



# FOUNDATION NEWS

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## 2015 RACE TO THE FUTURE 9/22/15

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY GATEWAY COURSES TO BE ADDED AT MJHS

On Tuesday evening, September 22nd, the South Conway County Public School Foundation will host the 16th Annual “Race to the Future” Fund-raising Event. Funds raised during this year’s campaign will be used to implement Gateway courses at Morrilton Junior High School. The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that jobs in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) will grow 17% by 2018 – nearly double the growth for non-STEM fields. By 2018, it is estimated that the United States will have more than 1.2 million unfilled STEM jobs.

To better equip learners at Morrilton Junior High School for these demands, the South Conway County School District will begin offering the Gateway curriculum developed by Project Lead the Way (PLTW), the nation’s leading provider of K-12 STEM programs. MJHS will offer two foun-

dational Gateway courses, Design & Modeling (fall 2015) and Automation & Robotics (spring 2016). The approximate start-up cost for technology and equipment for these two courses is \$40,000.

In Design & Modeling, students will apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using Autodesk design software, students will create a virtual image of their playground and furniture designs, as well as their innovative solutions.

In Automation & Robotics, students will trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students will use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects, such as traffic lights, toll booths,

and robotic arms. More information about Project Lead the Way and Gateway is available at [pltw.org](http://pltw.org).

The South Conway County School District is excited about offering this program of study at MJHS. Donations from the South Conway County Public School Foundation will be used to purchase computer technology and equipment necessary for the foundational units of Design & Modeling and Automation & Robotics.

Send your support in early using the sponsorship form inside this newsletter to be included in the printed program. If you prefer to give online that option is available on our web site at [www.sccpsf.org](http://www.sccpsf.org).

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Foundation and its commitment to the South Conway County School District.

### Upcoming Events

**16th Annual  
Race to the Future  
Tuesday  
September 22, 2015  
6:30 pm  
Morrilton High School  
Cafeteria**

**Devil Dog Reunion  
June 11, 2016  
Special Guests  
MHS Class of  
1966**

## PATTY RAINEY RETIRES AFTER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE



Thank you, Mrs. Rainey, for your dedication to the students of Morrilton High School!

The South Conway County Public School Foundation congratulates Patty Rainey on her retirement after a total of 33 years with South Conway County School District - 25 of those years in the counselor's office at Morrilton High School.

Since the foundation began, Mrs. Rainey has been invaluable to the Foundation board. We have appreciated her constant help and support, her will-

ingness to always take the time to give us advice, and her organization and efficiency with the scholarship program. She has made a big difference in the lives of many students.

During her years at Morrilton High School, Rainey developed a plan to improve ACT scores; the Devil Dog Helping Hands program, in which seniors tutor and mentor younger students for one period

of the school day; and the Morrilton High School Student Pride program. She established student recognition programs and increased the number and monetary value of scholarships received by seniors each year, with the total this year reaching approximately \$4 million.

We will truly miss Patty Rainey and wish her many happy years ahead to travel and enjoy her family.

## MHS NATIONAL MERIT WINNER

2015 Morrilton High School graduate and captain of the State Champion MHS Quiz Bowl team, Jonathan Rankin, has been named a National Merit Winner.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying test- a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million students per year and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

Less than 1% of each state's

high school seniors qualify for this distinguished program. Jonathan's test scores qualified him as a National Merit Finalist. Because of this standing he received the Chancellor's Merit Scholarship from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. This scholarship has a value of up to \$40,000 over a four year period. In addition, the National Merit Scholarship Program has awarded him a stipend for four years. The Sam M. Walton College of Business Honors Program has also awarded Jonathan a \$2,000 scholarship renewable for four years based on his impressive credentials.

Jonathan also received the



Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship based on his ACT score, academic grade point average, and his standing as a National Merit Finalist. This scholarship is valued at \$10,000 for four years.

Jonathan is enrolled in the U of A Sam M. Walton College of Business Honors Program for the fall. He plans to pursue finance

as his field of study.

The South Conway County Public School Foundation congratulates Jonathan and all of the educators within the South Conway County School District that have supported his educational journey.

