



Featuring  
**COLUMBUS COUNTY**  
and  
**WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS**

*A Supplement to The News Reporter*



# New superintendents report to work

By Diana Matthews  
dianamatthews@nrcolumbus.com

what the community has to say.”  
The Whiteville City Board

job, he said. “It’s a community that cares greatly about the schools,” he said, and he

ously served as assistant superintendent of Brunswick County Schools and taught

ate priorities.

Before school begins, said Meadows, she plans to confer with county principals to set mutual goals for continued improvement, and she wants to build relationships with other community members to provide a strong, supportive environment for all students.

“We really want to have a great start to the school year,” she said.

She praised the collaborative spirit she had observed already. “So far everybody that I’ve met is just excellent,” said Meadows. “They just have a desire to have excellent schools in Columbus County...I haven’t met a person yet who didn’t want that to happen.”

She said she looks forward to becoming acquainted with Whichard as soon as their busy schedules allow: “He and I both probably are a little swamped right now, just trying to get to know everybody within our own school systems,” she said, “but we will absolutely get together and get to know each other.”

In their first days on the job, new Columbus County Schools Superintendent Deanne Meadows and Whiteville City Schools Superintendent Marc Whichard both expressed a desire to become well acquainted with their school systems’ teachers, principals and board members so they can collaborate to achieve quality education for students. Meadows and Whichard, who both started in their new roles July 1, also said they look forward to hearing the concerns and ideas of community members.

Both new executives are veteran teachers, coaches and administrators with doctorates in education. *The News Reporter* caught up with both leaders during their first busy week on the job.

In a short interview while moving in at his new office, Whichard named filling teaching vacancies as his top priority during his first weeks in Whiteville. Whichard hoped to obtain “high quality talent” to complement Whiteville City Schools’ already “strong instructional staff,” he said.

“The earlier in the summer months you can fill vacancies,” he said, “typically, the higher quality candidates we’re able to find.”

Meanwhile, he said he would be making himself “as visible as possible” in the area, “introducing myself and listening, hearing

of Education introduced Whichard as their unanimous choice for superintendent at a public meeting and reception June 3.

Whichard left a position as associate superintendent and athletic director of Edgecombe County Schools to lead Whiteville’s 2,215 students in five schools.

During his nearly 21 years in education, Whichard has taught English and history and for a time was Edgecombe County’s lead principal, providing assistance to less experienced administrators. The Tarboro-based Edgecombe County system has 5,853 students in 14 schools, including four high schools. (All student number statistics are from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction website, [ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com](http://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com).)

Whiteville’s small-town warmth and tradition of academic and athletic achievement were factors that attracted Whichard to the WCS

found that atmosphere “very inspiring.”

Whichard said he looked forward to getting to know Meadows and other county educators, and generally “becoming part of the fabric” of the community.

The Columbus County Board of Education voted unanimously June 10 to make Meadows head of the 5,598-student school system. She previ-

her new duties.

“Student performance has to be most important,” Meadows said when asked about her highest immedi-



**Clerk of Courts Jess Hill administers the oath to new Columbus County Schools Superintendent Deanne Meadows while Assistant Superintendent Jonathan Williams holds the Bible.**



**Clerk of Courts Jess Hill swears in Marc Whichard as Whiteville City Schools superintendent, with sons Davis and Jackson and wife Courtney Whichard looking on.**



# WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS



Board of Education  
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Rev. Dave Flowers  
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107 West Walter Street  
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472  
Telephone: 910.642-4116 Fax: 910.642-0564  
[www.whiteville.k12.nc.us](http://www.whiteville.k12.nc.us)

Marc A. Whichard, EdD  
*Superintendent*

"EVERYONE COMMITTED TO THE SUCCESS OF ALL STUDENTS"

July 31, 2019

Dear Parents, Students, and members of the Whiteville Community:

It is a pleasure to serve as the Superintendent of the Whiteville City Schools. Whiteville has a long history of outstanding academic and athletic success. It is my sincere desire to enhance the opportunities for our students and to ensure that every child, every day, has a rigorous academic program of integrity. In each of our practices in Whiteville City Schools, we will strive to accomplish success for the individual student through:

- (1) Clean Schools, Facilities, and Grounds;
- (2) Safe, Orderly, Caring and Nurturing Learning Environments;
- (3) Efficient Processes and Procedures;
- (4) Rules and Procedures Governing Operations;
- (5) Use of Data that Informs, Guides, and Directs our Instructional Practices;
- (6) Competitive Environment for School Performance;
- (7) Community Engagement, Outreach, and Involvement, and;
- (8) Respect for our Family of Educators

As a servant leader for our educational community, I will work to ensure that we earn the trust of our citizens. Whiteville City Schools will be the system of choice for our community, as we provide a caring, nurturing, high quality education.

I plan to be highly visible and accessible to our entire community, whether at sporting events, general school events, in classrooms, or just out in the community. Please feel free to call, email, or just stop by to chat . . . my door will always be open to you.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Whichard, EdD  
Superintendent



Marc A. Whichard, EdD  
Superintendent





**Deanne Meadows**  
**Superintendent**

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year with Columbus County Schools! I am extremely excited about this school year and the wonderful educational experiences our children will encounter in each of our schools. My 28 years in education began in the classroom teaching high school math then followed a path into school administration as a high school principal and my most recent ventures included leading the curriculum and instruction as well as human resources for a neighboring school district. These experiences provide me a lens to view our school district with a judicious eye for excellence. With this lens, I can assure that as our children walk through the doors of the school, they will see the results of the hard work from our custodians, principals and other staff who spent countless hours making each school clean, inviting and truly educational. In the three weeks that I've been the superintendent, I have met excellent educators and dedicated staff members which has spark my enthusiasm for this school year. As each educator strives to support every student to reach their fullest potential, we also want to connect with parents as they assist us with this goal.

The education of children is our most important responsibility as a community. Even though we have excellent people in place in our schools, we still need the collaboration with the parents, community members, and businesses to be able to truly provide exceptional experiences for students. If you have some time and would love to volunteer in a school, please reach out to the school near you. If you see a child in your community and you have a chance to let them read to you or you read to them, please take that opportunity to connect. If you have children in your family, talk to them about what they are learning in school to help us keep kids focused on what's most important, which is their education. As you meet children at the grocery store, ball field, church, community events, family gatherings or in a school, promote the importance of learning each day and ultimately, obtaining a high school diploma. We know that children will replicate what we model, so they need to see us reading and writing, speaking positive about education, talking with others in a respectful manner, and living each day as a responsible and productive citizen.

We also want students to have a variety of opportunities, so we hope they will become engaged in sports, fine arts, clubs, student government, and of course taking time to study and read. As students become more involved within school, they will have an easier time as they look to their future and decide what type of career they would choose. We hope parents and community members will be involved with our schools by volunteering and attending sporting events and fine arts' performances. When you attend these activities and events, please reach out to me as I want to connect with the parents and community as we work together to make this school year; the best year ever for our students!

Deanne Meadows, Superintendent  
deannemeadows@columbus.k12.nc.us  
910-642-5168 x 24049

# Open House schedules

## August 8, 2019

### City schools

Whiteville Primary from 3-5 p.m.  
Edgewood Elementary from 4-6 p.m.  
Central Middle from 3-6 p.m.  
Whiteville High from 1-6 p.m.  
North Whiteville Academy from 1-3 p.m.

### County schools

Acme-Delco Elementary from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Acme-Delco Middle (6th grade) from 5-6 p.m.  
Acme-Delco Middle (7th and 8th grades) from 6-7:30 p.m.  
Cerro Gordo Elementary (Pre K-3rd) from 3-6 p.m.  
Cerro Gordo Elementary (4th-8th grades at West Columbus High School) from 3-6 p.m.  
Chadbourn Elementary from 5-7 p.m.  
East Columbus High from 6-8 p.m.  
Evergreen Elementary from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Guideway Elementary from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Hallsboro-Artesia Elementary from 5:30-7 p.m.  
Hallsboro Middle (6th grade) from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Hallsboro Middle (6th and 8th grades) from 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Nakina Middle (6th grade) from 5-6:30 p.m.  
Hallsboro Middle (7th and 8th grades) from 6:30-until  
Old Dock Elementary from 4-6 p.m.  
South Columbus High (9th grade only) from 4-6 p.m.  
Tabor City Elementary (Pre K-2nd grade) from 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Tabor City Elementary (3rd-5th grades at Tabor City Middle) from 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Tabor City Middle from 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
West Columbus High from 6:30-until  
Williams Township from 4-6 p.m.

