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Our Mission
Henderson County Public Schools will provide all students the opportunity to learn and the encouragement to succeed in a safe environment. We will honor the individual and nurture the potential of all children.

Our Guiding Principle
The success of a child is the result of a collaborative partnership of school, child, parents, and community.

Our Vision
Every student will achieve success and graduate as a life-long learner, globally competitive, prepared for career, college, and life.

Our Core Values
We are here for the children we serve.
• We value each child.
• We value the development of the whole child.
• We value a safe, supportive, and caring learning environment.
• We value respect, honesty, and integrity.
• We value the commitment of quality employees.
• We value effective learning through high-quality instruction.
• We value the pursuit of excellence.

The 2009-10 Annual Report was created to provide the community with highlights of the school year and to review the school district’s performance.
A Message From the Superintendent

The Henderson County Public School system has earned a reputation as one of the best school systems in the state of North Carolina. This reputation is based on the academic and extra curricular success that our schools have achieved over the years. Our students and staff have excelled in a variety of areas and have been recognized for their outstanding achievements.

It is fitting that our 2009-10 Annual Report is entitled, "Working Together," because I believe that our success is due to the hard work and cooperation of our students, parents, staff, and community. We are blessed to have employees who are dedicated to the success of our students and schools. We are pleased that one of our outstanding teachers, Ms. Dot Case, was recognized as the 2010 North Carolina Region 8 Teacher of the Year and one of our principals, Mrs. Jan King was selected as the 2010 North Carolina Principal of the Year. They represent some of the wonderful people that work with our children each and every day.

We appreciate the support and cooperation of our parents and community. We want to thank the many volunteers, civic organizations, and community partners who have taken it upon themselves to contribute their time and resources for the betterment of our students and school system.

As our Core Values state, we are here for the children we serve. We are proud of the accomplishments and growth of our students. It is such a delight to visit our schools and see our students engaged in their school life, whether it is in the classroom, bandroom, or athletic field. While our young people only make up about 24% of our population, they make up 100% of our future. Working Together, we can all make a positive impact for our students and our future.

We will continue to strive to provide the very best for our students through quality instruction provided by caring educators. We want our students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers, in order to prepare them for career, college, and life.

We hope you will enjoy this annual report, as it provides a glimpse of the people and achievements that make our school system truly a place "Where Tomorrow Begins."

On June 30, 2010 Dr. Stephen L. Page retired as superintendent of the Henderson County Public Schools, concluding his years as an educator. David L. Jones, Associate Superintendent, became superintendent of the Henderson County Public Schools on July 1, 2010. Mr. Jones has 32 years of experience as an educator. He has served the children of HCPS as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal, Director of Testing, Director of Accountability and Facility Management, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, and Associate Superintendent.

"While our young people only make up about 24% of our population, they make up 100% of our future. Working Together, we can all make a positive impact for our students and our future."
A Note From School Board Chairperson, Ervin W. Bazzle

Each year I am asked to give some comments for our annual report. Normally I struggle to come up with something that would be meaningful and insightful. It finally dawned upon me that most people who read this report would spend very little time reading my comments. If they do read my comments, I think it is better if I just tell them what an honor it is to serve them and thank them for the opportunity to serve in such a worthwhile position.

Each year you have trusted our Board in making the right decisions for your children. We take this trust seriously and have tried to do the very best we can. As we enter this next year, much uncertainty exists as to whether we will have adequate funding to continue to provide a quality education for our children. To those of you who wonder and are apprehensive about what may happen, rest assured that everything that can be done will be done to insure that we continue to meet the high standards expected and demanded. All we can promise is to continue to do the very best we can. I know that with all of us working together, we will be successful.

“All we can promise is to continue to do the very best we can. I know that with all of us working together, we will be successful.”

In November 2010 Melissa Maurer, Amy Lynn Holt, and Lisa Edwards were elected to the Board of Public Education. Mrs. Holt replaces outgoing Board member Jane S. Orwoll. Mrs. Orwoll faithfully served the children of the Henderson County Public Schools for 12 years (1998-2010).
Quick Facts

The Henderson County Public Schools supports a diverse student population that represents several ethnic backgrounds and economic and social situations. Over 50 percent of our students receive free or reduced meals. Guided by our Strategic Plan, we work to meet the objectives of Goal I: Focus on Every Child.

Total of 23 schools # of students
- 13 elementary schools ....................................................... 6393
- 4 middle schools ............................................................. 3033
- 4 high schools ................................................................. 3648
- 1 early college high school ...................................................77
- 1 education center ............................................................ 159

Total 2009-10 Student Membership (20th day, 9/22/09) = 13,310

Average class size in grades K-2 = 20 students

2009-10 Student Ethnic Distribution:
Caucasian 73.29% Hispanic 15.83%
African/American 3.75% Asian 1.42%
Multiracial 5.09% American Indian 0.38%

HCPS operates on three different school calendars:
- Traditional Calendar (20 schools operate on this calendar).
- Flex Calendar (Bruce Drysdale Elementary and Hendersonville Elementary; Bruce Drysdale began this calendar with the 2009-10 school year).
- Early College High School Calendar.

2009-10 HCPS Dropout Rate (preliminary results) = 1.7% (103 dropouts). Note: A student is not considered a dropout until the 20th day of the next school year.

2009-10 HCPS Graduation Rate = 79%
2009-10 North Carolina Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate = 74.2%

Class of 2010 had 801 graduates; 136 of these graduates were North Carolina Scholars and 98 were CTE Scholars.

Class of 2010 Plans After Graduation:
Post-secondary education 86.64%
Four-year college 36.08%
Junior College/Tech School 50.56%
Military 3.12%
Employment 10.24%

Every year the Board of Public Education meets with the Superintendent and Senior Staff to develop and review the District’s Strategic Plan. Together, they decide if the goals and objectives of the plan need to be revised. Once the goals and objectives are established, administrative staff work together to develop their strategies. (Teachers, students, and parents are involved in the process.) The 2009-10 Strategic Plan workshop was held March 26 and 27, 2010 at the Mills River Academy. Doug McQueen from the University of Mississippi facilitated the workshop. The current Strategic Plan was adopted July 2010.

Strategic Plan

Goal I: Focus on Every Child
Objective A: Create significantly higher levels of expectations for each child.
Objective B: Close the performance gap for underperforming students.
Objective C: Support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of every child.
Objective D: Lower class size.

Goal II: Prepare Students to be Globally Competitive in the 21st Century
Objective A: Embed emerging technology into teaching and learning.
Objective B: Prepare students to communicate effectively in a constantly changing global environment.
Objective C: Develop financial, economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy.
Objective D: Develop an understanding of the implications of local and global civic decisions.
Objective E: Develop life skills essential to success in a diverse and global society.

Goal III: Provide an Effective Teaching and Learning Environment
Objective A: Provide sufficient, quality personnel.
Objective B: Provide a variety of instructional and assessment methods to meet the diverse needs of our students.
Objective C: Provide technology resources to support the Standard Course of Study.
Objective D: Promote home and school collaboration.

