



FOUNDATION NEWS

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Upcoming Events

**17th Annual
Race to the Future**

**Tuesday
September 27, 2016
6:30 pm
Morrilton High School
Cafeteria**

**MHS Class of 1976
40 Year Reunion
October 7-8, 2016**

**Devil Dog Reunion
June 3, 2017
Special Guests
MHS Class of
1967**

2016 RACE TO THE FUTURE TUE. SEPT 27

INVESTING IN THE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AT MHS

On Tuesday evening, September 27th, the South Conway County Public School Foundation will host the 17th Annual “Race to the Future” Fund-raising Event. Funds raised during this year’s campaign will be used to assist the district in their effort to upgrade the technology infrastructure at Morrilton High School.

This investment will result in dramatically enhanced wireless connectivity that will vastly improve wireless access around the entire campus complex. This modernized infrastructure will transform Morrilton High School into a place where 21st century learners will be able to better utilize current and future technologies for years to come as scholars prepare for life-long education and career opportunities.

Improvement of the wireless network will allow approximately 750 scholars and staff to utilize wireless tools to positively affect the

learning process. Modernization of the infrastructure at Morrilton High School includes additional Power over Ethernet (PoE) switches and upgrading of all wiring from CAT-5 to CAT-6 to increase wireless capabilities. This will enable the entire campus to become a wireless classroom to support learning activities anywhere within the high school complex and improve reliability of the wireless network. Likewise, these modifications should increase speed and efficiency when accessing the internet or downloading online resources for instruction.

This investment will benefit every scholar and teacher on the Morrilton High School campus, enabling them to utilize all technology devices to help aid in the learning process.

Amid all of the physical improvements taking place at every campus in the district, these infrastructure improvements will ensure

that our students have every tool needed to enhance their learning environment. For more information about the physical improvements and additions going on throughout the district see the article “Something Is Up” in this newsletter.

The South Conway County Public School Foundation has set a goal of \$25,000 to provide assistance to the School District to make this project possible. We encourage you to send your support in early, using the sponsorship form inside this newsletter, to be included in the printed program. If you prefer to give online that option is available on our web site at www.sccpsf.org.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Foundation and its commitment to the South Conway County School District.

FOUNDATION LOSES LONGTIME BOARD MEMBER



The South Conway County Public School Foundation was started in 1995 with Dr. T.C. Vaughn, William “Bill” Stacks, and Nathan Gordon as the original board members.

This year the foundation lost a long-term outstanding board member, Bob

Coffman, who began as a board member in 1998.

Mr. Coffman, age 81, of Morrilton, passed away Wednesday, January 13, 2016. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church, past President of the Morrilton Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club,

and Jaycees. He was an announcer for the Morrilton High School Devil Dogs football team for KVOM for 22 years, a member of the Community Service Properties and numerous other boards.

Bob’s leadership will be greatly missed.

“SOMETHING IS UP” IN THE SCCSD

A quick drive through the Morrilton area will quickly reveal that “something is up”. To be more precise, walls and other construction projects are going up, which, in turn, are leading to ever increasing excitement in the city. Thanks to the passage of a 3.9 millage tax increase by the county, all five of the South Conway County School District schools are undergoing major renovations that are squarely in alignment with the school district’s mission: “To Love, To Serve, To Care, To Maximize the Safety, Learning, and Achievement of every scholar, every day.”

Upon completion of all phases of the project, the district will have attained the following highlights: increased student security by making entrances more strategically placed and enclosing the open breezeways of the Primary school; tornado safe

rooms for all campuses to house students and staff in case of tornado activity during the school day; additional parking and safer traffic flow; new classrooms for Art, Music, and Special Education classrooms; space to house “Technology Labs” and rehabilitation services such as, Physical and Occupational Therapy, increased space for already increasing enrollment; and a 2,000 to 2,200 seat, climate-controlled Multi-Purpose Arena that can be used to host graduation ceremonies, sports tournaments, community concerts, and large assemblies within the community.

Community members, district staff, and city leaders, alike, are thrilled about the potential benefits of this project. Safety is the most cited reason for the excitement. Theresa Bertram, an active parent within the district,

states, “I am excited about every school having their own safe room. After the tornadoes tore through Vilonia and seeing what was left, it made me fearful for the lives of the children it could have taken. That could have been Morrilton. I will be able to breathe easier when the safe rooms are completed.” Pat Sweeden, a Morrilton Elementary School educator, agrees with the safety enhancements and adds, “I’m excited about the new technology center and the opportunities it will give our students to enhance their learning.” Recently retired music teacher, Vicky Ronk, loves the idea of a new music room and teachers no longer having to contend with “the wind whistling down the corridors.”

City leaders are forecasting a major financial impact for the county as the area will be able to host

large sporting and academic tournaments. Angela Smith, MES PTO president, stated, “I am really looking forward to the new arena as I have attended several graduations in the gym that were impossible to enjoy due to the heat and crowded conditions. It will be nice to have a state of the arts facility for our children to celebrate their achievements.” High school educator Kurtsey Spivey is excited about all the changes, she states, “I am looking forward to all the schools getting a little update and polish. I think it sets a great atmosphere for our students, faculty, and staff. I know that August will have some changes to drop offs, but our parents, bus drivers, and students will adapt to these changes quickly.” Whether it’s walls, morale, hope, excitement, or something else, something is definitely “up” in the SCCSD!