## Kaleidoscope Kidz

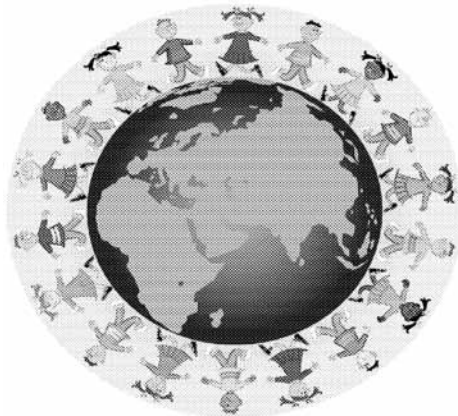
*"Parents Always Welcome"*

— FALL SPECIAL —

Free Registration for the month of September

*"Thank you to all the children who enrich our lives."*

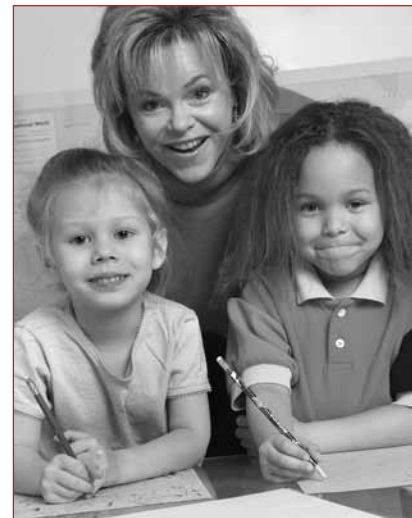
- Ages 6 Weeks to 12 Years
- Creative Curriculum
- Nutritious Meals & Snacks
- Top Notch Preschool Class
- Experienced, Caring Staff
- ★★★★★ 5 Star Licensed Center



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Gwen Sanderson, Owner/Director  
Linda Singletary, Assistant Director  
**640-2544**

## Plant the seeds and watch them grow.



*We salute the parents, teachers, administrators and other school personnel who work together to plant the seeds that will grow into our leaders of tomorrow. They work tirelessly to ensure that the future will be bright for our greatest resource . . . our children.*



## D.D. Cox Agency, Inc.

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• *Charlie Gore, Office Representative • Cheryl L. McRae, Office Representative*  
Equal Opportunity Provider



## Whiteville Primary

Dear parents and students:

*"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."* Harriet Tubman.

On behalf of the Whiteville Primary School family, it is truly a joy and an honor to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year. As I begin my fourth year as principal at WPS, I will work diligently with our children, community, staff and families to provide exceptional experiences for all children. Our children deserve the very best education. The staff is excited to hear the sounds of laughter and learning in their classrooms and the buildings.

We desire the best for every child, and we look forward to partnering with you to help our children be their best. Success isn't accidental. It is the result of a focused team effort and everyone has a part to play if we are to achieve our goals and reach our potential. Students...come to school expecting to learn and willing to work hard. Our staff will provide the quality instruction that you deserve and that your parents expect. Parents...encourage your children often and have regular conversations with them about school and their work. Parental involvement shows children that school is important and that you are committed to their success. I encourage you to volunteer your time and abilities, visit often and communicate regularly with your child's teacher. Together, we can accomplish great things.

Kimberly L. Ward,  
Principal



The Whiteville Primary School PTA recently raised funds to purchase a new electronic sign to replace the previous one that was beyond repair.

# Accepting New Students!



## Ask about NC Scholarship Program

- Computer and Science Labs
- Small Classrooms
- New Art/elective Lab
- Christian Bible Classes
- Band/Choral/Music Program
- High test scores
- Great leadership program
- Christ centered curriculum
- Children are college prepared
- High SAT scores resulting in great scholarship offers

Space still available  
in 1st - 8th grades  
Call 640-0855 for  
Tour/Application



## Carolina Adventist Academy

3710 James B White Hwy S, Whiteville, NC • 910-640-0855 1 mile past Walmart on 701



# Edgewood Elementary

Dear Parents and Family Members.

I am honored and excited to begin my second year as Principal of Edgewood Elementary School! Our school has a wonderful staff and a great record of providing strong academic and extracurricular opportunities for our students.

Here are some highlights of the great things Edgewood has to offer your child:

- High Academic Achievement: All Teachers & Grade levels Meeting or Exceeding Growth
- Dedicated, Highly-Qualified Teachers Committed to your Children and our School
- 1:1 Technology Program (Each student has their own Chromebook or iPad to use as part of their daily instruction. )
- Daily Encore Classes: Music. PE. Art. Music. Character Education. Technology Skills. and Media
- After School Programming: 21 st Century Tutoring, Chorus Club, Junior FFA. STRIDE. Girls on the Run, Science Olympiad. etc.
- Daily Access to School library and School-Wide Reading Incentive Programs (Read Across NC, Read Across America, etc.)
- Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) Program with Daily Parent Communication through Class Dojo App
- Quarterly Student Success Award Programs
- Partnership with & Walking Field Trips to the NC Museum of Science at Whiteville
- Comprehensive Academically & Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Program
- Student Leadership Opportunities (Leadership Camp. Student Ambassadors. etc.)
- Full-time Nurse, School Counselor and Variety of Student Support Staff

It is extremely important to me that all students feel safe and supported in their school environment so they can grow as students and as young ladies and men. The Edgewood teachers. staff. and I will be working closely with you this year to challenge and inspire your child to achieve their goals, and we will be cheering just as loudly as you when they make progress! Please contact your child's teacher or myself any time you have a question or concern so we can work together to make this a great year for each of our students.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a positive difference in the life of your child.

**Rachel Smith**  
*Principal*

Edgewood Elementary School  
rsmith@whiteville.k12.nc.us  
910-642-3121



Edgewood Elementary School Chorus performs for Whiteville Primary School students in the multipurpose room.



NC Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville helps co-sponsor the Watson the Whale event at Edgewood Elementary.



Laney Bass at Watson the Whale night at Edgewood Elementary.

## Enchanting Tree Learning Center

**After school dropoff  
from  
Whiteville City Schools  
Old Dock Elementary**



**Free Registration  
for the  
Month of August!**

**Now offering  
3 Day  
Programs**

- Age 6 weeks through 12 years of age
- Clean Facility
- Nutritious Meals
- Experienced Staff
- Engaging Activities • Affordable Rates

Reserve a space for  
your child Today  
and feel confident in  
knowing they are in  
the Best of Hands!

References available.

1779 New Britton Hwy East,  
Whiteville, N.C.

**642-5319**



## Central Middle

### Hornets PBIS Mission Statement

We are ... **H**onorable and **O**utstanding when we are **R**esponsible, prepared, self-disciplined; Never giving up and putting forth our best **E**ffort Towards **S**uccess!

A Message from Administration

Dear Parents and Students,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Central Middle School, I would like to welcome you to the best middle school in the nation! I am elated to have the opportunity to lead such a great school.

We are very excited about having you as a member of our student body. We hope that you are excited about the 2019-2020 school year as well. With hard work, determination, and dedication from you, and our staff, Central Middle School will continue to be one of the best middle schools in the public school system.

Along with the teachers and staff, I will work hard to continue the legacy of success established by Central Middle School by building strong relationships with parents, students and community partners. We will focus on character education initiatives, Common Core standards, the use of data to drive instruction, and providing consistent implementation of the curriculum in a rigorous manner so that we can continue to increase student achievement. The faculty and staff have been busy preparing the school and classrooms for an exciting year of learning and growth. Student success is the goal of every staff member at Central Middle School. We are prepared to offer time and support as needed.

Central Middle School's instructional program will be far more effective with your active participation. I ask for your support and participation in this effort by sending your child to school every day ready to learn, consistently monitoring homework and progress, and always encouraging him/her to do their best. We, in-turn will send them home to you prepared to meet the challenges of the future. Our teachers have worked diligently preparing to lead our students into the 21st century equipped with the skills necessary to be leaders in a competitive global society. It is with the support of our school and community that we will continue to move Central Middle School to the next level of excellence.

My door is always open, so feel free to contact me to discuss any concerns you might have throughout the school year. Together we will make this an awesome school year! Your presence is not only welcomed, but it is greatly needed!

Best Regards,  
**April Corbett,**  
*Principal*  
**Sherone Hough,**  
*Assistant Principal*



Central Middle School volleyball team.

After your doctor,  
who should you  
trust . . .  
your pharmacist!

*When filling prescriptions and taking care of customers' health needs is all you do, you'd better do it better than anyone else. And we think we have done it better than anyone since 1980!*

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Kandle Rogers, Vice Chair  
Greg Merrill  
Rev. Dave Fowers  
Anna Richardson

## WHITEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



413 North Lee Street  
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472  
Telephone: (910) 914-4189 FAX: (910) 914-4186

"EVERYONE COMMITTED TO THE SUCCESS OF ALL STUDENTS"

# Whiteville High

Welcome to Whiteville High School,

We hope that you are as excited as we are about the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. We would like to welcome our new superintendent, Dr. Marc Whichard, to the Wolfpack community. We are also anxiously awaiting the ground breaking ceremony for the beginning of our new building. As we approach this exciting time, our faculty and staff are eager to work with you in a variety of settings to ensure a rigorous and successful school experience. New opportunities await you as Wolfpack Country continues to offer a broad, rigorous curriculum. Our goal is to be student-centered and data driven, so you can be successful academically in a safe, caring, and orderly school that provides support for every student.