Goal IV: Focus on Building Positive Community Relationships
Objective A: Make the schools the centers of the community.
Objective B: Build positive relationships and partnerships with the community.

Goal V: Maintain Safe, Quality Energy-Efficient Facilities
Objective A: Maintain all schools at a size that promotes a safe environment and that promotes learning for all students.
Objective B: Continue the plan for preventive maintenance, future construction and renovation; incorporating innovative technology.
Dot Reid Case, the 2009-10 Henderson County Public Schools’ Teacher of the Year, was selected as the 2009-10 AT&T North Carolina Region 8 Teacher of the Year. There are eight regions in North Carolina. Region 8 is comprised of 16 counties in Western North Carolina.

As a regional Teacher of the Year, Ms. Case worked collaboratively with other Teacher of the Year finalists on issues critical to education in North Carolina. The regional Teachers of the Year assist in planning and implementing a Teacher of the Year Symposium/Celebration. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, along with its corporate sponsor, AT&T, administers the Teacher of the Year program.

Ms. Case, a product of Henderson County Schools, has 40 years of teaching experience. She has taught U.S. History and U.S. Government at North Henderson High since 1993. She taught 9th and 11th grade History at Edneyville High for 16 years and 7th and 8th grade English and Physical Education at Edneyville Junior High for ten years. She received her Bachelor of Science in Education with a Social Studies concentration from Appalachian State University and a Masters of Art in Education from Western Carolina University.

She is very involved in school activities. She supports her students in their extracurricular activities such as sponsoring the North Henderson High School Student Council; organizing the North Henderson Relay for Life; starting the Bak Pak Program at North that feeds 20 students every weekend; and organizing North’s Project Graduation.

When asked what she considered to be her greatest contribution and accomplishment in education, Ms. Case said, “The greatest accomplishment that I have achieved as a teacher is seeing the ‘results of my labor.’ Quite a few of my kids have become teachers, and many of them are teaching in Henderson County. Another accomplishment is that I am now teaching the children of many of my kids that graduated from Edneyville. To me, achievement in education is touching the future through my students, especially ones who become teachers.”

“My kids and my fellow teachers know that my teaching philosophy is an everyday thing with me. When I first walked into a seventh grade classroom at Edneyville School, I had a burning passion for my kids to learn and reach their potential. Forty years later, when I walked into my classroom at North High this year, I still felt that burning passion. That passion is why I have not retired from teaching.”

Ms. Case has twice been selected as the District’s Teacher of the Year. Before the Henderson County and Hendersonville City Schools merged in 1993, she was the Henderson County 1982-83 Teacher of the Year.
Featured on the front cover of the 2009-10 Annual Report is Mrs. Jan King, the 2010 Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year. She is the principal of Glenn C. Marlow Elementary and the 2009-10 HCPS Principal of the Year.

Mrs. King began a journey in October of 2009 that would take her from the local to state level in the Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year program. As the Henderson County Public Schools’ Principal of the Year, she entered into regional competition with Principals of the Year from other districts. In February 2010, Mrs. King was selected North Carolina’s Region 8 Principal of the Year. In April 2010, following interviews and on-site visits by a statewide selection committee to all eight regional finalists, Mrs. King was named the 2010 Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year.

As the North Carolina Teacher of the Year, Mrs. King received $3,000 for her school and $3,000 for personal use. She was appointed to the State Superintendent’s Principal’s Advisory Committee. She is serving a one-year term as advisor to the State Board of Education, a one-year term on the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Public School Forum, and chairs the 2011 Wachovia Principal of the Year Selection Committee.

Mrs. King comes from a family of educators; both her mother and grandmother were teachers. Her credentials include an Associate of Arts degree from Peace College, a Bachelor of Science in Social Science Education from Western Carolina University, and a Masters of Arts in School Administration from Gardner-Webb University.

During her career, she has served as a classroom teacher, high school instructional coach, assistant principal, and principal. She achieved National Board Certification in 2003, and plans on pursuing the administrative equivalent of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) once the program is available.

Mrs. King has made a number of presentations at local, state, and national events including the North Carolina Gifted Education Conference, North Carolina Social Studies Conference, and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Conference. She has served as a teacher leader and a consultant for the Library of Congress American Memory Fellow Program.

Mrs. King attributes her success to the support she has received from the district over her educational career. “I have spent 17 years with Henderson County Schools – my entire professional career. The district has raised me in so many ways, providing opportunities for professional growth and leadership. It has always been my desire to give them an excellent return on that investment.”

While teaching at West Henderson High School, Mrs. King was selected as the 2003-04 Henderson County Public Schools’ Teacher of the Year.
State Board of Education Chairman Bill Harrison said of Jan King’s selection, “We are truly fortunate to have dedicated educators such as Jan King leading our public schools. I had the opportunity last year to visit Glenn Marlow Elementary and it became quickly evident that she was an outstanding educational leader. Wachovia’s sponsorship enables us to give her the spotlight she so richly deserves. I look forward to working with Jan and benefiting from her wisdom as an advisor to the State Board of Education. She will represent her peers well.”

State Superintendent June Atkinson commended Mrs. King on her selection saying, “Jan sets a high standard for herself and her staff. She encourages creativity, responsibility, and commitment in her school community. As a result, Glenn Marlow Elementary is a school where others want to teach and where parents are happy to send their children.”

The Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year program is sponsored in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation. In its 26th year, the program provides a unique opportunity to recognize outstanding principals from North Carolina public schools.
2009-10 Budget

Budget funds:
- Local Current Expense Fund $ 23,781,187
- State Public School Fund $ 68,005,044
- Federal Grants Fund $ 16,338,420
- Enterprise Fund
  - Child Nutrition $6,814,426
  - Childcare $1,230,140
- Capital Outlay Fund $ 1,100,810
- Total Budget $117,270,027

Budget by Object
(Service or Commodity Associated with Expenditure)

- Instructional Services $88,001,867 75.04%
- Supporting Services $19,517,868 16.62%
- Community Services $7,773,973 6.68%
- Other $1,976,318 1.66%
- Capital Outlay $1,430,634 1.28%
- Purchased Services $10,048,738 8.52%
- Supplies and Materials $12,502,362 10.61%
- Other $381,100 0.35%

What do we mean by...
- **Instructional Services** — Activities dealing directly with the teaching of pupils and/or the interaction between teachers and pupils, including school administration.
- **Supporting Services** — Services that do not directly affect the classroom but facilitate and enhance instruction, such as transportation, technology, administration, business services, and maintenance.
- **Capital Projects** — Expenditures for the acquisition, construction or renovation of facilities, and for the purchase of equipment and vehicles.
- **Community Services** — Services that are not directly related to the provision of education, such as child nutrition and childcare services.

