



Springfield Middle School
Robertson County Innovation Academy



715 5th Avenue West ♦ Springfield, TN 37172 ♦ Phone (615) 384-4821
Dr. Grant Bell, Principal ♦ Ms. Amanda Mounts, Asst. Principal ♦ Mr. Patrick Carneal, Asst. Principal

“We are EPIC!”
The Jacket's Buzz

November 19, 2018

“Providing a well-lit path in the pursuit of purpose and happiness.”

“Every single day, we will strive to ensure that everyone is safe and respected; and that ALL scholars are responsible for working to master ALL standards.”



“The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values.”

William S. Burroughs

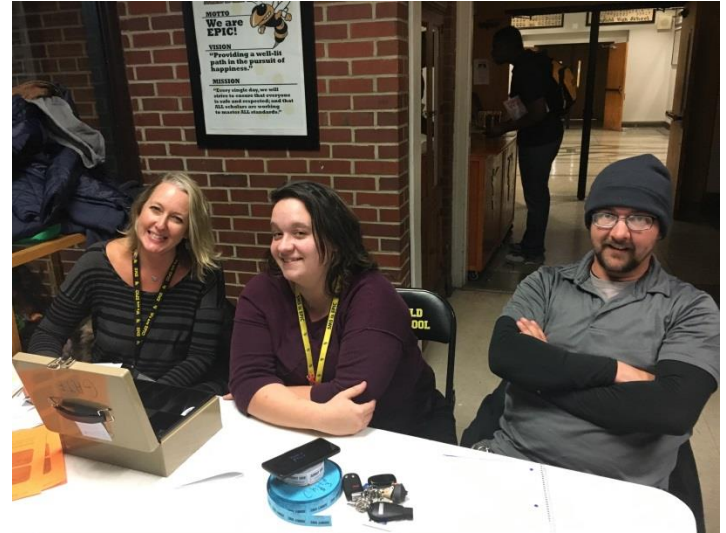
Monday:	Beta Convention
Tuesday:	Beta Convention
Wednesday:	No School
Thursday:	Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday:	No School

Bus Duty:

<u>Monday</u> Language Arts	<u>Tuesday</u> Related Arts	<u>Wednesday</u> Math	<u>Thursday</u> Social Studies	<u>Friday</u> Science
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------



Yellow Jacket Basketball



The Yellow Jackets and Lady Jackets played 3 games last week, facing Coopertown, Greenbrier and West Wilson. The Yellow Jackets continued their undefeated season with 3 solid victories, and the Lady Jackets posted a winning week, defeating GMS and CMS.