Beginning today, you have an excellent opportunity to lay the foundation for strong academic and co-curricular success, as well as experience a sense of school spirit not found in any other area high school. We hope you will identify goals, commit to demanding strategies, and fulfill all your responsibilities to ensure a positive, meaningful year. We challenge you to take advantage of the many opportunities offered for a well-rounded education. Don't ever be hesitant to ask questions or solicit assistance from any staff member.

Our goals are to encourage students to take learning seriously and provide a safe and orderly environment to ensure that learning can take place. We expect students to perform at their highest academic potential, to conduct themselves in the highest level of behavior possible, and to respect themselves and others at all times. Finally, we act in "loco parentis" while you are involved in any activity affiliated with Whiteville High School. That means we act in place of your parents to make wise and prudent decisions concerning your health, safety, and welfare within the educational environment. While we may not always make the same decisions as your parents, we will always be focused on your safety and academic interests.

Best Wishes for a successful school year!

**Michael Hobbs,**  
*Principal*  
**Stephen Clontz,**  
*Assistant Principal*



Mr. Michael Hobbs  
*Principal*  
Mr. Stephen Clontz  
*Assistant Principal*



Ashton Edge, right, and Tripp Thompson work in the Whiteville High School carpentry lab.

## Student Spaces Available!

There are still student spaces available for the 2019-2020 school year in nearly all grades - contact Columbus Charter School at 910-641-4042 for open registration ([columbuscharterschool.org](http://columbuscharterschool.org)).

The Roger Bacon Academy - Columbus Charter School is a tuition-free, open enrollment public school in southeastern North Carolina. Since 2007, Columbus Charter School has focused on quality K-8 education and is a premier performance-driven year round school.

Widely recognized as a compelling choice for conventional public education, the school has built a reputation for retaining dedicated and highly qualified teachers who give students a strong and proven academic foundation. Columbus Charter School is among the top scoring schools in the Southeast region of North Carolina.

**Columbus  
Charter  
School**



PREPARE EXPLORE DISCOVER

**35 Bacon's Way, Whiteville, NC 28472**





# North Whiteville Academy

310 South Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue  
Whiteville NC 28472  
Phone (910) 914-4161 Fax (910) 914-4164  
<http://nwa.whiteville.k12.nc.us>  
Susan M. Smith, Principal

July 15, 2019

Faculty and Staff:

Wow, what a short summer. However, I can't wait to reap the benefits of this flexible calendar. I am very excited about the 2019-2020 school year for many reasons. We have a new superintendent, and several new directors /position changes downtown. In addition, we are fully staffed for this school year.

I would like to welcome several new staff members to NWA:

Amy White - 6-8 ELA & Social Studies      Kimberly Glover - 6-8 Math & Science  
Kesha Brown - Guidance      Reginald Murphy - Custodian

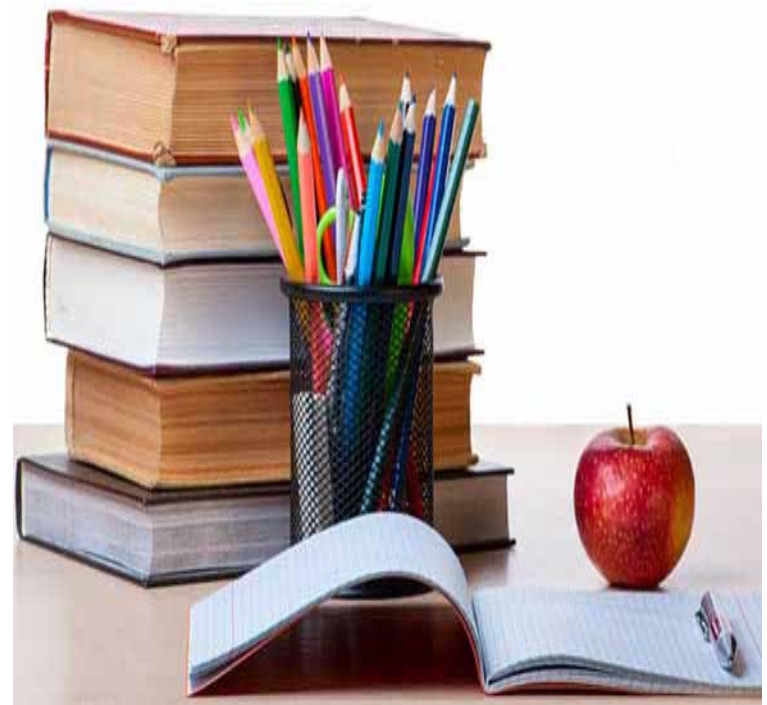
The days leading up to the students' arrival are extremely busy. Please take note of the following dates and information regarding the opening of school.

Tuesday July 30	New Employee Orientation Beginning Teachers' Training	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	WCS Civic Room WCS Civic Room
Wednesday July 31	Beginning Teachers' Training	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	WCS Civic Room
Thursday August 1	Optional Workday Beginning Teachers' Training	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	WCS Civic Room
Monday August 5	Optional Workday	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	NWA
Tuesday August 6	Optional Workday	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	NWA
Wednesday August 7	Required Workday NWA Faculty Meeting	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m.	NWA Multi-Purpose room
Thursday August 8	Required Workday NWA Open House	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	NWA
Friday August 9	Required Workday District Breakfast	8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 7:30 a.m.	NWA WHS Cafeteria
Monday, August 12	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School	7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.	

I hope you enjoy your last "extremely hot" days of summer. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,  
Susan M. Smith

# Back to SCHOOL



## Teach Your Kids to Stay Off Drugs

Start by simply talking to them. Have a calm discussion about the dangers of drug use, so they can feel comfortable asking questions without fearing anger or judgment. If you keep an open dialogue with your children, it's more likely they'll come to you for advice in the future.

Be a good role model.  
Set clear rules for teens.  
Safeguard your prescription medications.  
Keep an open dialogue.



John Philip Stoll, R.Ph.  
80 East Green St., Clarkton  
910.647.0437



## Keep Their Smiles Healthy & Bright!

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with a gentle  
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**Dr. Brent Lawson**  
General Dentistry  
308 Liberty Street, Whiteville  
**642-6001**



# CITY STUDENTS DRESS CODE

## *Policy Code: 4316*

The Whiteville City Board of Education believes a safe and disciplined learning environment is the first requirement of a high performing school. The implementation of school uniforms will help minimize disruptive behavior, promote respect for oneself and others, build school/community spirit, and, more significantly, help to maintain high academic standards by enhancing the instructional program. The wearing of uniforms will promote the quick identification of intruders on campus. Uniforms will also allow students to focus more acutely on learning by eliminating the distractions of fashion and style. School administration will enforce the policy to ensure the safety of the students and compliance with the dress code policy set forth by the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education.

### **A. IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS**

Students will be required to start wearing uniforms at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year.

### **B. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION**

School officials will communicate information concerning the uniform policy to students, parents, teachers, and the community. This information will include general guidelines for implementation and will be achieved by using one or more of the following: newsletters, parent forums, PTA meetings, School Improvement Team meetings, TV and radio announcements, newspaper, Whiteville City Schools social media, phone, flyers, and posters.

### **C. GENERAL STUDENT APPEARANCE**

In addition to being required to wear school uniforms, all students are to be groomed and dressed appropriately for school and school activities. A student's dress and/or appearance shall:

1. Support, not disrupt, the learning environment;
2. Constitute no threat to health or safety;

3. Be tasteful and unable to be construed as provocative or obscene;

4. Reflect practices of good hygiene and cleanliness.

### **D. RELIGIOUS BELIEFS - MEDICAL REASONS**

Reasonable consideration shall be made for those students who, because of a sincerely held religious belief or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. The waiver request shall be made in writing from the parent or guardian and approved by the principal. In considering a waiver request, the principal may request additional documentation from medical officials and/or religious leaders.

### **E. SPECIAL ACTIVITY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Reasonable accommodation shall be made by the principal for students involved in special duties, activities, or projects approved by the school. This may include, but is not limited to athletics, career and technical education, physical education classes, special events, or any other activities that require non-conforming dress on a school campus during a school-sponsored event. In the case of athletics, this includes "spirit-wear" (e.g., Wolfpack t-shirts or athletic team shirts) which shall be worn over regulation uniform shirts/blouses.

### **F. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Parents and/or guardians who have concerns about the affordability of a school uniform should contact the principal. The principal and/or school social worker will assist the family with identifying community resources that may be able to help procure the required school uniforms. The school system will not be re-

sponsible for funding uniforms for any students.

### **G. SCHOOL UNIFORM**

The principal will implement the school uniform and appearance policy in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate. Good judgment in considering issues such as age, developmental stages, and body type are expected of all students, parents, and guardians in the selection of school attire and appearance. The manner of a student's wear of the school uniform shall be neat, clean, properly fitted, age-appropriate and suitable for the learning environment.

#### **1. SHIRTS/**



#### **BLOUSES**

a. Solid white, royal "Wolfpack" blue, black, red, or yellow are the only permissible colors for shirts and/or blouses.

b. Students must wear plain long or short-sleeved golf/polo or woven shirts with a collar. Long-sleeved, button-up shirts will not be worn over the approved uniform shirts.

c. With the exception of

school-approved logos, shirts may have no insignias, logos, labels, words or pictures.

d. Shirts must be appropriately sized.

e. Shirts shall be long enough to cover the midriff when sitting or standing. Shirts must cover the chest and back so the chest and the back of the body are not exposed.

f. Undergarments may not be visible at any time. However, students may wear plain white or school color T-shirts under shirts which may be visible at the neckline of the collar.

g. See-through or mesh tops that will reveal the body or will reveal undergarments are prohibited.

h. Clothing shall be worn appropriately (not inside-out or backwards; no rolled up pant legs, etc.) at all times.

#### **2. LIGHT-WEIGHT JACKETS/COATS/OVER-COATS**

Students may wear sweaters, vests, light jackets, or sweat-shirts over school uniforms when appropriate as determined by the school administration. Hooded jackets are permitted, but hoods may not be worn in the building as this is considered headgear.

#### **3. DRESS PANTS, SHORTS, SKORTS, JUMPERS, CAPRI LENGTH PANTS, DRESSES**

a. Solid khaki, dark navy, or black are the only permissible colors for these uniform items.

b. No denim material or rivets allowed on pants.

c. Must be free of graphics and embroidery. With the exception of small labels, they may not have insignias, logos,

words, or pictures.

d. Shorts, skirts, skorts and jumpers shall be modest and of sufficient length of no more than four (4) inches above the knee.

e. No pants or shorts with enlarged pockets. Pockets must not be of the "cargo" type and must not include zippers, buttons, Velcro closures, straps, or snaps. Pants are limited to no more than two front and two rear pockets. Watch pockets are not considered a pocket.

f. Clothing must be appropriately sized. No baggy or sagging pants or shorts are allowed. No "low rise" clothing is allowed. Pants must not be worn with the waistband below the hipbone. Joggers are not permitted as uniform attire.

g. Garments cannot have frays and must be hemmed and not dragging the floor.

h. Garments that do not fit properly will not be tolerated, including oversized, undersized, and skintight garments. Form-fitting spandex material, nylon, denim, corduroy, and sweat pants are prohibited (including leggings and "jeggings").

1. Pants must have zippers, buttons or snaps with the exception of Pre-K through Grade 2 students.

J. Skirts are limited to no more than four pockets.

k. Garments may not have more than two slits and the slits cannot exceed four inches above the knee.

I. Capri pants are allowed but cannot be hip huggers, cannot be skin tight, and the manufactured slit at the bottom of the Capri pant cannot be above the knee.

m. Pants may not have a slit that exceeds four inches from the bottom of the pant leg.

n. Pants may not be rolled up in a cuff to simulate Capri pants or shorts.

o. One-piece jump suits are not allowed.

#### **4. BELTS**

Continued on page 12



# Dress codes

Continued from page 11

a. Students in grades 3 through 12 must wear belts if the garment was manufactured with belt loops. Belts must be with a plain belt buckle that is not over two inches. All belts must be appropriately buckled.

b. Pre-K through Grade 5 students are not required to wear a belt.

c. Graphics, metal decorations (spikes and studs), or labels are unacceptable on all belts and belt buckles.

d. Belts must be an appropriate length and not hang below the straddle.

## 5. SHOES

a. Shoes shall be worn at all times. As needed, shoes shall conform to special class requirements such as P.E. classes, JROTC, science labs, and any other classes as deemed necessary by the teacher and the principal.

b. Shoes and boots that have laces shall be laced and tied.

c. No bedroom shoes shall be allowed.

d. "Flip-flop" style shoes or "athletic slides" are not allowed. Sandals with a back are permitted in Grades K-2. Sandals in Grades 3- I 2 are at administrative discretion.

e. Shoes may not be altered in any way from the manufactured design, style, or functionality.

f. Shoelaces must match, and any straps must be secured.

g. Knee-high boots that lace up over the pant leg are prohibited.

h. Shoes with spiked heels are prohibited.

## 6. SOCKS

a. Both socks must match.

b. Socks must be worn in a manner that does not undermine the integrity of the uniform.

c. Socks must be one solid color.

d. Socks may not be worn over pant legs.

e. Students may wear solid colored panty hose, tights, or knee-high stockings.

## 7. JEWELRY

a. Students may not wear large pendants or medallions. Jewelry designed to be worn around the neck must be

worn beneath the shirt/blouse of the uniform at all times.

b. No adornment is allowed that reasonably could be perceived as, or used as, a weapon. This includes, but is not limited to chains, spikes, and certain belt buckles.

c. Only school activity buttons, approved by the principal are permitted to be worn on a student's school uniform, purse, book bag, or any other article of clothing or personal article.

d. Heavy chains, spiked accessories, excessively large earrings or other heavy jewelry are not allowed.

## 8. HATS/SUNGLASSES/HEADGEAR

a. Neither headwear nor sunglasses shall be worn inside school buildings. Head sweatbands are considered headwear for purposes of this school uniform policy.

b. No bandanas shall be allowed as an article of clothing and shall not be in the possession of any student. Bandanas will be confiscated and may be submitted to law enforcement officials as possible evidence of gang-related activity. School officials will not return bandanas or other items that may be determined to have gang-related purposes upon confiscation.

c. Hats, do-rags, skull caps, scarves, sweat bands, head bands or other items that may be seen as a disruption to the school setting are prohibited in school during the regular school day.

## 9. OTHER CLOTHING ITEMS OR ACCESSORIES

a. No gang-related clothing, accessories, symbols or intimidating manner of dress, as identified by local law enforcement agencies, are allowed.

b. Clothing shall not promote alcohol, tobacco, or drug use.

## 10. OTHER UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

a. Students are expected to be dressed in compliance with the standards for uniforms as established by this policy at all times while school is in session.

b. Students who are taking

classes that require a special dress code (such as JROTC or career and technical education internships) may wear that uniform to other classes.

c. Students who are issued uniforms by the school which are used to represent the school in athletic contests approved by the Principal or other school sponsored activities may be allowed to wear team uniforms



as directed by coaches.

d. Students who take a class at another school must wear the uniform shirt/blouse/top of their home school.

e. Clothing designed for school athletic events (i.e. cheerleader outfits, etc.) that does not meet the above guidelines shall not be worn during the instructional day unless ap-

propriate additional garments are worn with the outfit.

f. Attire for special school-related events must be prior-approved by school-based administration as presented by the event coordinator/coach/advisor.

## 11. PERSONAL APPEARANCE

a. Combs and other hair grooming items cannot be visible in the hair.

b. Piercings cannot present a health hazard or cause a disruption to the school environment.

c. No visible tattoos.

## 12. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Any item that is worn to school must not undermine the integrity of the Uniform Policy, serve as a disruption to the educational process, or present a health hazard to an individual or his/her peers.

## H. ENFORCEMENT

The Principal shall ensure that the policy is enforced in a consistent manner and require the student and the student's parent or guardian to take appropriate action to remedy situations deter-

mined to be in conflict with this policy. Disciplinary action shall be taken for violation of the School Uniform Policy in accordance with the Violations & Consequence section of the Whiteville City Schools Parent/Student Information Guide. Appropriate disciplinary actions for violations shall include the following:

## First Offense:

A first offense shall be considered a Level I violation of the Parent/Student Information Guide. Students shall be informed that they have violated the policy. They shall be given the opportunity to change into acceptable clothing by using available clothes at school or by calling a parent/guardian to bring clothes. Parents must be informed in writing of the violation.

## Second Offense:

A second infraction of the policy shall be considered a Level II violation of the Parent/Student Information Guide and consequences shall be within the scope of that document. These may include up to assignment to the Re-Direct Center. Parents must be informed in writing of the violation.

