

FIRST THURSDAY

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

Franklin County Schools

Our *F*uture, Our *C*ommitment, Our *S*tudents

JANUARY, 2010

Eight FCS Teachers Earn NBCT

One of the top distinctions a teacher can earn is National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT). An extensive series of evaluations is required to qualify for the certification, and this year eight FCS teachers have earned the distinction.

Earning certification were Erin Lynch (FHS), Gina Bass (LES), Janet Taylor (LHS), Jason King (CCMS), Kristy Crawford (LES), Marianne Lewis (BMS), Rosanne Dickerson (RES) and Stephen Vick (FHS). Each of the eight teachers will be honored with a dinner ceremony in late January (to be reported in February). For complete details concerning the national trends for National Board Certification, visit www.nbpts.org.

United Way

Annual United Way Grant ceremony held P. 2

Bright Ideas

Wake Electric distributes Bright Idea Grants. P. 3

Getting Comfortable



ECHS Science Teacher Sanjana Shatma (right) explains the school schedule to Delonte Alexander (left), Marcus Alexander (brother of Delonte and Trevonte and college student) and Trevonte Alexander. Trevonte and Delonte are excited about attending the new school.

Early College Holds Open House

The first official event for the Franklin County Early College High School is history. The new school, slated to open on January 21st for students at the Franklin Campus of Vance-Granville Community College, held open house Monday night.

Early College Principal James Harris was very happy with the turnout. The turnout was so great that all of the seats were filled and there was only room left to stand.

"It was great to see so many

students and parents, as well as elected officials and staff from both Vance-Granville and Franklin County Schools who have made this all possible," Harris said. "This is the kind of turnout we need in order to make this school as successful as possible."

The Early College, which is funded through a state grant from the New Schools Project, is a five-year program in which students can earn a high school diploma and up to 60 college transfer credits (or even a two-

SEE ECHS PAGE 11

\$29,259.59



Beverly Austin (left) of Terrell Lane Middle School happily accepts her grant money from Kevin Potter of Novozymes.

United Way Issues 28 Classroom Grants

Franklin County Schools is reaping the benefits of a strong United Way fundraising campaign.

United Way of Franklin County held its annual Education Grants Ceremony Thursday night and awarded 28 grants totaling \$29,259.59.

"We were very excited to see so many great grant applications this year," United Way President Dale Byrns said. "We had 71 grant applications and we were able to award 28, reaching a total of nearly \$30,000. This is the most we have ever been able to award. The teachers have

worked really hard to come up with creative ideas. The grant applications were excellent, and the decision-making process was very difficult. We encourage teachers to apply again next year."

The annual ceremony also included a special donation in the amount of \$12,000 from Novozymes. Kevin Potter of Novozymes presented the check and stated community involvement is one of the core values of the company.

If you are interested in donated to United Way of Franklin County or want more infor-

[SEE UW PAGE 8](#)



Michelle McGhee (FES), Chuck Sinclair (FES), Maureen Lalino (RES), Jonathan Phillips (FHS), Lacy Coley (RES) and Dr. Susan Johnson (Cross Creek Charter) display their certificates for receiving a Bright Idea Grant. In the center is Angela Perez of Wake Electric.

Bright Ideas Pay Off For Area Teachers

Eight teachers from Franklin County Schools and one from Cross Creek Charter School were among the 196 educators recently honored at the annual Touchstone Energy Bright Ideas education grant awards luncheon at the Hilton North Raleigh. Darrell Scott, whose daughter Rachel was the first victim of the Columbine High School shootings, delivered the luncheon's keynote address. Inspired by his daughter's journal writings and acts of kindness, Scott founded Rachel's Challenge, one of the most life-changing school programs in the United States. His message and teachings have inspired more than 11 million students to create a permanent positive culture change in their school by starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion.

Forty-three Bright Ideas projects in Franklin and surrounding counties were funded by Wake Electric Membership Corporation. Wake EMC in Wake Forest awarded nine grants to teachers in Franklin County. The names of the winning teachers and projects from Franklin County are included in the

chart below.

