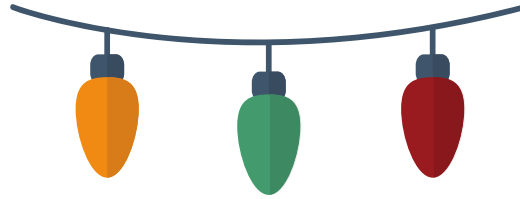


HPS "GOOD NEWS"

Communications Department / HPS Board of Education

12-7-2020



On-Campus Field Trips

In order to maintain Covid regulations, **Ms. Schronce's and Ms. Watts' EC self-contained classrooms** have been visiting different specialized classrooms within HHS in lieu of going on off-campus field trips. **Students visited the Auto Lab, Carpentry, JROTC, and the Phys. Ed. departments** to learn new skills, work as a team, and even play a game of basketball with a couple of our local police officers and our Admin. **(Bottom left--Auto)**

Science Lab-- Remote-Learning Style!



Reese Cline, 10th grader at HHS, leads DNA experiments at home under the remote-learning lesson from Mrs. Diana Beasley! (above & right)



SRO Grier at HHS joined Mr. Peña's English 1 class for a Zoom meeting to explain how a fight scene from Romeo and Juliet would be handled in real life by Law Enforcement. Mr. Peña's students asked questions about how the Criminal Justice system works, and Officer Grier was able to share details about the role law enforcement and other organizations play in such situations. **(Bottom right)**



Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling

The HHS language department joined a workshop of TPRS, which stands for Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling. This method uses highly interactive stories to provide comprehensible input and create an immersion-like environment. Language teachers were taught this method by learning Portuguese. #TeamLanguages exceeds its "why" to provide meaningful classes and prepare our students to succeed in their lives.

TPRS-Workshop

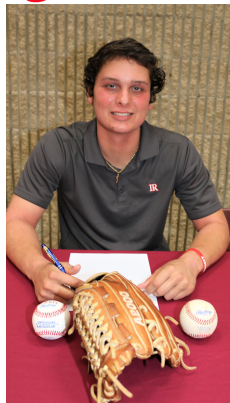
O que? <small>What?</small>	Quem? <small>Who?</small>	Onde? <small>Where?</small>
<p>George quer uma Coca-Cola. <small>George wants a Coca-Cola.</small></p>		
eu quero	I want	
você quer	You want	
ela quer	She wants	
ele quer	He wants	

Como? <small>How?</small>	Quantos? <small>How many?</small>	Por que? <small>Why?</small>
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#TeamLanguages



**Congratulations to these high-achieving
Hickory High student-athletes!**

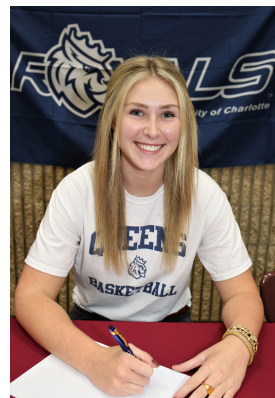


**Top (L-R): Delaney Deffke, Lacrosse, University of Montevallo;
Davis Hall, Baseball, Lenoir-Rhyne University;
Ellie Rumbaugh, Lacrosse, Longwood University**

**(R):
Kellen Morin,
Volleyball,
Virginia Tech**



**(L):
Finley Lefevers,
Basketball,
Queens
University**





Two HPS Educators Renew National Board Certification!

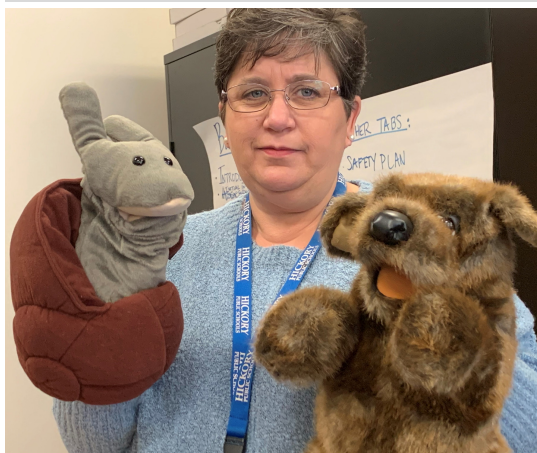


Samantha Laws (Left) and Dawn McDaniel have earned their renewal certification for National Board Certification! Laws, in her 26th year in education, is the Teacher Leadership Specialist at Oakwood Elementary and McDaniel, in her 19th year in education, is the AIG Specialist for both Viewmont and Oakwood Elementary Schools.



