

At New Prospect Elementary, providing a quality, student-centered education is the focus of our efforts. We are proud of the accomplishments of our staff, parents, and students in the 2014-2015 school years. Our school has a long tradition of excellence and we work diligently to increase student achievement through creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and collaboration. Our teachers continue to work as a Professional Learning Community by collaborating to plan engaging lessons, analyzing data, and using it to drive their instruction. As a result of our continuous efforts, NPE was named the South Carolina Exemplary Reading School for 2015, and our principal was named the South Carolina Reading Administrator of the Year for 2015 as well.

In 2014, New Prospect continued to “Catch the W.A.V.E”, Wildcats Achieving Valuable Education for college and career readiness. Students at NPE were given many opportunities to excel in reading and the arts. Programs such as Drama Club, Reader’s Theater, Honors Chorus, S.M.A.R.T. Night, and the MUSE Partnership with Chapman Cultural Center gave students the opportunity to learn and demonstrate new skills in a creative way. The first year of Studio Art was a success with 17 students accepted. In August, the annual Summer Reading Celebration took place with students logging in 38,014 minutes of reading.

NPE continued to promote reading during 2014 by partnering with Chapman High School. Coach Wilson challenged the students by saying “You need to read!” This challenge continued with students keeping a specific fall log of books read. Over 110 students met the specific requirements and were recognized at a CHS football game. Every grade level set a reading goal for each 9 weeks for their students. Students that met their goal were rewarded. At the end of the year, students that met their overall goal for the year will participate in an end of the year celebration. Also, every grade level chose a read aloud designed to follow along with our new anti-bullying program that was implemented this year. Several teachers participated in our annual Reading Patrol. Reading Patrol is one evening when teachers drop by homes of students to catch them reading. Students are presented with a balloon and a bag filled with books and other reading supplies. Also, in the summer our principal and other teachers make a home visit to all four year old kindergarten students and any new students starting five year old kindergarten. They read a book with the child and leave them with books and tips for parents to have a successful year and begin instilling the love of reading into their child.

NPE provided many opportunities for students to get healthy and be active. NPE received the Healthy Schools grant from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. The Wellness team was formed with the Alliance for a Healthier Generation that met throughout the year to develop a school action plan that promotes school nutrition, physical activity, and wellness. The NPE Running Club, Jump Rope for the Heart, and Walk to School Day are examples of how our school has continued to be dedicated to teaching kids how to live a healthy lifestyle. Several new initiatives started this year. NPE started a program where students also have an opportunity to walk in the gym in the mornings after breakfast. We have an after school tennis program, daily all students participate in Jammin’ Minutes, teachers include nutritional tips on their newsletters, and healthy lunch choices are announced on the morning news.

We appreciate the support of our families, community partners, PTO, and School Improvement Council as we continue our tradition of excellence at New Prospect Elementary. We look forward to the continuous improvement of our school and service to students.

Shawn Foxworth