## Third (and additional) Offenses:

A third infraction of the uniform policy shall be considered a Level III violation of the Parent/Student Information Guide and consequences shall be within the scope of that document. These may include up to referral to the Alternative Learning Program. Parents must be informed in writing of the violation.

Disciplinary action may vary when a student has a record of other student conduct violations during the current school year. Students who do not comply with the School Uniform Policy also may be excluded from participating in certain school programs, including graduation ceremonies. Copies of the School Uniform Policy shall be made available to students and parents.

Students new to Whiteville City Schools shall be given a two-week grace period from the date of enrollment to obtain and wear the proper school uniforms.

## I. ANNUAL REVIEW

This policy may be reviewed annually and revised as necessary by the Board of Education.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47, -390, -391

Cross References: School Plan for Management of Student Behavior (policy 4302), Disruptive Behavior (policy 4315)





## EAST COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

32 Gator Lane  
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450  
Phone (910) 646-4094 Fax (910) 646-3779

# East Columbus High

Dear East Columbus Gators,  
Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! What a great time to be an East Columbus Gator!

On behalf of the faculty and staff, we take pleasure in welcoming you to East Columbus High School. Our faculty and students are building an academic history as they have tirelessly worked to improve teaching and learning. We will build upon our previous endeavors and success to ensure another successful school year!

We have multiple athletic and extra-curricular activities in place to enhance your school experience and provide an outlet for your talents and interests. To become that well-rounded high school student, immerse yourself in these activities to take full advantage of high school campus life! We are a small school with at large impact!

We look forward to a great school year. Again, take the time to enjoy all that East Columbus High School has to offer!

Let's Go Gators!

**Jeremiah Johnson**  
*Principal*  
**Chica Threadgill**  
*Assistant Principal*



East Columbus High School students practice for their spring production of Annie.

## WHAT'S GOING ON AT ECHS?

*Vision: East Columbus High School will be a standard bearer for academics where students will be celebrated for their achievements.*

### ECHS NEWS

#### NEW ADMINISTRATOR

We would like to welcome Ms. Elizabeth Blackmon as an administrative intern. A native of Columbus County, she is excited to work with our students and staff!

To keep up-to-date on the happenings of East Columbus High School, follow us on Facebook! Also, visit our website, [www.gatorseast.com](http://www.gatorseast.com).

### SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

All students must use a clear or mesh bookbag and gym bag. ECHS will have some for purchase for only \$10.

While most classes will have specific supply needs for their course, general supplies that are needed include a three-ring binder, notebook paper, pencils, pens, highlighters, and index cards.

Teachers will give a more comprehensive list at open house and on the first day of school!

#### New Staff at ECHS

**Math:** Ricky Randolph **Health/PE:** Jeff Gainey

**Horticulture:** Alicia Pickett

**Science:** Carrie Dickeroff **Art:** Jeff Rudnik

## FIRST WEEK

Fall Open House and Freshmen Orientation will take place on Thursday, August 8 from 6:00-8:00. Freshmen and parents will report to the auditorium at 6:00 for orientation and to pick up their schedules. All upperclassmen will see their homeroom teachers for schedules.

During the first week of school, students will report to homeroom each day. During this time, teachers will review ECHS procedures, policies, and rules. Students will attend grade level meetings with the administrators and counselor, participate in required safety drills, and discuss expectations for the upcoming school year!

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT ECHS

August 1: Fall Sports Begin (see coach for details)	September 20: Football vs. Whiteville
August 8: Freshmen Orientation and Open House	October 4: Football vs. Red Springs
August 12: First Day of School	October 11: Football vs. South Columbus
October 16: PSAT	November 1: Football vs. Fairmont (Homecoming)
October 22: PreACT (Sophomores)	November 8: Football vs. West Columbus

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## South Columbus High

As we enter into a new year, I would like to take a moment to thank our students, faculty and loyal stakeholders at South Columbus High School for their commitment to excellence. The loyalty and commitment of our students and faculty are some of the reasons we have been and will continue to be successful in the academic and athletic realm. Parent and community member support are instrumental to the success of our Stallions. This year we are looking forward to challenging our students to reach even greater heights. With your continued support our possibilities are endless. This year we will begin our year with our annual Freshman Orientation on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019 at 6 p.m. We would like to invite all freshman and parents out. Remember, our doors are always open and we welcome all supporting stakeholders to join our Commitment to Excellence here at South Columbus High School.

Respectfully,  
**Adam Thompson**  
*SCHS Principal*



South Columbus High School students practice for their spring production of *The Wedding Singer* in the auditorium.



South Columbus High School cheerleaders host their annual cheer camp in the gym.



*Wishing You a Safe and  
Successful School Year!*



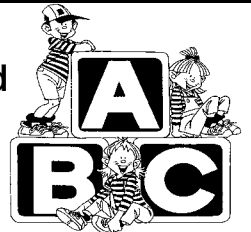
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**Operating Hours: 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm**



## West Columbus High

It is my pleasure to welcome you to a new year at West Columbus High School. The faculty and staff of West Columbus High School would like to thank all of our stakeholders for a successful 2017-2018 school year. This year we will continue to focus on a vision to help students become productive and respectful citizens in a global society. Our teachers are working diligently to prepare students to be engaged at the highest possible level through instruction that is relevant and inquiry-based. We will continue to raise the bar every year by challenging our students to become more independent through project-based learning. With your continued support, we will collaboratively strive to challenge students to move above and beyond their expectations during the 2019-2020 school year.

Jeffrey T. Greene,  
*Principal*

Back to SCHOOL



East Columbus vs. West Columbus baseball.

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Hallsboro-Artesia Elementary School students search Food Lion and compete in the Family Math Night event.



**Back to School**



Wacky Tacky Day at Whiteville Primary School.



Christy McCall helps a student at Camp Invention at Edgewood Elementary.



**Back to School**



BACK TO SCHOOL

  
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## Acme Delco Elementary

Greetings Acme Delco Elementary Family and Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to offer you a gracious and warm welcome. The new school year is upon us, and the possibilities are incredibly exciting. I want you to know that the faculty and staff are eagerly looking forward to partnering with you to ensure the highest quality education for our students.

Academic and personal growth will be the focus of this upcoming school year, for both our staff and our students. I believe that the love of learning begins at an early age and evolves as we grow and mature. With this in mind, I pledge to provide a safe and warm learning environment where our teachers can teach, and our students can learn.

Our Back-to-School Fun Night and Open House is scheduled for Thursday, August 8th from 5:30pm-7:30 pm. You are personally invited to come out and get to know your child's teachers and discover what this year has to offer. Following the classroom meetings, there will be some fun and exciting field events taking place on the playground. One of our school improvement goals for this year is to strengthen our relationship with parents and our community. We hope that this event will be a successful first step.

As a new principal, I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve the students of Acme Delco Elementary school, and I am optimistic that this year will be full of successes.

*Respectfully,*

**Jamie Faulk,**  
*Principal*

*Acme Delco Elementary School*



Acme Delco Elementary School students work on a science assignment.

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SCHOOL  
TIME!

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READY?...



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*Trojans*



*Kristie H. Leinthal*  
Principal

*Acme Delco Middle School*

26133 Andrew Jackson Highway  
Delco, North Carolina 28436  
Phone: 910-655-3200  
Fax: 855-269-9359

## Acme Delco Middle

Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year at Acme Delco Middle School!

First, on a personal note, let me say that I am thrilled to be the principal at Acme Delco Middle School! We have been busily preparing for our students and staff to return for a new and exciting school year. We would like to ask parents to be involved in our school and be a part of our learning community. We have many opportunities to volunteer such as proctors for testing, assisting with activities, as well as become a member of our PTO. Students and parents are anxious to start the school year however, there may also be some nervousness due to different teachers, schedules, and sometimes even a new school. Acme Delco Middle School students will attend an academically driven school with opportunities to participate in school based athletics, and fine arts such as band, chorus, and visual arts. Students can expect to be academically challenged with a focus on student centered learning. While we did make progress with our End of Grade testing there is still room to improve and grow, which we plan to continue this school year! We are looking forward to an exceptional year here at Acme Delco Middle School! Welcome Back Trojans!

**Kristie H. Heinthal**  
Principal



Acme Delco Middle and Hallsboro Middle School winter chorus performance.



## Have Your Field Trip With Us!



**Spend an hour or a day at Livingston Creek Farmers Harvest!**

- Play outdoors! - Tire Swing / Basketball / Corn Hole Toss
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- Go on a hayride or hike through the woods!
- Make a scarecrow or carve pumpkins for your school!
- Plant a (flower, herb or vegetable) seed and watch it grow!

