

Doug Brubaker, Ph.D.

WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2020

ARKANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR STATE SEMI-FINALIST **SUSANNA POST**



FORT  SMITH
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



"IT IS SUCH AN HONOR TO BE A STATE SEMI-FINALIST CONSIDERING THE TALENT IN THIS ROOM. THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, THE GOVERNOR, AND THE STATE BOARD CHAIRWOMAN DISCUSSED CHALLENGES FACING THIS YEAR AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO LEADING AND LEARNING AS WE BEGIN THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR."

SUSANNA POST
MATH AND BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY
BELLE POINT

FSPS TEACHER NAMED SEMI-FINALIST FOR ARKANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Please help us congratulate FSPS Teacher Susanna Post as she was named a state semi-finalist for Arkansas Teacher of the Year on Friday, July 31 at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion in Little Rock. Ms. Post was one of four semi-finalists. Ms. Post is a 9-12 Grade Math and Business Technology instructor at Belle Point. We are so proud!

FSPS COVID-19 POINT OF CONTACT (POC)

The [Response Levels to On-Line Learning](#) describes some of the responses that we may be called upon to execute in the event of a COVID-19 case in the district. As part of this framework, the district is supposed to designate a Point of Contact (POC) to report cases as quickly as possible to the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) so that we can receive guidance about what to do next. At this time, FSPS Nurse Tracie Matthis is taking on this role for our district. In the event of a **confirmed case or cases of COVID-19** in our district, the first step a school leader should make is to reach out to her at **479.651.4157**. (This is a number for a district-issued mobile phone.) It is understood that reports may need to be made after-hours, over weekends, etc. It is also asked that you notify your direct supervisor that you have reported an issue once you have contacted Ms. Matthis.

Cindy Mitchell will support Ms. Matthis as her back up in these tasks. Contact Ms. Mitchell at 479.650.2991. As the flowchart on page 6 indicates, communication will take place between Ms. Matthis and the ADH "for updates and guidance as needed." Please contact Ms. Matthis with any questions.



To view the Back to School: Staff Frequently Asked Questions, click the image or click [here](#).

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) ORDER UPDATE

Deliveries of PPE have continued this week. Nurse Mitchell and Mr. Shaffer are working with Mr. Bandy on a schedule for delivery of these supplies to campuses and departments.

Cloth Face Masks: 49,200 in warehouse

3-ply disposable face masks: 25k in warehouse with another 70k in transit.

Youth 3-ply disposable face masks: 25,000 order in process.

Nitrile gloves: 2000 boxes clearing customs.

Face Shields: 2120 in warehouse or dispersed.

Disposable Gowns: 3000 in warehouse or dispersed.

Protective Glasses: 120 in transit.

Tabletop Acrylic Shields: 1300 in warehouse.

Digital Thermometers: 50 in warehouse with 100 on order.

N95 Masks: 1700 in warehouse.

Hand Sanitizer Gel 32oz: 1100 in warehouse with 300 on order.

Clorox wipes: 1554 in warehouse or dispersed.

Hand sanitizer spray: 1200 bottles on order for classrooms with refills.

Plastic spray bottles: 2000 in transit.

As far as the youth disposable masks, the order for 25k will allow each K-4 classroom about three boxes of 50. Each of these students will also be receiving three washable masks.

CADET TINA TRAN

NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL



"BY RECEIVING THIS SCHOLARSHIP, I WILL BE ABLE TO HELP MY FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY IN THE FUTURE AS I PURSUE A DEGREE IN NURSING. I APPRECIATE THE NATIONAL VETERAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR SELECTING ME AS THE ARKANSAS RECIPIENT FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP AND I AM BEYOND GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. I HOPE I WILL MAKE MY STATE PROUD." -CADET TRAN

FORT  SMITH
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NORTHSIDE JROTC CADET RECEIVES \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP

Northside High School Student and JROTC Cadet Tina Tran has received a \$10,000 scholarship from the National Veteran Business Development Council's annual scholarship program. In addition to the scholarship, Cadet Tran will receive a new laptop. Cadet Tran is the only awardee for the state of Arkansas.

Cadet Tran is a member of the National Honor Society, the Junior Leadership Academy Class of 2020, and is entering her third year with the Northside JROTC program as a Company Commander and Commander of the State Championship Rifle Team. She is also entering her third year as a member of the Northside Band, Northside's Mentor Leadership Program, FBLA, and HOSA. Cadet Tran plans to attend the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith to pursue a Bachelors of Science in Nursing after graduation. Please join us in congratulating Cadet Tran on this fantastic achievement!