Budget by Purpose
(Broad Category of Expenditures)
Preparing Our Students

Our Middle Schools are 100% Schools to Watch®

Hendersonville Middle School was one of only three schools in North Carolina and one of 90 across the nation to be named a 2010 School to Watch® by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. With the addition of Hendersonville Middle, all four middle schools in the Henderson County Public Schools are now Schools to Watch®. The Henderson County Public Schools is the only school system of its size to have all its middle schools receive this designation.

Schools to Watch® (STW) have strong leadership, teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction, and a commitment to assessment and accountability in order to bring about continuous improvement.

- They are academically excellent – students are challenged to use their minds well.
- They are developmentally responsive – sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence.
- They are socially equitable – democratic and fair; every student is provided with high-quality teachers, resources, and support.

The National Forum, in collaboration with National Middle School Association (NMSA), National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), and National Staff Development Council (NSCD), launched the Schools to Watch® State Program in 2002. The Forum has trained teams of education leaders to implement the Schools to Watch® program in their states. Nineteen states participate in the program (Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Virginia). North Carolina was one of the first states to join the state program in 2002, and now has 34 schools that are Schools to Watch®. The North Carolina Middle School Association in collaboration with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction provides leadership in North Carolina.

Over 200 schools have been identified through 2010. Visit the Forum’s website at www.schoolstowatch.org. for more information about the Schools to Watch® State Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year Designated</th>
<th>Year Redesignated by the North Carolina Team of Redesignation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple Valley Middle</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flat Rock Middle</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hendersonville Middle</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby Middle</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2006, 2009</td>
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</tbody>
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Preparing Our Students

Career Creating Student Interest Through Techniques that Energize and Alter Mathematics and Science Instruction (CSI TEAMS I) Project

The Henderson County Public Schools, six other Local Education Agencies (Cherokee, Madison, Yancey, Swain, Polk, and Transylvania Counties), Appalachian University, and the Western Region Education Service Alliance (WRESA) are in the third, and last year, of a $646,530 grant received from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Office of Curriculum and School Improvement Mathematics and Science Partnership Program. Educators are being trained in research-based instructional strategies that will bring the mathematics and science curriculums together in an engaging manner for students. The new mathematics curriculum will be a focus of the instruction provided to the educators because vertical alignment in the mathematics and science curriculum is essential for the success of the Creating Student Interest Through Techniques that Energize and Alter Mathematics and Science Instruction (CSI TEAMS I) Project. Educators will be able to enhance the classroom experiences for students by using hands on lessons and activities that require student engagement.

Professional development trainings for K-8 educators include inquiry-based instruction for integrating mathematics and science that will be practiced by the project-trained educators. The project participants will share these practices with their colleagues at the school sites through demonstrations and scheduled sessions. The professional development trainings for 9-12 mathematics educators include research-based effective technology-based instruction. The participants will practice using the technology in lessons addressing the new North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCS) objectives.

North Carolina and the nation are experiencing a shortage in mathematics and science educators. The CSI TEAMS I Project addresses this growing need for educators by encouraging students to pursue opportunities in mathematics and science education. Internships and trainings will afford high school students opportunities to experience the education profession from the educator’s perspective. It will also expose them to an Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) that offers programs of study in mathematics and science education.

Four Major Goals for the CSI TEAMS I Project

Goal 1: Increase K-12 mathematics educators’ knowledge of the new NCSCS curriculum.

Goal 2: Increase educators’ knowledge of instructional methods that integrate the mathematics and science curriculums in grades K-8.

Goal 3: Increase 9-12 mathematics educators’ knowledge of effective technology-based instructional practices for mathematics.

Goal 4: Encourage interest among 9-12 students in the areas of mathematics and science education through the use of enriching education internships.
Preparing Our Students

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program
The mission of CTE is to empower all students to be successful citizens, workers, and leaders in a global economy. The middle school programs are exploratory programs. These programs include Exploring Careers, Keyboarding, Exploring Technical Systems, Exploring Business Technology, and Exploring Life Skills. Twelve teachers teach these programs. Seven areas of Career and Technical Education are offered in our high schools with 44 teachers. Career and Technical Education programs include Agriculture, Business, Career Development, Family and Consumer Science, Health Occupations, Marketing, Technology Education, and Trade and Industry.

There are also two students completing apprenticeships and multiple class and individual student shadowing partnerships with businesses. Sharon Lewis, the Instructional Management Coordinator, works closely with the teachers on curriculum and instruction and coordinates all state CTE testing and data collection. She is a member of the CTE State Advisory Committee. Pam Johnson is the District's Director of Career and Technical Education and School Counseling. Working with Ms. Johnson is Becky Varnadore, the Industry/Education Coordinator, who works closely with businesses and students. There are 45 student interns working with businesses.

Career Clusters
In the past the CTE had pathways that students chose from as they planned their education. However, now entering freshman will have career clusters to choose from. DPI produced a North Carolina Career Clusters Guide that students and parents may use to plan their education. Career Clusters are groupings of occupations/career specialties that are used as an organizing tool for curriculum and instruction. The new guide is designed as a tool to assist in streamlining the path through which students meet their educational goals and are ultimately employed in high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations and nontraditional fields.

There are 16 clusters recognized nationally (Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources; Architecture & Construction; Arts/A/V Technology & Communications; Business Management & Administration; Education & Training; Finance; Government & Public Administration; Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; Human Services; Information Technology; Law, Public Safety, Correction & Security; Manufacturing; Marketing; Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics; and Transportation, Distribution & Logistics). North Carolina has identified 13 academic clusters for Districts to follow.

NEW FOR 2011-12
Middle and high school CTE teachers will help implement the new Futures 4 Kids program that allows students to register for high school classes online. This software includes the Career Cruising piece which assists students in choosing a high school cluster with interest, skills, and learning style inventories.

How well are HCPS CTE students doing?
- Students are judged in Academic Attainment in Reading and the Algebra I. HCPS CTE students had an average of 48.5% in reading (the Statewide average was 43.3%) and an average of 82.6% in math (the Statewide average was 76.6%).
- HCPS CTE students are judged in Technical Attainment, referred to as CTE post-assessments (now called Career Tech Ed EOCs). HCPS students had a 87.6%. The Statewide average was 80%.
- In Secondary School Completion (students who have stayed in school and completed courses), HCPS had a 97.4%; the Statewide average was 94.8%.
- In Graduation Rates (for cohorts of four-year graduates), HCPS had a 90.7% CTE graduation rate; the Statewide rate was 86.7%.
- In Secondary Placement (after graduation, HCPS CTE students are placed in a job or career related to their area of interest), HCPS has a 93.4% rate; the Statewide rate is 93.5%.
Preparing Our Students

How is HCPS embedding emerging technology into teaching and learning?

1) **Flip Videos** – Every school in the District has been given Flip video cameras for use in the classrooms. A Flip Video is a camera with a USB arm that plugs into the USB port of a computer. The FlipShare software for the camera allows the user to import videos from the camera to the computer in order to edit and make video clips into movies, take snapshots from the videos, and save to a DVD.

