



NHCS WAVES

WONDERFUL ASPIRING VALUED EMPLOYEE SERVICE

Board of Education presents new Heroes Award

The newly created Heroes Award will be presented by the Board periodically to New Hanover County Schools' employees and students who have committed heroic acts. Recipients of the award will meet established criteria and their acts will be verified for authenticity. The Board is very proud of the award and looks forward to acknowledging the district's heroes.

Visit the NHCS Public Relations page for more details and for the Heroes Award nomination form.



Devin Mercer, NHHS student, accepting his Heroes Award. Devin's quick response to a distressed swimmer helped save a life. Also pictured with Devin are his family and NHCS Board of Education Chairman Don Hayes.

Below: Parsley staff members receive their Heroes Award for acting quickly as a team to save the life of a student's grandparent. With Chairman Hayes are Frankie Mincey, Sarah Marion, Elizabeth Weir, Sophia Smith, Lindsay Farland, Arlene Suggs, Kris Boberg, Tim Winstead, and Principal Robin Hamilton.



2013 NHCS United Way Campaign

The 2013 United Way of the Cape Fear Area Campaign kicked off at Airlie Gardens. Several NHCS staff members were in attendance to the sponsored event.

Click [here](#) to see the United Way Campaign Coordinator for your school. Some important dates to remember are:

- Oct. 7: United Way Awareness month begins
- Nov. 1: Campaign begins
- Nov. 15: Last day of campaign



Mr. and Mrs. David Greenwood, administrators at College Park and Forest Hills Elementaries

OCTOBER EVENTS

October is Bullying Prevention Month. In November, tune in for a special episode of *Diversity Matters* on NHCS-TV.

October 5
U.N. World Teacher's Day
October 14-18
Earth Science Week

October 15th
Hispanic Resource Fair,
Bradley Creek Elementary,
6 - 8 pm

October 21-25
School Bus Safety Week
October 31
Annual enrollment deadline
for State Health Plan

Sandra Cecelski Wins Prestigious Award



Cecelski and her student crew during a 2013 summer enrichment program

Sandra Cecelski, Ashley High School's Marine Science Academy instructor and coordinator, was named "Outstanding Environmental Educator" by the North Carolina Coastal Federation and has received the 2013 Pelican Award for her exceptional dedication to and leadership in coastal environmental education.

She is one of only 24 educators in the U.S. and Canada to be selected for the American Meteorological Society/U.S. Naval Academy's 2013 Maury Project, and she will be offering Maury Project

training modules to NHCS teachers. (If you are interested in the modules, you may contact Sandra directly at 790-2360, ext. 119.) She will also be teaching a Maury Project course at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington through the Watson School of Education.

Sandra helped launch "Students Restoring Community Creeks," a program designed to engage 9th-grade Earth/Environmental Science students in service learning projects that focus on the health of their community waterways.

Askew Named NHCS Director of Special Education

Julie Askew is the district's new director of Special Education. Ms. Askew was the director for the Exceptional Children and Student Support programs in Pender County Schools.

Previously, she was the director for Safe Schools Healthy Students, assistant principal at Heide Trask Middle School, coordinator for Safe Schools/Discipline Supports, Behavior Support lead teacher and coach with Pender County Schools. She has also taught with Craven County Schools and New Hanover County Schools.

Ms. Askew received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Special Education-Behavior Disorders and a Master's degree in School Administration from the University of North Carolina Wilmington.



Back to School Video

You can check out the 2013-2014 "Back to School" video, produced by the Public Relations Department, on [YouTube](#) or simply follow the link at the top of the Employee page on the NHCS website.



Bradley Creek Elementary will hold its annual Hispanic Resource Fair on October 15 from 6 pm - 8 pm

- Hispanics are a mix of European, African and Native American people.
- "Hispanic" and "Latino" tend to be used interchangeably in the U.S. for people with origins in Spanish- or Portuguese-speaking countries, like Mexico, Costa Rica, and Brazil. Contrary to many beliefs, Hispanic is not a race, but an ethnicity.
- Compared with non-Hispanics, cancer rates among Hispanics are lower overall and lower for the major sites — lung, breast, prostate, and colorectal.
- The Hispanic family is a close-knit group and the most important social unit, usually extending beyond the nuclear family.
- 1.1 million Latinos 18 and older are veterans of the U.S. armed forces.
- Both St. Augustine, Florida, and Sante Fe, New Mexico, are Hispanic cities that predate Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Source: Facts found at <http://www.gru.edu>



Dr. Rick Holliday Named NHCS Deputy Superintendent



Dr. Rick Holliday, a 31-year veteran of New Hanover County Schools, has been named Deputy Superintendent. He will continue to oversee Student Support Services, but his duties have been expanded to include the supervision of the new in-house Legal Counsel, as well as Public Information, Exceptional Children, Safety, and non-traditional schools. With this promotion, Dr. Holliday

becomes the district's first Deputy Superintendent since 2003.

Dr. Holliday is known throughout NHCS for his strong work ethic and for his knowledge of the district and school law. Many principals have said because of his years of experience as a principal, Dr. Holliday is an invaluable asset to the district.

"I look forward to working with everyone in this new role. My focus remains to keep the district moving forward with high expectations for all," Dr. Holliday said.

Dr. Holliday was well prepared for his new position as he climbed the ranks in the district. He began working for NHCS in 1982 as a teacher and coach at Laney High School. In 1988, he became an assistant principal at Laney. He was appointed to his first principalship in 1995 at the former Lakeside High School.

From 1996-1998, Dr. Holliday served as principal of Williston Middle School, and in 1998, he was named principal of Laney High School, where he worked for 17 years. Dr. Holliday is a former college football player and avid football fan. He is widely known for his devotion to the Laney Buccaneers and to his alma mater, East Carolina University. In the fall of 2005, Laney's football stadium was named in honor of Dr. Holliday. After his stint at Laney, he was named Executive Director of Instructional Services in 2004. He served in Instructional Services until 2007, when he was promoted to his most recent role as the Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services.

Dr. Holliday holds a Doctor of Education degree from Nova Southeastern University, a Masters of Education degree from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and a Bachelor of Science degree from ECU. He and his wife Laura have two adult daughters and a new grandson.

Congratulations Dr. Holliday!



DON'T FORGET!

Annual enrollment for the State Health Plan ends October 31, 2013.

We ♥ NHCS



The Career and Tech. Ed. teachers from Ashley won the 2013-14 Instructional Management Excellence Trophy for having the highest student growth rate on state end-of-course tests.



Brita Clarkson of Williston won this school year's first WWAY-TV3 Teacher of the Week.



To encourage families to join the Codington PTA, Principal Eric Pfirman and Asst. Principal Lauren Kefalonitis offered a water balloon event to any class that achieved 100% membership. After the results were in, six successful classrooms were able to show off their marksmanship!



Making WAVES

Tell us what you think.

We would like to hear your opinion. Your responses will be included in this section of the next issue of WAVES.

Have your say in our opinion poll:

What stories would you like to see featured in future editions of WAVES?

Email your suggestions to heather.miller@nhcs.net. Your name will be included with your response unless otherwise requested. And thanks for taking the time to share your input!



RIGHT: Blair students participated in the nationwide "I WILL" campaign to honor victims and heroes of the 9/11/2001 tragedy.



BELOW: Bradley Creek, College Park, and Pine Valley Elementary Schools were recognized at the October Board of Education meeting for the State designation of Title I Reward Schools. Congratulations to Principals Jayne Kiker, Maria Greene and Rebecca Higgins-Opgrand (pictured with Chairman Don Hayes) and their staff for this prestigious award! This is College Park Elementary School's second year receiving this recognition.



Hoggard's Scott Braswell and the athletics departments have been on a winning streak. Vikings coaches and Player of the Game Devyn Bond receive a plaque and trophy for winning the "Border Clash of the States" game.

THIS & THAT

Each WAVES edition includes an employee classifieds page, *This & That*. Employees may submit ads for items (for sale/for rent/wanted) or to promote a service. No commercial advertising will be included. All ads should be submitted in writing by the fourth Wednesday of each month to Heather Miller via fax: 910-254-4477 or email: heather.miller@nhcs.net.

FOR SALE: Brand-new, still-in-the-box Singer Sewing Machine for sewing leather, canvas, denim, and regular-weight fabrics; comes with both standard and value-added attachments. This machine was purchased for over \$500, asking for \$400. Contact John Potter in the Technology Department at 910-231-4798 or email him at john.potter@nhcs.net.

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NHCS WAVES is published by the Public Relations Department of New Hanover County Schools. News items should be submitted to the department via Heather Miller (heather.miller@nhcs.net).

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