Shout Out to Newlin Elementary!

Striving to be “Rip Roaring Wildcats” Larry Conte and Sharon Goldman (Harvey Newlin Elementary School Administration) have encouraged students to improve over-all attendance. Since the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, Evette Bethea (CFST School Social Worker) has been recognizing students without any absences, tardies, or early/late picks-ups (excused or unexcused). Students’ pictures and names are displayed on the “Rip Roaring” Wildcat board each month and each grade level is acknowledged for having the highest percentage of “Rip Roaring” students. These students have been taking pride in seeing their pictures and names posted and have been encouraging their parents to help them accomplish this endeavor each month. Ms. Bethea has stated, “On the elementary level, we recognize that it is a credit to parents/families that have their children at school daily and on time. It is a further credit to these parents/families to not pick up their children early or late from school. At Newlin, we believe that these students and families should be celebrated! The more time each student spends in school, his/her learning potential is increased. Therefore, our goal of improving attendance will result in increased academic success for our students.” Congrats ‘Cats!

Shout Out to Our ABSS Bus Drivers! Don’t forget to hug your bus drivers next week! Remember: Feb. 13-17 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Week - Gov. Bev Perdue has proclaimed Feb. 13-17 as School Bus Driver Appreciation Week (SBDAW) in North Carolina. The proclamation is available online at www.ncbussafety.org. This is a change from the traditional SBDAW the first week in May to coincide with the national LOVE THE BUS campaign. LEAs and schools can register their LOVE THE BUS events at www.ncbussafety.org/LovethebusNC/index.html. For more information, please contact Derek Graham, NCDPI Transportation Services, at derek.graham@dpi.nc.gov or 919/807-3570.
Shout Out to Smith Elementary and to NAA!

Principal Julie Hancock sent in this news about a great experience, compliments of a local business, NAA:

“Last weekend, my staff had an opportunity to meet Jon Gordon author of *The Energy Bus* thanks to NAA, a local business. NAA president and CEO Andy Albright and his wife Jane invited me to bring my staff to hear and meet Gordon, who has shared his principles with numerous NFL, NBA, college coaches and teams, Fortune 500 companies, school districts, nonprofits and hospitals. It is a great example of a local business partnering with a school. After speaking to more than 2,000 at the Raleigh Convention Center, Gordon, the keynote speaker at National Agents Alliance’s “Be Your Own Rock Star” Version 2.0 National Convention, graciously met with a group of 30 teachers and administrators from Smith, signed copies of his books and posed for a group picture.”

Shout Out to Sylvan Blue Jays!

Principal Gaye Sartin sends this news: “Congratulations to two people who make Sylvan Elementary a fantastic place to learn! We are proud to announce that Gloria Ingle is our 2012 Teacher of the Year. Gloria is our technology teacher, intervention specialist, Leadership Team chair and PSM team member. She keeps the school-wide view in focus and has us all excited about 21st century instruction with her recent sessions on Gaggle and student blogging. She gives her time before school to invite student groups in for technology enrichment. She keeps our digital signage full of Sylvan Shout Outs, has us all engaged in the eEdition of the Times News, and just booked the NC Theatre for a performance at Sylvan for later this month. Gloria, we appreciate you!”
“Brandy Brown is our 2012 Classified Employee of the Year. Brandy is a Sylvan Instructional Assistant and has her hands in lots of projects. She works with our 1st and 4th grade small reading groups and teaches innovative technology enrichment for a group of second graders. Brandy recently created an updated electronic version of our school and campus map including fire and weather routes. She is working to start a Just Words group for fourth graders. Brandy, we appreciate you! These two Sylvan Elementary leaders inspire us and are shining examples of putting the interests of Sylvan students and staff ahead of their own. They are also the dynamic team that designs our Sylvan Yearbook. Thank you and congratulations from all of us in the Bluejay Nest!”