   Students in Dena Wolfe’s second grade class at Upward Elementary used Flip videos as they learned about 3-dimensional shapes. The students were given a shape for a Shape Walk in the classroom. They were asked to find an example of the shape and explain how they knew that it was that shape by describing the faces, edges, and vertices.

At Flat Rock Middle AIG teacher, Renee Davenport, uses Flip videos to help in teaching grammar. Students create their own videos using grammatic elements. They also create their own scenes as they study Shakespeare. Flip videos are used for teaching advertising and creating commercials.

2) **iPod Touch** – Students at Rugby Middle School use iPod Touches to increase their level of engagement. The iPod is a tablet computer designed as a platform for audio-visual media including books, periodicals, movies, music, games, and web content. Students use them for web-based research. In addition there are many educational applications and games which support learning. For example, students are learning the Periodic Table in science class using one of these engaging applications.

   Students in East Henderson High’s Advanced French class interacted through video conferencing with students in a kindergarten class in Ohio where basic French vocabulary is being taught by using puppets, songs, plays, and skits.

3) **Video conferencing** allows students to communicate with people across the country and world. Using a laptop and Internet connection, students can visit other students in classrooms around the world. The HCPS Technology Department has four video conference-ready stations for checkout that utilize ooVoo (face-to-face video conferencing software).

   Fifth grade students at Clear Creek Elementary brought these 21st Century skills into the classroom after they had a Penny Drive to raise money for the charity, Safe Passage (a non-profit organization working in Guatemala City that brings hope, education, and opportunity to children and families living in extreme poverty living around the City’s garbage dump). The fifth grade teachers utilized ooVoo to speak directly to a Safe Passage program director in Guatemala. The students submitted questions and learned about the housing, food, interests, and the lives of children and their families in Guatemala. The money they raised was enough to feed all the children in the program for two days. This 21st Century technology gave the students and teachers the opportunity to see the results of their efforts.

   Students in East Henderson High’s Advanced French class interacted through video conferencing with students in a kindergarten class in Ohio where basic French vocabulary is being taught by using puppets, songs, plays, and skits.

4) **Podcasting** uses a computer and microphone. A podcast is an audio file much like a radio show which is available online or via subscription. Students at Hendersonville Elementary are podcasting to a video that is shared online. For example, students created podcasts about the water cycle, posting them online for other students, parents and families. By using podcasting in this way, students expanded the school community and were given a way to take learning to a new level. This activity also allowed students to take a leadership role in the classroom.
The Intel Teach® Program for 2009-10 began in January and concluded in April. Twenty-four staff members from various K-12 schools took the course. For the first time, the 60-hour intensive course was primarily online using Moodle. The participants showcased their unit plans and projects in April at an open house for administrators and curriculum leaders.

HCPS staff who completed the course received 6.0 highly qualified CEUs. They joined 300 other teachers who have completed the Intel Teach® Program in HCPS. The focus of this workshop is not on technology, but on assessment, 21st Century Skills, higher-order thinking, curriculum-framing questions, and support for project-based learning.

Growing Intel Teach®
Amber McMillan and Angie McClung are HCPS Instructional Technology Facilitators, known as the @Team. Amber works with the elementary school level and Angie, the middle and high school levels. They provide 21st Century professional development to HCPS teachers and staff. Through the use of the international, research-based Intel® education programs, they have offered courses which promote higher-order thinking, formative assessment, and the development of 21st Century skills. Following the District’s Technology Plan and the Strategic Plan, this team works with other HCPS staff to offer high-quality training to increase student achievement.

The @Team was invited by Intel® and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) to become Senior Trainers in the Intel Teach® Program! They traveled to Austin, Texas to receive the training for national certification. What does this mean for HCPS? With the new Teacher Evaluation Instrument and 21st Century Skills focus, HCPS now has two certified trainers to assist in moving the skill base of teachers forward. The HCPS team makes up one third of the statewide training staff. During the summer months, the @Team was asked to support NCDPI in the statewide training efforts across North Carolina to help teachers embrace project-based learning and 21st Century Skills.

Project-based Learning (PBL)
Preparing students to be globally competitive in the 21st Century is Goal II of the district's Strategic Plan. Project-based Learning (PBL) is one way to ensure that our students meet 21st Century goals. It is essential that our students work independently and in collaborative groups to solve real world problems while learning and applying these skills. With the Project-based Learning format, teachers facilitate learning while students research, organize, create, evaluate, and synthesize information. This style supports all learners and provides an environment for creativity and accountability.

An example of Project-based Learning occurring in our schools is demonstrated by Flat Rock Middle Career and Technical Education teacher, Cindy Fuller, who uses this method. Her students learned the basics of spreadsheets, presentation, marketing, target groups, and more. Each group of students chose a product to research. They found competing products, sales data, target market information, and other important facts. The student groups then worked to improve the product sales, backing up their ideas with research. They learned important technology skills while practicing in a real-world environment. This is an example of learning made meaningful, interactive, creative, and best of all, fun.

Moodle - Moodle is a free web application that educators can use to create effective online learning sites. To work, the application needs to be installed on a web server, either on a personal computer or a computer at a web hosting company. Moodle is an Open Source Course Management System (CMS), also known as a Learning Management System (LMS) or a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). To work, the application needs to be installed on a web server, either on a personal computer or a computer at a web hosting company.

Rugby Middle School uses Moodle as a supportive instructional tool and classroom extension for many of their students. Moodle is used in some classes all year long and in others for one unit of study. By using Moodle, teachers can set up project guidelines which can easily be moved from one course to another.

Wikis (an online environment where visitors can collaboratively create and constantly revise the content) can be set up so that students can add to and create documents simultaneously. Forums are also an integral part of Moodle. Students can collaborate and comment on their coursework, while reflecting on their learning. Documents can be posted on Moodle that students can access course resources from any computer at any time, and read, as well as respond to each other about what they have read. Moodle can also be used to post assignments, upload homework, turn in assignments, journaling, and...
The Henderson County Early College High School (HCECHS) opened with the 2009-10 school year. The school is located on the Flat Rock campus of Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC). The school calendar aligns as best it can with the BRCC schedule and the HCPS traditional calendar. Staff of the Early College High School includes a principal, an office administrative assistant, four certified teachers, and a guidance counselor. A student art contest was held early in the school year to select a mascot for the Early College High School. A selection was made, and the Early College’s 40 ninth graders and 38 tenth graders became the Roadrunners.

The Early College High School program engages every student with a focus on learning at the early college level. Students take high school and college courses beginning in 9th grade. The five-year program is for grades 9-12+. Students have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an Associate in Arts degree or up to two years of transferable college credit.

HCEC has a technology rich environment with wireless internet. Each student is provided a laptop and a graphing calculator for use at school and home. The students are accountable for this technology and have the responsibility of taking care of these tools.

HCPS provides bus transportation from the four district high schools to the Early College campus. The student day is from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Students do not take college level classes on Friday, instead they meet for seminar/learning lab time and a regular lunchtime. After lunch students participate in different activities such as assemblies recognizing academic success and community service projects (i.e. reading to toddlers in the BRCC preschool program and doing campus clean up projects.

