



Renee Mallory
Principal's News

"Our Vision"
Wilson Elementary School's Vision is to serve the needs of Our Military's Children so that they will excel in learning and life.

April 2009

Wilson Achieves AdvancEd Accreditation

In February, the Wilson community, faculty and staff joined together to host a Quality Assurance Review visit by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), a division of AdvancEd. The team of five educators spent three days at Wilson visiting classes, studying data and talking with teachers, students and parents. The comments made by the team were very positive and constructive and we want to share the results of our visit with you. We received two commendations for areas that the team believed were strengths and accomplishments worthy of highlighting.

Commendation 1: The administrative team builds partnerships with agencies outside the school including the military community and local universities. School staff members cultivate and maintain positive relationships and partnerships within the community.

Commendation 2: The school has created and nurtures a caring climate and culture for all stakeholders. The Quality Assurance Review team observed a symbiotic relationship among the families, community, and staff. This relationship has led to a climate and culture that is conducive to a strong support system for military children and healthy community relations.

The committee noted that Wilson Elementary School considers itself a family and school as a "second home" for the students. All staff members take responsibility for educating the whole child—academically, physically, and social-emotionally.

The QAR team also identified two areas for improvement that we are already addressing in our school committees.

Recommendation 1: Collaborate as a staff to reach consensus on a viable intervention(s) for the reading comprehension goal. Identifying and implementing the reading intervention(s) will allow staff members to create a framework for horizontal and vertical articulation of instruction.

Recommendation 2: Design and implement a comprehensive assessment system that utilizes data from research-based assessment tools to monitor student achievement and evaluate the effectiveness of the continuous improvement process.

We are very pleased with the results of our accreditation visit and we will be inviting parents and community members in to help us get even better. Thanks you for your support of Wilson Elementary.

Renee Mallory

Columbus Lions Note...

Down...Set...Hut...The Columbus Lions are not only physically fit, but they are well versed and active contributors to the community. In addition to hosting a special practice at Doughboy Stadium they shared personal testimonies and words of encouragement with 3-5 graders. Their message: Motivation, Positive attitude, hard work and a good education can unlock the door to opportunity.



Richard G. Wilson Elementary Mission Statement

The mission of Richard G. Wilson School is to serve the special and unique needs of military children in a challenging and supportive learning environment, preparing each student academically, socially, and personally to become a successful, self-disciplined, life-long learner in an ever-changing global environment.

Written By: All Stakeholders

D.A.R.E
Drug Abuse Resistance Education

Under the instruction of Officer S.B., the fifth grade students completed a six week course that taught about the dangers of drugs, substance abuse, peer pressure and how to utilize the decision making model. The students applied their learning through written essays and role playing.

The guest speaker, Mrs. M., reaffirmed the student's commitment to living drug free lives. She also gave each student a symbolic gold nugget to help them remember that *"right choices bring life and poor choices can result in pain."*

All 5th grade participants received a time to read the first place essay. Congratulations certificate of completion and a reception followed the ceremony. Winners were acknowledged for their submissions to the D.A.R.E essay contest. Please take the time to read the first place essay. **Congratulations 5th grade students!!**

1st place: A. R. -- 2nd place: P. H. -- 3rd place: A. T.

What D.A.R.E has done for me... by A. R.

In D.A.R.E class I learned that doing DRUGS~ can be very dangerous and can damage your brain. I also learned that it can also cause anyone who uses it to die. I feel that D.A.R.E is a very good program for me because some people in my family do drugs. I think that doing drugs is a very bad thing because it can cause a lot of bad things to happen to you.

Every day in the United States over 3,000 people die from ether tobacco related diseases. DARE has taught me how cigarettes can hurt my brain and effect my learning. It is also illegal to sell tobacco to anyone under the age of 18. Smokers have more cancer and other health problems than people who do not smoke.

Cigarettes contain tobacco which is a powerful substance that causes addiction. Smoking is the number 1 cause of mouth cancer. There are more than 200 known poisons in tobacco. Smoking can cause yellow teeth and smelly breath. If you play sports, you could suffer from shortness of breath and dizziness.

Marijuana users have increased risk of cancer too. Marijuana smokers have more colds and upper respiratory problems than people who do not use it. Marijuana is illegal in the United States. There is more tar in marijuana smoke than in tobacco. Smoking marijuana not only causes breathing problems, but it affects your brain and body. Marijuana can cause short-term memory loss and the inability to concentrate. Marijuana smoke contains 50% to 70% more of some cancer causing chemicals than tobacco smoke. Marijuana can be addictive.

