



ECHO NEWS



NORTH FAYETTE ELEMENTARY HOME OF THE DOLPHINS

PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

Parent Center Location: Title I Lab, hours 7:15-2:15 Monday - Friday.
Pave the way to academic success--check out our reading/math activities!

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Families and Friends,

Spring is here! Flowers and trees are blooming and our students are in high gear for the final stretch of the 2013-14 school year. Though the state testing of CRCT will be ending this month, please know that there is much for the teachers to do with our students. We need continued attention and focus on the learning environment. We appreciate any help and guidance you can give to support this at school.

As we approach the Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) for third through fifth grades, mark your calendar for April 16 through April 22. Our teachers and students have worked very hard incorporating the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards into engaging lessons and activities. As you are probably aware, this curriculum goes deeper than before and integrates well into higher order thinking skills, which are so essential for 21st century learning. As a parent, we ask that you prepare your child, both physically and mentally, for the test. You can do this by making sure he/she gets a good night's rest before, has a nutritious breakfast each morning, and knows that you believe he/she will do well on the test. Of course, we don't want this to be overemphasized to the degree that it makes your child anxious or nervous, but simply setting a positive tone.

Finally, we always take time in the month of April to thank our many wonderful volunteers and partners who support our school every year in many different ways. It takes the efforts and "above and beyond" action of the volunteers that make North Fayette such a great place to work and learn. We really appreciate all that you do! We look forward to continuing this journey of early learning together!

Sincerely,
Jade Bolton

Math and Science Connection

From: The Resources for Educators a division of CCH Incorporated

Q: What has three feet and no arms? A: A yard.

Learning to multiply and divide can be more about thinking than memorizing. Strategies like these can help your child practice.

Make it fun. Practice using toys or food. If your child collects toy animals, you might ask "How many legs do 4 horses have? He can "skip count by 4s (4,8,12,16) to see that $4 \times 4 = 16$. If he has 17 pretzels and wants to give 3 friends an equal amount, he can "deal them out." He'll see that each person gets 5, and there are 2 left over. ($17/3 = 5$, remainder 2).

Find, build compute. What do a shoebox, book and refrigerator have in common? They are all rectangular prisms, or solid shapes with rectangles for their faces (sides). Encourage your child to explore geometry with this common shape.

Science Lab. Save your breath. Your youngster can inflate a balloon without using his breath. A chemical reaction will do it for him.! *You'll need:* empty a plastic soda bottle (20fl. Oz.), 1/4 cup water, 1 tsp. baking soda, uninflated balloon, lemon juice. *Here's how:* Have your child add the water and baking soda to the bottle, close the cap, and swirl it around until the water is cloudy. Then, help your child stretch out the balloon and place the opening over the top of the bottle, leaving a small space. He should very quickly add a little lemon juice, seal the balloon completely over the bottle, and shake lightly. What happens? The balloon inflates. *Why?* When you mix an acid (lemon) and a base (baking soda) they create carbon dioxide. The molecules spread out as the gas forms., pushing against the walls of the balloon and causing it to inflate.

NFE TEACHERS & STAFF SPOTLIGHT

My name is Tracey Tyree and I am honored to be your assistant principal. Coming back to North Fayette Elementary this year has been like coming home to family. First and foremost, I went to North Fayette Elementary as a student when it first opened. In fact, I am a twelve year student of Fayette County Public Schools attending: Hood Primary, Fayette Intermediate, North Fayette, Fayette Junior High, and Fayette County High School. Mrs. Bolton originally hired me eleven years ago as the assistant principal of North Fayette Elementary and I worked alongside her for five years. I was then asked to transfer to another school to work with a new principal where I remained for five years. It was a pleasant surprise when I was asked to come back to NFE this year. Besides working as an administrator, I also teach graduate classes online for Kaplan University as an adjunct professor. Prior to entering into leadership eleven years ago, I taught first grade for eleven years. All eleven years were spent in schools who served mostly government housing students in at-risk situations. I hold those experiences close to my heart because I learned what real teaching was all about in that environment.

It's a wonderful feeling to teach in a school environment where you know you are needed and making a difference.



My educational background includes a bachelors, masters, and specialist degree from the University of West Georgia. I also obtained a masters degree from the same institution in Educational Leadership. My doctoral degree was obtained from Argosy University in the area of Curriculum and Instruction. My current position as an administrator allows me to use my knowledge from all of these areas – early childhood, curriculum knowledge, and leadership. It's my personal belief that it's impossible to be an effective leader without having personal experiences as a teacher (being able to relate to walking in their shoes), having knowledge of the curriculum expectations, having an understanding of real-world research-based strategies, and understanding the theories behind good leadership by building relationships with students, teachers, and parents.

On a personal note, I am a single mother of two precious girls named Jordan (15 years old) and Sidney (12 years old) who also go to Fayette County Public Schools. We also have 5 dogs who are a big part of our family (four yorkies and one bouvier des flandres). If you've never heard of a bouvier des flandres, you need to google it. I call her the giraffe of the family. We also have two tortie cats. As you can see we have a big heart for animals. 😊

If at any time you have questions, concerns, or even an idea you would like to share, please feel free to come by to talk with me. My door is always open. I want what is best for the children here at North Fayette Elementary just as you do. I know when we do that as a team, we can accomplish so much more. Thank you for making my first year back at NFE a great one!

Sincerely,
Tracey Tyree, Ed.D.

Father-Daughter Dance



Thanks to our
NFE PTO for
organizing
this great
event!!

