



## Field Flyer

<http://sps.k12.mo.us/field/>

MARCH 2011

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## An Eagle's Eye View...

*This column features topical conversations from both educator (Dr. Nancy Colbaugh, Principal) and parent (Jody Tetlow, PTA President) perspectives.*

### Assessment

#### From an Educators Perspective: Dr. Nancy Colbaugh...

Assessment is a very big word. It is one of the more important words we use in education, but it is often misunderstood. "Assessment drives instruction" is a phrase used by educators. It is a truthful statement. What we monitor in student achievement drives what we teach.

Many years ago, our state test was completely multiple-choice. It was easy to grade with a scantron machine and we had quick results. When the expectation for students was for them to be able to recite small pieces of information (that were not at all related to each other) that was how teachers prepared students. So, students learned facts using the precise wording that we knew would be used in the test.

When Missouri adopted a more complex testing system (the MAP) we were encouraged because preparation for the MAP included reading for comprehension with space for open-ended answers graded by a real person, and extensive writing. It is a difficult test and it is not perfect, but it did take us away from the completely multiple-choice format.

One of the problems with the MAP is that results do not come back for several months. Thus the results do little to help us understand anything of importance about the individual student.

We held our breath when No Child Left Behind came along because of an underlying fear that our testing process would revert back to the 'quick and easy' version. Missouri has held on to the MAP and that is the test we will be taking in early April.

Because of the direction of our superintendent, we have been given permission by our district to look at assessment in a very different way. As a teacher, the true value of assessment is to know where your students lie on the continuum of understanding over the content and processes you have taught. By looking at the assessment, you know how students are thinking, and can make adjustments to help individual students gain a deeper and more long-lasting understanding.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**3/1**

Early Release at 12:30  
Buses run at 1:30

Wacky World  
Bounce Party  
1 - 4pm  
\$4 per child  
(\$1 will go back to Field  
PTA)

**3/2**

Springfield Council of PTA  
(SCPTA) Meeting  
at Hickory Hills Elementary  
/Middle School  
9am

**3/3**

Missouri Extension Office  
Food Power visits Field

**3/10**

Chat-n-Chew  
during lunch hours

Social Suppers  
11am - 6pm  
(Identify yourself with Field  
and 10% comes back to us)

**3/11**

Principal's Coffee/  
Socratic Training  
Field Library  
9am

Outdoor Maintenance Day  
- immediately following  
Principal's Coffee

**3/12**

Math Olympiad

Honor Choir performs  
at Evangel

Cub Scout Pancake  
Breakfast  
Applebee's by Target  
8 - 10am

**3/15**

RIF poster contest deadline

Through PYP, this process has been taken a step further. Students are strongly encouraged to reflect on their learning and assess where they are in understanding what has been taught in the previous unit. We hope to guide students to know their own strengths and be aware of their challenges as learners.

In the classroom setting, teachers are seeing more and more students able to be deeply reflective. We also see our MAP scores rising over the past three years- with 5th graders leading the way. The impression from the data is that the longer we have the students, the better they do on the MAP test.

It's a complicated process that is less about just getting an "A" or a certain score and more about the whole complex learning process. Yes, we still look at numbers and scores, as does our district, state and nation, but at the classroom level, we look much deeper to know the individual child.

### From a Parents Perspective: Jody Tetlow, PTA President...

What comes to mind when you hear the word testing in respect to a school environment? For me, I associate "testing" with the words: quiet, well rested, well fed, and prepared. Beyond our chapter, spelling, and standardized testing one might argue that children are testing all of the time. Even from their first moments of life our babies are often given tests- the APGAR, for example.

Once they enter school they also enter into a regular system of testing their knowledge of the curriculum and content along with our current system of standardized testing. All the while our learners are continually testing themselves. As they troubleshoot and problem solve they are finding out what works for them. They are reflecting upon their choices, and they are moving forward in their growth. As parents we can consider the role that testing plays in the lives of our children along with our ability to help ensure that they are prepared for all of life's many tests and trials.

