

When you talk with Marguerite, you instantly sense that she is excited to be working with New Hanover County Schools. Her daily work includes supporting faculty and staff, helping students develop and grow academically, and assisting the principal in administration of the school. She works closely with the families of students, helping them to be active participants in their child's academic life. In Marguerite's opinion, New Hanover County Schools and the local community offer a diverse and innovative environment for education, using their resources to support new and cutting-edge ways to teach.

Appreciation and Respect

Minority educators are in great demand in our community, so you are valued at a different level. You will notice that parents are respectful and appreciate what you do. You will receive support and feedback that, in an urban city, you may not receive. You will see that students, parents and your fellow educators value your presence; you will see that they value your contribution to their schools and to the community.

Perfect Place to Call Home

Wilmington offers a great quality of living. Marguerite believes it's a great place to call home. "It's a town that's just the right size; it's not too small, it's not too large. You can choose to live in the heart of downtown Wilmington, or, if you want a quieter lifestyle, you can live out in the country." The beach is minutes away; there is plenty of shopping and dining for all tastes. For a weekend getaway, Atlanta, Charlotte and Washington D.C. are close by. Raleigh, Myrtle Beach and Charleston are a quick drive away. New Hanover County offers a range of cultural, civic and religious options to suit all tastes.

It's a town that's just the right size; it's not too small, it's not too large.

Marguerite Yang Martin

As principal of Sunset Park Elementary, LaChawn Smith works tirelessly as an advocate for her school. By day, she supports her teachers and students by maintaining a supportive and empowering environment for working and learning. By night, she pursues a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration at the Watson School of Education at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW).

Freedom for Academic Exploration

New Hanover County Schools supports the pursuit of specialized interests. Teachers and administrators are encouraged to expand their areas of academic expertise and, in turn, help the school system grow in those areas. LaChawn shines as an example of this support. While employed with NHCS, she has pursued advanced studies in Global Education, preparing students for the challenges that face them in the 21st century. LaChawn sees the worldwide classroom as an example for her teachers, and is looking to ensure her students will be competitive in the global community. Her interest is gaining ground in the school system, with one notable achievement being a successful exchange program with students from France.

Mutual Support

One of the benefits of working in a school system like New Hanover County is the support educators receive. "I think you're probably going to find a lot more support in New Hanover County than you would in some other districts," LaChawn says. As one example of this support, North Carolina's unique mentor program allows districts to tailor the program to their own needs. New Hanover County directs a generous portion of its funding to the support of new teachers.

I think you're going to find a lot more support in New Hanover County than you would in some other districts.

LaChawn Smith

Maria is devoted to assisting non-native English speaking students and their parents. For over six years, she has worked throughout the New Hanover County school system to ensure that academic requirements are satisfied. She interprets and translates for non-English speakers, oversees parent training, and makes sure students are prepared for ESL enrollment. A New Hanover County resident for 20 years, Maria sees her job as a way to give back to the community. The caring faculty and staff support her efforts, which in turn energizes her to continue working with zeal. "I have a passion for what I do!"

More Than Students

The challenges of working in a vibrant multi-cultural community such as New Hanover County bring great rewards. You will have the chance to connect on a deep level with your children and their families. As a minority educator, you will be especially appreciated as a welcome addition to the growing diversity found here. As Maria can tell you, the return for making a positive impact in a child's life sometimes comes unexpectedly: "I've had parents come up to me in the grocery store and give me a hug." New Hanover County Schools provides the resources to positively impact hundreds of lives throughout your career.

They Need Role Models

"It's encouraging for students to see teachers of the same race," says Maria. In New Hanover County, there is a strong need for minority educators to make a difference in a child's life as role models and leaders. With a growing Latino and Asian population, and a significant African American population, New Hanover County provides teachers a diverse classroom environment. You serve to impart to children of all races the ability to live and grow and work in an increasingly connected global community.

It's encouraging for students to see teachers of the same race.

Maria Ocasio Black

LAUNCH

your career in an environment with the challenges, the resources and the support to promote your success

LIVE

and work in a caring, vibrant community with a high quality of living and a small-town atmosphere

LAUNCH Your Career



LIVE in a Great Community



INSPIRE

a growing, culturally diverse student body to achieve their dreams

DISCOVER

the career-advancing possibilities that we offer

INSPIRE Your Students



DISCOVER Your Future



New Hanover County Schools
WILMINGTON, NC
910.254.4200 | WWW.NHCS.NET

New Hanover County Schools
WILMINGTON, NC



Your Students

Subject: Maria Ocasio Black
Hometown: Bayamon, Puerto Rico
ESL Lead Liaison/Hispanic Services

“New Hanover County Schools offers me the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the students and families I serve.”



Your Career

Subject: LaChawn Smith
Hometown: East Arcadia, NC
Principal, Sunset Park Elementary
New Hanover County Schools' Principal of the Year, 2008

“Education is one of the most noble professions out there. The difference educators make in the lives of children is truly immeasurable.”



Your Community

Subject: Marguerite Yang Martin
Hometown: Syracuse, NY
Assistant Principal, Ogden Elementary

“New Hanover County Schools are ahead of the game – on the cutting edge of education.”



Your Future

Subject: Mark Tracy
Hometown: Youngstown, OH
Principal, Alderman Elementary

“New Hanover County Schools give you an opportunity with a tremendous amount of support and resources to develop and hone your craft.”

Mark Tracy is excited about the career possibilities New Hanover County Schools offers his teachers and administrative staff. He believes New Hanover County is a school system that presents educators with upward mobility and the chance to become more skillful in the teaching craft. Here, you are not an anonymous face to administrators. In our mid-size school system, most administrators are on a first-name basis. “There truly is a small town feel to the system,” he says. This relatively small size creates an environment for growth and advancement.

Upward Mobility

If you're looking to move into positions of greater responsibility, or looking to become a nationally board-certified or tenured teacher, your journey will be shorter with New Hanover County Schools. Here, you have the opportunity to shine — and you will be noticed. Mark worked in large metropolitan school systems before coming to Wilmington. “I can tell you, there are more opportunities for upward mobility in this system than in those larger systems. That, in the long run, will have a greater impact on your earning potential.”

Greater Earning Potential

By seriously considering New Hanover County Schools, you are looking at moving through your career path much faster than in larger systems, where you are practically anonymous. The faster you rise, the higher you are paid when you retire. According to Mark, “Your pension is based on the average of your last few years, and if you have the opportunity to move up into different levels of administration at a younger age, and have a longer earning potential at that rate, there is a potential for earning more than in a larger system, because in those systems, the opportunities to move up are limited.”

There are more opportunities for upward mobility in this system.
Mark Tracy