The luncheon was part of a statewide Bright Ideas month-long celebration. During November, North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives awarded more than \$580,000 in Bright Ideas education grants to deserving teachers across the state. Bright Ideas awards to individual North Carolina teachers for innovative classroom-based projects. After this year's awards, North Carolina's electric cooperatives will have provided more than \$7 million in funding for more than 6,300 projects in subjects ranging from mathematics to the arts.

To date, the grant money has allowed more than 1 million students to participate in visionary classroom projects. The electric cooperatives' Bright Ideas program is the only education grant program exclusively for North Carolina's K-12 teachers.

See Page 12 for the list of grant winners.

Collaborative Effort



Michelle McGhee of Franklinton Elementary School and Tommy Kemp of Franklinton High School proudly display a check for \$2,000 received for a grant from AgCarolina Financial. At left is Eugene Charville, President of AgCarolina Financial, and at right is Congressman Walter B. Jones (R) of the 3rd Congressional District .

FES and FHS Team Up For \$2K Grant

Michelle McGhee of Franklinton Elementary and Tommy Kemp of Franklinton High School traveled to Greenville for a grant recognition banquet held at the Greenville Hilton to receive a grant award of \$2,000 from AgCarolina Financial. The grant, "Agriculture Awareness Discovery" is a collaborative project between the Franklinton High Agriculture FFA program and Michelle's AIG students at Franklinton Elementary. The grant will fund numerous Ag awareness activities such as field trips to Ag production companies and various Ag shop activities at the high school. The "Agriculture Awareness Discovery" grant provides a unique educational experience for two diverse learning groups as the high school students work collaboratively with the elementary students in discovery the world of food and fiber production.

Bunn Middle EOC Review Parent Night

Bunn Middle School's Business Education teachers hosted an EOC Kick off Review parent night on Monday, December 21st. Mrs. Casey McIntyre's and Mrs. Janet Harris' 7th grade Business Computer Technology and 8th Keyboarding classes will be taking their EOC's (End of Course exams) January 6-8 of 2010. The parent night was held with hopes of gaining support from parents as well as the community. The teachers answered questions and addressed concerns regarding the EOC as well as provided the parents and students with valuable resources that would be beneficial for the exam. With teachers, students and parents working together, all students will be successful.



Bunn High Student Council Donates



The Bunn High School Student Council helped the holiday season be a little warmer for pediatric patients at WakeMed in Raleigh. Students collected and donated board games, hand held games, toddler toys, batteries, newly released DVD's, crayons, markers, colored pencils, coloring & activity books, matchbox cars/trucks and more.

BMS Brings Holiday Smiles



The Bunn Middle Junior Beta Club chipped in to help in many ways.