Congrats Ms. Laws & Ms. McDaniel!

Thank you to K-64 for the "secondSTEP" Program Kits!



Angela Simmons, HPS director of student services, shares some of the puppets provided in the literacy tools in the secondSTEP academic kits.



Thanks to K-64, all of the HPS elementary schools now have a complete "secondSTEP" curriculum kit for each classroom! The kits provide useful tools for the teachers and students designed to strengthen social and academic skills. Each box, valued at approximately \$500, provides lesson plans and follow-up activities in both English & Spanish. **We are so grateful for this huge gift to HPS!**



Vanessa Lail wins Bright Ideas Grant!



Vanessa Lail, media specialist at Grandview Middle, wins a **Bright Ideas** grant from **Rutherford Electric Membership Corp.** in the amount of \$989.95. This grant will be used to construct a Learning Trail around the grounds of Grandview. (An Eagle Scout candidate is interested in helping with this endeavor!). Congrats to Ms. Lail!

CLOUDS AND RAIN 55 • 50 FORECAST | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020 | hickoryrecord.com



Southwest students share holiday art in the HDR!

Students

From A1

“The best part of Thanksgiving is that I can spend time with my family and with my friends and play and eat. Me gusta que puedo correr con mis amigos y mis hermanos nosotros podemos jugar afuera y correr. Tambien me gusta compartir con mis padres.”

Britany, second-grader in the class of Mrs. Stiles and Sra. Munoz at Southwest Primary School



Students thankful for family, friends, food

KRISTEN HART
khart@hickoryrecord.com

We asked Catawba County students: What is the best part of Thanksgiving? Students from the Hickory, Catawba County and Newton-Conover public school systems responded with colorful artwork and shared a

bit about what they love about the holiday.

Here's what some of the children had to say. Some responses were edited for clarity.

“My favorite part of Thanksgiving is that I am with my grandma and my family. Tamiem me gusta que estoy

con mis tiosy tias y me gusta jugar con mis primasy primos. Tambien yo juego afuera y juego con mis hermanasy primasy primos.”

Jacqueline, first-grader in the class of Mrs. Stiles and Sra. Munez at Southwest Primary School

This picture was drawn by Jacqueline. She is a second-grader at Southwest Primary School.

Please see STUDENTS, Page A3



Additional Good News!

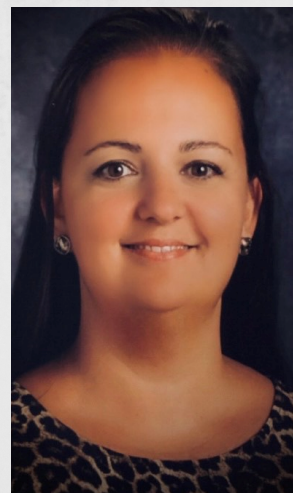


"I am extremely proud of the hard work of the staff and students at Grandview. Our team is diligent about implementation of common-sense safety precautions. Our students are great to wear their masks and practice social distancing. Teachers and staff members have quickly adapted practices and amended instructional delivery models as we have grown in our experience in this hybrid model. We are thrilled to have our students back, and appreciative of the slow and measured steps our board and administration have taken to allow us to feel comfortable and confident in the ability to make this work." -- Dr. Jennifer Griffin, principal, Grandview Middle



"I would say that so far the year has been a lesson in flexibility. It has stretched us mentally and physically. Our teachers are teaching their hearts out! We have gotten more familiar with various tech tools and been pushed outside of our comfort zones to be creative in new ways. This year looks a lot different than in the past, but we keep moving forward!" -- Eric Puryear, principal, HCAM

"Teaching during COVID times is a lot like the Wizard of Oz. As the individuals multitasking behind the curtain, we create magic for the kids every day. We exhibit bravery while venturing through these uncertain times with changes around every corner. We teach and love our students with our whole hearts. We encourage those brains to continue being great thinkers and thinking deep thoughts. Yes, this is a very hard time for everyone, but my students and I can see all the opportunities that we have been given and are grateful for each other's health, safety and commitment." --Erin Irvin, fifth-grade teacher at Viewmont Elementary



"I understand that the hybrid model has been a challenge for all. We have found success by keeping the lines of communication open and by being proactive in planning. Keeping students and staff safe is my top priority. I am very proud of the creativity and efforts that the staff has exhibited to provide quality education to our students."

