Over the Summer Shout Outs

“Shout out to all the Summer Reading Camp Coordinators, ESL Support Staff and Teachers for their attention and participation in Reading Eggs/Eggpress Training. It was a very engaging, positive and collaborative time together!”
–Lisa Thompson, Elementary ELA Specialist

Graham Middle School

Lisa Cates, 6th grade English Language Arts

GMS WEB leaders ease up first day jitters by working with new 6th graders at orientation the day before school starts! WEB leaders, led by Katie Haynes, host team building activities and give freshman tours of the GMS campus!

What a wonderful way 8th grade students volunteer and show leadership with in their community!
Check out the story about the first day of school for year-round schools in Times-News:
http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150723/NEWS/150729437/0/SEARCH

Eastlawn Elementary AIG teacher Donna Kimbro gets students right to work on the first day of school.

Photo: courtesy of Sam Roberts/ Times-News

**ABSS Opens New Early College on the Campus of Alamance Community College for Fall 2015**

Check out the story in Times-News about the new AB Early College at ACC from Times-News:

http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150711/NEWS/150719812/0/SEARCH

Alamance–Burlington Early and Middle College principal, Bonnie Roane, pictured in new classrooms at ACC.

Photo courtesy of Steven Mantilla/Times–News
Alamance–Burlington Schools signs Early College agreement with Alamance Community College

On August 4th, Alamance–Burlington Schools and Alamance Community College officially signed the agreement formalizing the new Alamance–Burlington Early College at ACC program. The ACC auditorium was filled with incoming 9th grade students and their families, along with Early College and ACC faculty members. Dr. Algie Gatewood, President of ACC, and Jerry Bailey, chairman of the ACC Board of Trustees, signed the agreement with Dr. Harrison and Board of Education chair, Pam Thompson. Forty students are enrolled in the Early College inaugural class. Students will graduate with 2 diplomas—a high school diploma and a 2-year Associates degree from ACC.

Southern Middle School

Congratulations to Ms. Hall! The Forensic Paleontology group that Ms. Kimberly Hall is a part of through the Kenan Fellowship at NC State applied to present at a professional conference to speak about their project. Ms. Hall has been accepted to present at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology in Dallas, TX in October! She is very excited to represent Kenan Fellows and Southern Middle at such a prestigious event. Way to Go Ms. Hall!!! Here's a description from Ms. Hall:

"The Kenan Fellows group I was chosen for in 2014, Prehistoric Forensics, will attend the 75th annual meeting of the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology in Dallas, TX to present our module "Taking a Bite Out of History" and the outcomes achieved by our students.

We created lessons to lead students through real research to answer the following questions: What was happening in the ecology of eastern NC 5–10 million years ago? and What types and sizes of shark were present on the NC coast 5–10 million years ago?

Our students searched through sediment from Aurora, NC and measured the shark teeth they found. The research data and shark teeth our students collected are now a part of the collections at the Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh and is being used by Dr. Terry Gates to answer the proposed research questions! Both the teeth and the data will continue to be a part of the museum collections for others to use in answering new research questions in the future."
Career and Technical Education

Robin Bowers, Director of CTE

Business, Finance and IT teachers across the district attended specialized training with Code.org this summer! Introduction to Computer Science will be offered at our high schools starting this fall. This course is designed to allow students to explore a variety of computer science topics such as web design, human computer interactions, programming, problem solving, data analysis and robotics. Students will develop critical thinking, logic, and problem solving skills relevant to today’s technology. Teachers pictured are: Will Hatten, Shannon Lynch, Tony Barbuto, Daphne Parker, Kathy Cornett, Beth Billings and Toni Caison.

South Graham Elementary

Elizabeth Price, Principal

I was really excited about this project! Our school is a Global School beginning this year with each grade level studying a different continent all year long. Second grade studies South America. Students practiced their math skills with Andes Math Mountains. I thought that was an ingenious way to combine social studies, geography and math!
Southern High Welcomes Freshmen

The Patriots welcomed the Class of 2019 for tours, talks and Q & A sessions about the upcoming school year. Current SAHS students served as tour guides and helped the rising 9th graders feel at home and find their way before the first day of school!

Staff members also took time to make sure new 9th grade parents feel at home, too! Career Development Coordinator Pam Smith talks to parents about student opportunities.
**Williams High Welcomes New Bulldogs**

**Robert Drummond, Assistant Principal**

Williams High hosted members of the incoming Class of 2019 for tours, schedule pick-up and orientation to help new Bulldogs get acquainted. Members of the Link Crew at WWHS served as hosts and tour guides. Check out the great story and photo, courtesy of Times-News at [http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150820/NEWS/150829879/0/SEARCH](http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150820/NEWS/150829879/0/SEARCH)

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**ABSS Facility Upgrades Story on WGHP Fox 8**

Fox 8 did a nice story with Jay Fuller, ABSS Director of Facilities and Maintenance, on our use of left-over bond funds for maintenance and upgrades at schools. The video was filmed at Williams High. [http://myfox8.com/2015/08/19/commissioners-award-1m-to-improve-alamance-burlington-schools/](http://myfox8.com/2015/08/19/commissioners-award-1m-to-improve-alamance-burlington-schools/)

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**GEAR UP Students Spend Summer On Tour and In Class**

Students attending the free ABSS GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) summer camp opportunities enjoyed a great tour of Burlington City operations behind-the-scenes in Government Camp, and enjoyed science opportunities in STEM camp. Photos provided courtesy of Sam Roberts/Times-News.
The Elon University Community Supports ABSS Students and School Social Workers

At the busiest time of the year, just before Elon University students, faculty and staff members begin their school year, they work hard to support ABSS students in our McKinney–Vento program (families identified as not having a permanent night–time residence). The entire Phoenix campus collects school supplies, bookbags, flash drives, you name it, they send it to support our students!

So, on Wednesday, August 26, a whole team of Elon University staff members unloaded a van and a pick-up truck filled with bookbags and boxes of school supplies at the Sellars–Gunn storage facility for school social workers. Thank you to Elon U for helping to support ABSS students and families!

Western High Culinary Class

Stephanie Mitchener, Career Development Coordinator

Amy Carter's Foods II participated in a lab where they made Mozzarella Cheese. A great cross-curricular lesson as they are combining science and culinary! Ms. Carter spent a week this summer interning at the Biltmore Estate working side by side with their world famous chefs! She is looking forward to sharing her experience with her Foods II students this year.

She not only learned to prepare wonderful food created from the freshest, farm-to-table ingredients but also learned the high expectations for students entering the culinary field!
Global Learning at South Graham Elementary  Elizabeth Price, Principal

South Graham students have been thinking globally all summer! The first grade team compared and contrasted pictures from North Carolina and pictures from the Philippines. These pictures came from a group project where students worked and researched together. The majority of the staff just completed their first badge in the Global Studies Program!

First Day of School  Times–News

Check out the nice story about the first day of school for traditional calendar schools in Times–News:

http://www.thetimesnews.com/article/20150824/NEWS/150829409/0/SEARCH

Take a minute to watch the video link featuring Jessica Sisk, Hawfields Middle teacher:

http://www.thetimesnews.com/section?template=videodetail&vid=4441850644001&vidtitle=First%20day%20of%20school&ga=1.120391432.1226284703.1401571842
Chamber of Commerce 14th Annual School Supply Drive Nets More than 50,000 Items

Each summer, the Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce hosts a school supply drive in conjunction with area businesses and organizations. For the 14th year, community supporters have joined hands to provide school supplies for students in need in Alamance–Burlington Schools. Our school social workers have these items available when working with families. A large storage closet at the Sellars–Gunn Educational Complex holds items donated by citizens, businesses and organizations who sponsor a drive at their offices. The boxes are picked up by ABSS Facilities and Maintenance crews and items are sorted and counted by volunteers. Then, at each school, as staff and parents determine that students need particular items, school social workers “shop” the closet of donated items to ensure that every student has the basic new items needed for school success. This is a wonderful business and community partnership on behalf of ABSS students and families!

Members of the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Alamance County also volunteered their time and energy to help unpack and sort thousands of items with Chamber staff and other community volunteers. It takes an army to get the job done!
In addition, this year, the Leadership Alamance alumni group hosted a “Stuff the Bus” campaign on Saturday, August 8 at the Garden Road WalMart. ABSS Director of Transportation Al Smith parked a yellow bus at the store on Saturday and LA volunteers accepted donations from Wal-Mart shoppers. The event was a great success! WFMY News 2 also partnered with our 3 area Wal-Mart stores for the 19th annual Tools for Schools supply drive campaign during the month of August. Thanks to Alamance County citizens for their generosity!

(photo bottom right: courtesy of Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page)
Graham Middle Chorus Takes Their Show On The Road

Joy Rust, Music Director

Take me out to the ballgame! The Graham Middle School Chorus has three field trips in the history book the month of August! We kicked off the year singing the national anthem for “Graham Night” at the Burlington Royals game on August 17. We were grateful for the invitation from Mayor Jerry Peterman!

On August 20th, we headed to Durham to sing the national anthem for the Durham Bulls game! It was a perfect night since students didn’t have school the following day! We were grateful to the 10 staff members who joined us for a night of fun! Nothing better than $1 dogs, $1 soda and $1 popcorn!
We ended a busy month providing the anthem for the Burlington Royals again on August 27!

Twenty-five to thirty 7th and 8th grade students sang at each of the events. We are grateful for the staff members who came out to support us at each of the 3 events. Follow us on Twitter: #GMSFalconChorus