Students, Staff Step Up

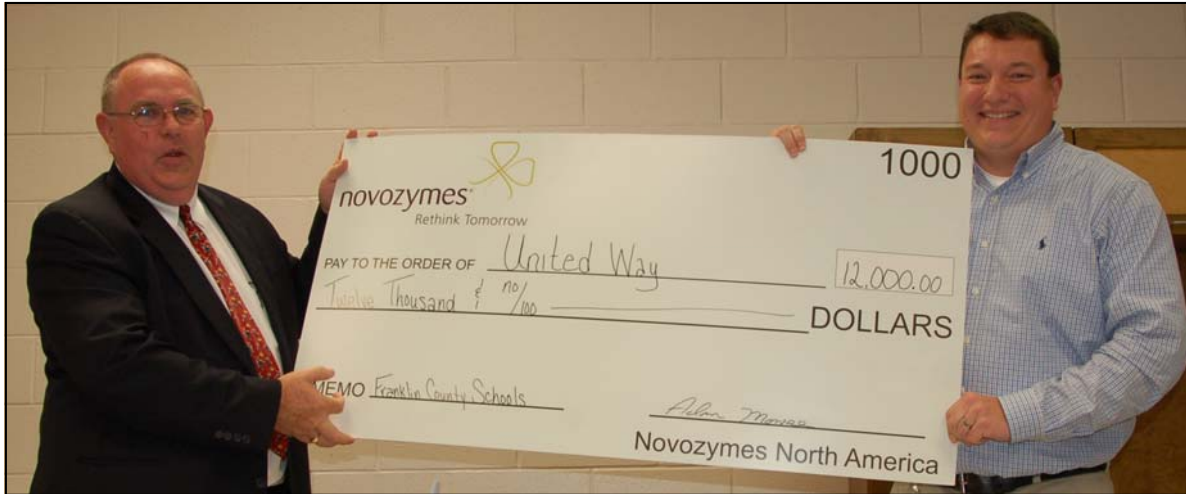
- The BMS Science Club, sponsored by Ms. Stone and Mr. Sheldon, sponsored families from the Royal Elem. angel tree.
- The BMS PTSA, led by Ms. Lewis and Ms. Kibbe, sponsored a Bunn Middle family, providing gifts for the entire household of five.
- The BMS Jr. Beta Club, advised by Ms. Gray, sponsored 2 families through the Franklin Co. D.S.S. and visited Britthaven Nursing Home in Louisburg to spread love and cheer to 15 residents that was provided us through the Recreation Coordinator.
- Several teachers and staff members pooled together to provide Christmas gifts for a BMS family, which was a surprise to the young man and the family, who is very appreciative.



Long Mill Holiday Events



Long Mill Elementary students put forth a huge donation effort during the holiday season. Above, kindergarten students in Ms. Edwards' class display the gifts purchased through parent donations for an angel tree. The angel was a 3-year-old who lost her mother in September. Students earned the money by performing chores around the house. At left, students show the items raised school wide that were distributed to 53 area families.



United Way President Dale Byrns happily accepts a \$12,000 donation from Novozymes' employee Kevin Potter on behalf of Novozymes. See pages 9 and 10 for photos of the grant recipients.

UW

Continued from page 2

information about the Teacher Grant process, please contact United Way Franklin County Executive Director Kathy Harrelson at 496-0937.

2009 Grant Recipients

Katie Cunningham, Louisburg Elementary, We Cycle! Health and Wellness;

Darlene Perry, Bunn High School, Dabbling with DNA;

Erin McFarland, Long Mill Elementary, Edison's Workshop;

Tommy Kemp, Franklinton High School, Virtual Agriculture Engineering;

Betsy Barr, Franklinton High School, College and Career Interactive Google Tour;

Scott Ring, Long Mill Elementary, Reduce, Reuse and Remake;

Ginger Prady, Franklinton High,

Positive Pennies;

Elaine Ihrle, Bunn Elementary School, Flash Forward into the 21st Century;

Lauren Bailey, Mike Diaz, Jessica Parker; Bunn Elementary School, Diving Into Diversity;

Melissa King, Louisburg Elementary School, Project Smart Response System;

Tammy Petrosillo, Terrell Lane Middle, Picture Words: Visual Literacy;

Rebecca Bishop, Franklinton Elementary, I Read, I Write, I-Podcast;

Maria Styers, Franklinton High, Creating a Community of Learning;

Jeanette Stewart, Edward Best Elementary, 21st Century Technology for Elementary Art;

Donna Jones, Edward Best Elementary, I Like Calling North Carolina Home;

Kerry Olivieri, Franklinton High School, Reading Rocks! Let's Show the World;

Jason King, Cedar Creek Mid-

dle School, Picture This, Film That; **Lacy Coley**, Royal Elementary, Going Global GPS;

Nancy Brooks, Royal Elementary, Project Symphony;

Joy Widmann, Cross Creek Charter, Tune into Reading;

Michele Jones, Franklinton Elementary, Digital Learning for Exceptional Students;

Harriett Thomas, Terrell Lane Middle, Wii Fit for Reading;

Geoufrey Anderson, Bunn Elementary School, Wildcats All Child-Friendly Playground;

Helen Davis, Terrell Lane Middle, Math Makes Sense! Incorporating Technology;

Katie Tatum, Terrell Lane Middle, Saving Our Water One Step at a Time;

David Diehl, Laurel Mill Elementary, Explorations in Clay;

Beverly Austin, Terrell Lane Middle, Micro Gravity to Earth Gravity Botanicals.