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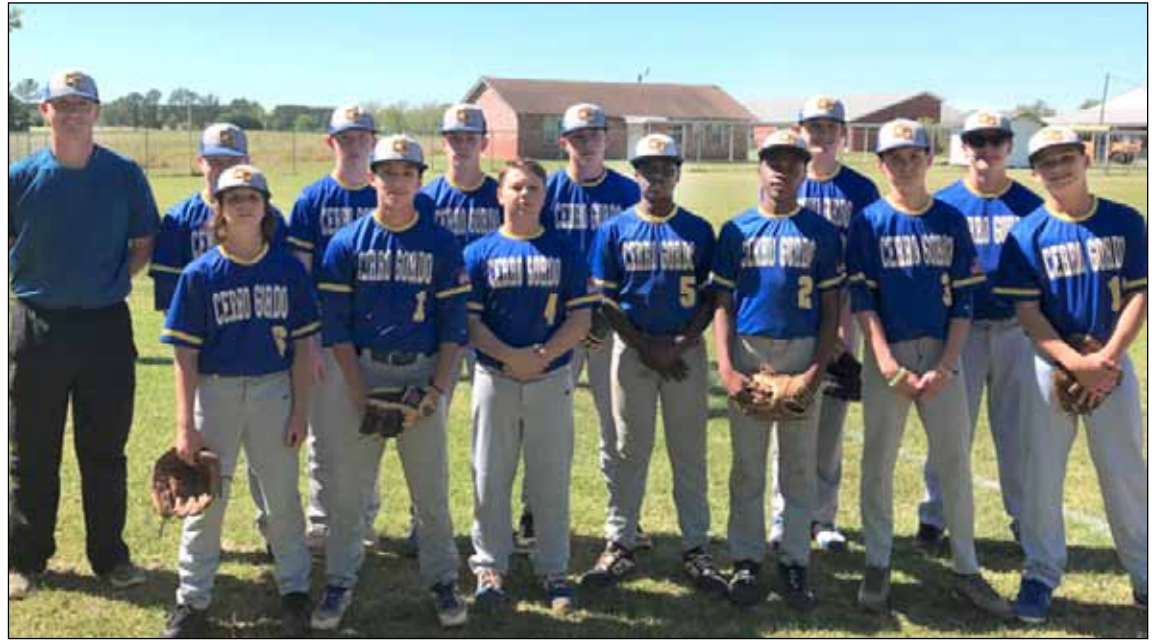
## Cerro Gordo Elementary

Dear Stinger Families,

As the 2019-2020 school year approaches, the faculty and staff of Cerro Gordo Elementary School would like to welcome our new and returning families back to the hive. We are excited to start a new year of learning and have been busy making preparations to ensure our students' educational experiences are rewarding and challenging. It is our desire to provide students with a personalized education and to instill in them a love for learning. Our students deserve the best we have to offer, and we are determined to provide it to them through hard work and team work.

Thank you in advance for your support! I hope to see you at our open house on Thursday, August 8th from 3-6 p.m. Students in Pre-k- 3rd grade will visit the Cerro Gordo campus, and students in 4th – 8th grade will visit the West Columbus campus. The first day of school will be August 12th. I look forward to another great year at Stinger Nation!

**Leslie Faulk**  
*Principal*



Cerro Gordo Stingers baseball team.



# Good Luck To All The County Teachers & Students

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## Chadbourn Elementary

Greetings Families!

I am excited to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year! This is sure to be another wonderful year at Chadbourn Elementary School, and I look forward to sharing it with you.

We are looking forward to a very positive, rewarding academic year. The school day will begin at 7:50 a.m. with dismissal at 3:05 p.m. Each parent will receive a Student Handbook that will include policies on behavior, student dress, car student procedures, etc. Please review the Student Handbook carefully as it contains vital information for you and your child.

Chadbourn Elementary School's Open House is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 8 from 5-7 p.m.

Student fees for the upcoming year are as follows:

General Music - Grade 5 (recorder and instructional book)	\$7
Instructional Materials:	\$4
Physical Education	\$2

2019-2020 is going to be an awesome school year! Students will be introduced to a new intervention program, Reading Horizons, this year that promises to strengthen word attack and fluency skills. Those students who received a "sneak peek" during summer camp were quite successful with the program, and we look forward to implementing it with all of our students in grades K-5 once school starts.

As summer draws to a close, we look forward to building relationships with our new students and families, and we look forward to reuniting with our former students and families. The faculty and staff at Chadbourn Elementary are working hard to prepare for a successful school opening. We look forward to seeing you at Open House on Aug. 8.

Deanna E. Shuman  
Principal



Smiling faces and everyone in their places at Chadbourn Elementary.

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## Evergreen Elementary

Dear Students, parents and guardians:

Homeroom rosters and classroom assignments for Evergreen Elementary School this 2019-2020 school year reflect exciting changes for our school family. As we prepare to move forward with these changes, we intend not only to adapt as we grow, but to exceed any imagined possibilities. Our renewed sense of purpose will be the compass by which we navigate through these avenues of change, growth, and progress.

The Evergreen Elementary School family looks to the 2019-2020 school year as a time of opportunity. As we pause to reflect upon and prepare for what is to come, we are reminded of the words of Socrates: "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new." We encourage the parents and friends of the student population to become active participants in this endeavor.

Warm regards,  
**Georgia E. Spaulding**  
*Principal*



Second graders work on an art assignment at Evergreen Elementary School



**Jeff Jackson**  
Agency  
Manager  
642-8206



**Glenn Ray**  
LUTCF  
Agent  
642-8206



**Wesley Varnadore**  
Agent  
918-1675



**Teddy Tedder**  
Agent  
642-8206



**Mike Waddell**  
LUTCF, FSS  
Agent  
654-1100



**Jeff Register**  
Agent  
654-1100



**Jordan Carter**  
Agent  
654-1100

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## Guideway Elementary

I hope you have had an enjoyable and restful summer. Once again it is time to begin a new and exciting journey. On Thursday, Aug. 8, we will have Open House beginning at 3:30 p.m. and ending at 6:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing all of you Aug. 8. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer.

**William Dale Norris**  
*Principal*



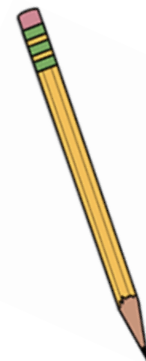
## Hallsboro/Artesia

Welcome to Panther Country! The faculty and staff of Hallsboro/Artesia Elementary School believe that teamwork is the essential element that enables teachers, students, administrators and members of our communities to utilize the tools needed to help our students become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners.

We are proud of our community school and the strong educational gains our students have made. An active PTO, strong community support and committed staff members are the key ingredients that enhance our school day. Maintaining a rigorous literacy and math program for all students, small group instruction, a physical education program, computer technology, media, art and music classes are all necessary for student growth. By working together we will continue to strive to meet and or exceed our Annual Performance Goals.

The Hallsboro/Artesia Panthers invite you to stop by to visit, volunteer, and help us continue a long tradition of success for our students.

**Josephine G. Spaulding**  
*Principal*



Students work on an assignment at Guideway Elementary School.



Hallsboro-Artesia Elementary School holds Family Math Night at North Whiteville Food Lion.

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Whiteville

**642-2722**



## Hallsboro Middle

As we begin this new year, I would like to relate how excited I am to be the Principal at Hallsboro Middle School this year. The faculty and staff have been hard at work since our students left in June to get ready for great things this year. I would also like to ask the parents to become involved with your child's experience here at Hallsboro Middle School. There are many opportunities to volunteer and to help your child continue to achieve success.

The first day of school for students is always one of change. A new grade, new teachers, and sometimes a new school with different schedules and activities. The students at Hallsboro Middle will be no different.

This year will bring the excitement of school based athletics, electives such as Band and Chorus, and even the stress of a new environment.

Returning students will see new faces on campus, and a greater challenge in the curriculum from last year. However, one thing that remains the same is our TIGER PRIDE! Our new staff brings two new teachers to Hallsboro.

Courtney McLamb will serve as our new 7th grade math teacher. She is a native of Lake Waccamaw and a graduate of UNCW with a degree in Math.

Kelly Watts will serve as our new PE teacher this year. A native of Tabor City, she comes to us from years of teaching Health and PE at Guideway and Old Dock. She is a graduate of Liberty University with a degree in Kinesiology and Exercise Science.

We are looking forward to an exceptional year here in Hallsboro. WELCOME BACK TIGERS!

**Derrick Boyd**  
*Principal*



Students at Hallsboro Middle School.



**Good luck to all  
students and teachers  
in the county!**



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• DELCO: Hwy. 74-76 • LAKE WACCAMAW: Old Hwy. 74, across from post office  
• CHADBOURN: 101 Strawberry Blvd.



## Nakina Middle

Dear Nakina Mustang Parents and Community,

As principal of Nakina Middle School, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back for another great year in Mustang Country. We are all excited to have students back in our classrooms and hallways filling them with energy and enthusiasm for learning.

