



**CONWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Jefferson County Public School

# Weekly Staff News

October 30, 2022

## This week...

There is no question that we are being asked to do some heavy lifting. Between the teacher shortage, sub shortage, shortage of personal energy, and the shortage of patience, this faculty & staff is worn out. When exhaustion sets in, emotions run high and survival mode kicks in. Currently, this is where we are. But this is not where we can live.

As we build toward better days, I invite you to join me in tackling what we can control using a solutions-based approach. Are there issues we need to address? Yes! Can everything be fixed right now? No. However, we can choose to collectively lock arms and decide to work together to identify remedies for the concerns that are consuming our minds.

Take Ms. Beason, for instance. Ms. Beason devised some new systems to improve student engagement and student management in her classroom. And you know what? She's seeing steady improvement in both of her identified areas. Well done, Ms. Beason! We see you!

And then there is Dr. Collins. Dr. Collins identified that transition to Related Arts needed some attention and devised a different plan. With the support of her 7th grade team, those folks are taking the cougar by its tail and addressing the issue head on. Is it perfect? No. But it's a great first step to strengthening student transition through a new system that will be continually refined along the way.

We can choose to remain complacent with our current status or we can choose to unite to ignite some necessary changes. The first step is to come up with possible solutions to what ails us and implement plans to address them. It's time to get some systems in place to address our challenges. Who's in?

This week's [staff meeting agenda](#).

## Our Vision

For Conway to be a school where teachers teach standards-based, grade level lessons, in a safe environment where students are learning and teacher growth and leadership are fostered.

## Important Dates

- Staff Meeting- Nov. 1 @ 2:45 pm
- Report Cards- Nov. 4
- Gold Day- Nov. 7 @ 8am- Library
- No School- Nov. 8 - Election Day
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## Don't Forget!

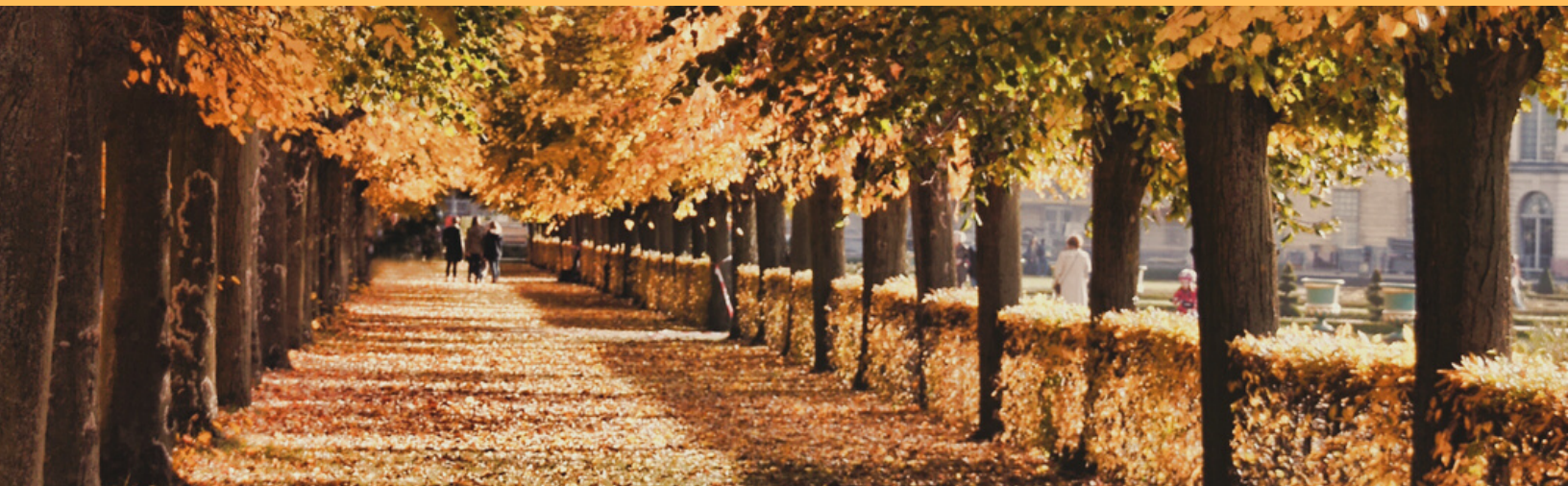
- You should remain professional with staff and students at all times.
- Lessons are planned to be engaging, grade appropriate and standards-based. Students should work from bell to bell.
- The expectation is that your CIF poster is completed and updated daily.

## Gold Day Logistics

Ms. Amy Cockcroft of Solution Tree will be leading us in a day of learning about PLCs. Not only is this day designed to strengthen our current PLC process, it is also designed to be a productive day for you. Below are the logistics I want to put on your radar in advance of our Monday, November 7 day of professional learning.

1. Our start time is 8:00 AM and we will meet in the library.
2. You will be seated by content area. Please look for your table tents.
3. Please have your upcoming unit materials ready to go. During the afternoon PLC work, you will be working on common formative assessments and engaging in purposeful learning. All assessments that you create should be REAPED to ensure Racial Equity!  
Amy, Melissa, Lorri, Craig, Angel, Erika and I will be supporting you in your PLC work.
4. Lunch will be on your own.

More details will come as the day approaches. I wanted to make sure you know what this PD day looks like.





## Reminders

**Did you know that clutter increases stress? True story! Please remember that the physical environment of your classroom is important. Take time to clean and organize your desk and room. Better yet, enlist the help of your students to maintain a positive, stress-free environment.**

**While some of our students have true technology issues with their iPads, many of our students are “forgetting” their devices as a means to avoid work. You can be an “excuse buster” by having hard copies of the lesson on-hand so they can figure out quickly that they will not be let off the hook. I would recommend having about 25 hard copies ready to go.**

**One way to address student behavior concerns is to contact the parent directly. Parent contact is extremely important. It helps you keep your power and helps build relationships with our parents.**

**CASE open response scores must be uploaded by November 4. Thank you to everyone who gave CASE during a very challenging week.**



“Every child deserves a  
**CHAMPION** – an adult who  
will never give up on them,  
who understands the power of  
connection and insists that  
they become the best that they  
can possibly be.”

– Rita Pierson

*The Daring English Teacher*