An assessment may provide a snapshot of the learning that is taking place. In this manner, we as parents can work together with our children and teachers to understand more about where our students are at and how we can all work together to scaffold them to the next level. By talking with our children, their teachers, and diligently checking homework and backpacks we may also get a feel for where things are prior to the testing time. That way we can help to ensure success for our children when it does come time for them to sit down and take a test.

It is easy to look at success in terms of numbers or letters. However, it is important to consider where our children are at and to celebrate their growth-wherever they are on the spectrum. As a parent, my family continues to work on establishing routines and balance. Parents and children face many pressures today, pressures to be the best, and to do it all-perfectly. Each family learns what works best for them.

Research tells us that the best things you can do for your children's success are as follows:

1. Speak positively to your child-ask questions
2. Read with your child
3. Ensure that you child has adequate rest
4. Ensure that your child is well nourished.

PTA Executive Meeting  
1pm

**3/16**

Kindergarten Registration

Wacky Wednesday!  
Show school spirit and  
wear Field shirts!  
\$1 per student, please

**3/21 - 25**

NO SCHOOL  
(Spring Break)

**3/26**

RIF Pancake Breakfast  
Applebee's by Target  
8 - 10am

**3/28 - 4/15**

Missouri Assessment  
Program (MAP) window

**3/31**

Child Advocacy Day  
Jefferson City

## 2011-2012 PTA Officers

Congratulations to our new,  
PTA Executive Officers  
for 2011-2012!

President:  
**Bill Enos**

President-Elect:  
**Curtis Cunningham**

Vice President of  
Fundraising: **Sonja Shaw**

Vice President of Programs:  
**Allison Riddle**

Vice President of  
Communications:  
**Carol Wooten**

Secretary:  
**Missi Joplin**

Treasurer:  
**Mike Harders**

Following these basics can help to ensure that your child is prepared to learn and to demonstrate what they know during testing time. At times it may be a real challenge to ensure that these basic needs are met. That is when the support of one's family, friends, and community can come into play.

This article can be viewed on the principal's blog.

<http://ncolbaughpossibilities.weebly.com>

You are welcome to submit comments and responses to the blog.

## Math Olympiad



## Way to Go Field Math Club!

**James Emeric  
Adriana Hughes  
Kalleigh Hickory  
Grace Pilgrim  
Ben Zimmerman  
Kate Smith**

Based on the attendance and work ethic at the practices leaders will pick the top 5 to take the test and one student will be chosen as the alternate.

We wish these students the very best as they go on to compete at the 26th Annual Missouri Elementary Mathematics Contest on Saturday, March 12!

## Child Advocacy Day

Springfield Council of PTA's will be organizing a group to travel to Jefferson City, Missouri on March 31st. There will be workshops and group legislative visits. If you would like to attend please contact Jody Tetlow, [jodytetlow@gmail.com](mailto:jodytetlow@gmail.com).

## Field's Backpack Program

Every single week during the school year, many of our students are supplied with backpacks filled with nutritious food to take home over the weekend. As the economy has been weakened, the need has become even greater.

Individually wrapped snack foods are especially needed right now. Monetary contributions are also welcome and help the committee keep backpack items uniform. (The backpack program committee often purchases food in bulk to help stretch PTA dollars further.)

Please give as you are able to help make sure every student in our school is concentrating more on their homework than hunger.



Questions? Please contact Molly Robb, [marybrobb@hotmail.com](mailto:marybrobb@hotmail.com).

Parliamentarian:  
**Linda Skolnick**

A special thank you to our nominating committee, Sonja Shaw (chair), Anna Gintz, Missi Joplin, Heather Parker, and Allison Riddle for their dedication and hard work!

## SCPTA Clothing Bank

The clothing bank continues to have a major need for elementary sized boys and girls clothing. Donations may be brought to the clothing bank during operating hours or may be dropped off at Field.

## Wacky Wednesday

Help out the 5th grade's fundraising efforts! Let's show our school spirit and wear Field gear on Wednesday, March 16!

\$1 per student, please.

## Outdoor Maintenance



Spring outdoor maintenance days will be held March 11, right after principals coffee; April 8 at 9am, and April 29, right after principals coffee.

