



# Grapevine

Daviess County Public Schools staff newsletter April 27-May 1, 2015

## New conversations about teacher leadership

Jana Bryant is the math staff developer for Daviess County Public Schools and is a 2014-15 [Hope Street Group](#) Kentucky state teacher fellow. This guest column is posted on the Kentucky Teacher website; click [HERE](#).

Barnett Berry, one of the authors of “Teaching 2030: What We Must Do for Our Students and Our Public Schools,” believes “it is time to blur the lines of distinction between those who teach and those who lead.” This distinction ought to become even more blurred with Kentucky’s Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES).

The goal for PGES is to devise a fair system to measure teacher and leader effectiveness. As principals are being asked to conduct more teacher observations than ever before, it is important that these individuals are strong instructional leaders.

As noted by [The Wallace Foundation](#), it is difficult for secondary school principals to have expertise in all of the subject areas their schools cover. Their ability to offer guidance on instruction is more limited than that of their elementary counterparts (“The School Principal As Leader: Guiding Schools To Better Teaching and Learning,” 2013). Could the emergence of highly effective teacher leaders help administrators develop a strong professional learning community of teachers as they improve classroom instruction and academic achievement of students in our middle and high schools?

There is an exciting conversation happening across Kentucky about promoting ideas for teacher leadership. To increase the impact of the most effective teachers, they are being called upon to conduct peer observations, coach

colleagues, lead professional learning, develop curriculum, create assessments, model best practices and mentor new teachers. Great teachers want these types of opportunities for professional growth without having to leave the classroom. It is imperative that states and school systems rethink current job descriptions and pay structures to allow their great teachers to have an even more powerful impact beyond their classroom.



Jana Bryant

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**Send news to [grapevine@dcps.org](mailto:grapevine@dcps.org)**

# Teacher leadership conversations

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Take Barnett Berry's challenge to "blur the lines" between "those who teach and those who lead." Administrators, it is important to recognize teachers who demonstrate leadership. Use the observations required by PGES to find those teachers. Who is using highly effective instructional practices? Who is experiencing success?

Teachers, we need to honor one another and celebrate the success of others in our profession. Look to those teacher leaders for motivation and ideas to improve instruction in every classroom. Katzenmeyer and Moller wrote in 2001, "Within every school there is a sleeping giant of teacher leadership, which can be a strong catalyst for making change."

Working together, administrators, teachers and teacher leaders will awaken "the sleeping giant of teacher leadership" and make a difference in every classroom in every school all across Kentucky.



This list of key dates is provided at the beginning of each month to assist in planning for special activities and learning projects at your school.

*Note:* This list may not include ALL special occasions.

## The month of May is:

Better Hearing and Speech Month  
National Physical Fitness and Sports Month  
Preservation Month  
Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

## Special weeks:

May 1-7 – National Physical Education and Sports Week  
May 3-9 – Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 3-9 – Be Kind to Animals Week  
May 3-10 – National Music Week  
May 4-8 – National School Nutrition Employee Week  
May 10-16 – Food Allergy Awareness Week  
May 11-17 – National Children's Book Week  
May 17-23 – National Educational Bosses' Week

## Special days:

May 1 – Law Day  
May 2 – Kentucky Derby Day  
May 3 – World Press Freedom Day  
May 4 – Horace Mann's Birthday  
May 5 – Cinco de Mayo  
May 5 – National Teacher Day  
May 6 – National School Nurse Day  
May 8 – World Red Cross Day  
May 10 – Mother's Day  
May 16 – Armed Forces Day  
May 18 – Victoria Day (Canada)  
May 19 – Election Day (no school for DCPS students)  
May 25 – Memorial Day (no school for DCPS students)  
May 31 – World No Tobacco Day

## Put down your mobile,



## and get mobile.



These Healthy Lifestyle tips are provided by [www.MondayCampaigns.org](http://www.MondayCampaigns.org) and are brought to you by the DCPS Food Services Department in our newsletter each week.

**Deadline for final DC-bay! is  
Friday, May 15  
Send information to  
[grapevine@dcps.org](mailto:grapevine@dcps.org)**

# Read THIS before you open THAT



It's time for my semi-annual rant on spyware/malware/viruses. We've had some very nasty viruses come into the district in the last week, along with our normal amount of spyware and malware that slows your computers down and requires a tech to reimage them.