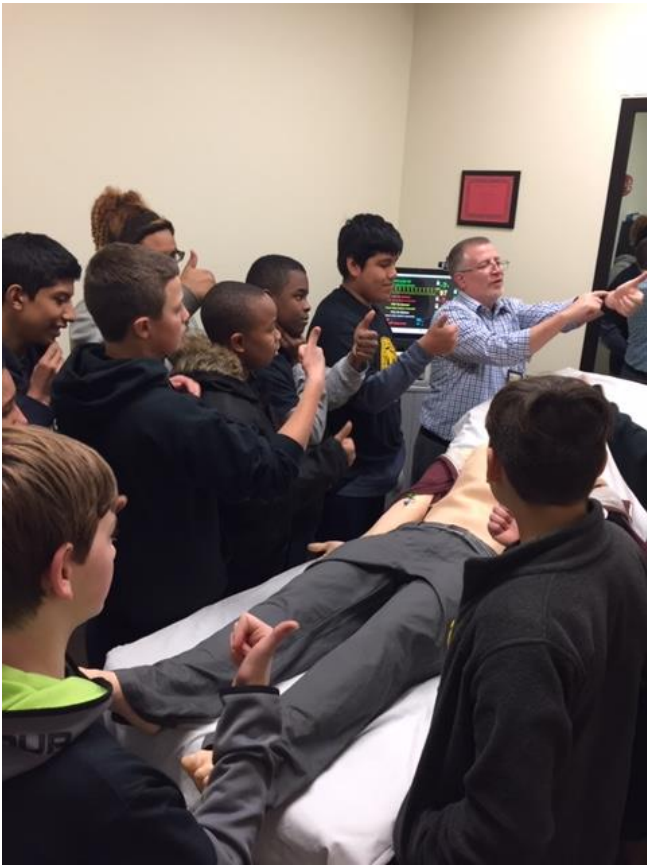
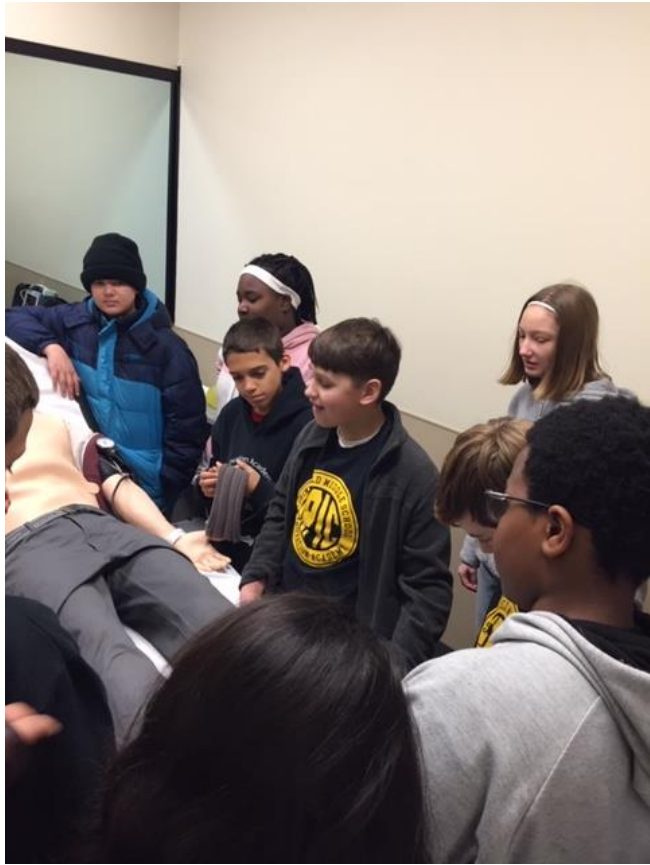
VOL STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE



7th grade scholars took a tour of the Vol State campus on Friday. We are building a “college going” culture at SMS and these visits allow scholars to “see their future.”





CHRISTMAS PARADE





A huge thank you to Cam and Jessica Suggs for taking the lead on the SMS/iA float. I think we had the most creative float in the parade: Historic Main Street Springfield. And lots of scholars as well!





There was a large contingent of Yellow Jackets participating in the Holiday Run before the Christmas Parade. Mrs. Richards and Coach White even participated!





5K

Seth Snyder, 2nd ,

Garrett Reeves, 3rd in age division boys

Katy Fisher, 3rd in age division girls

10K

Jordan Williams, Keelee Walker, Brylee Sanford, Presley Richards, Maggie Suggs,

Mrs. Richards, Coach White

5K

Seth Snyder, Garrett Reeves, Mason Dorris, Katy Fisher, Zoe Clarkson,

Da'Vaizya Scharkley,

Audrey Burris, Bella McBroom, Madelynne Holman, Kevin Hake

RACE SERIES

FINISH

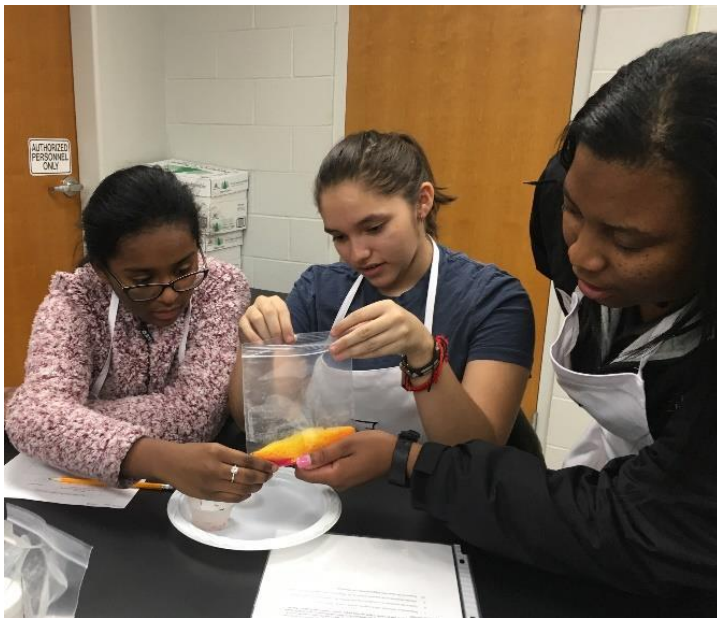


STEAM

SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | ARTS | MATHEMATICS



Thank you to our community partner Bath Fitter!
It was an honor to have Mrs. Brandi Leavell as a guest in the SMS STEAM Science Lab





Bruise Brother's Wrestling



MCAC tournament hosted by Greenbrier

The Bruise Brothers Beat Richview and lost to Fairview and Rossvie (lost to Rossvie by one match to put us out of the tournament)

But looked EPIC in their new uniforms!!!!

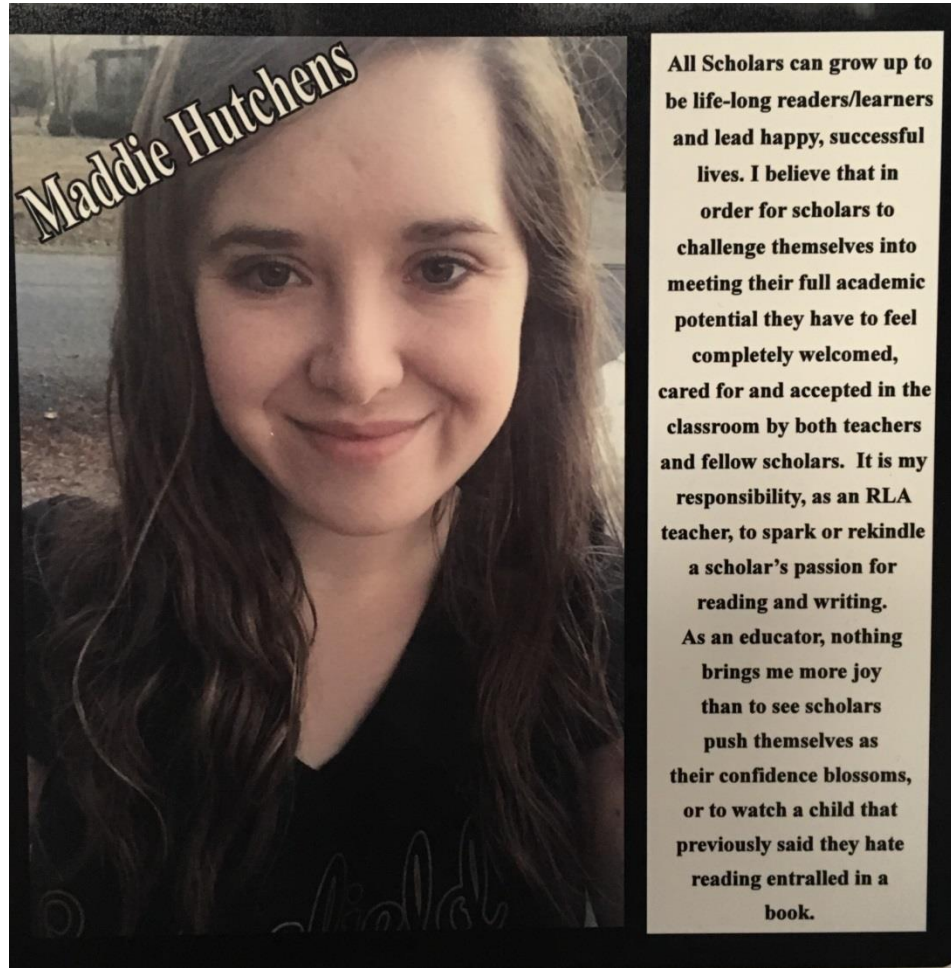
Yellow Jackets®





Teacher of the Month awards were presented last week for October. Mrs. Jill Hobby won the “Postman Award” for perfect attendance, and Ms. Becca Gregory was named “Teacher of the Month” by her colleagues. Each received \$50 gift cards to restaurants. Enjoy! You earned it!