SUMMER FEEDING EXTENDED TO AUGUST 21

The district received permission to extend the summer feeding program for August. Originally, we intended to complete the summer feeding program on July 31st. The delay in school start date allowed us to review alternatives for filling this gap in time with no feeding program. We have secured the personnel and food required to continue to serve at all 12 sites through August 21, 2020 at Ballman, Barling, Beard, Carnall, Fairview, Howard, Morrison, Pike, Spradling, Sunnymede, Sutton and Tilles. We will reevaluate our options if the start of school date is delayed further.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

1. VOIP Phone System Upgrade

Budget: \$93,000

Actual Expenditures to Date: \$3,896.13

Estimated Total # of Phones To Be Replaced: 611

Locations in Progress: Service Center, Southside, Northside

Locations Completed: Rogers Center, Parker Center, Southside Administration

Notes: New phone system has been implemented at Southside High School in the administrative offices. Northside phones have been ordered. The Service Center is still a work in progress. There are currently 107 phones on the new phone system.

2. Mobile Internet Hotspots for Students

Original Budget: \$1.16M

New Contract Budget: \$655,000

Number of Hotspots: 2500 (District Provided) and 375 (State Provided)

Notes: Final contract negotiations with Verizon lowered our total 2020-2021 school year cost by \$500,000. Phase II paperwork of the purchasing process has been completed and submitted to Verizon. We are currently awaiting new signature forms to be sent to us for order confirmation. Governor Hutchinson recently made \$10 million available to provide internet hotspots for each district. We received notification this week that the estimated number of hotspots assigned to FORT SMITH SCHOOL DISTRICT is 375. This quantity will be used to supplement the 2,500 hot spots on order from Verizon. Mr. Gregory has submitted our request to the state program and selected AT&T as the preferred vendor. Selection of a different carrier gives us a different option for any students who may experience difficulty using the Verizon network in their homes.

SECURITY UPDATE

FSPS Police continue to prepare for students and staff to return to all campuses in the coming weeks. Officers will now be able to utilize and operate with the Arkansas Wireless Information Network radio system known as AWIN. The AWIN communication system will give our officers the ability to communicate with any law enforcement agency or first responders in the event of an emergency. As we know communication is the key to effectively managing an emergency event. All radio traffic will be managed by our communications center. This center will dispatch all calls for service in our schools and other district buildings and will be the direct link between our local 911 dispatch center.

FACILITIES UPDATE

ELECTRICIANS

Completed changing out lights to new LEDs in cafeteria at Albert Pike

Repaired lights in stairwell at NHS Fine Arts building

Completed annual generator inspections at all school locations

Replaced old perimeter lighting to new LED at Beard

PAINTERS

Painted interior at Belle Point and Orr

Completing daily work orders

CARPENTERS

Repaired workstation desk at Cavanaugh

Installed metal cork strip in hallway at Sunnymede

Installed protective shields in receptionist offices at all schools

Performed lock and key work at Darby, Kimmons, Euper Lane and Morrison

HVAC

Repaired A/C unit in room 206 at Chaffin
Repaired A/C units at Orr, Bonneville and Kimmons
Repaired com system for A/C at Fairview

PLUMBERS

Unclogged sewer in kitchen at Sutton
Installed bottle fill spouts on water fountains at all school locations
Repaired sink at Morrison

VISION 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Block walls continue going up on the east wall of new gym
Footings poured at cafeteria
Underfloor plumbing at freshman building
HEP to reconnect all HVAC units to communicate with district

SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Admin building is 85% complete
Brick continues going up at stand-alone shelter
Metal wall panels going up
Freshman wing second-floor deck is in place
South gym block walls 50% complete
Brick was completed yesterday and exterior panels started at east storm shelter
Rough-in above ceiling and in-wall continues
Interior finishes ongoing at admin building

RAMSEY JUNIOR HIGH

Exterior steel studs are 85% complete
Insulation of walls and interior framing 75% complete
Interior rough-in continues
Exterior sheathing 80% complete

SECURE VESTIBULES

Nabholz received subcontractor bid, vetting is underway
Target start date is August 10
HPM scheduled meetings with principals last week

BARLING AND WOODS

Finalizing contract agreement with Turn Key
Asbestos abatement is ongoing

