

Notes from:

Superintendent Hollis Milton

The 2017-18 school year has gotten off to a great start for our schools and our students. We are enjoying tremendous success in pursuing our vision: Preparing students for college, career and life in the 21st century. Here are just a few of the highlights from West Feliciana Schools:

BAINS LOWER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- The solar eclipse on Aug. 21 provided for some great learning experiences for students at Bains Lower Elementary as the eclipse was incorporated into lesson plans in a variety of creative ways.
- Engaging children in STEAM Education in 2017 (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics).
- iPad stations in classrooms.
- Increased support for developing early literacy.
- Eureka Math extends to Pre-Kindergarten.
- Louisiana A+ School, sponsored by the Rodrigue Foundation of Arts.

FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

- School-based health center for all district students (3 physicians, 3 RNs).
- Health initiatives with UCLA.
- Bridge Institute Summer Learning Gains Program with Capital Area United Way.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.
- The Leader in Me Lighthouse school designation.

BAINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Instruction coach and Instructional Specialist to help support teachers and students.
- The Leader in Me Lighthouse school designation.
- Eureka Math curriculum.
- 1-to-1 Chromebook computers in fourth and fifth grades, class access to iPads and computer labs in second and third grades.
- STEM program along other ancillary programs such as PE, Art, Library, Computer Skills and Safety.

WEST FELICIANA MIDDLE SCHOOL

- WFMS students were elected governor, president pro tempore and speaker pro tempore at the Louisiana Youth Legislature.
- Virtual reality is coming to WFMS!
- Chromebooks for English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies.

WEST FELICIANA HIGH SCHOOL

- The Mock Trial team competed in the prestigious Yale Mock Trial Bulldog Invitational Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in New Haven, Conn.

- WFHS collaborated with West Feliciana Hospital and the Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center (CLAHCEC) to give high school students the opportunity to explore careers in health care.
- Culinary arts students placed second in a statewide competition.
- Dual enrollment courses through LSU, Southeastern Louisiana and Baton Rouge Community College.
- One of 8 schools chosen to partner with LSU to pilot a dual-enrollment engineering pathway.
- Strategic focus on college and careers by offering 7 new career pathways: electrical, carpentry, welding, public service, certified nursing assistant, hospitality and digital media.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- WAFB-TV reporter Liz Koh and cameraman Brandon Shackelford featured in live shots from West Feliciana Middle School as part of 9News This Morning's back-to-school coverage.
- Members of the cafeteria staff worked hard to prepare a variety of choices for new menu options for the 2017-18 school year. The staff conducted taste tests to increase student participation and improve overall quality of the food.
- The district amended its policy for 2017-18 for serving meals under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. This school year, all students are now served breakfast and lunch every day at no cost to them.



The West Feliciana stadium track has been resurfaced and it is now open to the public.

Important Dates:

October 27 • Early Dismissal for Homecoming
November 20 • Thanksgiving Holidays Begin
December 19 • Early Dismissal Exams
December 20 • Christmas Holidays Begin
January 4 • Second Semester Begins



Students, faculty and staff raised nearly \$7,000 in just three days for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in September. A truckload of supplies was also collected and School Board member Beth Tyner and her husband, Robert, delivered the supplies and the check to the Southeast Texas Food Bank in Beaumont.



Seven West Feliciana High School students gained admission to the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition for the 2017-2018 school year. Left to Right: Kenan Cooper, Sierra Branstetter, Rodricka Carmona, Echo Moncivaez, Kaylah Ford, Le'Keldria Whitfield and Kennedy London.



WFHS' NJROTC Color Guard team placed third in a statewide competition recently at Slidell High. The cadets competing were Blythe Buchanan, Kylie Ayers, Lawrence Gonzales and Tab Hebert.

CELEBRATIONS

School Digger.com named **West Feliciana the top school district in Louisiana for 2017.**

West Feliciana was ranked **No.1 in the state in End of Course testing for 2017.**

West Feliciana Middle School teacher **Janet Lathrop** awarded the **Louisiana Dream Teachers H. Norman Saurage III Service Award for 2017.**

WFHS students ranked fourth statewide in overall ACT testing results with an overall composite of 21. Among African American students, WF ranked second (19.2). For economically disadvantaged students, WF was second (19.6) composite and for special education students, WF ranked second (19.6).

Boys Track & Field team were State champions in Class 3A for second year in a row and the girls team was runner-up in 2017.

Students, faculty and staff from West Feliciana Parish schools community raised \$6,868 in just three days for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. A truckload of non-perishable items was also collected and School Board member **Beth Tyner** and her husband, **Robert**, delivered the supplies and the check to the **Southeast Texas Food Bank in Beaumont.**

West Feliciana High School senior **Kyle Sellers** was named a **National Merit Finalist for 2017.**

West Feliciana Parish High School teacher **Nicole Means** participated in the **College Board's annual Advanced Placement Reading in AP Human Geography.**

Senior **John Emery Walker** was among 20 students invited to participate in the **Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences** through **LSU's College of Agriculture.**

Culinary arts students placed second in a statewide competition.

WFHS 10th grader Nevada Eschete was profiled in a front-page article in the St. Francisville Democrat for his Make-A-Wish trip to Ireland in June.

West Feliciana Parish Supervisor of Elementary Education and Federal Programs **Zanovia Curtis** successfully completed the **first LASS Leadership Academy.**

Superintendent Milton was profiled in the October 2017 issue of School Administrator magazine with a one-page feature story.

West Feliciana Middle School student **Mathilde Fox-Smith** was named a **Regional Student of the Year for 2017.**

Superintendent Milton served as president of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.



Senior John Emery Walker works on an experiment during one of the nine workshop sessions through LSU College of Agriculture's Governor's School which is designed for students interested in a career in agricultural sciences.



Superintendent Milton presented a plaque to former Superintendent Wendell H. Hall at the Aug. 15 School Board meeting. Retired employees Jerome Matherne, Steve, Comfort and Al Lemoine put together a presentation honoring Mr. Hall's legacy.



The solar eclipse on Aug. 21 provided for some great learning experiences for students at Bains Lower Elementary. In Laura Lindsey's Pre-K class, students learn about the eclipse and color, "A Solar Eclipse of the Heart!"



Superintendent Milton presents a plaque to Mr. C.S. "Cheeze" Hamilton commemorating his career as a WF school bus driver during a recent school board meeting. Cheeze retired after driving our parish's children safely for 57 years.