



*As we bring the second semester to a close, it is important that students attend school each day and submit all assigned work. Teachers have issued makeup packets to each student. Please make sure that your child completes the makeup work and submits it to his/her teachers. Remember, we are quickly approaching TN Ready Testing*

### YEAR END SAFETY

SPRING IS HERE! THE WEATHER IS WARMING UP AND THE FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS OF AMW ARE STEPPING UP SECURITY DURING ARRIVAL, THE SCHOOL DAY AND DISMISSAL. OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS WE HAVE HAD TREMENDOUS SUPPORT FROM THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT IN DISMISSING STUDENTS SAFELY. AS THE WEATHER CONTINUES TO HEAT UP, THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS IS CRITICAL TO ENSURE AN ORDERLY AND SAFE SCHOOL DAY AND DISMISSAL. AMW IS ASKING ALL AVAILABLE PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COME OUT AND HELP MONITOR THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND LOOK OUR FOR THE SAFETY OUR STUDENTS. KEY TIMES WHEN WE REALLY COULD USE PARENT VOLUNTEERS ARE:

**BREAKFAST DUTY (6:45-7:05);  
LUNCH TIME (10:20-12:40)  
DISMISSAL (2:00-2:30).**

IF YOU CAN HELP US AT ANY OF THESE TIME, PLEASE COME BY THE SCHOOL AND EXPRESS YOUR DESIRE TO VOLUNTEER.

**PLEASE NOTE ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST FILL OUT PAPERWORK AND BE CLEARED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF PARENTAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (PACE).**



### Gang Awareness

According to a news report, Gang recruitment seems to be on a steady incline. According to the MPD Gang Awareness Unit, members are recruiting more school-aged children than ever. In many cases, parents are unaware of their children's involvement in gangs. The following list information could help you identify signs that your child may be involved in a gang:

- Withdrawal from parents
- Poor school attendance (including tardiness and absences)
- Secretive behavior
- Drastic changes in behavior
- Unusual interests in one or two colors
- Influence by movies and/or music
- Drastic change in hairstyles or the same hairstyle as others in a group
- Use of new slang and extensive hand shakes
- Non-accidental injuries (bruising on body, hands, face, and body)

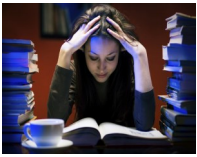
### STUDENTS' TEST-TAKING STRATEGIES

#### *"Preparing for the Test"*

- ⇒ Maintain good study habits: Do your class work.
- ⇒ Have a clear understanding of homework assignments before leaving class.
- ⇒ Keep a record of assignments received and completed.
- ⇒ Make a study schedule and follow it.
- ⇒ Tell your parents about schoolwork and homework.
- ⇒ Turn in homework on time.
- ⇒ Get make-up assignments when returning from an absence.
- ⇒ See teachers for additional help.
- ⇒ Seek and use past homework assignments, class notes, and available review materials.
- ⇒ Follow directions.
- ⇒ Get a good night's rest and eat a normal breakfast before testing.

#### *During the Test*

- ⇒ Read and pay careful attention to all directions.
- ⇒ Read each passage and accompanying questions.
- ⇒ Read every possible answer--the best one could be last.
- ⇒ Read and respond to items one at a time rather than thinking about the whole test.
- ⇒ Reread, when necessary, the parts of a passage needed for selecting the correct answer.
- ⇒ Don't expect to find a pattern in the positions of the correct answers.
- ⇒ Don't make uneducated guesses. Try to get the correct answer by reasoning and eliminating wrong answers.
- ⇒ Decide exactly what the question is asking; one response is clearly best.
- ⇒ Don't spend too much time on any one question.
- ⇒ Skip difficult questions until all other questions have been answered. On scrap paper, keep a record of the unanswered items to return to, if time permits.
- ⇒ Make sure to record the answer in the correct place on the answer sheet.
- ⇒ Only change an answer if you are sure the first one you picked was wrong. Be sure to completely erase changed answers.
- ⇒ Work as rapidly as possible with accuracy.
- ⇒ After completion of the test, use any remaining



## TEST ANXIETY

Parents, students may experience anxiety about tests and may experience heightened anxiety before a testing situation. A certain degree of test anxiety is normal and may

help students prepare more effectively, work more efficiently, and remain focused during testing. Too much anxiety, however, can negatively affect student performance. The following strategies may assist students, parents, and teachers in reducing test anxiety.

- Share your feelings of anxiety with parents and teachers.
- Think of the test as an opportunity to show what you know.
- Review homework and materials which pertain to the test topics.
- Relax, breathe deeply and stay focused on the test.
- Remember the test is only one way your academic performance is measured.

## ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS

Parents, although we are gearing up for TN Ready part II, students will still be taking the science portion of the TCAP. Here is a reminder of how the achievement levels will be reported:

1. **BELOW BASIC** – Students who perform at this level **have not** demonstrated mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are not prepared for the next level of study.
2. **BASIC** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate **partial** mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are minimally prepared for the next level of study.
3. **PROFICIENT** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate **mastery** in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are prepared for the next level of study.
4. **ADVANCED** – Students who perform at this level demonstrate **superior** mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are significantly prepared for the next level of study.

Parents, the reports for grades 6 through 8 will provide information concerning performance on specific objectives (criterion-referenced) and a description of student performance on academic skills based on the grade span standards (performance levels). The results are provided to teachers and school administrators to help them address the instructional needs of Tennessee students. If you have any questions regarding the instructional levels please contact Dr. Brittenum @ 416-1030.

## Dates to Remember:



PARENT UNIVERSITY

April 20

TN READY TESTING BEGINS

April 25

