

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations are in order for another member of our Adams County/Ohio Valley School District teaching staff. **Mr. Donald McCarty**, Ag-Science instructor at West Union High School, recently learned that he is the latest member of our faculty to earn the distinction of being named a **National Board Certified Teacher**.

To earn National Board Certification, candidates must submit portfolios of student work, classroom videotapes, evaluations, and other documentation to affirm their knowledge of the subject they teach, as well as their ability to teach effectively and measure student learning. The process also includes a lengthy comprehensive exam focusing on classroom practices, student assessment, and the teacher's subject area. Certification candidates must hold a bachelor's degree and have at least three years of classroom experience. Mr. McCarty joins twelve other educators from the AC/OVSD who have earned this distinction.

Mr. McCarty is in his tenth year of teaching in the AC/OVSD. He began his career at Peebles High School, the first year in the new buildings, and helped the district transition from Industrial Arts programming to the new Industrial Tech program. Since the 1998-1999 school year, he has taught Vocational Agriculture at West Union High School. He has served as Envirothon Coach and has been the Tech Coordinator for five years. One of his former principals commented, "He is willing to give of his time outside the classroom, and this is testament of his dedication to his students." We are fortunate to

have Mr. McCarty serving our youth. We extend our congratulations to him as he joins 108 other teachers in Ohio in earning National Board Certification in 2006.

SECOND ROUND OF COMMUNITY-STAFF MEETINGS HELD

Recently, representatives from Steed Hammond Paul Architects conducted the second round of meetings with elementary building staffs and community members during what is the Schematic Design (SD) Phase of our building project. As always, the purpose was to engage the staffs and respective public audiences in the ongoing review of the project as it begins to take shape.

During the first round of staff-community meetings, the audiences had a chance to review possible floor plan options and to offer input on the direction that each new elementary school would take from an interior floor plan perspective. In this most recent session of staff-community meetings, the audiences were presented a couple of options on possible exterior appearances of each of the buildings. Once again, input was sought from each respective audience regarding the information being presented.

This is a very important part of the building process. Gathering input from the staffs and communities is a vital piece to the overall success of the project. After all, these new buildings are being constructed for AC/OVSD residents for the education of their children for the next 50 years or longer. It is important that they be designed with

students, staff, and community in mind. It is somewhat difficult to ensure that this is done to the satisfaction of the majority of folks without their involvement.

The third round of staff-community meetings will be scheduled sometime in late February or early March. As soon as we have those dates, we will get the information out to the public. In the meantime, we will attempt to share with you some of the exterior design options for each new elementary school as we receive these designs electronically from the architects. Hopefully, you will be able to view these options in the near future either on the District Website (www.ovsd.us) or by going to the PASS Website (www.superschools.org).

PROGRESS BOOK

For some time, the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District has used *Progress Book*, an online system, to generate Attendance Reports, Interim Reports, Report Cards, and Individual Education Plans (IEP's). We are now ready to provide parents/guardians with access through the Internet so you can view your child's daily schedule of homework assignments, grades, and attendance.

The information you view concerning your child will be "read only," and is encrypted to prevent others from having access to your child's data. ***Please, do not share your username and password with others.***

Since the username and password is individualized to each child and is confidential, parents/guardians who wish to have access must pick up a letter at their child's school with instructions and their username and password. Due to the confidential nature and the cost of mailing, we will not be sending these letters home with students or mailing.

As this is a new process for us, please be patient as we work through any issues together. If you ever have a question regarding a grade or anything posted in Progress Book, please contact your child's teacher or principal.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent