

NHCS Parents E-News Update

A publication by the Public Relations Department of New Hanover County Schools

March 2010

TECHNOLOGY FAIR 2010

**Thursday, March 11th
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
UNCW - Warwick Center**

Students and teachers will showcase how technology is used for teaching and learning. Parents and the community are encouraged to attend the fair and learn more about the latest technology in NHCS.

*For more information please call:
NHCS Technology Dept.
254-4284.*




BEST FOOT FORWARD TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

\$10 each
General Admission Seats
All Ages

Tickets are available for purchase through any participating school and at the following NHCS Central Office locations:

- **NHCS Administration Building**
6410 Carolina Beach Road
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **Spencer Building- 1802 South 15th Street,**
during the following times:
Wednesday, March 10th - Friday, March 12th
12 noon - 4:00 p.m.
Monday, March 15th - Thursday, March 18th
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday, March 19th - 8:00 a.m. - until sold out

Don't wait too late to purchase tickets. Year after year, Best Foot Forward is a sold-out show, and no tickets are available for purchase at the door. For more information about Best Foot Forward 2010, call (910) 254-4317.



Middle School Redistricting Update

The New Hanover County Board of Education recently revised the approved Middle School Redistricting Map-2C. This map is now the official Middle School District Line map for NHCS. It will take effect with the 2010-11 school year. The middle school district line map is on the district's web site, www.nhcs.net.

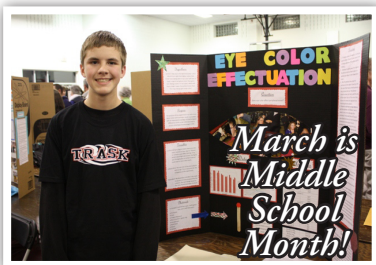
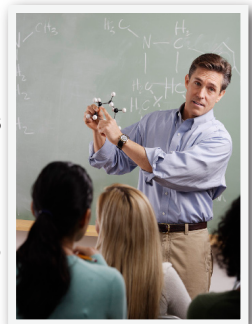
NHCS Teachers Achieve National Board Certification

Thirty-five New Hanover County Schools' teachers recently earned the distinction of becoming National Board Certified Teachers. They join the 298 teachers in the district who previously received national certification, taking the district's total to 333. In addition, 18 NHCS teachers renewed their National Board Certification in 2008-2009.

National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential. It is valid for 10 years, and renewal candidates must begin the renewal process during their eighth or ninth years as NBCTs.

National Board Certification is achieved upon successful completion of a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize effective and accomplished teachers who meet high standards based on what teachers should know and be able to do.

As part of the certification process, candidates complete 10 assessments that are reviewed by trained teachers in their certificate areas. The assessments include four portfolio entries that feature teaching practice and six constructed response exercises that assess content knowledge.



Sexting *A Growing Concern*

“Sexting” has become a sweeping concern across the United States particularly with middle and high school students. Sexting is the act of sending explicit messages or photos through mobile phones. According to The National Campaign to Prevent Teen & Unplanned Pregnancy of teenagers, 38 percent of teenagers admitted to sending nude pictures through their mobile device. This alarming rate has caught the attention of several school systems throughout the nation and prompted them to address it at school assemblies and in materials sent to parents.

The consequences of Sexting are serious. Sending or receiving inappropriate photos via mobile phone or e-mail is classified as child pornography and can prompt felony charges. Sexting is illegal and can cause emotional and mental harm



to teenagers because of the damage in reputation and image. Teenagers must understand the severity of the act because such consequences can restrict their ability to attend college and future employment.

Talking to our children about the challenges they face is now more important than ever. Students are faced with numerous issues in the world today. Parents are encouraged to keep the lines of communication open between them and their children. A two-way dialog can go a long way toward helping your children understand how to minimize legal, social and reputation risks. For more information about sexting, visit www.talkingwithkids.org.

National Music in Our Schools Month

March is designated as National Music in Our Schools Month (MIOSM). The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music.

New Hanover County Schools has demonstrated a continuing commitment to providing Arts Education programs in our schools. Arts programs give our students an opportunity to express themselves creatively through music, art and theater production. The celebration continues to grow each year, reaching more and more students, teachers, musicians, and music supporters.

Schools Month (MIOSM).



Winter Park Elementary Chorus



NHCS Summer Arts Camp

NHCS offer art and music at the elementary level. Chorus, orchestra, band, theater arts, and visual arts are course opportunities in middle and high schools. Faculty and staff contributions help to enrich programs through sharing their expertise and passion for the arts. According to the College Board, students that are active in arts programs score better on both portions of the SAT. Students are also intellectually curious and seek opportunities to grow in their craft.

Be sure to visit your child’s school’s next music program and support the arts programs in NHCS.

March Dates to Celebrate

March 1 - 31

Music in Our Schools Month

Communicating the importance of music in the learning experience.

www.menc.org

March 1 - 31

Women’s History Month

Proclaimed by Congress as a month to celebrate the rich and inspiring heritage of women’s contributions to the United States.

March 1 - 31

Youth Art Month

The Council for Art Education sponsors this month to emphasize the importance of art activities for children.

www.acminet.org

March 8 - 12

National School Breakfast Week

Sponsored by the School Nutrition Association

www.schoolnutrition.org

March 14 - 20

National Agriculture Week

Opportunity for students to learn about America’s largest industry.

www.agday.com

Help your child develop a LOVE for reading

Reading is such an integral part of a child’s education. Parent involvement is key in helping students become life-long readers. Consider some of the following tips to help your child develop a LOVE for reading.

- **Make reading a DAILY experience.**
- **Create a family reading night.**
- **Build reading into an activity your child loves.**
- **Plan a family adventure to the library.**
- **Mirror the classroom process at home.**
- **Give your child confidence to read.**
- **Pick some award-winning books to read together.**