Staff Member of the Week



Name: Maddie Hutchens

Grade : 6 Subject: RLA

Hometown: Franklin, TN

Family: Erin (Husband), Jolene (dog) and Ophelia (dog)

Education: I graduated from Union University with a double major in Elementary and Middle Grades Education and Learning Foundations with an emphasis in math.

How did your career lead you to Springfield Middle School?

When I was in college I planned to teach elementary school. However, when I was job hunting I was applying everywhere and ended up agreeing to interview for a job here at SMS. Before my interview even started I knew that this was the school for me! I spoke with Mrs. Proffitt and several other staff while I waited for my interview; everyone was so kind and welcoming. When I met Dr. Bell I immediately saw how passionate he was about creating an engaging, safe and caring environment where all scholars could succeed. I was absolutely thrilled when he called and offered me a job the next day. There is nowhere else in the world I rather be!

What do you love about our school and children?

Two words I would use to describe my scholars are: kind and creative! As a whole, my kids are so kind, caring and loyal to their friends. When one of them is feeling down, I frequently see their friends going to great lengths to uplift them and make sure that they have the support they need. My scholars also treat adults with kindness. There have been many times that my kids have shown kindness by giving me cards, pictures, hugs or just asking about my weekend—all these actions totally make my day every time! I am also amazed by the creativity of my scholars. They really challenge themselves to think outside the box, this makes for some entertaining, insightful written responses and discussions. There are quite a few scholars in my classes that have an incredible passion for art; their creations are so inspiring to me!

What is the most challenging aspect of your responsibilities?

Time! There is not enough of it! Teachers have way more responsibilities than most people realize. I spend time outside of the school day: organizing papers, supplies, and lesson materials; planning lessons; grading papers and tests; and contacting parents. It's common for teachers to spend their lunch or planning period in meetings or with scholars who need either extra help with classwork or emotional support. I do all these things with joy because it helps my scholars, but by the end of the week I am worn out!

Personal Philosophy of Education:

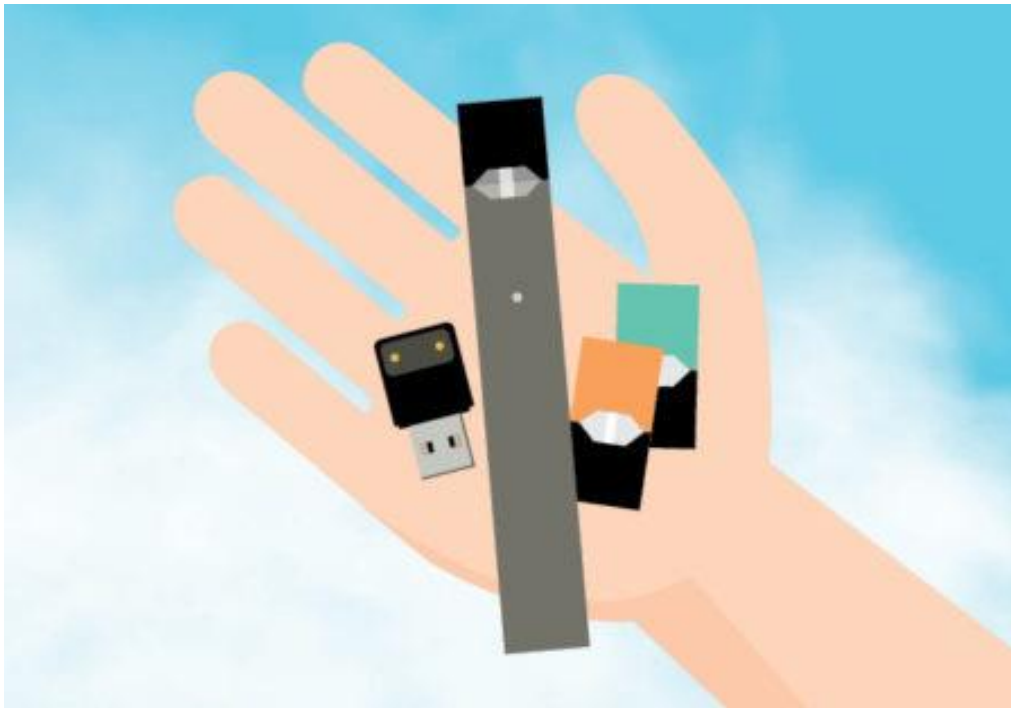
Teaching is so much more than merely delivering instruction like I first assumed! It is my goal to provide my scholars with a safe, welcoming environment where they are challenged every day. When the kids leave my class feeling proud of their accomplishments—so do I. It brings me so much joy to see scholars push themselves as their confidence grows. One of my favorite moments is watching a child that previously said they hate reading enthralled in a book.



