

**September 2011 Report to the
Carroll County Board of Education**
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Grants

- **Engineering is Elementary and STEM Grants**— I am working with Pam Williams to draft a plan for incorporating more hands-on opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the curriculum. The University of Louisville is drafting a proposal to be submitted to North American Stainless requesting funding to incorporate Engineering is Elementary at Winn and Cartmell. We are also working with teachers throughout the district to develop a long-term plan for developing STEM.
- **RUS Grant**—I met with James Wilson of the USDA on September 14 to update him on our progress on the Rural Utilities Systems (RUS) Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant which we received in 2009. The grant reimburses our district up to \$81,934 for distance learning equipment at Cartmell, CCMS, and CCHS. We have a cash obligation of \$30,000. So far we have already met \$27,556 of this cash match with our purchase of distance learning equipment at Winn last year. We are planning to order upgraded distance learning equipment for Cartmell, CCMS, and CCHS, the cost of which will be reimbursed, minus the remaining \$2,444 that we still need to match.

Publications and other Projects

- **Cartmell**—I have finally settled in my new office at Cartmell.
- **IDs**—I have completed the process of making IDs for new staff members and replacing lost and damaged IDs for staff members who already have been issued IDs.
- **Champion Reader Posters**—I have finished taking all of the photos of new staff members who need to have their Champion Reader Posters made. Ms. Weedman and Ms. Eaglin will complete the process of designing and printing the posters.
- **Chalk Dust, etc.**—I continue to write my Chalk Dust column for the News-Democrat this school year with articles about Cartmell students helping to create stone sculptures at the school with the help of stone mason Albert Nelson and his wife Penny. Their visit was funded by a grant from NAS.
- **Vision 2021**—I am still working with Ms. James and others to develop a public awareness campaign about Senate Bill 1 and the importance of preparing students to be ready for college, career, and citizenship. Many Vision 2021 themes have been included in the calendar and back-to-school video.
- **PEBC Video**—I have been filming the classrooms of teachers who have attended the Denver Thinking Strategies workshops hosted by the Public Education and Business Coalition (PEBC) in Colorado. I am in the process of creating a video that will highlight the different teachers and different strategies, including designing an environment more conducive to learning and gradually releasing responsibility for learning from the teacher to the students.