

# **The Cat's Tale**

## **May Edition**

As difficult as it is to believe, in just a few days our seniors will be walking across the stage to receive their HS diplomas. The year has certainly flown by. I want to extend my appreciation to the teachers, staff, parents and community who have been so important in the lives of the Madill High School Graduating Class of 2012. You have provided our seniors with the educational foundation they will need to face their futures with confidence. You have encouraged, supported and taught them the values and principles they will need to be successful in a highly competitive society. So now, seniors, it is up to you what you do with the education, training, and upbringing you have received. Life is about choices, and you are making decisions at this point in your young lives that will greatly impact your future. I believe in each and every of you, and my hope is that whatever path you choose, whether military, college, trade school, work force or other, that you will take your rightful place in society, fulfill all your dreams and never forget what it means to be a Wildcat!

Good Luck Seniors!

On another note, I want to thank all the parents, community members, staff, students, and the Board of Education for your commitment, dedication and hard work toward our intensive school Improvement Initiative this year. The following is a recap of what we've accomplished and a vision of where we are going.

### **2011-12 School Improvement Initiative**

- ✓ Intensive School Wide Staff Development Training on Making the Transition to Core Curriculum
- ✓ Disaggregation of test scores for past three years to find weaknesses/strengths/gaps in curriculum
- ✓ Developed a District Wide Curriculum Guide that includes PASS, Core Curriculum and Side by Sides
- ✓ Board Adopted Academic Vocabulary to strengthen district wide Curriculum
- ✓ Increased Positive Community/Parental Involvement
- ✓ Volunteer Program
- ✓ Required Training for Substitute Teachers
- ✓ All teachers in the district have been identified as Highly Qualified by state and federal standards
- ✓ RR Consulting providing intensive School Improvement Services at ECC and Elementary (Surveys, Test Disaggregation, Curriculum Alignment, Teacher Training)
- ✓ Applied for and received over \$126,000.00 in grant monies
- ✓ Received Grant to send Elementary and MS G/T students to State Capitol to meet with Representative Hardin to learn how state government works, and to study a curriculum and view art work at Capitol
- ✓ Received Grant to Bring Science Matters Mobile Lab to Elementary
- ✓ Received Homeland Security Grant to Install Additional security cameras/systems at all sites
- ✓ Received Advanced Placement Grant (Provides new technologies and Intensive Teacher Training for MS and HS Core Subject Teachers to better prepare students for college.)
- ✓ Received Improving Teacher Quality Grant (Provides new technologies, math instructional programs, and intensive training for ECC, Elementary and MS Math Teachers)

- ✓ Received GEAR UP grant (Provides Intensive Teacher Training and numerous services to better prepare students for college and work force including: online data program that allows us to track each individual student's progress throughout school, pays for students to receive ACT preparation, pays for college visitations days, pays for Freshman orientation for college bound seniors, provides transitional program for incoming Freshman making adjustment to high school)
- ✓ Greater enrichment for students identified as Gifted/Talented including Elementary and MS Academic Teams, Science Club, Book Club, Chess, Drama Production
- ✓ Development of a Comprehensive District Wide Bullying Prevention Program
- ✓ Have applied for additional grants that we hope to receive for the 2012-13 school year.
- ✓ District Wide Reading/Vocabulary List to strengthen curriculum for 2012-13 school year.
- ✓ Adding AP Chemistry for 2012-13 school year.
- ✓ Examining possibility of adding ACT preparation course for 9<sup>th</sup> graders (through GEAR UP grant)
- ✓ Purchased additional programs for ELL, Remediation and Test Preparation (Rosetta Stone, Ticket to Read, Buckle Down)

It's a great day to be a wildcat and have a great summer!

Mr. Tuck