

Peebles Elementary School

BUILDING PROGRESS TOWARD SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

April 2007

- The OISM/School Improvement team will be meeting next week to compile and disseminate the last Aims Web Fluency Probe and get information to teachers for last minute preparation for the OAT. In addition, the team will be meeting to look at discipline trends (391 write-ups to this point) and make changes to the school discipline plan that reflect the philosophy of those choosing to do the Time to Teach Program next year. The first training was completed in March with 22 staff members. The next training is scheduled for April 24 and 26. An informational meeting for parents and community on the program will be held during back to school night in August. The evaluations of the first seminar were as follows:

Ratings – 1-2 Low; 3-5 medium; 6-7 high

Content of the seminar – 6.6

Contribution of the instructor – 6.8

Usefulness of materials – 6.4

Overall seminar as a whole – 6.5

- General Electric has been sponsoring a robotics class with Mrs. Jessica Wilkinson's 6th grade Science classes for the 2nd year in a row, in order to meet the state academic indicators in this area. GE purchased many dollars worth of equipment to be able to provide this fine program which has allowed students to see how a mechanical arm, 2 robot pets, a sweeper and vacuum operate. In addition, GE is sponsoring a Robot Fair where the students will design and engineer a robot of their own. The top student in each class will get their own robot pet. In addition, the top 5 students in each class will go to the GE test lab in Peebles for a tour of the control room, and to be able to see a jet engine being tested. Many thanks to the folks at GE, and to Wes Ward, Steve McFarland, Jeff Silvey, Courtnee Sowards, Kevin Risner, and Liza Wells—who came to the school to demonstrate and talk with the students at PES.
- Parent / Teacher conferences were held on March 29th.
- We had much participation in the Reading OAT- free workshops- grades 3-6 at Eastern Brown High School last evening. The workshop included Practice Reading Achievement Test Items (*by grade level*), Question Stems, Video Clips, Free Teacher Websites, Ohio Testing Timeline, Graphic Organizers, and Critical Vocabulary.
- Mrs. Janice Day trained all 3-6 grade teachers in using the benchmark testing with Study Island.. The feature allows teachers to see where a student is strong and weak in each strand of a subject—and can be used as a predictor to passage of the OAT---although how much of a predictor, remains to be seen --after we gather test data and compare. At the very least, it allows the teacher to see where individualized instruction needs to be for that student. All students, grades 3-6 have been benchmarked and every teacher is now aware of this feature and how to use it.
- In the last principals report, one teacher who completed OMAP training this year was not listed and we apologize for the error—Mrs. Sandie Bratt, 3rd Grade teacher. This included 7 full days of training.
- Mrs. Janice Day continues conducting professional development concerning differentiated instruction.

Note: Additional information regarding PES principals reports since December 2000 can be accessed by going to our school web page at: www.ohiovalley.k12.oh.us/pes and clicking on the monthly report icon.