

Review of “A Look Into Our Schools”

By: Misty Davis

The Annual Title I/PTA Council Meeting for "A Look Into Our Schools" on Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, was a fantastic overview of various projects and programs throughout our school district. JC Council of PTAs coordinated breakfast hospitality with all JC Schools providing donations of muffins, doughnuts, pastries, coffee, and juice.

Dr. Robbie Anderson presented a very thorough review of the "No Child Left Behind" act. All schools in Johnson City Schools are in good standing and all of our teachers are highly qualified.

ITMS teaches "AHA", a program that enables students to break down words when they don't know the definition. They are seeing a positive impact on achievement in all areas of study as a result of using this program.

North Side is a signature school for math, science, and technology. They are one of two schools in TN to offer a science lab and are currently working on an outdoor classroom for studying nature, gardening, and projects and will include a water feature and fossil dig site.

The ESL (English as a Second Language) program had one ESL teacher from 1993 to 1999. The program is expanding at a very fast rate. At the beginning of 2008, we now have nine teachers for 32 languages represented in Johnson City Schools.

"Girls On The Run" launched at Woodland Elementary. This program "encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running". <http://www.gotrnetn.org/> They have two teams of 8 - 15 girls and the 12-week session "combines training for a 5K with healthy living education".

Towne Acres is using a Five Star Writing program to teach creative writing. The papers are scored by PTA volunteers using a rubric that identifies 5 traits of writing a creative paper: organization, voice, ideas, sentence fluency,

word choice, and conventions.

Fairmont has implemented a Fitness Club for students to improve their level of fitness through exercise. Ms. Counts has acquired many pieces of equipment for this after school program through various grant opportunities.

Science Hill implemented the GOT Diploma program. G=Graduate, O=On, T=Time. This new program allows students who for various students are unable to obtain a diploma with the SHHS required 28 credits. This new program works toward lowering the drop-out rate by helping students achieve a graduation diploma. Twenty new laptops were acquired for the computer room on the Alternative Campus and is running Plato software to help students in the program. The program is accessible via the web allowing for students to study at home as well and take tests at school.

As always, thank you for joining SHHS PTSA and for supporting our many projects that benefit students, teachers, staff, and parents. Together with JC School Administration and Board, we as SHHS parents, students, teachers, and staff can enrich the lives of our children and prepare them for their journey toward becoming adults.

everychild. onevoice.

Thank You,
Misty Davis
Science Hill High School PTSA