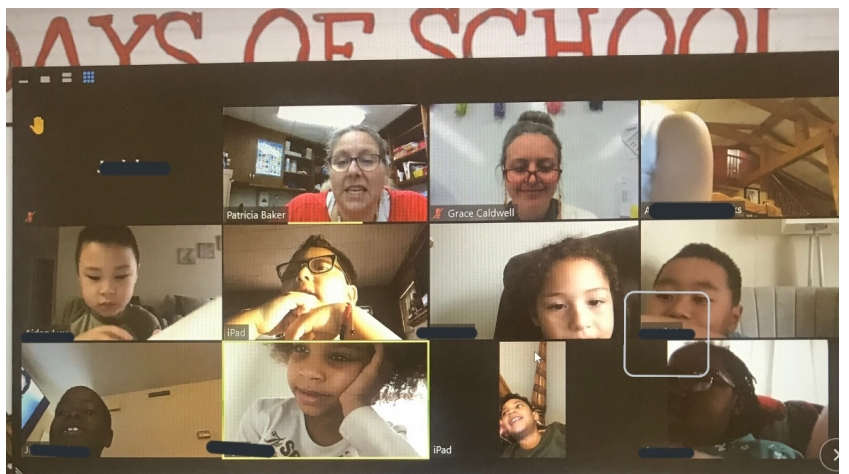




# GOOD NEWS

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT / HPS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FEBRUARY 22, 2021

**Congratulations to Northview Middle School for the recent re-designation as a "School to Watch!" According to Principal Robert Brown, the Northview faculty and staff have done an absolutely amazing job of providing a first-class education for all students.**



**Celebrating 100 days of school at Southwest Primary!**



# Celebrating All Month!

HONORING HPS SCHOOL COUNSELORS!  
National Counselors' Week (Feb. 1-5)



With the new day comes  
new strength and new thoughts.

Eleanor Roosevelt



Hickory Public  
Schools



Preparing Students  
for Careers



Devlin's  
TRIVIA  
Night

A Fundraiser Benefiting Lung  
Cancer Research & Education

Saturday, February 27, 2021, 7-8 pm. The Hickory High School Key Club is hosting a Virtual Trivia Night fundraiser in memory of Mrs. Helen Devlin, who served HPS for nearly 20 years and was a Kiwanis advisor to the HHS Key Club. Proceeds benefit Lung Cancer Research & Education.

Visit this site to sign-up for TRIVIA NIGHT or to DONATE!

<https://shar.es/aoArQY>



Helen Devlin distributed dictionaries to every 3rd grade student at HPS -- year after year!

## Longview:

- Mrs. Snider had two Donors Choose projects funded recently. One for two iPad stands that can move across the floor as well as two that can stand on a desk to record lessons and instructional videos. Another was for non-perishable food bags for students to take home and snacks they can eat during the school day. Each child will get two bags of food for the month to take home. These two projects were a value of \$802.
- February's Virtual Parent Night featured a collaboration with Lisa Neal, Youth Services Librarian at Patrick Beaver Library, who presented services available at the library for parents and children, including the Launchpad for Learning. We thank the Hickory Public Library for this valuable partnership!

## Grandview:

- Ms. Hamrick is working with students to conduct Black History Month trivia contests. She is supporting students in creating daily Black History Moments and reading them as part of our morning announcements.
- WBTV's Steve Ohnesorge came to Grandview to recognize our accomplishments in keeping a safe school according to the Duke Study.
- The PTA is providing a lunch for staff members. First Presbyterian Church is providing a lunch for staff members.
- A community partner is bringing a valentine treat for all staff members.
- Our water bottle filler was installed. Thank you!
- Mr. Morris' class is ranked number 6 in the vocabulary bowl.

## HCAM:

- Ms. Stiles and Mr. Lee did a great job spearheading a virtual open house to showcase the wonder that is HCAM. Teachers and students participated. Counselor Ms. Huntsinger followed up with a live Zoom Q&A session that was well attended by the public. We're looking forward to increase enrollment.
- HCAM Beta Club members performed a little community service project making Happy New Year cards for all HCAM staff. Students delivered those to teachers personally along with a little piece of candy on each. Virtual members were able to participate by submitting the designs of the cards. Ms. Metcalf and Ms. Starring are working with students on future community service projects.
- Ms. Eckard began the popular Arts and Crafts Club during AE this year. It brought a welcome stress relief for students. They made Valentine's cards which Beta Club members sold as a spirit-raiser for students.