We've had three incidents of Cryptolocker. That's the nasty virus that locks you out of all your documents and will only unlock them after you've paid the criminal several hundred dollars, up to \$700. We were lucky in the last two cases. The second one was a lab computer and so it just cost us a little time to reimage it; the most recent one also locked all the files on a school fileserver. If it wasn't for our server backups, that school would have lost a lot of data (backups are great, but that doesn't mean I like to use them). Unfortunately, the first case resulted in a staff person losing everything on their computer.

All of these incidents — from the nastiest ransomware virus to the CPU sucking malware — can be prevented if YOU will just take some very simple steps.

**1. Don't open attachments in email.** I know I've said this over and over and it's still true. Even if the email is from someone you know and trust, if you weren't expecting an attachment or link or you have ANY suspicions at all, DO NOT OPEN IT. Check with the sender first.

**2. Don't install FREE software.** Everybody likes free and "all I'm trying to do is save my school and the district

some money." The problem is these cyber-criminals know people are looking for "Free." The next time you want to search for some new cool software, drop "Free" from your search terms because just like in real life, there's really no such thing as "free." I know I'm going to get some ugly responses to this part, but this also includes websites like totally-free-teacher-tools.en.softonic.com and teacherspayteachers.com.

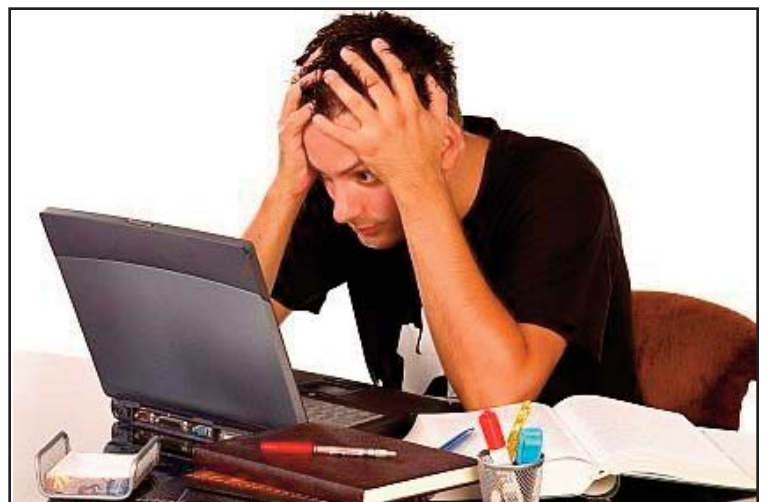
Just about every piece of software downloaded through these sites has spyware in it.

**3. Check first.** I know this takes a little extra time, but if you have any doubts at all, a quick email to me or one of the other techs to have us evaluate the safety of a link or program could save you (and us) lots of time and heartache. Believe me, it's no fun telling a teacher, "Sorry, all your work is gone" when I could have said, "I'm glad you checked; this software would have caused you to lose all your files."

**4. If you suspect a problem ....** If you suspect a problem or think you may have contracted a computer virus, don't delay. NOT letting us know just makes it worse. Report the problem to the Computer Operations department immediately so we can move fast to isolate the issue and hopefully minimize its impact.



**Steve Burton**



# Our Schools - In The Spotlight



**Click links in summaries below to read full articles spotlighting the DCPS district and other items relating to local education.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** All articles are posted with permission from news organizations with credit given to media outlets, reporters and photographers. If articles are shared or forwarded to others, credit lines **MUST** be included. Articles may **NOT** be posted online, including Facebook and other social media sites.

## **DCPS supports refugee families**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Angela Oliver, published in the April 26, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about how DCPS schools work to support refugee families.

## **AHS graduate continues entrepreneurial lessons**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Joy Campbell, illustrated with photographs by Jenny Sevcik, published in the April 12, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about a business model developed by an Apollo graduate.

## **DPES students learn 'Life is Cool'**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Stephanie Salmons, illustrated with photograph by Greg Eans, published in the April 23, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about a program sponsored by the Donate Life Kentucky team.

