



Friday Focus

Carter County Schools



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Coming Events

- December 4— Kindergarten @ Star
- December 5— 1st grade @ OHES
- December 6— 2nd grade @ TCES
- December 10— EILA
- December 10-14 ACT Planning Sessions @ Central Office



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We All Have the Same Last Name

Collective teacher efficacy (CTE) refers to a staff's shared belief that through their collective action, they can positively influence student outcomes, including for those students who are disengaged and/or disadvantaged (effect size: 1.57).

In 1996, Hillary Clinton, the then First Lady, published a book that popularized the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child." The quote actually originated from a Native American proverb. The ancients were telling us that child-rearing is not a task that can be done in isolation. It takes a team of people working together for a child to experience learning and growth in a safe environment. As 2018 is drawing to an end, perhaps it is a good time to reflect on our own personal contribution to the "village."

We have often been reminded that "In this school district, we all have the same last name...Carter County." As brothers and sisters in the same educational family, we should feel that strong kinship with one another. When my fellow teacher needs support, I will offer it. When my cross county teammates seek my help, I will eagerly give it. When your students struggle, I will feel a sense of duty to pitch in with all the expertise and skill I can provide. That's what you do when you are a family. That's how a village can help raise a successful child.

District academies have allowed us to build a network of strong relationships across grade levels and content areas and we have broken down barriers between East and West as we have erased those invisible lines that once divided one school from another. Let's continue to develop our **collective teacher efficacy** as we become a shining example of what a school system should truly be.

Spotlight on Excellence



At West Middle, Tara Rogers used 2 Truths and a Lie, a great math strategy where students must discern which fictitious student is using the correct problem solving method. Kids are very engaged in working with their Kagan group to reach a consensus and defend their decision. It's a very good way to identify and resolve misconceptions that might exist in your class without singling students out or making them uncomfortable.

Students in Teena Liles' room at WCMS are pictured here as they work on their Frayer Models in Google Slides. This is another example of how technology is being utilized to engage students in effective cooperative learning. In addition, the use of Frayer Models helps students get multiple exposures to their vocabulary words: student owned definition, example, non-example and visual. All of these are research-based ways to ensure that kids learn the words.