We look forward to having many more National Merit Winners in the future.

## DEVIL DOG REUNION RECAP

“Hark the Sound of Devil Dog Voices” was heard yet again Saturday, June 6, 2015, as 200 Morrilton High School friends and alumni joined in the singing of the MHS Alma Mater at 15th Annual Devil Dog Reunion Brunch that is held for MHS classes that have had their 50th class reunions.

Welcomed into this “golden” group this year was the MHS Class of 1965, the last class to graduate from the old Morrilton High School building.

MHS Class of 1963 member, Stan Willis, served as program emcee. Featured in the program was the old MHS Building and a letter to the Class of ’65 by Mr. Don Elliot, principal of MHS for a number of years.

Mr. Shawn Halbrook, MHS Class of 1990 and the South Conway School District Superintendent, welcomed the group and gave a report on the state of our school district.

Katherine Harwood Foust, ‘58, represented

the South Conway County Public School Foundation and accepted a check from the Class of 1964 in appreciation of the foundation’s support of the school district.

For more information about the brunch and/or the alumni committee, contact Carolyn Stacks Massingill, ‘59 at 354-5806, or Phyllis Scroggins McKuin, ‘62, at 354-5346..

Next year’s brunch will be on Saturday, June 11.



### 2015 Season’s Home Devil Dog Football Games

- 9/4 Dogs vs Russellville
  - 9/11 Dogs vs Pottsville
  - 10/2 Dogs vs Vilonia
  - 10/16 Dogs vs Farmington
  - 10/30 Dogs vs LR Christian
- (all games begin at 7:00 pm)

## BECOME A FRIEND OF THE FOUNDATION

Friends of the Foundation are very important. Funds gained through Friends of the Foundation support ongoing efforts of the Foundation.

Being a Friend is a great way to show your personal commitment to raising

the bar for education in the Morrilton area.

We believe the Foundation’s influence is instrumental in giving the district confidence to step-out and try new educational approaches.

Help us continue to be a positive influence for education in the Morrilton area by becoming a Friend of the Foundation today!

The SCCPSF is a 501(c)(3) organization, making all your donations tax deductible!

**Did you know that the South Conway County Public School Foundation has virtually no administrative costs? All money contributed goes toward enhancing student achievement!**

### FRIEND OF THE FOUNDATION

Remove this portion and return with donation or for more information to:  
 South Conway County Public School Foundation  
 P.O. Box 318, Morrilton, Arkansas 72110  
 Online giving available at [www.sccpsf.org](http://www.sccpsf.org)

Consider me a Friend of the Foundation. My tax-deductible contribution, payable to the South Conway County Public School Foundation, is enclosed.

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- Sarah Norman Ryals
- Patty Allison Shipp
- William R. Stacks

**Internet Web Site**  
**www.sccpsf.org**

**DISTRICT SEEKS SUPPORT FOR IMPROVEMENTS**

The South Conway County School District is seeking a 3.9 mill property tax increase to fund proposed improvements on four district campuses. The improvements are projected to cost approximately \$24 million.

The construction projects would include building safe rooms on the primary, elementary, and high school campuses, installing enhanced security features at all school entrances, improved parking, and a new arena/multipurpose building to be built between Morrilton Junior and Senior High Schools.

The arena would serve as the high school and junior high safe room and could be used for graduations, sporting events, and community meetings,

Superintendent Shawn-Halbrook said all schools would be enclosed so that students would not have to go outside to get to different areas of the campus or access the safe rooms. All of the safe rooms would be open to the public during tornado warnings. Halbrook also stressed the need for improved security at the district's schools, both from natu-

ral disasters and human threats such as school shootings.

The South Conway County School District currently has the second lowest millage in the surrounding area.

The Foundation Board of Directors invited John Gibson, president of the school board, to share details of the district's plan and answer questions from the board members. After discussing the issue the South Conway County Public School Foundation Board voted to support the district's millage request.

*Foundation News is a Publication of the South Conway County Public School Foundation which supports improved educational opportunities for the South Conway County School District.*



**Return Service Requested**

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