## HCAM STUDENT HELPS NEEDY FAMILIES!

HCAM Student Salim Holmes and his family brought warmth and comfort to needy families by in Charlotte by participating in the "On the Block" program. Salim has a desire to help families living without homes, so he started a donation drive to collect essential items to take to the families including very valuable plastic shoe box-sized bins. Besides keeping possessions dry and air-tight, they are also used as a sink for bathing. Everyone got a bin with a lid and chose for themselves the exact items they needed. Salim collected hats, gloves, sanitizer, tissue, and more. What an inspiration to us all. Well done, Salim. We couldn't be more proud of you!





# HHS Student-Athletes Sign to Play Sports on Higher Level



**Mackenzie Tonks**  
**Soccer**  
**Brevard College**



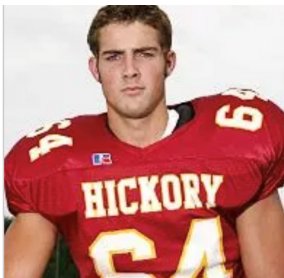
**Gwenyth Durak**  
**Swimming**  
**Brenau University**



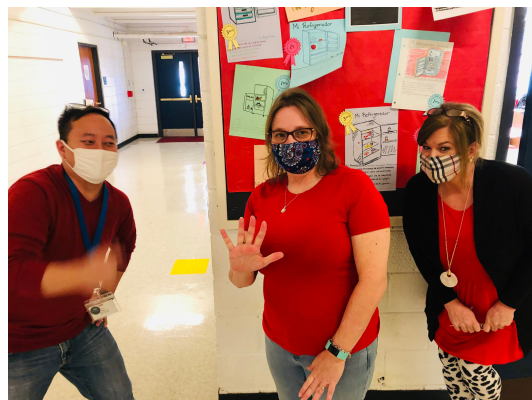
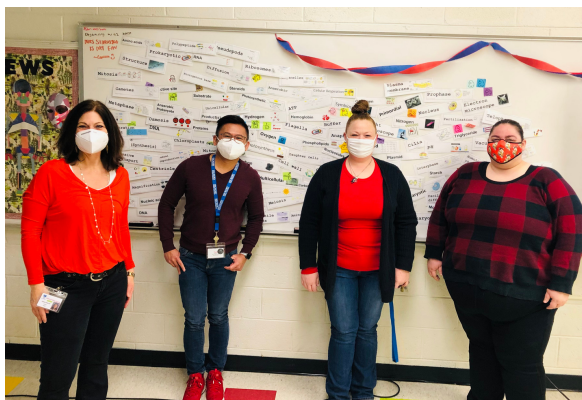
**Xavier Powers**  
**Football**  
**Methodist University**



HHS Junior, **Jacob Prince**, was selected to play defensive line in a national showcase for junior football players. Jacob had to go to three different combines and score in the top five to be selected for this event. The game was held in Georgia and televised over Youtube and other networks. Jacob represented Hickory High very well! He was able to cause a fumble, recover a fumble and be a part of several tackles. Jacob is also the newest member of the 1000 lbs Club at HHS with a three lift total of 1135lbs.



**Ryan Succop**, a **Hickory High 2005 graduate**, played a huge role in Tampa Bay Buccaneers' Super Bowl win! Congrats not only to Ryan, but to all his former coaches at HHS!



**HCAM teachers wear red to promote awareness for heart disease!**  
**Ms. Metcalf, Ms. Quan, Ms. McJunkin & Ms. Starring; Mr. Lee, Ms. Narlock & Ms. Huntsinger!**





# Teen Character Award Winners!

HHS Juniors, Monica Rodriguez Mendez and Ivana Vazquez Millian received the YMCA of Catawba Valley Teen Character Awards for 2020.

