Spring 2015

Hiring Season Wraps Up

Hiring season in the Florida Conference is always a busy time and this year is no exception. Associate Superintendent Murray Cooper reports that 18 of 25 positions have been filled as of press time. Mr. Cooper began the search process in February, beginning by looking for high quality school principals. With an exceptionally high number of principal openings this year, he is happy to report that 7 of the 8 principal positions have been filled. The additional vacancies range from kindergarten to high school; 6 have been filled by our own Florida Conference teachers who will be re-locating to new schools.

Forest Lake Academy Teacher Earns Doctorate

The Florida Conference is pleased to announce that we have a new doctor in the house! Dr. Kami Borhon, visual arts teacher at Forest Lake Academy, has recently graduated from UCF, earning his Ed.D. in Education. He has been teaching mathematics, computer technology, and visual arts (secondary and post-secondary) for more than ten years, including eight years at Forest Lake Academy.

Dr. Borhon brings a rich background to our conference, with expertise in curriculum and instructional design; eLearning; technology and media in education; research and program evaluation; and STEAM: computer technology, engineering—telecommunications, visual arts and web design, and mathematics. The focus of his dissertation was on high school freshman mathematics remediation: curriculum design, implementation, and evaluation.
Superintendents help with Story Hour

What do superintendents do when they are not supervising teachers, preparing in-service trainings, or answering emails? If they are blessed, they are enjoying the privilege of being surrounded by children!

The associate superintendents of the Florida Conference have volunteered to lead out in Story Hour at the Adventist Book Center once a month, reading a book to the children and presenting a related craft. Participation continues to grow as the word spreads. Story hour is fun!

Walker Memorial Students Interview Author

Under the direction of literacy teacher Sharon Coldren, 7th and 8th grade students at Walker Memorial Academy recently completed a biography unit integrating reading comprehension, written and oral language, technology, and the arts. With a theme of life-lessons from successful people, the class read a biography of their choice in addition to the class book *Finally Free*, created infomercials on how to overcome obstacles to become a successful person, and interviewed author Sandra Doran in a "studio" they set up themselves with the help of Science teacher Gordon Davis. After the actual interview, Dr. Doran enjoyed answering additional questions raised by the students and posing for a picture with the classes.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Health is a major focus in schools throughout the Florida Conference. This year, Indigo Christian Academy in Daytona Beach unveiled their new playground, "Creation Hideout." Made possible by a Florida Hospital grant, "Creation Hideout." Made possible by a Florida Hospital grant, the nature-inspired play area is augmented by an outdoor classroom where students can learn beneath a canopy of trees.

The original idea for "Creation Hideout" was the brainchild of Pastor Jerry and Principal Kari Wasmer, who worked with Playworld Systems to create an original outdoor design which includes a small climbing wall, a slide, climbing steps, a bridge, and plenty of lookouts and hideouts. The equipment pieces, designed to resemble stones, logs, and foliage have been strategically placed in a peaceful, wooded area, where the forest floor was prepared in advanced by adding soil and crushed stone to support the new weight.

Just south of Daytona, the Deltona Adventist School has also been emphasizing Health. In March, third, fourth, and fifth graders hosted a Kids Care Health Fair, emphasizing the importance of good choices, such as diet and exercise. Students were involved every step of the way, from brainstorming the name for the event, to writing phone scripts, making phone calls for donations, making and mailing the flyers, researching and constructing their health booths, set up and take down and writing thank you letters. There were door prizes, healthy food samples and recipes, a Fish Memorial Hospital representative with hand outs and goodie bags, a nurse practitioner conducting blood pressure screenings and booths with hands on activities and research by the students.

The Florida Conference Office of Education is proud of the joint efforts of schools, churches, and hospitals working together to...
promote good health.