One hundred twenty-one students (46 ninth graders, 38 tenth graders, and 37 eleventh graders) will attend the Early College High School during the 2010-11 school year.
School-Based Health Centers

Through a partnership with Blue Ridge Community Health Services (BRCHS), Henderson County Public Schools has school-based health centers in four schools. The Apple Valley Middle School Health Center opened in 1994 and is the second oldest school-based health center in North Carolina. The North Henderson High School Health Center opened in 2008 and the Bruce Drysdale Elementary School Health Center opened in 2009. A fourth health center at Hillandale Elementary opened with the 2010-11 school year. Dr. Paul Trani, with BRCHS, leads pediatric services at the school-based health centers and Tammy Greenwell, Chief Operating Officer for BRCHS, oversees the school-based health centers.

BRCHS Chief Executive Officer, Jennifer Henderson, worked with HCPS at a time when discussion was occurring about the lack of school nurses. With her help, a partnership was formed with HCPS to provide school health centers at no cost to the District. The Henderson County Department of Social Services provides a social worker at the Bruce Drysdale Elementary site and hopes to provide one at the Hillandale Elementary site soon. The Henderson County Health Department is also working with HCPS and looking at ways to partner with the school-based health centers to help alleviate the number of required nurses at these locations.

School-based health centers practice the medical “home” model by taking care of primary and preventative health services such as regular check-ups, immunizations, diagnoses, managing chronic conditions, and giving care for sudden illness and injury. The centers give sports’ physicals to students as well as provide students access to mental health counseling and nutritional counseling. Each school-based health center has a nurse practitioner or physician assistant, a registered nurse, a mental health counselor, and a dietician. The school-based health centers are open every day from 7:45 am to 3 pm. The centers often help address issues before they become problems. One of the most important benefits of the centers is that they help keep students in school. At some of our schools, more than one in four students is uninsured. The school-based health center becomes their primary source of care.

Since 2007 over 2,100 unduplicated patients have been served by 17,520 encounters at our school-based health centers.

New for 2010-11

- A full-time nurse was added to the Apple Valley Middle School Health Center in August 2010.
- School “linked” health centers – linking the four school-based health centers that HCPS currently has to students in other schools in the District. This would give students, teachers, and parents access to a BRCHS facility.
## ABCs of Public Education

**2009-2010**

2 Honor Schools of Excellence  
1 School of Excellence  
13 Schools of Distinction  
4 Schools of Progress  
2 No Recognition  
1 High Growth

### ABCs Changes for 2009-10

**Grades 3-8**
- 3rd grade pretest is no longer given, so there are no growth calculations for 3rd grade.
- 8th grade computer skills assessment is no longer given, so it is not included in performance composite.

**High School**
- OCS Extend2 and Extend 1 scores are used in the performance composite.
- First time high schools could count retest scores for proficiency.
- Physics and Chemistry EOC assessments were not administered.

21/23 (91%) schools made expected growth

### NCLB Status | ABCs Status | Recognition
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atkinson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>87.872%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Drysdale</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>22 of 25</td>
<td>62.529%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Creek</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>90.226%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Honor School of Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>21 of 21</td>
<td>80.331%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edneyville</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>25 of 25</td>
<td>80.105%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>89.464%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fletcher</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>16 of 17</td>
<td>79.758%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn C. Marlow</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>17 of 17</td>
<td>89.024%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendersonville</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>94.021%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Honor School of Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillandale</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>21 of 21</td>
<td>76.404%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mills River</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>16 of 17</td>
<td>85.027%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>16 of 21</td>
<td>63.148%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No Recognition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upward</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>21 of 21</td>
<td>71.515%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Progress</td>
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#### MIDDLE SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple Valley</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>24 of 25</td>
<td>80.352%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flat Rock</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>24 of 25</td>
<td>84.752%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hendersonville</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>24 of 25</td>
<td>84.534%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rugby</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>21 of 21</td>
<td>89.431%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
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#### HIGH SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Henderson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>82.314%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendersonville</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>12 of 13</td>
<td>92.259%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Henderson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>15 of 15</td>
<td>85.737%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Henderson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13 of 13</td>
<td>85.365%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>School of Distinction</td>
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#### EDUCATION CENTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balfour</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3 of 3</td>
<td>40.181%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>High Growth</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Met AYP</th>
<th>Targets Met</th>
<th>Performance Composite</th>
<th>Met Expected Growth</th>
<th>Met High Growth</th>
<th>Category</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HC Early College High</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2 of 2</td>
<td>93.75%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No Recognition</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**LEA - Henderson County Public Schools - Total Targets Met 378/392 = 96.43%**
**ABCs Recognition Categories**

**Honor School of Excellence** – 90%–100% of students proficient, the school made expected or high growth, and the school met AYP.

**School of Excellence** – 90%–100% of students proficient and the school made expected or high growth.

**School of Distinction** – 80%–89% of students proficient and the school made expected or high growth.

**School of Progress** – 60%–79% of students proficient and the school made expected or high growth.

**Priority School** – 50%–59% of students proficient and the school made expected or high growth.

**No Recognition** – Schools that did not make expected or high growth.

**Accountability Measures**

**Performance Composite** – The percentage of the test scores in the school at or above Achievement Level III (how well the students in the school did against the set standard of proficiency).

**Growth** – An indication of the rate at which students in the school learned over the past year. The standard is equivalent to a year’s worth of growth for a year of instruction.

**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Status** – Whether the students in the school as a whole and in each identified group met the performance standards set by each state following federal guidelines (No Child Left Behind) with the long-term goal of 100% proficiency by 2013-14.

---

### 2010 Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPS Ranks 5th in the Western Region and 16th in the State</th>
<th># Tested</th>
<th>% Tested</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Critical Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Subtotal (math + reading)</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henderson County</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>1032</td>
<td>1518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>57,841</td>
<td>63.0%</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>1008</td>
<td>1485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1,547,990</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>1017</td>
<td>1509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HCPS High Schools

| Hendersonville                                          | 73       | 58.4%    | 531  | 524            | 500    | 1055                      | 1555       |
| East Henderson                                          | 81       | 42.0%    | 525  | 515            | 485    | 1040                      | 1525       |
| West Henderson                                          | 127      | 55.9%    | 525  | 506            | 491    | 1031                      | 1522       |
| North Henderson                                         | 82       | 49.1%    | 514  | 488            | 467    | 1002                      | 1469       |

This information was taken from The North Carolina 2010 SAT Report, Public Schools of North Carolina. The SAT results are for the students who were scheduled to graduate in 2010 and represents students’ most recent scores, regardless of when they took the test.
Providing A Safe Environment

Students in the Hillandale Elementary and Mills River Elementary districts began the 2009-10 school year in new schools. These new schools provide learning space for 722 students, with a core for 800 students. They feature 32 classrooms, a gymnasium, media center, art room, and cafeteria.

Dedication activities were held at Hillandale Elementary School on November 8, 2010 and at Mills River Elementary School on November 15, 2010. Both schools honored former principals during their dedication programs.

Both Hillandale Elementary and Mills River Elementary were awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Gold certifications. These schools are the first buildings in the Carolinas to become certified under the US Green Building Council (USGBC) advanced "LEED® for Schools" Rating System.

LEED® Green Building Rating System™ is a feature-oriented rating system that awards buildings points for satisfying specified green building criteria. LEED® green building certifications include Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels.

LEED® schools feature high performance design elements such as:
- energy use reduction of 25.8 percent through high-efficiency water-source heat pumps, solar hot-water preheat, and efficient lighting with motion and daylight sensors.
- dual-flush toilets, pint-flush urinals, and ultra low-flow lavatories projected to reduce water consumption by 48 percent (about 471,000 gallons) annually.
- carbon dioxide sensors and outdoor airflow monitors to improve the ventilation of indoor air spaces.
- enlarged windows, light shelves, and tubular skylights to provide the core learning spaces lighting levels through higher quality natural daylight.
- light-colored, highly-reflective metal roofs to reduce "heat island" effects and help keep the building cool.
- joint use of the gymnasiums, cafeterias, and several classrooms to reduce the need for duplicate facilities elsewhere.
The Mills River Academy
What was once the former office/library building of the old Mills River Elementary School now has a new name, the Mills River Academy. Mills River Academy is home to several departments and provides conference areas for system meetings. The computer lab, once located at the Balfour Education Center, is now at the Academy, as well as the Technology Department, Child Nutrition Department, Childcare Department, and the system’s Instructional Coaches.

A little history about Mills River School. Mills River School was established 213 years ago, 21 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. American Revolutionary War soldier James Brittain set aside 10 acres of his farm for community and school purposes in 1797. A small log building was built on this acreage and became one of the first schools in the Territory of Henderson County. Mills River Academy was built in 1830. It was a two-story frame building housing a school on the lower level and a church on the upper. It was located on Schoolhouse Road across the street from the present Presbyterian Church.

Current Construction Projects
Construction and renovation work began in 2009-10 on a two-story addition to Apple Valley Middle School and North Henderson High School. The 43,000 square foot addition will house 29 classrooms, group toilets, teacher workrooms, resource rooms, and office space. The first floor addition will be used by Apple Valley. The Apple Valley locker room addition is complete and has passed final inspections. Construction of the concrete masonry walls, enclosing the first and second floors, is nearing completion. The project is scheduled for completion for the start of the 2011-12 school year.

Safe Schools
One of the HCPS Core Values is “We believe a safe environment is everyone’s responsibility.” HCPS is required by law to develop a safe schools plan for the unit, and then from the unit plan develop individual safe school plans. The plan is updated annually and must be submitted every three years to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI). The Safe Schools Committee (comprised of principals, assistant principals, directors, specialists, SROs, and a parent) revises and updates the plan, then submits it to the School Board for final approval.

The Safe Schools Plan includes dropout data. The District must list the methods used in dealing with dropouts. Graphs are included of dropout rates over a ten-year span. HCPS’ percentages are compared to those of other Western Region counties and the state. Also included in the Safe Schools Plan is the annual school violence report. The NCDPI collects data annually on school crime and violence from public schools across the state of North Carolina. Each LEA submits a report on all seventeen reportable offenses. This data is utilized in determining areas of need.

The primary revision in the District’s Safe Schools Plan was in the School Emergency Response and Crisis Management. Utilizing funds received three years ago from a federal grant, HCPS has developed a partnership with three surrounding LEAs (Buncombe County, Asheville City, Transylvania County) to form the Western North Carolina Regional Consortium for Safe Schools. This regional approach has allowed school systems to share expertise and leverage our resources as we continually develop and improve our emergency response and crisis management plan. The Consortium has worked and collaborated with other agencies (emergency management, law enforcement, health department) in the ongoing identification of school and community hazards. Collaboration continues, and we have developed activities and provided resources, such as the AlertNow® Emergency Notification; site surveys (inventory taken annually evaluating traffic control, surveillance outside and inside, access control, safety provisions, and safety planning); threat assessments; automated external defibrillators (each middle school and high school is equipped with AEDs that staff members have been trained in the use of); electronic blueprints (maps that provide information regarding the layout of buildings as well as utility shut-offs that can be utilized by emergency management and law enforcement); and emergency plans and procedure flip charts (ready reference that provide information necessary to respond to an emergency).

National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS), recognized as the best approaches to manage an emergency in schools, were implemented in all schools. Administrators have participated in the appropriate training to achieve certification. Safe School training DVDs have been completed and are used to train school staff.
The Henderson County Public Schools is very fortunate to have the support of so many parents, businesses, and community organizations that invest their time and resources in our schools. Their involvement enhances the learning experience of our students. These partners help make HCPS the excellent school system that it is. We have highlighted just a few of these partnerships in this report. To all those who support the children of the Henderson County Public Schools we say, “Thank you!”

Residents of Carolina Village Support The Children
Carolina Village residents and staff collected school supplies and donations in August 2009 to show their support for local youth and their education. Over $1,000 was collected and 1,257 items purchased. Carolina Village resident Pauline Corn was a vital part of the project. She organized and counted each item purchased. HCPS School Board member Mary Louise Corn, who also serves on the Board of Directors at Carolina Village, accompanied Kevin Parries (Executive Director of Carolina Village) and Carolina Village residents Amy Pace (former Assistant Superintendent with HCPS), Charles Byrd (former Hendersonville City Schools Superintendent and HCPS Deputy Superintendent), and Pauline Corn as they delivered the collected supplies to the students at the Henderson County Early College High School and Sugarloaf Elementary.

The items delivered to Sugarloaf Elementary included construction paper; spiral ring composition books; notebook paper; notebook binders; legal pads; pocket folders; glue; glue sticks; backpacks; Kleenex; crayons; sharpies; Bic pens; highlighters; pencils; colored pencils; Crayola markers; index cards; scotch tape; Clorox wipes; hand sanitizer; protractors; pocket calculators; erasers; scissors; rubber bands; pencil boxes; rulers; graph paper; adding machine paper; headphone sets for use with computers; and cases of copy paper. Early College High School students received 60 jump drives and 15 graphing calculators.

$10,000 ExxonMobil Grant Fosters Science Learning
Earth Science learning is the focus of a $10,000 grant from ExxonMobil that benefited 13 middle schools in seven western North Carolina school districts (Cherokee, Henderson, Madison, Polk, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancey Counties). Barry Edwards, Vice President/General Manager of Henderson Oil Company, presented the check from ExxonMobil to Dr. Jan Webster, Director of Western Region Education Service Alliance (WRESA). The grant supports LabQuest Technology used in inquiry-based, hands-on Earth Science lessons designed to teach students to collect, organize, and analyze data. The grant money was used to purchase handheld devices for the schools that students can use to test temperature, voltage, water pH levels, and various other measurements.

