

The Liberty Elementary School faculty has worked hard throughout the 2013-2014 school year to teach our students that “*Leadership Encourages Success*”. School-wide we have focused on embedding the *7 Habits of an Effective Leader* in all that we do. We believe it is imperative that our students learn what it means to be a leader and that these skills will help to ensure success in life.

Our faculty, staff, and administration work very hard each day to provide a safe, caring, and academically challenging environment for all 550 of our students. Our goal is for each of them to learn and reach their full potential. We are proud of our strong history of academic success. We have achieved these accolades through the continuous professional development of our teachers. Our teachers are always seeking new and effective strategies such as: **Thinking Maps, Literacy By Design, Café, manipulatives, Every Day Math, Classworks, science kits, guided reading, Accelerated Reader, Project Read, Write From The Beginning, STEM, and Reading Recovery**. This year we added a **STEAM** program into our related arts rotation. This program focused on integrating Science, Technology, Art, and Math while teaching the *Engineering Design Process*. We were also very excited to provide a **Math Interventionist** to assist our students who needed additional support.

At Liberty Elementary we have various programs outside the academic world to focus on the development of the whole child. This year we continued to use the **Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)** program here at LES. This program rewards our students for displaying positive behaviors. We celebrate these behaviors with our student *Leaders of the Pack* in our monthly **Bravo Breakfast**. We also continued our partnership with the **Young Appalachian Musicians (YAMs)** program. This program had numerous students staying after school to learn to play the banjo, guitar, and fiddle. Our guidance counselor taught the **7 Habits of Leadership** in monthly classroom guidance lessons. She also has a helper named **Dolly Mae, our very own school therapy dog**, who is always there to make any student feel better. We continued the **BARK** program that brings other therapy dogs into the school to work with students who struggle with reading. LES also partnered with the **Feed A Hungry Child Program** to provide food over the weekend for numerous needy students. Finally, we continued to offer **Breakfast In The Classroom** for our students. This program ensures all have a healthy breakfast and are ready to begin their day.

Parent communication and support is essential to the success of any school.

We communicate through weekly folders, the Parent Link phone system, newsletters, phone calls, conferences, agendas, interim reports, and report cards. We also offer a variety of ways for parents to become involved in their child’s education. Some of the opportunities for our school involvement include the School Improvement Council, PTO, parent nights, and the volunteer program. We believe the school, family, and community must share the educational responsibility of our young. Thank you for all of your support in helping in the development of our future leaders!

Jackie Orr, Chair of the School Improvement Council
Lowell Haynes, Principal