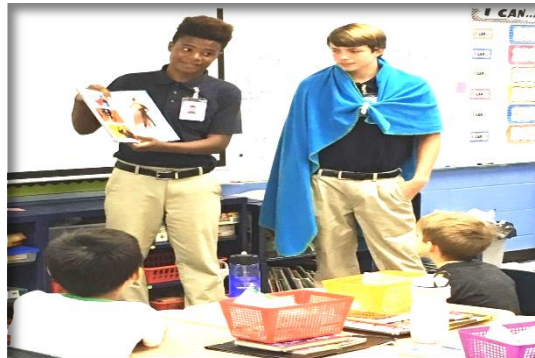




The Blue Shirt Chronicles

October 14, 2016



Reading in Schools Day

On Friday, September 23rd, 18 students and 5 of our faculty members walked to David Youree Elementary and read to children in grades K-3. We read a variety of children’s books such as *I am Invited to a Party* by Mo Willems. One student who participated, Chance A., says his experience was “exciting and fun.” He loved that it made the children happy. This was a great opportunity not only for the children, but also for the students who participated.
~ Carley S.

Nashville Children’s Theatre: Salem Witch Trials

On September 29th, Smyrna West students went to the Nashville Children’s Theatre and watched a play called *Afflicted: Daughters of Salem*. The play was a representation of *The Crucible* that we were reading in English 3. The play was interesting and gave us a better understanding of the Salem sisters. I’m glad they gave us the opportunity to attend the play. ~ Marcos C.

#SmyrnaWestReads

What would you do if you were taken away from family and watched millions of people die right in front of your eyes? What if you had to survive to keep your family name alive? Well, find out what Yanek did to survive the pain and suffering of the horrors of the Holocaust by reading *Prisoner B-3087* by Alan Gratz.
[Book recommendation by Javarius L.]

Welcome New Faculty!

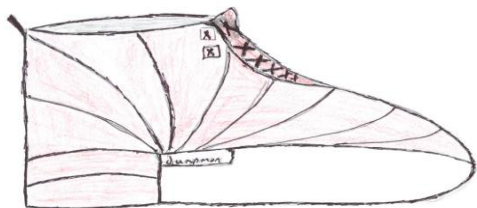
Mrs.Sides Mr.Slaton Mrs.O’Neal
Dr.Brown Mr.Joines

We want to make sure your families see the good things happening at Smyrna West. Get this paper signed and return it to the library by Tuesday, October 18. You will be entered into a drawing for a free day of points!

Parent/Guardian Signature

#SmyrnaWestServes

Smyrna West student, Jackson G., has started his own service organization called *615.Shoe Donations*. He collects new and slightly-used running shoes like Jordan Retros. He buys and sells them often, usually making a nice profit. While working with his minister to try to find a way to make a positive contribution to the community, he decided to combine his passion for shoes and a desire to help others---thus began *615.ShoeDonations*. Jackson is currently looking for foster kids or anyone you may know who is in need of a pair of running shoes. Please contact Mr. Slaton if you know of a teen who could use a pair of running shoes or if you have shoes to donate. ~ Jackson G.



Teacher Feature! Hello, Mr. Joines!

Education: Mr. Joines attended Hanover College in Madison, Indiana. He went there because he was recruited to play basketball. He transferred to MTSU to be closer to home and to become a teacher.

Influences: He always enjoyed helping people when he was young. He realized education is the best way to influence kids our age, giving him an opportunity to be a positive mentor who can us get through high school and on to college.

Pre-SWA: Mr. Joines was an educational assistant at Blackman Middle and coached basketball at MTSU. He has also worked at Tullahoma High School in a CDC (special ed.) classroom.

Favorite Books: *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, *True North*, *Change or Die*, and any self-help book

Why English? He loves English, writing, and stories.

Hobbies: He's played basketball since he was 2 years old. Mr. Joines likes music---he likes all genres of music as long as the song has a meaning.

Advice: Trust the people that want to help you. If you ever make mistakes just own up to it and know there will always be someone who wants to help. Be honest with yourself and other people. Don't ever listen to people that doubt you. Always aim for your goal. Don't let people tell you that you can't do something. [Interview by Chance A.]

Counselor's Corner

As I read quotes on a regular basis, it makes me think... what would mine be? What would be a quote to describe me? How would others describe me to someone that doesn't know me? Would I be happy with that description? Could I help write the quote? Sure I could, we write descriptions and quotes of ourselves every day. If I'm interested in writing a new quote for my life, all I have to do is begin. But I have to begin somewhere. If the past doesn't describe me as well as I would like for it to, perhaps I should start today writing my new quote. Perhaps we should all start today? What would you like your quote to be? How would you like to be described to others? I think I would like to say something like this: "Today is a new day, begin again and work towards greatness!" -C. Conley



Thank You!

Special thanks to the journalists and contributors to this *first* edition of *The Blue Shirt Chronicles*. We hope that this paper will grow bigger and better throughout the year. Love to write? Want to share your art, poetry, or a service project you enjoy? Information will be coming soon about ways that YOU can contribute.