--Jeff Hodakowski, principal, Viewmont Elementary



***“The hybrid plan is working for Longview! We are providing additional personalized instruction for students and have improved communication with parents, better than ever! A side benefit is that teachers have sharpened their technology skills and techniques in a blended learning environment.” --
Judy Jolly, principal, Longview Elementary***

“Here at Grandview Middle, we have settled into a wonderful groove with hybrid learning. The students are doing a great job with wearing their masks and following the other safety measures in place. We are so proud of the Grandview team, including our students and their hard work; the parents and their support; and the teachers and staff who constantly go above and beyond for our school.”

-- Kimberly Vegter, chorus teacher at Grandview Middle



“The keyword with the hybrid approach is flexibility. Teachers are teaching all three of their periods to both remote and in-person students. They are adjusting their classrooms to meet the state guidelines with social distancing, creating effective lessons that serve the hybrid approach and working diligently in their Professional Learning Communities to ensure we keep the rigor and the focus, which is learning for our students.”

-- Rebecca Tuttle, principal, Hickory High

“While the day-to-day implementation has had its challenges, I have observed the faculty, administration, and staff find ways to adjust and modify what they are doing to address the needs of our students. Even more impressive has been the acclimation of many of our students and families to this new learning environment. The obstacles have certainly been present, and frustrations have occurred almost daily, but the resolve of everyone to persevere and find ways to motivate one another has been commendable.”

--Lacey Jacobs, school counselor at Jenkins Elementary





"Personally, most of my students have been exceeding my expectations. They show up in school or online, via Zoom. Students participate in discussions, ask questions, and I help troubleshoot problems, just as if the online students were in my computer lab. As an educator, this hybrid experience has allowed me to connect and get to know my students on a personal level." --Natasha Stiles, Graphics & Photography Academy teacher at HCAM

"This school year can best be described with Ralph Waldo Emerson's quote: 'Life is a journey, not a destination.' We started this year with much uncertainty about how we were going to teach our students and, more importantly, make those meaningful connections with them. As a fourth-grade team, we developed a plan to teach our students through Google Meet with students both in the classroom and virtually. What started out as a plan to teach our students has blossomed into a lifeline for them. On this journey, we have been able to effectively teach, nurture and love our students despite the challenges we have faced ... and what a journey it has been!"

-- Peter Rothenberger, fourth-grade teacher at Longview Elementary



HPS Educators share "thankful" thoughts

Teachers: Give me eager minds, Netflix

Educators share Thanksgiving thoughts

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Instructors with the Hickory and Catawba County school systems are thankful for a number of things as 2020 nears its end, including eager stu-

dent minds, supportive families and, as one exceptionally honest teacher said, Netflix.

Here are some of the responses generated when the Hickory Daily Record asked teachers to share their Thanksgiving thoughts. The responses have been edited for length and clarity.

Dorothy Matheson Dalton, fifth-grade math and science teacher at Oakwood Elementary School

"I am thankful to be able to teach my students remotely and in person (while remaining as safe as possible), ensuring that they are receiving live, rigorous instruction with

immediate feedback in the face of adversity. I am thankful for eager, hardworking students who collaborate and contribute to a positive classroom culture, even though we are separated and have social distancing constraints. I appreciate supportive parents and administrators, who are making

this all possible while they, themselves, are struggling. I am grateful for my family, who love me unconditionally and encourage me daily, and for my amazing teammate, Laura Marvin, whom I call my 'better half' at school; I could



Dalton

Teachers

From A1

not weather this storm without her."

Daniel Willis, health and physical education teacher at Hickory High School

"I am thankful for the opportunity to return to the Hickory community and a place that has impacted my life in a powerful way. I take great pride in where I was raised, and I will do everything I can as a teacher and coach to make sure every student and athlete gets the same love, support, and guidance that I received. I am also grateful to be back around my family, friends, and so many other supporters that makes Hickory a special place."