## **Ruckdeschel to lead alternative high school**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, published in the April 22, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about Michelle Ruckdeschel's selection as director of the DCPS alternative high school program.

## **DCPS redistricting almost complete**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Steve Vied, published in the April 17, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about the DCPS Board of Education's vote on redistricting.

## **DCPS to offer Summer Tech Camps**

Click [HERE](#) for article published in the April 16, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about a series of summer Tech Camps being offered to students entering grades 4-8.

**DCPS Board to review redistricting recommendation**  
Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, published in the April 15, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about recommendations presented to the Board of Education.

**Deer Park student project raises money for Habitat**  
Click [HERE](#) for article by Suzi Bartholomy, published in the April 15, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about a student raising money for Habitat for Humanity.

## **BCHS property sold at auction**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, illustrated with photographs by Greg Eans, published in the April 15, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about the sale of the former Beacon Central High School property.

## **BCHS property to be sold April 14**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, published in the April 9, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about the sale of the former Beacon Central/Masonville property.

## **Real-life beetlejuice**

Click [HERE](#) for photographs by Greg Eans, published in the April 4, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about Meadow Lands Elementary School students learning about cultures that eat worms and insects.

## **Bike Safety Rodeo**

Click [HERE](#) for photographs by Greg Eans, published in the April 2, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about a bicycle safety rodeo at Audubon Elementary School.

## **Lighthouse Celebrations!**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, published in the April 1, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about Lighthouse School celebrations at Country Heights, East View, Sorgho and Whitesville elementary schools.

## **Making Fitness Fun**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Beth Noffsinger, published in the Messenger-Inquirer, about school fitness programs.

## **Hands Alive 2015**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Stephanie Salmons, illustrated with photographs by Greg Eans, published in the March 28, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about the Hands Alive event for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

## **KTRS facing \$14 billion shortfall**

Click [HERE](#) for article by Keith Lawrence, published in the March 26, 2015, issue of the Messenger-Inquirer, about the failure of a proposal to address a \$14 billion shortfall in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

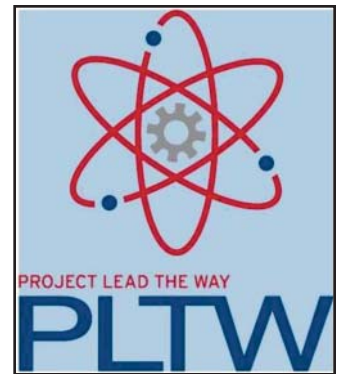
# Community Campus Update

## The Engineering Academy

PLTW students have said that PLTW Engineering influenced their post-secondary decisions and helped shape their future. Even for students who do not plan to pursue engineering as a field of study or career after high school, the PLTW Engineering program provides opportunities to develop highly transferable skills in collaboration, communication, and critical thinking, which are relevant for any coursework or career. The Engineering Academy students begin in ninth grade at Apollo High School. For more information, go to [apollopltw.weebly.com/](http://apollopltw.weebly.com/)

## The Project Lead the Way Curriculum

In order to meet our objectives, we rely on curriculum developed by Project Lead the Way (PLTW), the nation's leading provider of rigorous and innovative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education. The curriculum is comprehensive and collaboratively developed with PLTW teachers, university educators, engineering and biomedical professionals and school administrators. It relies heavily on activities, projects and problems to provide a context for exploration of biomedical principles.



Project Lead the Way students:

- Exceed average academic growth rate in science and math
- Intend to pursue higher education at a higher rate (92 percent vs. 67 percent)
- Achieve higher ACT scores
- Achieve higher ACT math and science scores
- Are 5 to 10 times more likely to study a STEM field in college
- Sustain higher GPAs while attending college: 3.03 vs. 2.85

To learn more about Project Lead the Way, visit the website at <https://www.pltw.org/>

**Note:** Marcia Carpenter is retiring at the end of the year. Applications are now being accepted for the College and Career Readiness Coordinator position. Visit [www.dcps.org](http://www.dcps.org) or click [HERE](#) for more information.