DEVIL DOG REUNION RECAP

“Hark the Sound of Devil dog voices” was heard yet again Saturday, June 11, 2016, when Morrilton High School alumni attended the 16th Annual Devil Dog Reunion Brunch held at the Morrilton High School Cafeteria for the MHS classes that have had, or are having, their 50th class reunions.

Welcomed into this “golden” group this year was the MHS Class of 1966. Stan Willis, a member of the Class of 1963 served once again as the emcee for this event. The program began with the Pledge of Allegiance led

by alumni members who served our country in the military. Chuck Jones, Class of 1963, gave the invocation and Lindell Roberts, Class of 1961, led the Alma Mater. Bea Lasater Thompson and Earl “Bimbo” Bentley of the Class of 1938 were once again classmates from the earliest class attending.

Shawn Halbrook, from the Class of 1990 and Superintendent of the South Conway County School District, welcomed the alumni and gave an update on the state of the school district. Katherine Harwood Foust, Class of

1958, commented on the South Conway County Public School Foundation activities and accepted a donation from the Class of 1965, presented by Donna Epperson Chastain.

Saturday, June 3, 2017 is the planned date of the 17th annual brunch which will honor the MHS Class of 1967. For further information, please contact Anita Crowell Huett, ‘63, at 354-4321, Carolyn-Stacks Massingill, ‘59, at 354-5806, or Phyllis McKuin, ‘62, at 354-5346.



2016 Season's Home Devil Dog Football Games

- 9/9 Dogs vs JA Fair
 - 9/16 Dogs vs Searcy
 - 9/23 Dogs vs Harrison
 - 10/7 Dogs vs Alma
 - 10/21 Dogs vs Vilonia
- (all games begin at 7:00 pm)

SCHOLARSHIP AND MEMORIAL FUNDS WITHIN THE FOUNDATION

Many alumni and friends of the South Conway County School District do not realize that the South Conway County Public School Foundation manages and administers many scholarship and memorial funds. There are currently 19 individual funds administered by the Foundation. Funds are established by families, alumni groups, and community groups. Donations can be added to any of the established funds by simply mailing a check to the Foundation and indicating the fund you would like to support. If you would like to donate online visit our

web page at www.sccpsf.org and select Online Giving. Please note the name of the fund you are supporting where indicated.

Supporting an existing fund or establishing a

new fund is a great way to show your personal commitment to raising the bar for education in the Morrilton area.

For more information about establishing a fund contact Sarah Ryals at

501-208-2826 or sarah@ccrwdd.com.

The SCCPSF is a 501(c)(3) organization, making all your donations tax deductible!

Scholarship and Memorial Funds

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| Aaron Stobaugh Second Chance Scholarship | Marlin Hawkins Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Beverly Bland Hill Memorial Fund | Mary Jo French Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Clifton T. Wells Memorial Scholarship Fund | Mickey Billingsley Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Devil Dog Helping Hands Appreciation/Crystal | Project Graduation Fund |
| Foshee Memorial Scholarship | Randall Butler Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Doyle McDonald Memorial Scholarship Fund | Raymond Chambers Scholarship Fund |
| Emma Roberson Memorial Scholarship Fund | Rev. Roy E. Allen Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Golden Years Reunion Brunch | Ruth Laux Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| James Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund | Turley Children Memorial Scholarship Fund |
| Jan Mendosa Memorial Scholarship Fund | V.L. Boren Memorial Scholarship Fund |

**South Conway
County Public
School Foundation**

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Board Members

Raymond Chambers
Karen Cree
Katherine Foust
Bill Gunderman
Angela Howard
Gary Koch
Jack Knapp
Lawana Lyon
Steve Pruitt
Sarah Norman Ryals
Patty Allison Shipp
William R. Stacks

Internet Web Site
www.sccpsf.org

MES THIRD GRADER WINS COUNTY SPELLING BEE

A lot of hard work certainly paid off in this year's Conway County Spelling Bee. SCCSD's Drew Howard placed 1st, Claire Koontz placed 2nd, Lia Lawson came in 3rd and 4th place went to Tim Howard.



Left to right: Drew Howard, Claire Koontz, Lia Lawson.

Drew Howard, 3rd grader from Morrilton Elementary School, represented

Conway County in the Arkansas State Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 12, in the Reynolds Performance Hall on the University of Central Arkansas campus in Conway. The Arkansas State Spelling Bee was presented by the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Students competed for the state title and an all-expense-paid trip to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. David Larson, retired Hendrix College professor, served as the spelling bee pronouncer. Our Drew Howard represented our county and young third

graders everywhere (most participants were 6th-8th graders) very well! He made it to the 5th round.

Drew put in a lot of hard work and hours preparing for this competition. He also exhibited a great attitude. We are proud of him and all of our great spellers.



Drew Howard competing at the State Spelling Bee

Foundation News is a Publication of the South Conway County Public School Foundation which supports improved educational opportunities for the South Conway County School District.



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