Willis

Anyea Gibson, fifth-grade math teacher at Viewmont Elementary School

"I am thankful for each and every day that I am alive and able to do what I love to do! 2020 has taught me that we never know when our time is up, so we should thank God for all of the marvelous things he has done. I am also thankful for my amazing and supportive family, my rock star fifth-grade team, my wonderful Viewmont family, and my sweet students who make me feel like a superstar teacher every day. Have a happy Thanksgiving!!"



Gibson

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Meredith Clay, intervention support at Southwest Primary

"This year I am thankful for many things. I am

thankful that I get to work with so many amazing people who lift me up each day and help me grow personally and professionally. I'm thankful for the opportunity to spend my days working in the Hickory Public School system with the most amazing students at Southwest Primary. Their passion for learning and connecting is my 'why' and I'm so thankful to serve and be a part of the Hickory community. I'm especially thankful for my family. From my husband, daughter, and pup who surround me with love each waking moment to the family that I am unable to see each day; I'm thankful for their love. So, in short, reflecting on all of the things that are currently happening in our world, I am certainly thankful for the people that I am able to spend my days with, be it face-to-face or with the use of technology. Simply put, I'm thankful for my village."



Clay

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Tammy Reyes, band director at Grandview Middle School

"I am thankful for my family at home, and also my great work family that supports keeping each other healthy and safe."

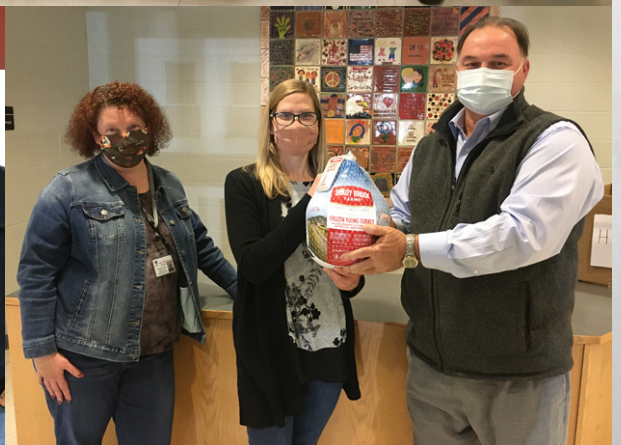
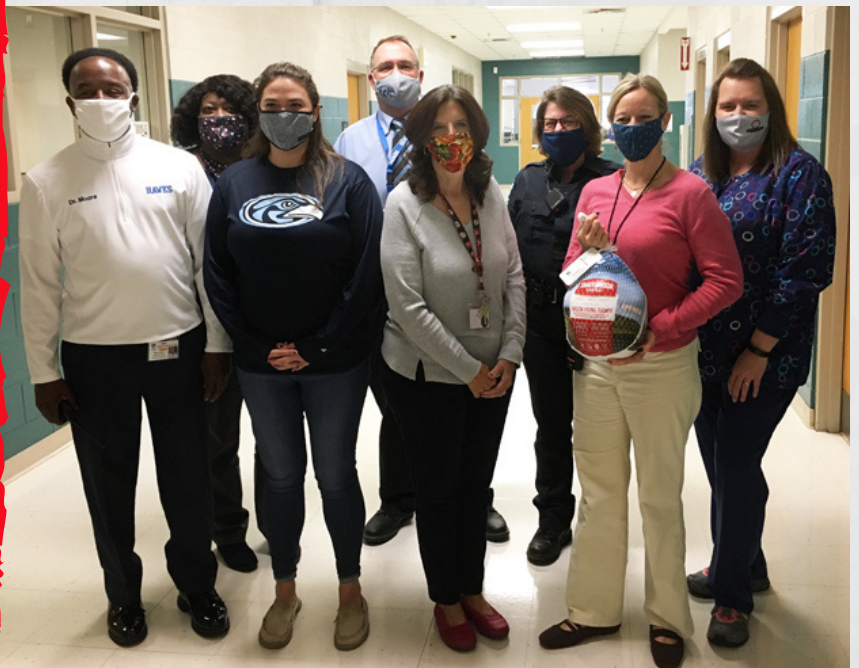


Reyes

Thank you!