Congratulations for this outstanding achievement!  
 Top left: Ivana Vazquez Millian with Ms. Christie Edwards  
 Bottom left: Monica Rodriguez Mendez with Ms. April Kehoe



## Hickory Public Schools honored for Excellence in Communications

The North Carolina School Public Relations Association (NCSPRA) recently honored Hickory Public Schools (HPS) with Blue Ribbon Awards for “Excellence in Communications.” HPS Director of Communications, Beverly Snowden, received the awards on behalf of the district. The awards, representing outstanding and effective communication, were presented during a virtual ceremony held earlier this month.



HCAM SuperStar Graphic Design Teacher Natasha Stiles is ever current with her yearbook ad for 2021 featuring Bernie Sanders & his mittens.





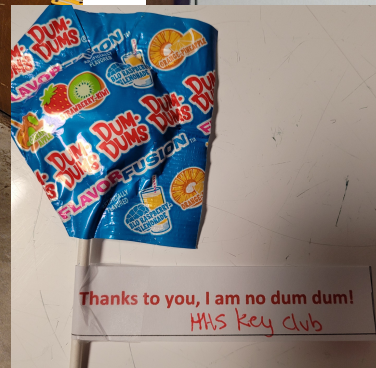
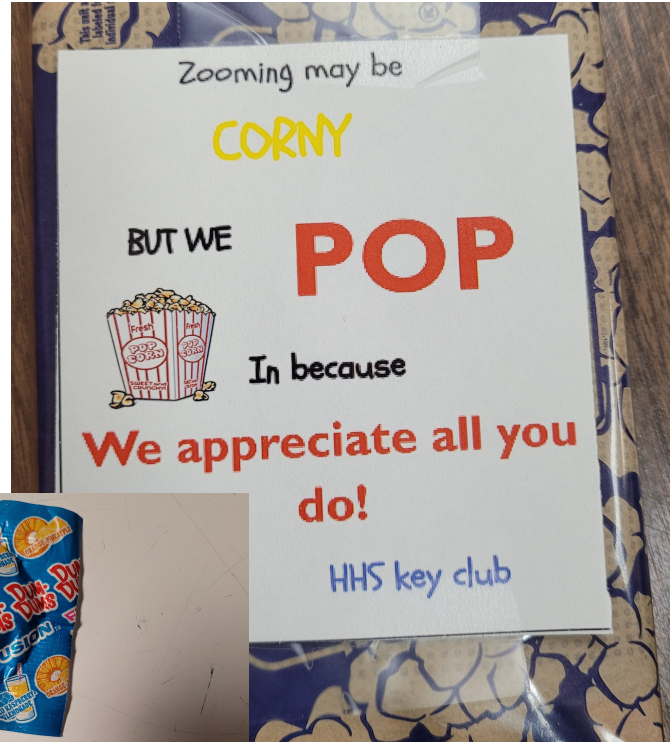
## Hickory High:

- **Professional Development**

Ms. Lisa Camichos, from HHS Social Studies department, was approved to become an AP Human Geographer Reader with College Board for the AP Exam.

- **The Key to a smile in a pandemic!**

Since the start of the semester, the HHS Key clubbers have been putting smiles on the faces of HHS staff members with weekly gifts of appreciation. From candy, to decorated rolls of toilet paper, these students went above and beyond to make their teachers feel special.



The amazing HHS PTA treated teachers and staff to a Souper-Bowl Party luncheon! The treat included a wide variety of delicious soups and desserts. It was a great way to celebrate the staff and faculty.

## Pre-K Kids Coding:

The preschoolers at HHS are learning to code through games and activities! Ms. Icard and Ms. Morrison are helping these Tiny Tornados be prepared for the future!





## Jenkins:

- Our admin team was accepted into the first cohort of Distinguished Leadership in a Remote Learning Environment, which is sponsored by NCPAPA. The program has begun, and we are already learning a great deal that we can implement at the school.
- We held a canned food drive for the Salvation Army. It was coordinated by Mrs. Danner, fourth grade teacher. Over 30 boxes of food were collected. The third grade team won, bringing in over 300 canned goods.
- i-Ready scores have improved over last year.
- Both kindergarten classes published holiday themed books

## Northview:

- IReady data: 6th Reading made HUGE gains between fall and winter.
- IReady data: 7th and 8th made strong gains between fall and winter.
- Students are working harder.
- Improved communications between school and home.
- Significant increase in students succeeding with online instruction from 1st quarter to 2nd quarter.