Sometimes you can pressure yourself to do drugs or to not do drugs. There are 5 different types of pressure that I learned about in DARE: Positive, friendly, tempting, teasing, and bullying.

Although the people who do drugs think that it is good for them, it is not. Well here is a news flash for you..... Doing drugs is a very bad thing!

And that is why.....

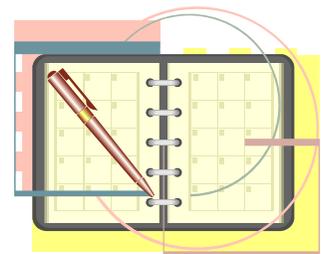
~I PLEDGE TO BE DRUG FREE!!!!!!~

DRUG FREE IS THE WAY TO BE!!!!



Dates to Remember

April 23	Volunteer Luncheon 11:30
April 24	Deadline to order Yearbook (\$15 cash)
April 30	Month of the Military Child program 2:00
May 4-8	Wilson registration for next school year
May 15	Field Day
May 18-22	Faith MS registration for rising 6 th graders



What is 21st Century Learning?
TRAVEL WITH US!!

The foliage is turning green, flowers are beginning to bloom, pollen is falling and birds are beginning to sing: looks like SPRING is here! Along with the beautiful changes, our students will want to get out more, ride bikes, and stay up a little later. Please remember that they need to use the sidewalks for safety and we still have many more learning opportunities before the year is over. Education is making a shift also! What is 21st century learning?

As our children leap into the 21st century, adults may find themselves standing in total confusion wondering what has happened and just where it is our children are going. Actually, they are being propelled into an exciting, invigorating, innovative and creative world of 21st century teaching and learning. This style of learning is very different than what many learned. Instead of fill-in-the-blank or multiple choice questions, children are encouraged to analyze information, evaluate it, and even create entirely new ideas, products, and projects. Instead of memorizing long lists of facts, children are digging into research in areas that truly interest them and with teacher guidance and questioning are developing long-term projects that deal with real-life problems. And throughout the process they are learning more, thinking more, and enjoying learning more than ever before.

Although technology does find itself in the midst of 21st century teaching and learning, the essential elements are higher order thinking skills. Students who are 21st century learners will develop their abilities to apply, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and create. They are "hands on" learners whose teachers facilitate and moderate rather than lecture and present. Learning takes place as children experiment, investigate, and discover while the teacher stands back and helps guide the students in the learning process.

The gates to the 21st century are wide open. Our children are eager to begin the journey. It's going to be a wonderful and fantastic ride.

Stay tuned...

Michelle Allen, Assistant Principal

Citizen of the Month



*Congratulations to our
Outstanding Citizens!*

Dexter/Wilson Kids Care Club went to Muscogee Manor Nursing Home during the month of March. The children entertained the residents by singing patriotic songs and waving flags. The children also gave gifts of washcloths and liquid soap. This was a very special trip because the children were able to meet a resident who was a former Fort Benning teacher and assistant superintendent.



Yearbooks!
\$15
Until April 24th
Cash Only, Please

Westville

By: A. H.

I love Westville because all of the history from the past was there. We got to imagine what it was like in slave times. We got to see how they took seeds out of cotton with all of the slave tools. The hogs were big, hairy, and scary. Did I mention that they were stinky like a sweaty sock on a hot summer day? The lambs were beautiful and big. I liked it because I got to imagine the past and that is a great thing!

Westville

By: E. R.

Westville took us back in time. We learned so many things while having fun at the same time. Here are several things we learned; in the school house the teacher lived upstairs, all of the houses started as cabins. We learned how to get seeds out of cotton plants, and much more. Plus, all of the houses, schools, court building are real. As real, I mean, actually there when the civil war began and still here and standing!! We also saw slave cabins where about twenty to forty people lived in. Sleeping on the rafters and other things to fit in the cabin.

One Call Now

Our One Call Now system is up and running at Wilson School. This is a communication tool for the school to use when they need to get a message out to parents. Many of you have already received a test call. In order for the system to work effectively, it is essential that we have **correct phone numbers**. Please remember to inform us when your home or cell phone number changes so that we can update our records. Thank you, in advance, for helping us keep the lines of communication open.



*Don't forget to purchase your
Yearbook!*

\$15

On sale until April 24th

Cash Only, Please