Natalie Duffield, Youngsville Elementary, Egg Hatching.

2009 United Way Elementary Grants



See Page 2 for story.

Front row, left to right, Michele Jones (FES), Rebecca Bishop (FES). Middle row, left to right, Donna Jones (EBES), Jeanette Stewart (EBES), Erin McFarland (LOMES), Lacey Coley (Royal). Back row, left to right, Nancy Brooks (Royal), Scott Ring (LOMES), Joy Widmann (Cross Creek Charter).



Front row, left to right, Katie Cunningham (LES), Elaine Ihrie (BES), Jessica Parker (BES), David Diehl (LMES). Back row, left to right, Geoufrey Anderson (BES), Mike Diaz (BES), Lauren Bailey (BES), Melissa King (LES).

United Way Middle and High School Grants



See Page 2 for story.

Left to right are Betsy Barr (FHS), Darlene Perry (BHS), Tommy Kemp (FHS), Kerry Olivieri (FHS), Ginger Prady (FHS) and Maria Styers (FHS).



Left to right are Beverly Austin (TLMS) Harriett Thomas (TLMS), Tammy Petrosillo (TLMS), Jason King (CCMS), Helen Davis (TLMS), Katie Tatum (TLMS).

ECHS

Continued from page 1

year degree) at no charge.

The target audience is first-generation college students who aim to be high achievers in school.

Nearly 50 students will begin the program in January, and up to 60 can enroll each year after. Students begin the program in what would be their freshman year of high school.

Harris said he is especially grateful for the strong efforts from Vance-Granville Community College, Franklin County Commissioners, Franklin County Board of Education, and the FCS Leadership Team. Harris also pointed out that there has been strong support on the state level from State Representative Lucy Allen as well as State Senator Doug Berger.

"We've had tremendous support for this project," Harris said. "Randy Parker (VGCC President), Bobbie Jo May (VGCC Dean of Franklin Campus) and Dr. Angela Ballentine (VGCC Vice President of Instruction) have been a pleasure to work with, and I look forward to working with them in the future. They understand the importance of this program. This has been a true team effort with Franklin County Schools, Vance Granville, the Board of Education, State Legislators, and the Board of County Commissioners."

Franklin County Board of Education Vice Chair John May echoed the feelings of Harris.

"This is a monumental leap and a great cause," May said. "I'm excited about this program. Mr. Harris is doing a great job."

Franklin County Schools' Superintendent Dr. Eddie Ingram is pleased to see the school heading in the right



Franklin County Early College High School Principal James Harris converses with a student and parent about the upcoming school year. Classes begin January 21st at the Franklin Campus of Vance-Granville Community College.

direction so quickly.

"We've had very little time to get the program up and running," Ingram said. "We applied for the grant this past spring and received it this past September when the state budget was finalized. This is a strong testament to the hard work of Mr. Harris and everyone else involved."

"I'm looking forward to watching and helping the students succeed. This is a tremendous opportunity."

The core facilities for the program will be located in three classrooms on the Franklin Campus of VGCC. Harris, who was hired in November, quickly began work on scheduling, transportation and hiring core staff.

To begin, there will be three core teachers for high school level work, and students will take one college level course related to computers. In addition, there will be a school guidance counselor and a school data/

office manager.

Students will have transportation provided. Those students who choose to play in high school level sports will be allowed to do so if they have a means of transportation to practice facilities.

For more details on the program, contact Principal Harris at 919-496-2600.