**COMMUNITY  
CAMPUS**  
A PROGRAM OF DISCOVER COLLEGE

## The Life Science Academy (LSA)

is a multi-district biomedical science program serving high school students in the Greater Owensboro Region. Our area comprises several Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Populations (MUA/Ps) as designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These deficiencies, coupled with high



**Marcia Carpenter**

growth projections for the health sector (expected to generate 3.2 million new jobs between 2008 and 2018), served as the impetus for our creation by Community Campus in 2010. Since then, we have sought to address our community's health needs, and the educational and professional needs of our students, by creating the next generation of health professionals for the Greater Owensboro Region.

The Life Science Academy voted to build on the movement in our community to show respect to all through the "No R Word" campaign. They are working with their new friends at the Wendell Foster Center, planting flowers in raised beds,

playing games and even helping the residents with science experiments. For more information on the Life Science Academy, go to the website at:

[lifescienceacademy.net](http://lifescienceacademy.net)



## Our Mobile App is Now Available!

Find a direct link to your app store under the 'Mobile Banking' link on our home page: [www.dctfcu.com](http://www.dctfcu.com)



## WILD ABOUT SAVING at DCTFCU

### National Credit Union Youth MONTH, April 1-30



This year's National Credit Union Youth Celebration is all month long so if you haven't had a chance to deposit money for your chance to win the prizes, there is still time! You can also still make it to our final event from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30. We will be playing a savings game, creating fun crafts and taking

pictures! Snacks and drinks will also be provided. This year we are giving away weekly CASH PRIZES and our Grand Prize winner will be the proud owner of a new iPad Mini! Bring your kids in to make a deposit to their savings accounts and join the National Youth Savings Challenge! Anyone under 18 who makes a minimum single deposit of \$5 or more to their DCTFCU savings account during Youth Month will automatically be a part of the savings challenge and be placed in the drawings for the weekly prizes and GRAND PRIZE! If your kids don't have a savings account at DCTFCU, don't worry! You can open an account during Youth Month! Take advantage of everything the Credit Union has to offer you!

## Fee Schedule Changes – Now in effect

The following changes to the current Fee Schedule were approved by the board on Feb. 26, 2015, and went into effect starting April 15, 2015.

	Current	New
Courtesy Protection Fee	\$25	\$27
NSF	\$25	\$27
Stop Payment	\$25	\$27
Card Reissue*	\$5	\$6
Temp. Checks	\$3/8	\$5/4
Returned/Resubmitted Items	\$5	\$10
Incoming Wire**	free	\$5
Outgoing Wire**	\$10	\$15
Monthly ATM Card Fee	\$1	\$1.50
Loan/MC Late Fee***	\$20	\$25

\* Due to increase in chip card production

\*\* Due to increase in Wire Fees by Volcorp

\*\*\* Subject to change



## Excited About Your New Ride?

### Take Advantage of our Spring Loan Promotion!

Now through May 15, we are giving each auto loan a \$50 gas card! Our auto rates are as low as 1.24%\* new and 2.74%\* used so don't miss your chance to take advantage of this great offer! Also, as your local teachers credit union, you can always rely on us to give you a great low rate ... so if someone offers lower, call us and we will try to match! (\*This promotion does not apply to existing DCTFCU loans. Must meet credit requirements. Actual rate is determined by credit score.

### E-Statements are easier than ever!

Click on the "online services" tab under online banking to opt in and view your statements today!

**Credit Union news continued on next page**

## Daviness County Teachers Federal Credit Union

1900 Southeastern Parkway 684-8954 [www.dctfcu.com](http://www.dctfcu.com)

**Lobby Hours** Monday-Thursday — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Drive-Through Hours** Monday-Thursday — 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday — 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



# Credit Union Corner

## Continued from Previous Page Don't Forget the Courier!

Are you too busy to stop by the credit union to make a deposit before closing? Send your deposit through the DCPS Courier. Drop off/pick up days are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Be sure to include a deposit slip or your account information. Feel free to contact DCTFCU or log on to your online Account Access after 4 p.m. to verify receipt of your deposit or loan payment.



## Switch to DCTFCU Checking Today!

Now is the time to take advantage of DCTFCU's convenient checking account. If you've been paying high rates and fees at another financial institution, switch to a DCTFCU checking account today!

