

Parental Involvement A Key To Academic Success

Success in school can carry over to successful experiences later in life. That underscores the benefits of developing skills in the classroom. Students learn in their own way, and at times there may need to overcome various obstacles.

The job of education

does not fully fall on educators and administrators. Education begins at home. Research has found that kids benefit significantly when parents and other caregivers are strongly involved in a child's education. A 2020 study published in the Journal of Prevention and

Intervention in the Community found that parental involvement in a child's education is associated with improved academic performance. Specifically, children whose parents are more involved in their educations have higher levels of academic performance than children

whose parents were not as involved.

A 2005 study from researchers at the Johns Hopkins University Center of School, Family and Community Partnerships showed that school practices that encourage families to support their students' math learning at home led to higher percentages of students scoring at or above proficiency on standardized math tests. Additional research indicates the benefits also extend to other subjects and areas of learning, including language comprehension and expressive language skills.

With so much to gain from parental involvement in students' educations, parents can embrace these strategies to get more involved.

- Develop a partnership with the teacher. Open communication with the teacher(s) can help parents stay up-to-date on what is going on in the classroom and learn early on where a student may need extra support. Then parents can offer extra guidance if it is feasible, or look into an experienced tutor.
- Be firm but supportive. Too much academic pressure may cause a child to pull back or even test boundaries, and that can lead to students falling behind in school. Parents must find the right level of involvement and guide their kids without sounding like good grades are "make or break" the relationship.
- Attend school functions. Parents can go to open houses, back-to-

school nights, conferences, and other events held at school to show support and interest in their children's education. Involved parents also build school-based networks this way, which can be called upon if their student needs additional support in the future.

- Establish a schedule at home. Students can benefit from a schedule, with regular bedtime, homework time and opportunities to relax. Knowing what to expect and when to expect it can take some of the stress out of learning and studying, according to Nemours health.

Parents working in concert with schools and their children can lead to better academic outcomes.

Webster County Retired Teachers Meet

The Webster County Retired Teachers met Monday, February 9, at Palmer Place in Providence. Seventeen members and guests were present. Faye Melton was hostess for the meeting, and Palmer Place served lunch. WCRTA President Nan Laughary welcomed the group and led an activity with presents.

The Webster County winner of the 5th grade essay contest honoring grandparents, Lo Maung, read his essay about his grandfather. He was accompanied by his mother Bawi Iang; his sister Kim Don, his teacher Peyton Hartley, and guidance counselor Tammy White. He was presented a set of books by Faye Melton, chair of the AARP contest.

Lee Ann Klarner was the speaker for the meeting. She is the owner of Senior Care Consulting and Solutions and spoke on recognition and positive care in stages of dementia.

President Laughary chaired the business session. Treasurer Marilyn Whitsell gave the current financial report, stating that she had sent WCRTA donations to the local food banks, Providence Community Food

Bank, and Landon's Hope in Sebree. She also had sent donations to the Kimbler Scholarship Fund in memory of Maurice Forker and Carolyn Dacy. It was decided that WCRTA would give scholarships to three students. Lori Gonzales and Heather Van Winkle volunteered to assist scholarship chair Janice Gillaspie in the reading of the scholarship essays.

Secretary Geraldine Stone had earlier sent minutes of the December meeting to members by e-mail. Plans were made for volunteers to participate in "Red Across America" by reading to school children during the week of March 2. Eight members volunteered to read in the county elementary schools during that week.

President Laughary announced that the WCRTA Volunteer of the Year nominee, Diane Oakley, had also been chosen by the Second District Retired Teacher Association as a nominee for the state award.

The next meeting will be at the Providence First Methodist Church on April 13. Janice Gillaspie will be hostess.

Webster County Jailer's Report

Webster County Jailer Greg Sauls reports inmates worked a total of 1856 hours between February 8 and February 14, 2026. Hours worked include 520 hours at the detention center; 280 hours at the RCC; 80 hours mowing; 360 hours for Union County; 40 hours for the city of Clay; 50 hours for the city of Dixon; 160 hours for the city of Providence; 40 hours for recycling; 40 hours for the road department shop; 40 hours for the dog warden and 16 hours for Landon's Hope.

The total jail population is 161 with 40 county inmates; 22 Union County inmates and 99 state prisoners.

Twenty-four inmates participated in the Moral Recognition Therapy program; 23 attended Anger Manager with one graduate; 24 attended Thinking for Good; and 21 attended Untangling Relationships. Eleven inmates participated in the GED program.

Incarcerated during the same period were Marty Allen, Giovanni Basham, Dontrail Cleasant, Courtney Dix-

on-Loveless
Randi Fritts
Allen Hoover
Skyler Humphrey
Constance McKenzie
Sergio McGuire
Gaspard Mendoza
Billy O'Leary

Shane Puckett
Bryce Rigdon
Jacob Rumble
James Thomas
Jackie Townsend
James White
Breeanna Williams
Jayson Williams



God Knows You

By Dr. Bob Hardison

Turn To God Amid Your Hardships

Q: When we were children, my mother abandoned me and my brother. My thanks to grandparents who took us in. At school some students made fun of my weight and clothes. I expected teachers to be kind to me, but I felt they looked down on me. "Where were You, God, when I was being hurt? I needed you so much!"