- Nathan Moreschi

Bright Ideas Grant Recipients

- Lori Craven, Cedar Creek Middle, Acids and Bases and Neutrals Oh My!, \$1,500.00
- Michelle McGhee, Franklinton Elementary, Animation and Digital Storytelling, \$980.00
- Lacy Coley, Royal Elementary, Connecting to the Counties: Learning through Mail, \$142.00
- Kristen Hensley, Bunn Middle, Ewww! Frog Guts, \$300.00
- Marsha Hast, Bunn Middle, Family Night with the Stars, \$1,199.00,
- Chuck Sinclair, Franklinton Elementary, Franklinton Elementary Chorus, \$1,403.00
- Jonathan Phillips, Franklinton High, GRIND, BIND and APPLY, \$1,486.20
- Maureen Lalino, Royal Elementary, Lifeline for Students, \$1,495.00
- Dr. Susan Johnson, Cross Creek Charter, Lights! Cameras! Students on Stage!, \$1,404.00

See page 3 for more details.

FHS Students Visit VGCC Culinary School

Students who are learning basic kitchen skills at Franklinton High School learned about how they might continue their education when they visited Vance-Granville Community College's Culinary Technology program in early December.

VGCC's two-year degree program, based at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, prepares students for entry-level professional positions in restaurants, hotels, catering operations, health-care facilities, schools and other institutions. Chef Ross Ragonese, head of the VGCC Culinary program, told the high school students about what the college offers. "There are always going to be culinary job opportunities around the world," Ragonese said. "It's a demanding but rewarding profession." Ragonese said that an associate degree like the one VGCC offers opens up many doors. "It shows you're serious because you've devoted two years of your life to studying the field," he said.

Students also heard from VGCC Dean of Business & Applied Technologies Bobby Van Brunt, who praised them for thinking about education beyond high school, which he said they must have in order to be competitive.

Ragonese then led students



FHS teacher Maria Styers (left) converses with VGCC Chef Ross Ragonese (center) and FCS CTE Career Development Facilitator Sharon Cannon.

on a tour of the kitchen, where they observed VGCC students in the Baking I class preparing desserts and bread. They also sampled cinnamon buns the VGCC students had produced.

The students, who range from 10th to 12th grade, are all enrolled in the "Foods II" class under the instruction of Maria Styers. The high-schoolers had the opportunity to ask questions of Ragonese and several VGCC students. FHS students wanted to know about practical concerns, such as the class schedule, grading and potential salaries they might earn with a VGCC degree, but also asked about the significance of the various hats worn by culinary

professionals and about Chef Ragonese's favorite type of food (Italian). Ragonese told the high school students that his program typically takes five semesters to complete, including general education courses that might be taken at different VGCC campuses, including the Franklin County Campus in Louisburg. Ragonese said that the VGCC program currently has 42 students, with approximately ten set to graduate next May. For more information about the Culinary program, call Chef Ross Ragonese at (919) 690-0312.

- Andrew Beal, VGCC PIO

Franklin County Schools

Kindergarten Registration

& Screening Clinic Dates

9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Daily

Franklin County Schools will hold registration and evaluation for children entering public kindergarten in the 2010-2011 school year in the local schools on the following dates:

March 9, 2010 Bunn Elementary School

March 12, 2010 Edward Best Elementary School

March 25, 2010 Franklinton Elementary School

March 26, 2010 Youngsville Elementary School

March 29, 2010 Louisburg Elementary School

April 14, 2010 Long Mill Elementary School

April 23, 2010 Laurel Mill Elementary School

April 16, 2010 Royal Elementary School

IMPORTANT NOTICE: *The child must be five years of age on or before August 31, 2010, to be eligible for kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year. A physical examination is required for children who will enter kindergarten. This health assessment must be done within 12 months prior to the day of school entry. When visiting your child's health care provider for the physical, carry a copy of your child's current immunization record.*

On the day of registration, please bring your child and his/her following records:

****Certified Birth Certificate***

****Immunization Records***

****Record of Illnesses, (if any)***

****Kindergarten Health Assessment Report (Form PPS-2K/physical exam), if completed. (Each elementary school's office will have this form)***

****Social Security Card (if available)***

****Statement of Residence form: Only 2 proofs of residence Accepted. (Deed or lease of primary residence and a current utility bill.)***

Required forms may be obtained prior to registration at your child's school or by contacting the central office at 919.496.2600 (Riverside Campus – Building A).