healthessentials

Parents, Could Your Teens Be Juuling?

Sleek new e-cigarettes usher in an alarming trend among teens



It looks like a flash drive, and it plugs into a laptop's USB port like a flash drive – but it's not actually a flash drive. Really, it's the latest trend in electronic cigarettes, and it's causing a stir in schools across the country.

Juul is a sleek, black vaping pen that fits in the palm of your hand. Like other top-selling e-cigarettes on the market (including Vuse, Logic, Blu and MarkTen), it comes with little cartridges of "juice" that contain nicotine, fruity flavorings and other chemicals. The cartridges snap into the device, and the juice is heated up when a user inhales, creating a vapor that delivers a quick hit of nicotine — and the pleasant sensation that smoking cigarettes creates, explains pulmonologist Humberto Choi, MD.

But unlike other kinds of e-cigarettes, Juul and the newest class of devices are discreet enough that teenagers are using them in school bathrooms, hallways and even classrooms. They're small and easy to hide, and the fruity smelling smoke dissipates quickly. Not only has "juuling" become so popular that it's now a verb, but it's even inspired a series of social media hashtags.

Though the companies that make these products say they're intended to be used as alternatives for adult smokers over 21, teenagers are still getting their hands on them. In fact, use among teens is so rampant that the FDA has threatened to pull flavored e-cigarettes off the market if the industry doesn't take action to prevent it.

Whether or not you suspect your child may be participating or being pressured to, Dr. Choi suggests taking up the subject with your teenagers. "I think it's important to have the conversation anyway," he says. "Odds are they will come across a situation where someone is using e-cigarettes or they may be offered to use one."

Cause for concern

While there's been a significant drop in youth smoking over the last decade, the use of other tobacco products like e-cigarettes in this age group continues to climb. Youth are taking up e-cigarettes most often because family members or friends use them, or because the juice comes in appealing flavors like mint or fruit, according to a 2016 survey.

In that same survey, 17 percent of middle and high school-aged users also said they turned to e-cigarettes because of the belief that they are less harmful than other forms of tobacco, like cigarettes. But because there are not yet published studies on the long-term safety of e-cigarettes, health experts like Dr. Choi say caution is warranted.

"We know that in the short-term they can cause inflammation in the airways and in the lungs," he says. "It will take a while until we see the long-term consequences, but our expectation is that they can cause harm similar to smoking cigarettes."

Because of the attractive design and appealing flavors, young people may not understand that they're actually taking in high concentrations of nicotine (juices contain up to 5 percent nicotine), which is highly addictive and damaging to brain development.

Experts also worry that teens who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to start smoking tobacco.

Other ingredients

E-cigarettes don't contain tobacco or tar, but they do contain "many other chemicals that can be harmful, sometimes in combination," Dr. Choi says.