**Shout Out to Graham High Wrestlers!**

Katherine Paramore, Assistant Principal at Haw River Elementary, would like to thank Graham High School wrestling coach, Joseph Little, for bringing five of his wrestlers to speak to the Problem Solvers Club. “Jose Lagos, Eduardo Lagunes, David Santana, Jack Snow, and Stewart Dillard spoke to the HRE students about making good grades, working hard in school, and planning for the future. The students were also treated to wrestling demonstrations. It was great seeing the high school students interact with the elementary students! Thanks Red Devil Wrestlers!”
Shout Out to Williams Football Coach Dave Grant!
Williams High Athletic Director Kyle Hayes sent in this Shout: “Congratulations to Dave Grant who has been selected to coach in the Shrine Bowl next year! It is a great honor to represent our school and our state.” Congrats Coach!

Shout Out to Curry Bryan, Williams High!
Donna Westbrooks, AP for the Bulldogs sent in this Shout Out: Congratulations, Curry! He has been selected as the Williams High Teacher of the Year for 2012 for being a Social Studies Teacher Extraordinaire!

Shout Out To Two Cummings High Honor Society Students!
Eastlawn Elementary principal Whitney Oakley sends this Shout: “We would like to thank T'Keya Harvey and Diana Menjivar, two Cummings High National Honor Society students, for their time and service to our community on Monday. T'Keya and Diana were kind enough to provide childcare during Eastlawn's PTA meeting in order to encourage more parent participation. Thanks so much!!!”
Shout Out to Brittany Jackson’s Kindergators at Garrett!
Kris L’Heureux, webmistress for the Gators, sent in this way-cute pic and caption: “To celebrate the 100th day of school students in Ms. Jackson’s class dressed up like they were 100 years old! So our "Suddenly Seniors" group sported granny glasses, powdered hair, canes, suspenders, shawls and all sorts of other "old timers" gear. What a great way to have fun on the 100th day!” TOO cute! Great idea, Ms. Jackson!
Wait, isn’t that Bill Hussey, Dain Butler, and Kent Byrd on the back row?

Shout Out to Katy Cobb!
Highland Elementary Principal Nan Wooten sent this in on behalf of her entire staff: “Congratulations to Katy Cobb! We are proud to announce that she has earned the honor of being named 2012 Teacher of the Year for Highland!”
Shout Out to North Graham Fifth Graders and Mr. Larry Brown!
This Shout Out is from Charlotte Lee-Russell North Graham Technology Teacher/Webmaster: “Larry Brown was invited to speak to North Graham fifth graders on Friday, February 3rd. Mr. Brown is an Alamance County Assistant District Attorney. He was the NGE speaker for Black History Month. The students had a chance to learn from Mr. Brown's motivational discussion. He reminded the students about the importance of reading, respect, and receiving a quality education. Thank you Mr. Brown for donating your time to our fifth graders!”

Shout Out to Preschoolers!
Joy Bunn, Pre-K teacher sent in this news about a busy week in her classroom: “This week, Preschool One has been involved in some really sensory hands on experiences. Sensory integration is a great way for children to learn about the world around them and how things work. Many children have problems with sensory, so incorporating fun hands-on activities can help stimulate the brain
effectively which will allow children to respond to that stimulation appropriately.

For the first activity, we mixed flour, water, food coloring and whip cream together with our hands and with the mixer. The students loved using the mixer because they liked the feeling of the vibrations; they were less interested in watching it blend the textures together.

The next activities included a sensory box, ice painting, water balloons and bubble wrap! The bubble wrap took the experience to a whole new level! No sensory activity is complete without bubble wrap!”

Dr. Cox, can we get some bubble wrap for central office?
Joy Rust, music teacher at North Graham sent this in: “The North Carolina Symphony played a magnificent concert for ABSS fourth and fifth graders on January 31 at Williams High School! Pictured here is Maestro William Henry Curry with four North Graham students who played "Ode to Joy" on their recorders at the morning concert (L-R): Kayla Burnette, Kelvin Hairston, Ariela Carbajal and Adam Allard. The concert included selections by Kabalevsky, Haydn, Mozart, Prokofiev, Strauss, Joplin, Beethoven and Gliere. Students sang "Ode to Joy" in both German and English as part of the concert. There were 110 students who played recorder at the morning concert (North Graham, South Graham, EM Holt and Alexander Wilson).  Sixty students played in the afternoon concert (Altamahaw-Ossipee, Andrews, Highland, Hillcrest, Eastlawn).” Hmmm......Ode to Joy.........Joy Rust.........wonder who decided what music the students would play? Could there be a connection? Great job elementary musicians and music teachers!
Shout Out to Hillcrest Elementary!

Kim Barger, curriculum facilitator for the Hornets sent this: “The halls at Hillcrest are now a museum of famous black Historians! In honor of Black History month, the classes at Hillcrest researched a famous Black Historian. Two classes worked together to research and create the projects. In many cases the older students taught the younger students about their person and provided them with an activity. The students displayed their information in the halls of the school. The project gave the students an opportunity to learn about a famous person and work collaboratively with another class.”
Shout Out to Middle School Athletes and D.A.R.E.!
Coach Mark Isley of Southern Middle shared these impressive stats about this week’s D.A.R.E. basketball tournament: “Hawfields girls defeated Turrentine 37-35 in overtime to win the 15th DARE Basketball Classic. This is the 1st tournament title for Hawfields and they finished with a perfect 14-0. Broadview defeated Woodlawn to win the boys tournament title. I will try to get the final score. This is the 2nd consecutive title for the Bobcats and the 7th overall. They finished 12-2.”

Shout Out for Sportsmanship!
Coach Isley also sent this in: “On a separate note, the Southern Middle girls and Graham Middle boys won the Sportsmanship Award annually given out at the DARE Tournament. This is the 2nd consecutive Sportsmanship Award for Southern and the 5th in the last 8 years.” Congrats to our student athletes for modeling good behavior!

Shout Out to Hillcrest!
Hillcrest principal Devon Carson sent this in: “Hillcrest has partnered with Fathers United Now. F.U.N.! (Fathers United Now) is an innovative program created by the Men’s Empowering
Resource Center, Inc. (MERC) focusing on encouraging our children to do their best in school by using the positive influence of fathers and father-figures for a two-fold purpose:
1) to provide an unobtrusive presence in the schools, and
2) to be a positive and active role-model for students at their school
F.U.N.! was founded by Tavores Vanhook, a father of three, who works with fathers through his non-profit organization, MERC, encouraging them to be an active, positive presence in the lives of their own children. The Kick-off for the program at Hillcrest will be on February 13th.”
Congrats, Dads! Great program idea!

**Shout Out to the New Western High Robotics Team!**

Western High School has a newly founded Western Alamance Robotics Team! Their team participated at a scrimmage on Super Bowl Sunday at Elon University with seven other High School robotics teams—including Cummings High! Here the link to the announcement before the event from Elon University: [http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=957684](http://www.elon.edu/e-net/Note.aspx?id=957684)

Now, we need someone to report on how the event went for our WAHS and CHS teams. They will be competing again at NC A & T for the First Robotics Challenge coming up soon. Please let me hear from the teams so we can let everyone know more about this outstanding opportunity. Ladies and Gentlemen.......start your robots!
Shout Out to Our Champion of Change!
In case you missed the mid-week Shout Out, don’t miss out on reading the article (see link below) from Times-News and check out these links featuring our very own Robyn Hadley featured on the White House and United States Department of Education websites for being a Champion of Change! Congratulations Robyn.

http://www.thetimesnews.com/articles/system-52315-white-administrator.html

http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/01/30/rural-educator-bringing-change

http://www.ed.gov/blog/2012/01/rural-educator-bringing-change/