- No Minimum Balance
- No Monthly Service Fee
- No Per-Check Fee
- ATM Access Nationwide
- First Box of Checks Free
- Direct Deposit Available
- MasterCard Debit Cards
- Duplicate Checks
- Courtesy Protection
- On-line Banking
- Bill Pay

## Daviness County Teachers Federal Credit Union

1900 Southeastern Parkway 684-8954 [www.dctfcu.com](http://www.dctfcu.com)

**Lobby Hours** Monday-Thursday — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Drive-Through Hours** Monday-Thursday — 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday — 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Direct Deposit and Payroll Deduction save you time and money!

Now is the perfect time to save! Sign up for DCPS Direct Deposit and Payroll Deduction today! Open as many special savings accounts as you need and name them yourself! Have your pay automatically deposited and distributed each pay period. You'll save time and money! Call for more details!



## Don't miss out on Cash Back!

Take a break from high interest credit cards and transfer your balances to your DCTFCU MasterCard. DCTFCU offers our members a fixed, low-rate Platinum MasterCard that can be used for all your Spring Break purchases! Enjoy a fixed rate as low as 7.9 percent APR (Annual Percentage Rate) and a 1 percent Cash Back reward on all purchases! There's no annual fee, plus enjoy these additional benefits:



- Identity Theft Insurance — \$1,000
- Identity Theft Victim Assistance
- 90-Day Product Protection

Stop by the credit union to fill out an application and receive your MasterCard just in time for Memorial Day sales!

# DCHS Student Council hosts May Day 5K

The Daviess County High School Student Council is sponsoring its sixth annual May Day 5K run/walk on Saturday, May 16. Registration begins at 7 a.m. at the DCHS football stadium and the race starts at 8 a.m.

Registration fee is \$15 until May 12, which includes guarantee of a commemorative T-shirt. Fee is \$20 after May 12. Registration is also accepted the day of the race with shirts given away while supplies last.

Medals will be awarded at the conclusion of the race in 12 age categories for male and female racers, with trophies awarded to the top three in the overall winners, masters winners and grandmasters winners categories.

Race organizers extend a special invitation to sports teams and faculty groups to participate to build camaraderie.

Proceeds from the event will support the St. Benedict homeless shelter in Owensboro.

For more information or to request a registration form, contact Kris Kropp, DCHS Student Council sponsor, at [kris.kropp@daviess.kyschools.us](mailto:kris.kropp@daviess.kyschools.us) or 852-7300.

