this edition. The Board of Education is in the process of choosing my successor. If you would like input on the process, feel free to call Terry Eivins at 314-644-1525. He will be working with the BOE on the selection process.

We are asking for your help as we approach our Missouri MAP testing in April. Tenth and eleventh graders will be tested in Communication Arts and Math. Please make sure your students get plenty of rest, take the test seriously, and arrive on time each day.

I wanted to give you some updated information about our school calendar. The Board of Education requires 200 days of attendance. Because of the two snow days, we will need to make up two days this summer. Consequently, we will add two days on the end of fifth term. I have attached the new school calendar. The two additional days will only affect underclassmen. Seniors' last day of school will be June 26th and graduation will be June 27th at 7:00pm at Harris Stowe University.

Spring is in the air; we will have prom on April 27th. This will also be the date of our senior breakfast and celebration. This breakfast kicks off a number of senior activities to mark the end of our seniors' tenure. Senior parents please get your senior dues to Mr. Wilson or Ms. Tolman so your senior can be a part of these wonderful activities.

With Bobcat Pride,
Michael P. Musick Ed. D.

LOWE'S "TOOLBOX FOR EDUCATION" GRANT

After several months of anxious waiting, CCC was notified in early December that we would be the recipients of a \$3500 grant from Lowe's. The "Toolbox for Education" grant process is designed to provide support to schools that want to build something of value to help students learn about construction. Our check arrived in early February and planning began immediately. This money will support the final phase of a multi-year effort to improve the grounds surrounding our school. The project to build the picnic area deck will begin as soon as the weather permits. Mr. Goforth's juniors, with some assistance from Mr. McGowan's freshman students, will build the deck on the west end of the track under the two very large trees. Student input for benches around the perimeter will allow selected classes to meet "outside – in a more relaxed setting" at the discretion of the instructor. The deck will be built using treated lumber and will comply with all conventional construction standards for decks. It will be constructed entirely by students under the direction of the instructors and is expected to be completed before the end of the school year.

JEFFERSON CITY LOBBY DAY

On March 6th, Construction Careers Center took 16 junior and senior students to Jefferson City to visit with our state's leaders. The students were escorted to the floor of the Senate, where State Senator Maida Coleman of the 5th District introduced staff members Gwen Crimm and Mike Meehan, and students Antoinette Oden, Stephanie Cheeks, Michael Marion, Shawn Like, Jeremy Stewart, Theodis Howard, Gabrielle Fields, Cherrell Sipes, Garland Patton, Ebonee Ali, Justin Stokes, LeAndre Gibson, Terral Henderson, James Jordan, Shawn Hunter, and Daniel Glenn to the chamber. The group was welcomed loudly. Another Senator used his Parliamentary procedure to ask Ms. Coleman to yield, and when she did, he sang the praises of the AGC and the wonderful effort being put forth at CCC.



From the Senate, the students made their way to the House of Representatives where our district's own Representative Robin Wright-Jones similarly introduced the proud students to the House members.

The students were very surprised that our next visit was to be with Governor Matt Blunt in his own oval office. (This is larger than the oval office in Washington!) Governor Blunt shook everyone's hand, gave a short history lesson about his office, answered questions, and posed for photographs. In all, the day was very productive and our young men and women came away with a wonderful life experience. A special thanks to the AGC Agency Coordinator Denise Hasty for arranging this visit. Maybe some day one of these students will go back to Jefferson City as their own district's member of the General Assembly!

ACE MENTORING PROGRAM

The ACE Mentoring program participants have had a very busy two months with visits to St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley touring the Engineering Department with host Rich Unger. Participants learned about the different disciplines in engineering and had an opportunity to see tools used to assist engineers. The Jefferson Memorial Expansion was another site visited and our host/mentor Eliza Kunz invited an employment specialist to discuss summer employment at the Gateway Arch. The Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program with our host Tony Caputo was an additional site we explored. Participants discussed work ethics and what it takes to become a journey tradesperson. ACE participants also continued their Dog House Project with their mentors. The ACE Mentoring Program coordinators Kyle Wagner and Gwen Crimm attended an ACE Mentoring Program Affiliates meeting in Dallas, Texas in February. This meeting was attended by program coordinators from over 10 states. This intensive day-long workshop gave coordinators an opportunity to see what is happening with ACE programs in other parts of the country and to share ideas on fund-raising, networking and programming.

MODOT I/64 PROJECT

PRIDE Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program (PPAT) is up and running with a partnership between Construction Careers Center and Operation Excel to provide pre-apprenticeship heavy and highway training. Other partners include the University of Missouri-Saint Louis and ACCESS. These two programs were selected by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) to assist men and women to gain entry-level employment on the new I-64 highway. PPAT will work with Gateway Constructors to assist with staffing needs for laborers, operating engineers, cement masons, carpenters and iron workers. Wrap-around services will be provided to applicants that will include employment assistance, social service referrals, childcare assistance, and bus passes assistance just to mention a few.

MILLSTONE FUND



The Retired AGC Contractors were challenged by Mr. Robert Elsperman of the Tarlton Corporation to make a donation in honor of Mr. I.E. Millstone's 100th Birthday. The contractors took on the challenge and on March 21, 2007 Mr. Millstone of Millstone Bangert, Inc. accompanied by his grandson, presented the Construction Careers Center with a \$40,000 donation. Senior Garland Patton accepted the check on behalf of CCC and gave Mr. Millstone and our guest a tour of the campus.

