



Our Future, Our Commitment, Our Students

## Friday Update 3/31/6

| Meeting                      | Date | Time      | Location          |
|------------------------------|------|-----------|-------------------|
| Board of Education Meeting   | 4/3  | 7:00 p.m. | MMC               |
| NBCT Recognition Banquet     | 4/4  | 6:00 p.m. | Louisburg College |
| Art Teachers Meeting         | 4/5  | 4:00 p.m. | LHS               |
| BOE C+I Meeting              | 4/6  | 4:00 p.m. | MMC               |
| Principals' Meeting          | 4/12 | 8:30 a.m. | MMC               |
| Special Called Board Meeting | 4/24 | 7:00 p.m. | MMC               |
| APs Meeting/Academy          | 4/25 | 4:00 p.m. | LMES              |
| STAC Meeting                 | 4/26 | 4:00 p.m. | BHS               |

**Spring Forward!** Sunday begins Daylight Savings Time. So ... don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour.

**United Way:** On Thursday, March 30, the United Way of Franklin County recognized the school system as a member of the "*Franklin County Pioneer Society*". This means that we contributed over \$10,000! In fact, the public school system is the largest contributor, right up there with the Hon Company, Novozymes, and Wake Electric. We have so much to be proud of in Franklin County, and our ability to dig deep in our pockets and give to others who are less fortunate is a great testament to our generosity and the caliber of people we work with. Special thanks for a job well done go to Dale Byrns who led the system-wide campaign and each school coordinator.

**Teachers Working Condition Survey:** The following are excerpts from Governor Mike Easley's March 22<sup>nd</sup> letter to teachers and principals regarding the 2006 Teachers Working Condition Survey: "Improving teaching working conditions is one of the key strategies in teacher retention. ... To encourage participation, each week, teachers from every school with a 100% response rate will be eligible for a \$500 gift certificate from DonorsChoose NC to use on any classroom project. Teachers will also be eligible for a \$2,500 Plasma TV grand prize donated by BellSouth NC. The teacher of the year ... in your school received a packet of letters from (Gov. Easley) that contain individual anonymous access codes that are needed to complete the survey. The 2006 survey is available to every teacher and administrator online at [www.northcarolinawc.org](http://www.northcarolinawc.org) starting March 27 – May 1, 2006." If you have trouble, call the helpdesk at 866-299-1489.

**Textbook Website:** "Have you ever wondered how textbooks are selected for the public schools? Or how publishers get their books considered by the Textbook Commission? Find answers to these questions by visiting the redesigned Textbook Adoption Services Website. With a new look and user-friendly navigation, visitors can access a wealth of information pertaining to textbook adoption. (<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/textbook/>)" (Taken from DPI email)

**NCWISE:** Reminder – this is a state-wide maintenance weekend. The system will go down at 5:00 p.m. today and will be up by 6:00 a.m. Monday. (Patty Jones)

**The All-County Band Concert** is scheduled for this Saturday night, April 1, 2006, at the Louisburg College Auditorium. Concert time is 7:00 p.m. Our young people and band teachers are practicing diligently for this event. Everyone is invited to come support our band programs.

**Benchmark Testing:** High School CRTs and core area teachers are working hard to finish developing the high school benchmark tests. This year, we are conducting benchmarks in Algebra 1, Biology, English 1, U.S. History, and Civics. All freshmen beginning with the 2006-07 school year will be required to meet proficiency in these areas for high school graduation. Benchmark testing is a common thread among high schools that achieve higher than 90% proficiency on the performance composite of the accountability program. The tests will be administered by teachers in their classrooms during the regular instructional day. The tests will be scanned at the central office, and CRTs will be able to review valuable data with teachers in preparation for the EOCs. The tests will be given the week before spring break. Next year, we will have one benchmark test in the fall and one in the spring.

Middle School CRTs and teachers are also in the midst of spring benchmark testing, using items from the Study Island program. Like benchmarks at the other levels, we will scan and produce reports from the central office.

**Summer School Employment:** We are still receiving applications for summer school employment. We will be reviewing the applications soon; however, we won't know exactly how many teachers we will need until the end of the year draws nearer. Please contact your principal for an application if interested. Send applications to Rita Duke at the Mitchell Media Center.

(Curriculum Update: Dr. Eddie Ingram)

**Have A Great Weekend,  
Bert L'Homme,  
Superintendent**