Please bring gloves and hand shovels. We will be cleaning up beds to prepare for planting.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please contact Allison Riddle for more information.  
[allirwr@hotmail.com](mailto:allirwr@hotmail.com)

## National Arbor Day Poster Contest

Field Elementary School fifth-grader Noah Henkle won first place in the regional Arbor Day Poster Contest.

Among 279 poster entries by Springfield students, Henkle's poster was selected by local tree experts from the Missouri Community Forestry Council and Springfield Tree City USA Citizens' Advisory Committee. The Missouri Department of Conservation sponsors the competition. Fifth-grade students throughout the region are encouraged to submit a poster. The contest formerly was organized by the National Arbor Day Foundation, but was discontinued after the 2010 contest. Now the contest is done on a school, city, regional and state level.

This year's poster theme was "Trees are Terrific...and Energy Wise!" Faith Halbert from Twain Elementary School was awarded second place in Springfield. A total of 10SPS students won at their individual schools. The prizes for the school winners include planting a tree on school grounds and registering the tree in their name. Student winners also received a family four-pack pass to the Dickerson Park Zoo from the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. As the first-place winner for the district, Henkle will receive a one-year family pass to the Dickerson Park Zoo.

Posters from all 10 entrants are in Jefferson City being judged with the rest of the winning posters throughout the state. State winners will be announced at the Missouri Community Forestry Council State Conference to be held in Kirksville in March.

Article and poster may be accessed at:

[http://springfieldpublicschools.org/news-archive/11-02-15/Field\\_student\\_wins\\_Springfield\\_Arbor\\_Day\\_poster\\_contest.aspx](http://springfieldpublicschools.org/news-archive/11-02-15/Field_student_wins_Springfield_Arbor_Day_poster_contest.aspx)

## Chat-n-Chew

This month's Chat-n-Chew will be held on Thursday, March 10.

Books for March's Chat-n-Chew are assigned as follows:

- 1st grade - Flat Stanley
- 2nd grade - Judy Moody and Stink
- 3rd grade - Ramona
- 4th grade - Hank Zipper
- 5th grade - Surviving the Applewhites

Questions? Please contact Chat-n-Chew chairs, Michele Boswell, [micheleboswell@mac.com](mailto:micheleboswell@mac.com) Missi Joplin, [4joplins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:4joplins@sbcglobal.net)

## DIRT Project School Garden



Eugene Field Elementary has been awarded the Dirt Project School Garden!

The DIRT Project, a project of Springfield Urban Agriculture Coalition, will install ten school yard gardens within the Springfield R-XII school district while providing and teaching curriculum to

## Help Wanted

Get involved! We need your help as we build our **2011-2012 PTA board**.

Helping hands and new ideas are always needed. If you would like to get involved but are not quite sure where to jump in, please contact PTA President-Elect Bill Enos, [enos0726@gmail.com](mailto:enos0726@gmail.com).

## SPRING DANCE

May 20

### Sock Hop to Summer!

Volunteers are wanted to help plan and host Field's Spring Dance - Sock Hop to Summer!

Please contact us:

Sherry Peterson  
[speterson2007@hotmail.com](mailto:speterson2007@hotmail.com)

Paige Rankin  
[paige.rankin4@gmail.com](mailto:paige.rankin4@gmail.com)

Sonja Shaw  
[sonjashaw@gmail.com](mailto:sonjashaw@gmail.com)

## A Slice of Nice

See someone doing something exceptionally nice at Field? Turn them in for a Slice of Nice!

### A Slice of Nice to:

Leigh Harders, who shared her time and talent with Mrs. Kennedy's students. Mrs. Kennedy's classroom is currently exploring illustrators. Mrs. Harders helped students create their own works of art by teaching them how to do pastel drawings.

Jenny Salvador, for taking her time and sharing her artistic talents with our



hands-on environment.

address core state educational standards by using the gardens to accompany what students are learning in the classroom in a fun, educational,

The DIRT Project strives to promote healthy lifestyles by providing education to our community and our school children about the benefits of growing and using sustainably produced locally-grown food.

Please visit [www.springfielduac.org/dirt-project](http://www.springfielduac.org/dirt-project) to learn more.