Propylene glycol, for example, is one ingredient. It's commonly used as a food additive and considered safe for ingestion, but it's not clear if it's safe to be inhaled for a prolonged period of time, he explains. "I think the point here is that we cannot consider the aerosols with these chemicals safe when inhaled."

Talk to your teen

Different people are attracted to e-cigarettes for different reasons, Dr. Choi says, so there's no one good way to bring up their potential dangers with your kids. But understanding what might motivate them to try, or talking through ways to respond to peer pressure can be a good start.

If you feel like you're not getting through, ask your doctor to discuss the dangers of smoking and e-cigarettes at your teen's next appointment.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics actually recommends that pediatricians screen families and counsel patients about the health risks of e-cigarettes," Dr. Choi says. "Unfortunately, the increase in the use of e-cigarettes among teenager is so concerning that we need to be more proactive."

Lagniappe



**THE
HISTORY
CHANNEL.**
History.com

History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving 2018 occurs on Thursday, November 22. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

Thanksgiving at Plymouth

In September 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers—an assortment of religious separatists seeking a new home where they could freely practice their faith and other individuals lured by the promise of prosperity and land ownership in the New World. After a treacherous and uncomfortable crossing that lasted 66 days, they dropped anchor near the tip of Cape Cod, far north of their intended destination at the mouth of the Hudson River. One month later, the Mayflower crossed **Massachusetts** Bay, where the Pilgrims, as they are now commonly known, began the work of establishing a village at Plymouth.

Did you know? Lobster, seal and swans were on the Pilgrims' menu.

Throughout that first brutal winter, most of the colonists remained on board the ship, where they suffered from exposure, scurvy and outbreaks of contagious disease. Only half of the Mayflower's original passengers and crew lived to see their first New England spring. In March, the remaining settlers moved ashore, where they received an astonishing visit from an Abenaki Indian who greeted them in English. Several days later, he returned with another Native American, Squanto, a member of the Pawtuxet tribe who had been kidnapped by an English sea captain and sold into slavery before escaping to London and returning to his homeland on an exploratory expedition. Squanto taught the Pilgrims, weakened by malnutrition and illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with the Wampanoag, a local tribe, which would endure for more than 50 years and tragically remains one of the sole examples of harmony between European colonists and Native Americans.

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest proved successful, Governor **William Bradford** organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of the fledgling colony's Native American allies, including the Wampanoag chief Massasoit. Now remembered as America's "first Thanksgiving"—although the Pilgrims themselves may not have used the term at the time—the festival lasted for three days. While no record exists of the historic banquet's exact menu, the Pilgrim chronicler Edward Winslow wrote in his journal that Governor Bradford sent four men on a "fowling" mission in preparation for the event, and that the Wampanoag guests arrived bearing five deer. Historians have suggested that many of the dishes were likely prepared using traditional Native American spices and cooking methods. Because the Pilgrims had no oven and the Mayflower's sugar supply had dwindled by the fall of 1621, the meal did not feature pies, cakes or other desserts, which have become a hallmark of contemporary celebrations.



Thanksgiving Becomes an Official Holiday

Pilgrims held their second Thanksgiving celebration in 1623 to mark the end of a long drought that had threatened the year's harvest and prompted Governor Bradford to call for a religious fast. Days of fasting and thanksgiving on an annual or occasional basis became common practice in other New England settlements as well. During the **American Revolution**, the Continental Congress designated one or more days of thanksgiving a year, and in 1789 **George Washington** issued the first Thanksgiving proclamation by the national government of the United States; in it, he called upon Americans to express their gratitude for the happy conclusion to the country's war of independence and the successful ratification of the U.S. **Constitution**. His successors **John Adams** and **James Madison** also designated days of thanks during their presidencies.