## Oakwood:

- Classroom participated in World Read Aloud day with a zoom read aloud with Mrs. Kaylor.
- Our PTA and school celebrated Mrs. Kubiniec during the month of school counselor week.
- Mallory Thompson was assigned to Oakwood as our full-time substitute teacher. She has worked in various grade levels since that time.
- Every Woman's Wellness Center donated children's face masks and 25 contactless thermometers for classroom teachers and office staff.
- PTA continues to support teachers. They recently provided a soup and salad lunch for staff.

## Viewmont:

- 1st Water Bottle Filling station has been installed
- We have added teachers to help reduce class size issues
- Progress is being made, overall, on iReady
- Working on getting LRU athletes to do a virtual reading with classes during Dr. Seuss Week in March.
- Anna Bottoms has been assigned to Viewmont as a full-time substitute. We are thankful!



Hickory Career and Arts Magnet High School  
Published by Delisse Metcalf · January 12 at 4:24 PM · 🌐

Join Mr. Vigardt's English classes on Wednesday, January 12 to perform a role in Julius Caesar. <https://meet.google.com/dpg-fnaa-xmw?hs=122&authuser=0>

UPDATED EDITION WITH DETAILED NOTES

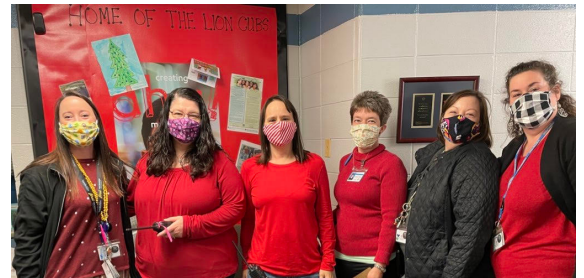
William Shakespeare's  
**JULIUS CAESAR**

Join Mr. Vigardt's Junior and Senior English classes for a dramatic reading of Julius Caesar. HCAM students as well as community members will pick up the action in Act 3 and read through until the demise of the great leader himself. Log in the above link on Wednesday Jan 13 at 10:00 am to join in on the action.

This is the coolest!  
Shakespeare's Julius  
Caesar online with Mr.  
Vigardt's English classes  
at HCAM!  
We look forward to the  
next dramatic  
presentation! Making  
online-learning work!

## Southwest:

- Mrs. Munoz' contract, through the EPI program, was extended two more years! This good news allows her to continue to teach in our Dual Language Immersion Program!
- Hickory Education Foundation funded Mrs. Ashley's grant to provide math manipulative kits to all of our virtual learners! All items have been purchased and distributed to students!
- Successful first month at full capacity for our Pre-K through Second grade students. We are pleased with the progress. Southwest Primary students celebrated their 100th day of school! Students celebrated being 100 days smarter by dressing 100 years old or with 100 objects on their clothing!
- Principal Sigmon continues to creatively engage virtual and face to face students in morning announcements via Zoom. Everyday at 8:45 she leads students in the Southwest Primary pledge and character commitment, Pledge of Allegiance, social-emotional breathing techniques, and daily updates. It has been a great way for our virtual learners to see the faces of various teachers within the building that they would not typically see as well as providing a chance for our in-house students to briefly reunite with their online friends.
- Lenoir Rhyme pre-service teachers are back on campus and working in their Learning Lab with our Kindergarten and First grade students! We are so thankful for their partnership and the work of Dr. Hank Weddington and Dr. Monica Campbell!
- Beth McMahan has fully dedicated her time and support as a full-time substitute teacher for our students and staff. We are forever thankful for her unwavering commitment to Southwest Primary!



**Southwest Primary teachers (above) wear RED for heart disease awareness. (Left) Southwest students learn to count and group numbers as they celebrate 100 days of school!**



**Southwest Primary students working in their learning labs--funded by the HPS Education Foundation!**