

Superintendent  
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# MOUNTAINBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*In Arkansas' Most Scenic School District*

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*March 18, 2009*

*Hello to the Patrons, Teachers, Staff, and Students of Mountainburg Schools -*

*As springtime nears, it is important to reflect on what is going on at school. As I am sure you are aware, we have lost enrollment during the school year. State funding for the next school year is based on the three quarter average of the previous year. Our average daily membership (ADM) for last school year (2007-2008) was 732 students. Next school year, the figures are based on the (ADM) from August 18, 2008 through March 13, 2009 (2008-2009). Currently, we have 695 students. This will be a substantial loss of revenue for Mountainburg Schools.*

*In taking a proactive approach to our finances, we must look at several ways to save money and make sure we end the 2009-2010 school year with a larger balance than the 2008-2009 budget year. The economic picture will become clearer as the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2009. Tough decisions will be made to ensure that our school continues to offer a quality education and remain financially solvent. All of us will need to tighten our belts and look for ways to help save money.*

*Many schools are facing the same situation with loss of enrollment and increasing costs of providing a quality education for their students. The Federal Stimulus funds will provide some relief, but how much and with what strings attached are questions we must look at before pursuing that source of funding.*

*Our school board, administration, faculty and staff are dedicated to preserving Mountainburg Schools and providing our students with opportunities to succeed in school and in life.*

*Please encourage your child to read as much as possible and to do as well as they can on the upcoming Benchmark and End of Course Tests. Teachers are working hard to prepare our students for the tests. Please encourage your child to get plenty of rest, eat properly, and be on time for the testing.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dennis W. Copeland, Superintendent*