



Our Future, Our Commitment, Our Students

Friday Update 4/7/6

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Intercession – Year Round Schools	4/10-21	----	Riverside and Youngsville
Principals' Meeting	4/12	8:30 a.m.	MMC
Holiday – No School	4/14	----	----
Spring Break	4/17-21	----	Traditional Calendar
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
Teacher Workday	4/28	----	Traditional Calendar
Early Release Day	5/3	----	Traditional and Year Round
Board of Education Meeting	5/8	7:00 p.m.	MMC
Principals' Meeting	5/10	8:30 a.m.	MMC
Child Nutrition Banquet	5/18	6:30 p.m.	Louisburg College
Early Release Day	5/24	----	Traditional and Year Round
Band and Music Teachers' Meeting	5/24	4:00 p.m.	LHS
Dropout Prevention Meeting	5/25	4:00 p.m.	FHS
Teacher Workday	5/26	----	Year Round Calendar
Holiday – No School	5/29		
STAC Meeting	5/31	4:00 p.m.	YES
Teacher of the Year Dinner	6/1	5:30 p.m.	Louisburg Methodist Church
Board of Education Meeting	6/5	7:00 p.m.	MMC
Last Day of School	6/9	----	Traditional Calendar
Annual Retirement Dinner	6/12	6:00 p.m.	MMC
FCS Honors Program	6/14	11:00 a.m.	LES
Graduation Day – Louisburg College Auditorium	6/15	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Franklinton High School Louisburg High School Bunn High School
Last day of School	6/16	----	Year Round Calendar

April Board Meeting: This past Monday night was a busy and important night for the board and Franklin County Schools. The board approved the purchase of 114 acres for the new Franklinton High School and the new elementary school. Located west of Franklinton and US 1, the property is on the corner of Fred Wilder Road and Hwy. 56. Additionally, the board approved the following: 2006/7 Current Local Expense Budget, Wellness Policy, and Bullying Policy. Mr. Piper distributed the 2006/7 Bell Schedule, and Jon Long identified the location of additions to Laurel Mill, Bunn, and Youngsville Elementary Schools. Patty Jones presented the new formula for calculating growth scores and other news from testing that go into effect this year.

Congratulations NC Teaching Fellows: Franklinton High School students Christopher Cannady and Eleanor Fuller were selected as recipients for the NC Teaching Fellows Scholarships. Congratulations students and FHS staff!

AP Exams (Virtual High School): AP exam reviews are available on line free of charge, courtesy of the North Carolina Virtual Public School. The North Carolina Virtual School has partnered with the Florida Virtual School, to provide this opportunity and to promote academic achievement for North Carolina students. If interested, please contact your school guidance counselor.

ABCs of Public Education – 2006 Update:

1) **Performance Composite Elementary Schools:** EOGs and Grade 4 Writing, and alternate assessments.

Middle Schools: EOGs and Grade 7 Writing, Computer Skills, Algebra I and alternate assessments.

High Schools: Compares EOC scores for the current year with previous EOC and EOG scores as pretest (See box below). Also uses dropout rate, competency pass rate, and percentage of students meeting the College University Prep/College Tech Prep Standards.

2) **New Growth Component:** Comparison of current performance to past performance of individual students over three years (uses EOG developmental scale scores, EOC scale scores and other components at the high school level).

3) **Implications:** Fewer schools will achieve “Expected Growth,” fewer schools will achieve “High Growth,” better comparability achieved across grade levels and EOC subjects. In order to earn a “High Growth” designation, the school must make expected growth, and 60% of students must make individual growth.

High School Model – Previous Assessments

Biology:	EOG Reading Grade 8 and English I
Physical Science:	EOG Math Grade 8
Physics:	Chemistry and Geometry
Chemistry:	Biology
Algebra II:	Algebra I
Algebra I:	EOG Math Grade 8
Geometry:	Algebra I and EOG Math Grade 8
English I:	EOG Reading Grade 8

United Way: Last week, we congratulated everyone for their generosity to the Franklin County United Way. This year, there was a 27% increase in giving. FCS raised over \$22,000! Thanks to the following UW building-level coordinators, without their help success would not have been possible: Jewel Eason (BES), Barbara Denton (BMS), Kim Mitchell (BHS), Dale Byrns (CEC), Kim Heller (CCMS), Amend Casj (EBES), Jama Gilliam (Child Nutrition), Shirley Davis & Amy Brewer (FES), Melissa Yeazel (FHS), Eva Aycocock (LMES), Kim Allen (LES), Chris Blice (LHS), Rebecca Leonard (REMS), Tonya Brodie (RES), Carolyn Joyner (TLMS), Rick Smith (YES), and Diane Revelle (CO).

Teacher Working Condition Survey: The 2006 survey is available to every teacher and administrator online at www.northcarolinatwc.org starting March 27 – May 1, 2006. If you have trouble, call the helpdesk at 866-299-1489.

Research Says! “In a comprehensive study of the effects of professional community on instructional practice in 1,500 US schools, Newman, Marks and Gamoran (1995) conclude: Professional community not only boosted student achievement gains, it also helped to make the gains more equitable among socio-economic groups (p. 37). When teachers collaborate productively, they participate in reflective dialogue; they observe and react to one another’s teaching, curriculum, and assessment practices; and they engage in joint planning and curriculum development.”

Art Shows: Art work for grades kindergarten through eleven will be on display at the Louisburg College Auditorium from May 10th – May 18th. Franklin County Seniors will have their art on display from May 24th through graduation (June 15th). Art teachers will receive additional details about set up times.

WFSGs: Please be reminded that Carlene Murphy will be returning to Franklin County Schools the week of May 8th. She plans to meet with principals individually on the 8th and 9th for a reflection of the year and for next steps. We have made great strides this year, and we will continue to refine the process. Whole-Faculty Study Groups is our formal structure for imbedded staff development. The transition of our discussions in WFSGs to classroom practice is a very critical step in the process.

Benchmark Testing: High schools will be conducting high school benchmark testing next week; the tests are here. CRTs will facilitate the process. We will scan the results at the Mitchell Media Center, and reports will be available after spring break.

(Dr. Eddie Ingram, Curriculum and Instruction)

Friday Update Hiatus: The Update will be on hiatus for Spring Break and will resume publication on April 28th. Have a great Spring Break!

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT – Does It Matter?

According to the National Education Association, here are some of the findings of major research into parental involvement in the child's schooling:

- When parents are involved in their children's education at home, kids do better in school. When parents are involved in school, kids go farther in school.
- A home environment that encourages learning is more important to student achievement than income, education level, or culture.
- Reading aloud to children is the most important activity that parents can do to increase their child's reading success. Talking to children about the books and stories that were read to them also contributes to reading achievement.
- When children and parents talk regularly about school, children perform better academically.

Three kinds of parental involvement at home contribute to higher achievement:

- organizing and monitoring the child's time
- helping with homework
- discussing school matters.
- The earlier parental involvement begins, the more powerful the effects for the child.

Parental involvement has been shown to:

- improve student achievement
- reduce absenteeism
- improve student behavior
- restore parents' confidence in their children's schooling.

Parental involvement may include:

- Reading to your child
- Checking homework
- Discussing your children's progress with teachers
- Voting in school board elections
- Helping the school set challenging academic standards
- Limiting TV watching on school nights
- Whatever your level of involvement, be consistent and stick with it. It makes an important difference in your child's life.

(Ideas from the NEA website and Submitted to FCS by Tar River Baptist Association)

**Have A Great Spring Break,
Bert L'Homme,
Superintendent**