Thank you Mr. Millstone!

HUMANE SOCIETY “GINGERBREAD” DOG HOUSE PROJECT

Following the advice of Ms. Crimm, our Placement Coordinator, CCC met with Ms. Susan Gassner from the Missouri Humane Society with the purpose of entering into an agreement to build dog houses for distribution in the St. Louis area. Gabrielle Fields and Michael Marion will lead the design and will base their approach on data provided from the Humane Society regarding space for different sized dogs. Justin Stokes and Jamal Sneed will begin their responsibilities as Project Managers. They will monitor the entire process from materials requisition to production to public relations. Erston Mallet and Marcus Johnson will be the two Construction Team Leaders who will manage the actual building of the dog houses. All of these activities will take place under the guidance of the Construction Department instructors. We expect to be able to build a dog house using as many standard construction techniques as possible for less than \$225 each. The final product will definitely be a “nice” house for the new owners.

You might be wondering where the name “Gingerbread” came from for this project. Please see the related article in this issue of the Blueprint entitled “With determination, you can accomplish anything...”

GINGERBREAD HOUSES

“WITH DETERMINATION, YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING...”

I would like to name these houses after an extraordinary dog. The dog’s name was “Gingerbread”.

She was about 9 years old and had arthritis very bad. Her arthritis hurt so much it was uncomfortable for her to walk. She could lie down, but it hurt very badly for her to get back up. Through all the pain she suffered, she never cried or gave up. She was put to sleep a couple of weeks ago. She was playful and fun loving.

The thing that shocked me the most about Gingerbread was that she waited for her owner to say grace before she ate! From then on, I was impressed.

The owner of this dog is one of our very own contributors to CCC. His name is Keith A. Myers and he is the division manager at the Young Group. Gingerbread was not only his dog, but also his best friend. What I am proposing is that we name the doghouses “Gingerbread Houses”.

I wonder if you remember the old story about “The Gingerbread Boy”. The little gingerbread boy was a cookie that came to life and ran. He ran so fast that no one could catch him. Some claimed that they could, but he was determined to not be caught by anyone or anything. The CCC does everything with determination to achieve its goals. Gingerbread was determined to please her owner. The little gingerbread boy was determined not to be caught. CCC is determined to make some people happy with the houses that we build. In addition, I am determined to name the project or the houses in honor of Gingerbread.

If you grant this request, I will greatly appreciate it. If you do not, then I thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Gabrielle Fields

RBC CAREER COACHING Career Coaching Program



The 12 participants in the Career Coaching Program continue to meet their coaches from Crown Electrical, SM Wilson and Co., Simms Building Group, McCarthy Building Companies, Paric and HOK. Several students have job shadowed their coaches at various construction sites and more of those activities are planned. Scheduled speaker Mr. Dwight Johnson conducted a seminar on “Time Management.” The career coaches have been reviewing the student portfolios and most of the participants are ready to produce a finished portfolio. Most of the participants have registered for the ACT and to date five have taken the test. We are proud to announce James Jordan scored a 24 on the ACT and holds the distinct honor of having the highest ACT score at Construction Careers Center. “Way to go James!”



Mr. Scott Wilson, President of S. M. Wilson, engaged in a photo opportunity for a regional business council article. The article will appear in a future edition of the St. Louis Business Journal.



CCC BOYS BASKETBALL FINISHES AT 8-15

After upgrading the boys schedule for the 2006-07 season, Coach Elbert Harris felt his team improved from the previous year. Tough losses in two of the area’s best tournaments, Affton and Union, helped the Bobcats mature as a team. Barry Robinson and Theo Howard led the team in scoring with 26.3 and 9.6 points per game. Seniors Justin Stokes, Terrel Henderson and Clarence Haines led the team in rebounds with each having over eight rebounds per game. Seniors who provided outstanding minutes off the bench were Dwayne Moody and Brian Allen. Other underclassmen who contributed to the team’s efforts were Erston Mallet and Jeremy Robinson. Coach Harris noted that four of the team’s losses were by four points or less. He is looking forward to another good season next year.

CCC BOYS AND GIRLS START SECOND TRACK SEASON

Coach Harris takes over as the Boys and Girls Coach for the 2007 Track Season. The team started practice on March 1st and the athletes are looking forward to a successful season. This year the team has added two field events to the line-up. Both the girls and boys will be throwing the shot and discus in competitions this season.

Saturday	March 24	Hazelwood Central
Saturday	March 31	McCluer South
Saturday	April 7	Hazelwood East
Saturday	April 11	Maplewood JV
Friday	April 20	Orchard Farms
Wednesday	April 25	Clayton High School
Saturday	April 28	Clayton High School Finals
Monday	April 30	Maplewood

INTERVIEW DAY

Seniors mark your calendar with Thursday, May 17 and Friday, May 18 for the third annual “Construction Careers Center Interview Day.” This day is designed to introduce you to employers seeking to employ entry-level staff. In past years, we have been successful in assisting our seniors with gaining entry-level employment with a variety of construction trades. Watch for more promotion around the school. Have your portfolios ready to represent you.