## PTA Membership

Let's ensure that there is a PTA voice for each student at Field. If you have not already joined PTA please do so today! If you have any questions contact our Membership Chair, Jennifer Petty at ([jencpetty@att.net](mailto:jencpetty@att.net)). Individual memberships are 5.00 and business memberships are 8.00. If you have already joined, consider signing up your business, friend, neighbor, or extended family member.

Thank you Field for the outstanding work!

## Field Nights at Pasta Express

In the mood for some Pasta?  
Make Monday Night a Pasta Express Night!

Mondays from 4:00-9:00 PM are Field Nights at Pasta Express - 3250 E. Battlefield. Please note: Field Nights follow the school calendar



**Come on out on ANY Monday** school is in session (Field night) to support our school!

### What to do...

Present the coupon below (coupon available on Field's website or [DOWNLOAD NOW](#)) when you purchase your meal. Be sure to write your child's teacher and grade on it.

15% of the total cost of your meal will go back to Field!

## Food Power

Food Power came to Field on March 3! This event is a fun K-5th grade program taught students the importance of healthy eating and physical activity in an exciting and interactive way.



Thank you to Missouri Extension, Coach Bushman, Field faculty and staff, and all the volunteers who helped to make Food Power a success.

## Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast - March 12 RIF Pancake Breakfast - March 26

students at Field! On Valentine's Day, Ms. Salvador painted faces for students in Miss. Wimberley's third grade classroom. She went above and beyond!



A pancake breakfast will be hosted by Field's Cub Scouts on Saturday, March 12, from 8 to 10am at Applebee's (by Target). Enjoy delicious all-you-can-eat pancakes and drinks for \$5 per person! No tickets are needed! The Cub Scouts

of Field Elementary have been proud supporters of Field programs for over 40 years! Support them as they continue to contribute to such programs as our Thanksgiving Baskets and Days of Sharing.

## Faculty Birthdays!

### March:

6 - Elaine Farrar  
20 - Babette Farrar

## Sign-up for Our E-Newsletter

If you would like to receive our e-newsletter, please send your e-mail address to [carolwooten@mchsi.com](mailto:carolwooten@mchsi.com).

## Submit Information for Next Month's Newsletter

Please contact Carol Wooten, [carolwooten@mchsi.com](mailto:carolwooten@mchsi.com), with your communication needs, concerns, or newsletter submissions.

**The deadline for April's edition is March 20.**

## PTA PURPOSES

To promote the welfare of the children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship

To raise the standards of home life

To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.

To bring into close relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth

Reading is Fundamental of Springfield is hosting a pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 26, at Applebee's (by Target) from 8 to 10am. All proceeds benefit RIF of Springfield. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased from any board member or by contacting [rifspringfieldmo@gmail.com](mailto:rifspringfieldmo@gmail.com). Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

RIF provides free books to all 1st and 2nd graders in the Springfield Public Schools, the Catholic Schools, and the Lutheran School. These students choose books three times a year.

## RIF Poster Contest



Reading is Fundamental (RIF) of Springfield is hosting a poster contest. The deadline is Tuesday, March 15.

This year's theme is "Explore Our World." [Please click here now to download application and criteria.](#)

Contact Sheila Wright, [robinroark@yahoo.com](mailto:robinroark@yahoo.com).

## Reflections Update - Field's State Winners

"Together We Can"  
2010-2011 State Winners from Field

Dance Choreography:  
**Anna Fredrick, Honorable Mention in the Intermediate Division**  
(Grades 3-5)

Film-Video Production:  
**Jacob Schmitt, 1st Place in the Intermediate Division**  
(Grades 3-5)

Literature:  
**Ben McShane, 2nd Place in the Intermediate Division**  
(Grades 3-5)

These students will be honored at the Reflections Student Showcase during the Missouri State PTA Leadership Conference in Independence, Missouri on Saturday, April 30th. Way to go Anna, Jacob, and Ben!

First place winning entries have advanced to National PTA for consideration at that level of judging. The names of national award recipients will be announced by the end of April. We wish Jacob the very



To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.