In 1817, **New York** became the first of several states to officially adopt an annual Thanksgiving holiday; each celebrated it on a different day, however, and the American South remained largely unfamiliar with the tradition. In 1827, the noted magazine editor and prolific writer Sarah Josepha Hale—author, among countless other things, of the nursery rhyme “Mary Had a Little Lamb”—launched a campaign to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday. For 36 years, she published numerous editorials and sent scores of letters to governors, senators, presidents and other politicians. **Abraham Lincoln** finally heeded her request in 1863, at the height of the **Civil War**, in a proclamation entreating all Americans to ask God to “commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife” and to “heal the wounds of the nation.” He scheduled Thanksgiving for the final Thursday in November, and it was celebrated on that day every year until 1939, when **Franklin D. Roosevelt** moved the holiday up a week in an attempt to spur retail sales during the **Great Depression**. Roosevelt's plan, known derisively as Franksgiving, was met with passionate opposition, and in 1941 the president reluctantly signed a bill making Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November.

Thanksgiving Traditions

In many American households, the Thanksgiving celebration has lost much of its original religious significance; instead, it now centers on cooking and sharing a bountiful meal with family and friends. Turkey, a Thanksgiving staple so ubiquitous it has become all but synonymous with the holiday, may or may not have been on offer when the Pilgrims hosted the inaugural feast in 1621. Today, however, nearly 90 percent of Americans eat the bird—whether roasted, baked or deep-fried—on Thanksgiving, according to the National Turkey Federation. Other traditional foods

include stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. Volunteering is a common Thanksgiving Day activity, and communities often hold food drives and host free dinners for the less fortunate.

Parades have also become an integral part of the holiday in cities and towns across the United States. Presented by Macy's department store since 1924, New York City's Thanksgiving Day parade is the largest and most famous, attracting some 2 to 3 million spectators along its 2.5-mile route and drawing an enormous television audience. It typically features marching bands, performers, elaborate floats conveying various celebrities and giant balloons shaped like cartoon characters.

Beginning in the mid-20th century and perhaps even earlier, the president of the United States has "pardoned" one or two Thanksgiving turkeys each year, sparing the birds from slaughter and sending them to a farm for retirement. A number of U.S. governors also perform the annual turkey pardoning ritual.

Thanksgiving Controversies

For some scholars, the jury is still out on whether the feast at Plymouth really constituted the first Thanksgiving in the United States. Indeed, historians have recorded other ceremonies of thanks among European settlers in North America that predate the Pilgrims' celebration. In 1565, for instance, the Spanish explorer Pedro Menéndez de Avilé invited members of the local Timucua tribe to a dinner in St. Augustine, **Florida**, after holding a mass to thank God for his crew's safe arrival. On December 4, 1619, when 38 British settlers reached a site known as Berkeley Hundred on the banks of Virginia's James River, they read a proclamation designating the date as "a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God."

Some Native Americans and others take issue with how the Thanksgiving story is presented to the American public, and especially to schoolchildren. In their view, the traditional narrative paints a deceptively sunny portrait of relations between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag people, masking the long and bloody history of conflict between Native Americans and European settlers that resulted in the deaths of millions. Since 1970, protesters have gathered on the day designated as Thanksgiving at the top of Cole's Hill, which overlooks Plymouth Rock, to commemorate a "National Day of Mourning." Similar events are held in other parts of the country.

Thanksgiving's Ancient Origins

Although the American concept of Thanksgiving developed in the colonies of New England, its roots can be traced back to the other side of the Atlantic. Both the Separatists who came over on the Mayflower and the Puritans who arrived soon after brought with them a tradition of providential holidays—days of fasting during difficult or pivotal moments and days of feasting and celebration to thank God in times of plenty.

As an annual celebration of the harvest and its bounty, moreover, Thanksgiving falls under a category of festivals that spans cultures, continents and millennia. In ancient times, the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans feasted and paid tribute to their gods after the fall harvest. Thanksgiving also bears a resemblance to the ancient Jewish harvest festival of Sukkot. Finally, historians have noted that Native Americans had a rich tradition of commemorating the fall harvest with feasting and merrymaking long before Europeans set foot on their shores.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION The Robertson County School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion or marital status, in training, activities or employment practices in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Acts of 1997 and 2004.