



The Panther Press



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Principal's Corner

Dear Fair Plain Renaissance Learning Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Dr. Layne B. Hunt and I will be the principal of Fair Plain Renaissance Middle School for the school year 2005-2006 and I am very excited about this opportunity. Our students are also excited, and for good reason. I have a lot of new ideas, which I want to share with my students as well as my staff. Our theme this year is **"Building a Strong Foundation."** I believe that this is an appropriate theme because we are merging two different schools into one. Fair Plain Middle School has been merged with McCord Renaissance Middle School to create, Fair Plain Renaissance Middle School. As a result of this merger, it is expected that a strong foundation will be provided to our students so that they will be successful at the next level of education, which is high school and beyond. As I meet with my students, I am being very clear with them that failure at Fair Plain Renaissance is not an option, and our goal this year includes greatly reducing the number of students who are not academically successful during the school year. I am in favor of students attending summer school but it should be primarily for academic strengthening or enhancing the skill sets mastered during the school year.

My focus is, and always will be, the academic success of our children. In order for me to achieve my goal, I am going to need your help. Our students are continuously learning. They do not stop learning at 3:00 p.m. each day, therefore, when our shift is over here at school, we need your help. Specifically, we need you to encourage them always. We need you to engage in conversations with them about the events and happenings as to school. We need you to provide stimulus and motivation to all of our young people so that they know that the school and the home have formed a partnership to ensure their success. We are going to be the safety net that will not allow them to fail.

I want you to know that I have dedicated my life to serving young people and their families. Every day I give 110% effort to my students and staff. I certainly do not know everything, but there is one thing I certainly know, and that is I love our young people and I will do everything I can to ensure their success because they are the future. Throughout this year, we will engage in many partnerships that will support our young people. I will be talking to you about many topics this year and we will improve our young people. We will be providing workshops and programs directed at serving the parents as well as the students. Please get involved. I have an open door policy. If you ever want to talk to me regarding an issue, please do not hesitate to come into my office.

For now, I simply want to say "hello" and I am honored to serve you and your children.

Dr. Layne B. Hunt, Principal



MEAP TESTING

This year we will take the state academic assessment, otherwise known as the MEAP, October 3-21, 2005. This test is the tool that the state of Michigan uses to determine whether or not a student achieved the learning objectives set by the Michigan Board of Education. This year, all students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 will take this test.

To ensure that we are successful, we are asking that parents make sure that their children go to bed at a reasonable time and that they eat a good breakfast before they arrive at school. Talk to them when they get home about how testing is going,