A: I feel for you! People can be thoughtless and cruel.

I assure you, God has not forsaken you. He was there for you in your hardship and pain. He has not walked out on you. Quite the opposite: He is with you in your valleys as much as He is with you on your mountain tops. You needed to call out to Him in prayer. The Bible encourages us, "Come near to God and He will come near to you" (James 4).

Please guard your heart against

bitterness and don't let what others have done to you define your life. Sometimes in the darkest nights and hardest places, God is opening doors you wouldn't have seen otherwise. Throughout your life ahead, put your confidence in God and be open to His blessings. Most certainly, He make your life better and more meaningful than you ever could have on your own.

The Bible urges us to "Pray in all circumstances" (1 Thess. 5:17). So, develop the habit of conversing with God about your daily experiences and emotions. Also, fuel your faith daily through reading God's Word, the Bible. As you do, you'll realize God is bigger than your problems, pain, fears and any difficulties you face in the future. Remember, "If God be for us who can be against us" (Rom. 8:32).

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PLANNED SURVEYING ACTIVITIES

Notice is hereby given that Bacon Farmer Workman Engineering & Testing, Inc. (BFW) will be conducting land surveys in Slaughters, KY starting on 2/23/2026. The survey activities include, but are not limited to, boundary identification, topographical mapping, building finish floor and ground elevations, and environmental studies for the City of Slaughters, KY Flood Study along the East Fork of Deer Creek. Surveyors and Engineers may access private properties along the watershed area of East Fork of Deer Creek to collect survey data, needing access to areas, such as building finish floors, basement window sills, private property adjacent to the creek, etc. This work is authorized under KRS 322.470. For further information or to request a consultation, please contact Bobby Deitz at 270-753-7307 or bdeitz@bfwengineers.com.

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

CITY OF SLAUGHTERS ORDINANCE NO. -2026-01-13-
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A PART-TIME PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE

WHEREAS, the City of Slaughters has determined that additional assistance is needed within the Public Works Department to support city operations; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to employ a part-time Public Works employee in compliance with Kentucky state laws and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Slaughters, Kentucky, as follows:

Section 1. Authorization of Position
The City of Slaughters is hereby authorized to hire one (1) or more part-time Public Works employee(s) as needed to assist with public works duties, including but not limited to maintenance, repair, and other related tasks.

Section 2. Hours and Compensation
The hours of work and rate of pay for the part-time Public Works employee(s) shall be set and adjusted by the Mayor and City Commissioners, in compliance with applicable Kentucky statutes and local budgetary constraints.

Section 3. Employment Conditions
1. Drug Testing: The part-time Public Works employee(s) shall be subject to pre employment and random drug testing in accordance with Kentucky state law and City policy.
2. Driver's License: The part-time Public Works employee(s) must hold a valid Kentucky driver's license and maintain a clean driving record as a condition of employment.

Section 4. Employment Status
The part-time Public Works employee(s) shall be considered at-will employees and shall not be entitled to benefits unless otherwise required by Kentucky law or expressly approved by the City Commission.

Section 5. Budget Compliance
All compensation paid under this ordinance shall be made only from funds duly appropriated in the City's adopted budget or as otherwise authorized by the City Commission.

Section 6. Severability
If any section, subsection, or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date
This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by Kentucky law.

The City of Slaughters is an Equal Opportunity Employer

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Slaughters, Kentucky, on this 10th day of February 2026.

CHRIS WINSTEAD, Mayor
City of Slaughters

ATTEST:
Kara Gardner, City Clerk



Date of first reading January 13, 2026
Date of second reading February 10, 2026.
Date of publication February 18, 2026.

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Sebree, KY

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

§ 51.12 ACCESS TO WATER LINES AND METERS

WHEREAS, the City of Dixon, Kentucky owns and maintains water service infrastructure, including water service lines and meter boxes, which require periodic maintenance, repairs, and emergency access; and property owners have on occasion covered such infrastructure with concrete, asphalt, or similar materials, thereby preventing or impeding the City's ability to access said infrastructure for necessary repairs and maintenance;

WHEREAS, due to the aforementioned fact, it has become necessary to establish an Ordinance as described herein;

BE IT ORDAINED that the City of Dixon, Kentucky is desirous of establishing Ordinance 51.12. As such, said Ordinance is as follows:

Ordinance 51.12: Access to Water Lines and Meters

(A) Water service lines and water meter boxes shall not be covered by concrete, asphalt, or the like. Services lines and meter boxes must remain accessible in case of necessary repairs.

(B) In the instance a water service line or water meter box has been covered by concrete, asphalt, or the like, and the material must be removed to complete necessary repairs related to water service, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to make any desired cosmetic repairs once water service repairs are complete.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdictions, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of Ordinance.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed. The remaining provisions of this ordinance, not expressly amended hereby, shall remain in full force and effect.

First reading January 12, 2026
Second reading February 9, 2026
Date of Publication February 18, 2026

Read and approved on this the 9th day of February 2026..

Robert Brown Aye
Randy Norman Aye
Mandee O'Leary Aye
Peggy Poole Aye

TERRY WEBB, Mayor
City of Dixon

ATTEST:
BARBARA GOFF, City Clerk