HPS extends a warm thank you to **D&L Parts Company, Inc. of Hickory** for supplying a huge Thanksgiving meal to a family of six at Grandview Middle and a family of eight at Northview Middle. A turkey with all the trimmings helped these families enjoy a special holiday!

Top photo--Northview team; bottom left: D&L team; and bottom right: Grandview team





MORE SCHOOL NEWS...

Hickory High:

- **Beta and Key Clubs** donated dozens of supplies, towels & blankets to the Salvation Army to help the homeless. Thank you to sponsors **Lisa Edwards and Katherine Whitesides; Robin Chicelli and Elaine Seaver.**



• **Coach Weatherman congratulates Jalen Rose** for being the first student-athlete this year to become a member of the 1000 lb club. Jalen has compiled 1085 pounds using only three lifts. Jalen is a member of the football team where he plays Defensive and Offensive line while competing for the Track team where he throws the shot and discus. "Jalen is a very dedicated individual in the classroom and on the field. I could not be prouder of his efforts," said Weatherman.

- **Longview:** Donation from a Community Partner - We are grateful to **Wal-Mart** for the donation of **\$2,500!** Longview is excited to be part of the test of the new HPS web filter, and the new filtering and support options it brings to our teachers and students.
- **Grandview: Alison Willard,** art teacher, continues to host interactive art Zooms and virtual trips weekly. 7th grade students are conducting a service project to collect toiletries for the **Salvation Army**. Collecting Peanut and Jelly for the **Porch and Corner Tables** organized by the **Guardian Ad Litem Program; First Presbyterian Church** is providing teachers lunch once a month!
- **Jenkins:** Several staff members completed the In **Sync and Equip** professional development sessions on Eureka Math, which will facilitate their ability to provide blended learning. Partnered with **Mt. Olive Lutheran Church** to provide Thanksgiving meals for needy families. Some of our fifth grade girls have been working with **Mrs. Hopper,** our media specialist, to do book reviews. The group is called the Bibliophiles.
- **Oakwood: Mrs. Holbrook** and **our PTA** conducted an online auction with items from Spring 2020. It was truly a success. Our student-led Oakwood News has continued to be a source of information for our students and staff in the mornings. **Mrs. Kaylor** has instructed students in becoming a digital citizen through various activities and lessons. **Mrs. Dalton** has continued to grow our fifth grade students through a variety of songs relating to the curriculum. Be sure to check out their performances on Twitter.
- **Southwest: Mrs. Anderson's** class Angel purchased each of her students three chapter books! Three Kindergarten classes had **Donors Choose** projects funded! The Southwest Primary **PTA** donated a Keurig machine to the staff in support of staff wellness! Dominos Spirit Night has raised over \$400!
- **Viewmont:** Final Update on our **Castle of Cans Donation** - Our school donated \$532! Remember \$1 = 7 pounds of food. That means we donated 3724 pounds of food. Great job! Currently participating in the **Guardian ad Litem PB&J** collection at the school. Received a donation of cleaning supplies from **Lowe's Home Improvement!**

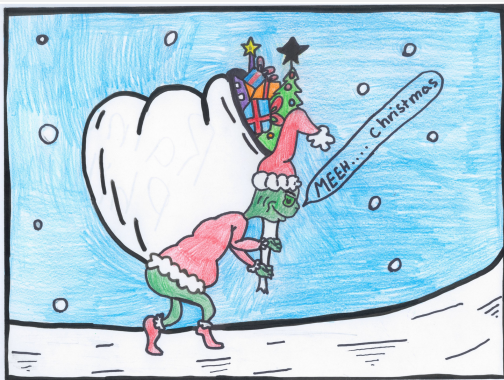
Contest Winners--2020 HOLIDAY CARDS



(L): Winning cover art, Chantali Bonilla, 10th grade, HCAM; (R) Juanita Hernandez-Alamo, 8th grade, Northview Middle



(L): Dana Tabla Figueroa, 1st grade, Southwest; (R) Ashley Mejia-Mejia, 5th grade, Oakwood; next row left: Rainey Phillips., 5th grade, Longview; middle: Noah Cunningham, 5th grade, Jenkins; Elizabeth Vicente, 8th grade, Grandview Middle



(L): Cailee Jenkins, 5th grade, Viewmont; (R) Amira Alliani, 9th grade, Hickory High