Rotary Club Gives a Gift of Knowledge
On September 18, 2009 members of the Rotary Club of Hendersonville visited schools in Henderson County and distributed dictionaries to all third grade students. The students received the dictionaries as part of the Club’s annual “Sky Polega Gift of Knowledge” project. (Sky Polega was a graduate of Hendersonville High School and Duke University’s School of Engineering. She died at 25 of a brain hemorrhage while on an educational trip to Alaska.) Former HCPS Superintendent Stephen L. Page and School Board Chairperson Ervin W. Bazzle assisted Rotary Club members Jim Stike, Dave Knowles, Todd Webb, and Patrick Kennedy in the dictionary distribution at Mills River Elementary School.
Henderson Oil Company Gives $5,000 In Grants
The Henderson Oil Company gave 10 education grants of $500 each to schools in Henderson County. The grants were given to fund projects at the schools with an emphasis on math and science. Henderson Oil Company executives Barry Edwards (Vice President/General Manager), Paul Jordan (Vice President/Controller), and Connie Cunningham (Administrative Assistant) of Henderson Oil presented the grants to the principals. Pictured below are the recipients of the grants. Front row left to right: Principal Carole Breerwood, Immaculata Catholic; Principal Jenny Moreno, Hendersonville Middle; Principal Christine Smith, Fletcher Elementary; Principal Audrey Reneau, Clear Creek Elementary; Principal Jan King, Glenn Marlow Elementary; Principal Lynn Leckron, Hendersonville Christian; and Connie Cunningham, Henderson Oil. Back row left to right: Principal Matthew Gruebmeyer, East Henderson High; Principal Scott Rhodes, Flat Rock Middle; Principal Dean Jones, West Henderson High; Principal Frank Edney, North Henderson High; Barry Edwards, Henderson Oil; and Paul Jordan, Henderson Oil.

A Community Rises To the Challenge
Rugby Middle School celebrated “Pirates Day” – a day of celebration for good behavior – on November 6, 2009. Also on that day, representatives of area bikers presented checks to Henderson County Public Schools to be used to purchase special materials or activities for students in classes on the autism spectrum. Patty Adamic (owner of Mike’s on Main), Sherry Williams (Mike’s on Main employee), and Lorrie Fernandez (Hendersonville Hub & The Sundrie Shoppe) presented a $761.93 check to Jeff Richards (Rugby’s Autistic teacher) to be used for his students. Five other autistic classes in HCPS and Immaculata Catholic School each received a check for $761.93 for a total of $3,805.65 in contributions.

Caroline Minocozzi of WNC Best, an organization that provides autism therapy for students, joined with Williams, Adamic, Fernandez, and Richards. The group met each Friday afternoon for four months to discuss, brainstorm, and create what would become known as the “Historic Downtown Hendersonville Bike Nites for Autism.” The Downtown Merchants joined together with various sponsorships, specifically Hannah Flanagan’s Pub with the sponsorship of the “Bounce House” and “Trophy Competition” and Mike’s on Main as an overall sponsor and provider of music. Fundraising events were planned for one weekend per month May–August.

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Building Positive Community Relationships

PaperBackSwap.com Donates 3,500 Books To Three Elementary Schools

PaperBackSwap.com (based in Atlanta, Georgia) donated 3,500 books (3,000 gently used books and 500 new books) in December 2009 that were divided between Clear Creek Elementary, Dana Elementary, and Upward Elementary. These books were placed in teachers' classroom libraries so students would have direct access to them. Jayne Jennings, the Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Specialist at Clear Creek Elementary, Dana Elementary, and Upward Elementary Schools, was the contact with PaperBackSwap.com and worked with the company to help secure the books for the schools. Ms. Jennings is pictured to the right with Clear Creek Elementary teachers Kelly Bailey, Becky McCrary, Beth Baldwin, and student Anna Baldwin as they unload Clear Creek's box at the District's warehouse. The books were reloaded into small crates and taken to the school.

PaperBackSwap (PBS) is a free online book club. The company began the School Donation Program, Books for Schools, because of its belief in the power of reading and the power of giving. The schools selected to participate in the Books for Schools are based on the need of the students. PBS club members participated in the program by selecting a school and donating their unused credits to purchase a book for the school. For each unused credit donated by a member of PBS, PaperBackSwap and supporting organizations provided an additional book, giving classrooms/libraries two books for each credit donated.

2010 Marker Science Scholarship III

Curt Marker, a retired Exxon executive, and his wife, Sue, founded the Marker Science Scholarship in 2006. The scholarship provides four years of financial assistance to an outstanding, academically worthy graduating high school senior who plans to major in a science field at a state university. It pays tuition, room, board, and related educational costs such as textbooks. The Henderson County Education Foundation manages the Marker Science Scholarship funds.

North Henderson High senior, Jacob Medd, was the 2010 Marker Science Scholarship III recipient. Jacob will attend the University of North Carolina to study Computer Science and pursue a Bachelor of Science degree. He is the third HCPS student to receive the Marker Science Scholarship. Jacob is pictured shaking hands with Mr. Marker, with Sue Marker sitting to the right. Standing behind Jacob is his twin brother, Dakota; Alex Cremer, 2008 Marker Science Scholarship recipient; Pamela Johnson, Director of CTE; and Leigh Leik, North Henderson Senior Counselor.

2010 North Carolina Division on Career Development & Transition Employer of the Year Award

The Council for Exceptional Children North Carolina Division on Career Development and Transition (CEC-NCDCTD) sponsored the CEC-NCDCT Employer of the Year Award to recognize an employer or business that has shown remarkable commitment to promoting or providing employment opportunities to students with disabilities. Diane White, Assistant Director of the Exceptional Children Department for HCPS, nominated Mr. Gary Durkee of Outback Steakhouse. Mr. Durkee was selected to receive the 2010 North Carolina Division on Career Development & Transition Employer of the Year Award.

Mr. Durkee has created an ongoing partnership with HCPS high schools for three years. The partnership began when he was contacted to be a guest speaker for an Occupational Course of Study class at East Henderson High. His participation expanded from there to employing students, working with job coaches, and participating in Employability Seminars. He provides students with incentives and assists them in fundraising.

Additionally, he has designed a career development program that is held on-site at Outback Steakhouse. In this endeavor, Mr. Durkee addresses both career development and career management skills. He tutors students on job applications, demonstrates appropriate interaction with employers, and explains traits that employers seek.
Recognizing Achievement

- Benjamin Pruitt, a Mills River Elementary student, was the North Carolina winner for Level I (grades 4-6) in the Letters About Literature 2010 contest. He competed at the national level.

- Jacob Medd, a North Henderson High student, received 1st Place in the North Carolina State SkillsUSA contest in Technical Drafting for the second consecutive year. He represented the state at the SkillsUSA National Conference.