It is our mission to help ensure every student feels welcome, connected and part of our Nakina Mustang Family. Additionally, we strive to challenge each student to grow in his or her academic abilities. At Nakina Middle School, we have great teachers who create classroom activities to engage our students in learning. Our teachers utilize research based best practices, analyze academic data to determine current skill levels, and set goals for growth and improvement. We are looking forward to continuing the tradition of academic excellence at Nakina Middle School where I am honored to serve as principal. It is truly a privilege to be part of a community where parents, teachers, and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. We realize summer is over but that the most exciting time of the year is now here, as students return. On behalf of the entire Mustang family we say Welcome Back.

Wendell Duncan,  
*Principal*



Nakina Middle School was the winner of the Battle of the Books competition at West Columbus High School.



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## Old Dock Elementary

Dear Old Dock parents and community,

Welcome back to a brand new school year! I hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to begin another exciting chapter in your life. So many signs point to another incredible and productive school year. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

As we enter this new school year, I want to let you know that our staff will be engaging in conversations around having a growth mindset, both for themselves and all students. We believe that every person in our school should always be growing and learning. Despite obstacles that may arise, we must always believe in our ability to rise above challenges and come out stronger on the other end.

I want to personally invite you to attend our Back-to-School Night on Thursday, Aug. 8 from 4-6 p.m. This will be a great time to strengthen our Old Dock community, meet teachers and other families, and learn about the upcoming school year. You'll have the opportunity to visit with teachers at each grade-level, pay school fees and tour our campus. Our school goal is to see all of our families at this event.

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the new school year. Your commitment to ensuring that Old Dock Elementary remains a celebrated and successful school is awe-inspiring. I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. Please stop by and say hello. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

**Rhonna Gore**  
*Principal*



Old Dock Elementary School students enter a classroom with Principal Rhonna Gore to deliver school supplies to Hurricane Florence victims.



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# Tabor City Elementary

Dear Tabor City Elementary families and friends,  
I am incredibly excited to begin my sixth year here at Tabor City Elementary! This promises to be a year filled with golden opportunities for all of our students as we strive to find ways that we can be even better than we have before! We embark on this journey with a pledge to you, our students and parents, that this will be a year of engaging, meaningful and rigorous work in our classrooms, combined with special fun with the arts and PE.

Our staff of highly qualified professional educators and support personnel is committed to providing our students with many different learning opportunities.

We look forward to a very positive and productive year together! We extend a special, yearlong invitation to our families to join us at school activities and events whenever possible. We want and value your involvement and support in your child's education! Your active participation is key to the success of your young Red Devils during his/her elementary school years.

Please know that we will be under constant change this year with the demolishing of the old school and the exciting construction of the new school. We will keep you up to date as changes occur. Please be flexible and patient with us. If you ever have any questions, you are free to call my office.

Below are 2 aerial photos showing the car students and bus students drop offs and pickups at each school. This will change as the construction progresses. We will keep you informed.

Again, I welcome you to TCES and to our wonderful learning community. Our school is a place alive with much energy, enthusiasm, and a high standard of excellence! It is, indeed, a place where opportunities abound! Here's to an AWESOME new school year as we work together to make our school a great place to work and learn each day!

Happy New School Year!

**Terry Brown**  
*Principal*



**Tabor City Elementary School teacher Dawn Player explains soft, normal and loud voices to Kindergarten students**



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## Tabor City Middle

Welcome back! As the 2019-2020 school year approaches, I hope everyone is excited about a new beginning and a new opportunity to achieve your individual goals. An education is the foundation of a successful and meaningful life. Together, we will ensure each of you are given the opportunity to not only continue your education but to be given the resources and tools needed to succeed in your future educational endeavors.

It is my hope and dream that each student at Tabor City Middle School embraces the new school year with enthusiasm and seeks out the opportunities that will be offered to you to ensure your success.

This will allow our school to stand out and succeed in the educational arena. We have great plans for the upcoming school year and have worked diligently to ensure that this year will be one of the best years you have experienced. Whether you excel in the classroom or extracurricular activities, this year will be designed to meet your educational needs and allow you to move towards seeing your goals come to fruition.

I would like to also encourage the community and parents to rally around our school to help establish a greater sense of pride and togetherness in our community school. Our school can only be as great as the adults and community members it serves. By joining together, the citizens of Tabor City can ensure our future looks bright by doing our part to safeguard our most precious commodity, our students.

**Kelly Bullard**  
*Principal*



Tabor City Middle School students compete in the Battle of the Books competition at West Columbus High School.



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## Williams Township

Dear Families of Williams Township School:  
It is my pleasure to welcome you to Williams Township School.

Open House will be held on Thursday, Aug. 8, 4-6 p.m.

While we are the largest elementary/middle school in Columbus County, our dedicated staff works very hard to meet the individual needs of all students, and maintain personal connections with their families.

We invite you to become an active participant in our school through volunteering, joining PTA, or attending and supporting school events. Research clearly supports that when parents/guardians participate and are involved in their child's education, there is a greater likelihood of academic success for the child.

We truly believe that communication is the key to a successful educational experience. Together, we will continue to improve the quality of our school community and provide the best for the children we serve. Education is a partnership between the school, family and community. All children are more successful when we work as a team to achieve educational goals.

We look forward to an exciting, successful year.

**Tom H. McLam**  
*Principal*



**Brett Butler demonstrates how Native Americans lived in pre-colonial North Carolina at Williams Township School.**

## BEMC accepting applications for 2019 Bright Ideas Grants

Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) is now accepting applications for the 2019 Bright Ideas education grant program, marking 25 years of funding innovative classroom projects.

Twenty-five years ago a BEMC employee encountered a school teacher purchasing school supplies for her students with her own money. This encounter sparked the idea for Bright Ideas and over time, 26 electric cooperatives across the state of North Carolina adopted the annual grant program.

"The program has evolved over time with an emphasis placed on innovation, but even today we find teachers applying for grants to cover additional school supplies for their students," said Josh Winslow, CEO and general manager of BEMC. "We're pleased to be able to help fund the educational needs of area students through a wide array of projects."

North Carolina's electric cooperatives have funded education projects to the tune of more than \$12.2 million in grant funding across the state. Locally, BEMC has provided 426 grants totaling more than \$617,000 to K-12 classrooms across Brunswick and Columbus counties.

Grant funds have been used to purchase items such as basic school supplies, Chrome-

books, materials for robotics programs and band instruments. Some of the most unique grants provided in the past include a Vietnam Veteran's history project and a battery-powered electric go-kart project.

Fred Mason, a teacher at Columbus Career and College Academy, has received several Bright Ideas grants in past years for his masonry program. He has purchased professional quality levels to help his students compete at the state level and has incorporated technology into his curriculum with the help of Bright Ideas grants.

"The computers we applied for were to help our students get OSHA certified and this year, every student in the program received OSHA certification. We have also won several competitions using the levels we purchased with our Bright Ideas grant," said Mason. "Bright Ideas elevated our program and I would urge everyone to apply for a grant."

The deadline to apply for a 2019 BEMC Bright Ideas grant is Sept. 23. However, teachers who submit an application by Aug. 15 will be entered into the Early Bird drawing for a \$100 Visa gift card. To learn more about this program or to apply for a grant, visit [ncbrightideas.com](http://ncbrightideas.com).

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# COUNTY STUDENTS DRESS CODE

## 1. Shirts:

Colors: White and the two other colors designated for the particular school by the School Uniform Committee

- Shirts must have buttons only.

- Shirts must be collared (turtlenecks are permitted).

- Shirts must be of a solid color.

- Shirts must have sleeves – they may be long-sleeved, short-sleeved or ¾ sleeved.

- Shirts must be free of labels, graphics or insignias of any kind except for the school insignia.

- Shirts must be worn tucked in.

- Midribs and undergarments cannot be visible and visible cleavage should be minimized. However, students may wear plain white or school color T-shirts under shirts which may be visible at the neckline of the collar.

- Form-fitting spandex material, nylon, denim and see-through or mesh tops are prohibited.

## 2. Pants/Capris

Colors: Solid Khaki or Solid Navy Blue or Solid Black

- Pants must have no more than 4 pockets (no cargo pants).

- No over-sized, under-sized or tight-fitting pants.

- Pants must be worn above the hips at all times (no sagging).

- Pants cannot have frays and must be hemmed and not dragging the floor.

- Undergarments cannot be visible.

- Form-fitting spandex material, nylon, denim, blue jeans and sweat pants are prohibited.

- Pants must be free of labels, graphics or insignias of any kind.

- Pants cannot be rolled up to simulate capri pants.

- Pants cannot have a slit that exceeds four inches from the bottom of the pant leg.