## 2010-2011 Field PTA

*executive committee*

### President

Jody Tetlow  
766-1695 (cell)  
885-8044 (home)  
[jodytetlow@gmail.com](mailto:jodytetlow@gmail.com)

### President-Elect

Bill Enos  
[enos0726@gmail.com](mailto:enos0726@gmail.com)

### Vice President of Programs

Anna Gintz  
[agintz0808@yahoo.com](mailto:agintz0808@yahoo.com)

### Vice President of Fundraising

Sonja Shaw  
[sonjashaw@gmail.com](mailto:sonjashaw@gmail.com)

### Vice President of Communications

Carol Wooten  
[carolwooten@mchsi.com](mailto:carolwooten@mchsi.com)

### Secretary

Becky Fraley  
[b-fraley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:b-fraley@sbcglobal.net)

### Treasurer

Mike Harders  
[mjharders@yahoo.com](mailto:mjharders@yahoo.com)

### Parliamentarian

Linda Skolnick-Schur  
[l\\_skolnick@yahoo.com](mailto:l_skolnick@yahoo.com)

best as his work moves to National PTA for consideration.

A special thanks to all students who participated in the program. Be thinking about your submissions for next year. "Diversity Means" is the theme for the 2011-2012 Reflections Program.

## Socratic Seminar - Training for Parents

### Field Elementary Library

Wednesday, March 9, or Friday, March 11

9 to 11:30am

Mark Gideon, facilitator

Learn how to open your child's mind to new experiences and ways of seeing the world. Apply open-ended questions to favorite children stories and enable your children to think for themselves rather than to merely find the 'right' answer. Find ways to answer your child's questions with your own questions that will help them develop divergent thinking skills.

This fun-filled, hands-on training will provide you with the tools needed to develop your child's critical thinking skills while helping them to work together in group discussions.

### REGISTRATION:

Parents are asked to register no later than by NOON on the DAY BEFORE the training dates. Registration is simple! Please contact JJ Dixon (secretary) by calling at 523-4800 or sending an email to [jmdixon@spsmail.org](mailto:jmdixon@spsmail.org)

This presentation is sponsored by a Springfield Foundation Grant. Hope to see you there!

*Refreshments will be served.*

## Community Partners

We welcome and celebrate our community partners!  
Special thanks to:

### Second Baptist Church

3111 E. Battlefield Rd.  
[www.secondbaptist.org](http://www.secondbaptist.org)



Evangel Temple  
2035 E Holly Ct.  
[www.etchurch.org](http://www.etchurch.org)

Bredeaux Pizza  
2810 East Battlefield Rd.  
[www.bredeauxpizza.com](http://www.bredeauxpizza.com)





**Buzbee Dental**  
1244 E. Lark St.  
[www.buzbeedental.com](http://www.buzbeedental.com)



**Children's Choirs of Southwest Missouri**  
[www.missourichildrensing.com](http://www.missourichildrensing.com)

## Volunteer at Field!

Our volunteer program consists of community members, parents, grandparents, local businesses and organizations who acknowledge the importance between community involvement and education. Our volunteers work in a variety of capacities, both inside and outside the classroom from mentoring or tutoring a child to assisting in a school's office or cafeteria.

In order to become a registered volunteer, and keep your volunteer status current, volunteers must complete and return a Volunteer Registration and Background Check Form each year. This form may be obtained by clicking the SPS Volunteer Registration link below, in the Community Relations Office, or in the main office of our schools.

Upon a clear background check from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, you will be sent written notification (please allow up to 14 business days) which you may be required to present at the school you are volunteering.

### Policies and Responsibilities

<http://sps.k12.mo.us/communication/documents/PoliciesandResponsibilites.pdf>

### Volunteer Registration and Background Check:

<http://www.springfieldpublicschools.org/community/documents/2010-2011volunteerform.pdf>

***\*\*Please note district funding for volunteer background checks have recently been cut; the cost of the background check is \$17.50. Please contact Dr. Colbaugh with any questions or if assistance is needed. \*\****

### [Forward email](#)



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Field Elementary | 2120 Baratara | Springfield | MO | 65804