**Send information about your school or club fundraiser to [grapevine@dcps.org](mailto:grapevine@dcps.org)**



# Putting the 'Fun' in Fundraisers

## AHS FFA Greenhouse now open

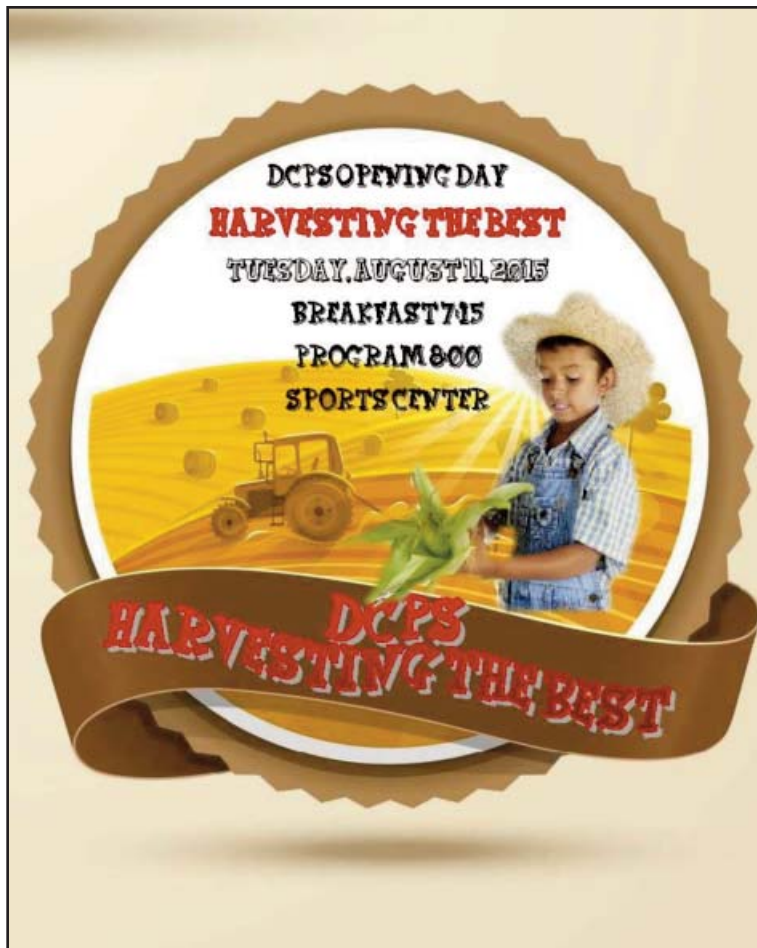


The Apollo High School FFA Greenhouse is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, selling mixed flower baskets, wave petunia baskets, bedding plants and a variety of flowers in 4-inch

pots. Cost is \$15 for baskets. Cost is \$2 for 4-inch pots, including geraniums, wave petunias, dahlias, wax begonias and citronella. Cost is \$12 per tray or \$1.50 per four-pack for bedding plants, including petunias, verbena, impatiens, snapdragons, marigolds, dianthus and more. For more information, contact FFA sponsor Matt Johnson at [matt.johnson@daviess.kyschools.us](mailto:matt.johnson@daviess.kyschools.us)

## AHS Coke Sales

The Apollo High School athletic and JROTC programs have teamed up to sponsor their annual Coke fundraiser. Orders are being accepted now through May 8 for a case of 24 20-ounce bottles of Coca-Cola products for \$20 — about 83 cents per drink. Pickup date is set for May 21. The student who makes the sale will deliver your order to you before the Memorial Day holiday. If you want to place an order but do not know an Apollo athlete or cadet, send checks payable to Apollo High School through the courier to Misty Berry; call 852-7100 ext. 506 or email [misty.berry@daviess.kyschools.us](mailto:misty.berry@daviess.kyschools.us)



## The DCPS Class of 2015 will graduate on the following schedule:

Apollo High School  
6 p.m. Thursday, June 4  
Sportscenter

Daviess County High School  
6 p.m. Friday, June 5  
Sportscenter

Beacon Central High School  
10 a.m. Saturday, June 6  
Good Shepherd Church

The last day of school for DCPS students is Thursday, June 4.



## Former DCPS educator to host learning experience

Former West Louisville Elementary School staff member Rick Dominy will return to Daviess County at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, to share his presentation titled "Famous Kentuckians I Enjoyed Learning About While Living There." Rick will share insights into the lives of Kentucky politician Cassius Clay; infamous madame Belle Brezing; and author Jesse Stuart as part of the Daviess County Bicentennial Celebration.

Rick was living in Kentucky in 1992 when the bicentennial of our state was celebrated. As part of that observance, there were 10 Chautauqua performances throughout Kentucky spotlighting famous people in the history of our commonwealth. Rick and his family traveled to see them all, and he was inspired to create his own presentation based on the lives of three colorful personalities. Rick lives in North Carolina now; contact him at [jets21@earthlink.net](mailto:jets21@earthlink.net) or 704-861-8385.







## 2014-2015 Summer Payroll Checks

The 2014-2015 school year is coming to a close and it is time for employees who wish to have their summer checks available for them at the end of June to notify the Payroll Department.

This option is available to all employees working fewer than 230 days per year. If you wish to participate in the summer payroll check option, please complete the form below and return to the Central Office, attention Payroll by **May 29, 2015**.

You will receive four separate deposits on June 30, 2015, and each check stub will be delivered to your DCPS email account as normal. **However, by choosing this option, you will not be paid on the July 15, July 30 or August 15 regularly scheduled summer payrolls because those funds will be paid on June 30.**

**— Please do not separate this form —**

**Print this page and submit entire sheet to the Payroll Department at Central Office.**

With this notice, I am requesting to receive my summer payroll checks dated July 15, July 30 and August 15 by the end of the 2014-2015 school year, payable on June 30, 2015.

I have read the statement above concerning the method of payment and agree to these conditions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please PRINT the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Number \_\_\_\_\_ Home/Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

School/Work Location \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Retiree