- Capri pants cannot have a slit that goes above the knee.

## 3. Skirts/Jumpers/Dresses/Shorts/Skorts

Colors: Solid Khaki, Solid Navy Blue, or Solid Black

- Must be no shorter than four inches above the knee.

- Form fitting spandex material, nylon, and denim are prohibited.

- Must be free of labels, graphics or insignias of any kind.

- No more than four pockets.

- Garments cannot have more than two slits and the slits cannot exceed four inches above the knee.

- Undergarments must not be visible.

- One piece jumpsuits are not allowed.

## 4. Belts

- Student must wear belts if the garment was manufactured with belt loops; belts must be worn within the belt loops.

- Belts must be black or brown.

- Graphic belts with metal decorations (grommets and studs) are prohibited.

- Belts must be an appropriate length and not hang below the belt loops.

## 5. Socks

- Both socks must match.

- Socks must be worn in a manner that does not undermine the integrity of the uniform.

- Socks must be white, black, brown, khaki or navy.

- Socks may not be worn over the pant legs.

## 6. Shoes/Footwear

- Shoes/footwear must be worn at all times.

- Shoe laces, if any, must be tied at all times and must be not dragging on the floor.

- Shoe laces, if any, must be white, black or match the color of the shoes.

- Both shoe laces must match and only one lace per shoe.

- Bedroom shoes, slippers, flip flops, shower shoes and spike heels are prohibited.

- Boots may not be worn over the pant leg.

- Sandals (except flip flops) and shoes with velcro are acceptable shoes.

## 7. Hats, Sunglasses, Headgear, Hoods, Outerwear

- Sunglasses, hats, (except

SCHOOL	SHIRT COLOR	SHIRT COLOR	SHIRT COLOR
Acme Delco Elementary	Red	Grey	White
Acme Delco Middle	Burgundy	Gold	White
Cerro Gordo Elementary	Royal Blue	Gold	White
Chadbourn Elementary	Royal Blue	Gold	White
Columbus Career and College Academy	Burgundy	Black	White
East Columbus High	Orange	Hunter Green	White
Evergreen Elementary	Black or Red	Hunter Green	White
Guideway Elementary	Royal Blue	Gold	White
Hallsboro/Artesia Elementary	Burgundy	Hunter Green	White
Hallsboro Middle	Navy Blue	Gold	White
Nakina Middle	Black	Gold	White
Old Dock Elementary	Gold	Hunter Green	White
South Columbus High	Black	Grey	White
Tabor City Elementary	Royal Blue	Red	White
Tabor City Middle	Royal Blue	Black	White
West Columbus High	Columbia Blue	Navy	White
Williams Township	Gold	Burgundy	White

## SCHOOL PANTS COLORS (THE SAME FOR ALL SCHOOLS)

Khaki	Navy	Black
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tion: school hat with school logo/insignia) and other headgear are not permitted.

- Kerchiefs, skull caps, sweatbands, do-rags or other items that may be seen as a disruption to the school setting are prohibited.

- No bandanas shall be allowed as an article of clothing and shall not be in the possession of any student. Bandanas will be confiscated and may be submitted to law enforcement officials as possible evidence of gang-related activity.

- No hoods may be worn in buildings.

- Only school color/affiliated sweat shirts and pullovers are permissible.

- Overcoats (heavy weight coats) must be removed when entering the building and are not allowed to be worn inside.

## 8. Jewelry

- No jewelry or any other article affixed to a student's nose, tongue, lips, cheek, eyebrow, or any other visible part of the body, with the exception of the ears is permissible.

- No articles promoting alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or the use of controlled substances, depict violence, or be of a sexual or disruptive nature are permissible.

- All body art (tattoos) must be covered.

- No large pendants or medallions are permissible.

- No adornment is allowed that reasonably could be perceived as, or used as, a weapon, including, but not limited to chains, spikes and large belt buckles (wider than the belt).

## 9. Other Uniform Dress Requirements

- No gang-related clothing, accessories, symbols or intimidating manner of dress, as identified by local law enforcement agencies, are allowed.

- No layering of shirts or pants (undergarments and one shirt/pant is allowed).

- Students are expected to be dressed in compliance with the standards for uniforms as established by this policy at all times school is in session.

- Students who are issued uniforms by the school which

are used to represent the school in athletic contests approved by the principal or other school sponsored activities may be allowed to wear such uniforms at the discretion of the principal.

- Reasonable accommodations shall be made by the principal for students involved in special duties, activities, or projects approved by the school. This may include, but is not limited to athletics, career and technical education, physical education classes, JROTC, special events, or any other activities that require non-conforming dress on a school campus during a school-sponsored event.

## 10. School Spirit day

School spirit T-Shirt day left to the discretion of the principal.

- Garments cannot have more than two slits and the slits cannot exceed four inches above the knee.

- Undergarments must not be visible.

- One piece jumpsuits are not allowed.



# Statewide school safety anonymous reporting system launches

## By N.C. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

N.C. State Superintendent Mark Johnson announced in May that the state education agency has contracted with Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) to provide a statewide Say Something Anonymous Reporting System in the 2019-20 school year. The Say Something program, including an anonymous mobile tip app, is a school safety program designed to change and save lives by teaching students, educators, and administrators how to recognize the signs and signals of those who may be at risk of hurting themselves or others and to anonymously report this information through the mobile tip app, the website or the telephone crisis hotline.

"Students play a critical role in helping to keep schools safe," Johnson said. "They may see and hear concerns that adults need to know about but may be reluctant to report it. With the Say Something program, middle and high school students will better understand what warning signs to look for and when and how to report important tips through an app. Making this app available will be an important part of our efforts to make schools safer." "We are proud and eager to work with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to train students across the state to 'know the signs' of potential violence and report them to a trusted adult via the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System," said Nicole Hockley, co-founder and managing director of Sandy Hook Promise, and mother of Dylan, who was killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy. "With these comprehensive

violence prevention systems in place, North Carolina schools will be safer, protecting millions of lives and empowering youth to be upstanders in their communities."

Through the Say Something program, students, parents, educators and others can download the app and share school safety concerns with school administrators and school resource officers at schools, who will respond appropriately. More than 5,100 schools nationwide are currently using Sandy Hook Promise's anonymous re-

porting system. North Carolina will be the second statewide partnership for Sandy Hook Promise, with implementation of an anonymous reporting system that will encourage student participation in protecting themselves and their peers. (Pennsylvania began using the anonymous reporting platform in January.) The North Carolina Center for Safer Schools, part of the Department of Public Instruction, piloted an app in five school districts in 2015 and 2016. In that pilot, the center received tips related to bullying (39 percent), danger (25 percent), drugs (24 percent), weapons (5 percent), fighting (5 percent); and underage drinking (2 percent). In 2018, the North Carolina General Assembly included development of a statewide app in the 2018-19 budget bill. Tips can be sent in via web, a phone hotline, or through the app -

ers and school administrators how to recognize warning signs and signals of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and to "say something" to a trusted adult or use the anonymous reporting system.

Training will be provided not only for educators, but also for law enforcement agencies. The Sandy Hook Promise team and a DPI School Safety Team will be reaching out to school leadership over the next several weeks to provide information about implementation and training. Learn more about the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System at this link.

About Sandy Hook Promise: Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) is a national nonprofit organization based in Newtown, Conn., and led by several family members whose loved ones were killed in the tragic mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School on Dec. 14, 2012. SHP's mission is to prevent gun violence (and

other forms of violence and victimization) before it can happen by educating and mobilizing youth and adults to identify, intervene and get help for at-risk individuals. SHP is a moderate, above-the-politics organization that supports sensible program and policy solutions that address the "human side" of gun violence by preventing individuals from ever getting to the point of picking up a firearm to hurt themselves or others. The organization's words, actions and impact nationwide are intended to honor all victims of gun violence by turning the Sandy Hook tragedy into a moment of transformation. For more information, [www.sandyhookpromise.org](http://www.sandyhookpromise.org) or call 203.304.9780.



porting system. North Carolina will be the second statewide partnership for Sandy Hook Promise, with implementation of an anonymous reporting system that will encourage student participation in protecting themselves and their peers. (Pennsylvania began using the anonymous reporting platform in January.)

The North Carolina Center for Safer Schools, part of the Department of Public Instruction, piloted an app in

including photos and videos. A crisis center staffed 24/7 by trained counselors will triage, categorize and deliver tip information. Tips will be categorized as either "life safety" or "non-life safety" based on the incident and information the school-based teams provide. The Crisis Center will notify school-based representatives after hours when tips are life threatening and, in cases of imminent threat, contact local 911 dispatch. Johnson said he believes that Sandy Hook Promise's strong emphasis on training is key to a successful program. Say Something trains students, teach-



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