- 2010 Governor School: Students who attended 2010 Governor’s School East were Katelyn T. Allen, Hendersonville High; Katherine K. Chelena, Hendersonville High; Trestan R. Peck, Hendersonville High; and Sarah K. Hinshaw, West Henderson High. Students who attended 2010 Governor’s School West were Jacob T. Radford, East Henderson High; Kathryn L. O’Shea, West Henderson High; and Joshua M. Wentzel, West Henderson High.

- 2010 North Carolina Teaching Fellows Recipients: Students who received 2010 North Carolina Teaching Fellows were Chelsea Goodman, East Henderson High; Sarah McDonald, East Henderson High; Georgia Ann Paul, East Henderson High; Nicholas Sullivan, Hendersonville High; Taylor Bryson, West Henderson High; Elizabeth Huntley, West Henderson High; and Kyle Keith, West Henderson High.

- Anthony Boyd, Chris Collins, Megan Davis, Dylan Lance, Josh Faint, Jas Waldrop, Eva Alvarez, John Brooks, Josh Carver, Ryan Owen, Jeremy Yochum, Amy Cook, Tony Prucha, and Brittany Gulick – students in Brandon Ball’s and Marianne Elgin’s Occupational Course of Study program at West Henderson High – received 1st Place at the 2nd Annual Employability Seminar for the district. They went on to compete at the regional contest.

- The North Henderson High School Band won Outstanding Overall Musical Ensemble at the Heritage Music Festival in Williamsburg, Virginia. The band also won best overall group regardless of class, taking home 4 out of 7 of the outstanding individual musician awards. Based on being the Grand Champion of this national festival, they won the opportunity to play next year in Symphony Hall in Chicago. Steve Sigmon is the Band Director.

- Scott Ashcraft, a Hendersonville High student, was the only student from Henderson County selected to participate in the North Carolina All State Honors Band.

- The Hendersonville High School Symphonic Band won first place at the Festival of Gold competition at the Chicago Symphony Hall for all high school and middle school bands and choral groups. This title adds to a list of other awards for the Band that includes top honors at Carnegie Hall, the Boston Symphony Hall, and the Kennedy Center. The Hendersonville High School Symphonic Band is composed of 115 members. Fran Shelton is the director of the Band.

- North Henderson High School AFJROTC Unit NC-20065 earned the Distinguished Unit Award for the Academic Year 2009-10. Lieutenant Colonel James Grigsby is the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor of the unit and MSgt. Rich Trull is the Assistant Aerospace Science Instructor.

- 2010 Top Scholars

- 2009-10 Annual Report
Recognizing Achievement


☆ 2010 North Carolina Scholars


☆ 2010-10 HCPS Counselors of the Year

For the Elementary Level, Gloria Anderson from Upward Elementary; Middle School Level, Brenda Titus from Apple Valley Middle; and High School Level, Annabelle Hurd from Hendersonville High.

☆ East Henderson High School AFJROTC Unit NC-934 earned the Distinguished Unit Award for the Academic Year 2009-10. Lieutenant Colonel Rod Clark is the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor and MSgt. Michael Jensen is the Assistant Aerospace Science Instructor. This was the 8th consecutive year that the East High unit received the award.

☆ Buddy Gudger, Director of Bands for Hendersonville Middle, was chosen by the Western District Bandmasters Association to receive the North Carolina Bandmasters Association Award of Excellence for the Western District for the 2009-10 school year.

☆ 2009-10 HCPS Counselors of the Year

For the Elementary Level, Gloria Anderson from Upward Elementary; Middle School Level, Brenda Titus from Apple Valley Middle; and High School Level, Annabelle Hurd from Hendersonville High.
Fran Shelton, Director of Bands at Hendersonville High for 23 years, was presented the Silver Baton Award. This is a national award that recognizes outstanding contributions to the improvement of bands in America through participation and leadership in professional organizations.

Henderson County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Jonathan Tankersley, the School Resource Officer at Rugby Middle, was awarded the North Carolina Officer of the Year Award from the North Carolina State Grange.

State Champions

The West Henderson High School Girls Golf Team won the school’s first North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) 3A/2A/1A golf championship. Team members are Taylor Bryson, Kayla Sciupider, Carly Jackson, Anna Padgett, and Olivia Springer. Dave Sciupider is the Team’s coach.

Kayla Sciupider, West High, won the NCHSAA 3A/2A/1A Golf individual title.

Catie Byrd, North High, won the 2A Cross Country State Title.

The Hendersonville High School Boys Soccer Team were the 2009-10 1A State Champions. This was Henderson County’s first state championship in boys’ soccer. Team members are Brayan Aguirre, Peirce Carpenter, Jake Cosgrove, Joseph Cottingham, Jacob Daley, Alford Davis, Lucas Freeman, Jordan Gilliam, Daniel Harder, Ahmad Jarrar, Joey Jones, Joseph Longo, Connor McCraw, Colin Michels, Beck Miller, Will Patrick, Mitchell Ryan, Kyle Stuller; Nick Sullivan, Wiekus Tolles, Brackin Kirkland, Tory Bogin, Alex Stuller, John Keenan, Hank Marshall, and Kyle Hall. The Head Coach is Freddy Oviedo. Assistant Coaches are Jon Sherrill and Johnny Grantham. Team member Brayan Aguirre was named the 1A MVP.

Hailey Cook, a Hendersonville High student, was the 2009-10 NCHSAA 1A Shot Put State Champion. She was also the 2009-10 NCHSAA 1A Discus State Champion.

Hendersonville High students, Nick Knable, Brayan Aguirre, Zac Stephens, and Thomas O’Connell, were the 2009-10 NCHSAA 1A 4x800 Relay State Champions.

Hendersonville High students, Tristan Endaya, Cameron Hill, Lucus Freeman, and Daniel Orr, were the 2009-10 NCHSAA 1A 4x200 Relay State Champions.
Working Together Is Success

HCPS welcomes volunteers at all 23 schools. To ensure the safety of all students, procedures have been implemented that involve background checks and picture IDs. There are over 1,700 volunteers who give of their time and talents to students and staff.

Students may attend a school outside their home district if space is available. A Request for Reassignment form must be submitted. Request forms are accepted from April 1-30 for the first semester and from October 1-31 for second semester.

HCPS has over 1,800 employees. We are the largest employer in Henderson County.

There are 233 National Board Certified Teachers employed by the District.

HCPS operates a fleet of 154 buses (110 regular yellow buses, 28 activity buses, 4 vocational buses, and 12 spare buses). During the 2009-10 school year, buses traveled 1,082,141 miles at a cost of $2.53 per mile. An average of 6,269 children were transported.

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Working Together Is Success

Childcare – PSAM and PSPM – is offered in all 13 of our elementary schools during the school year. There is a registration fee. PSAM hours are 6:30-8 am. PSPM hours are 3-6 pm. All-day childcare is available on teacher workdays from 6:30 am - 6 pm.

For the past few years, students attending PSPM programs make Valentines to send to sick children in hospitals and Christmas cards for soldiers overseas.

The Superintendent meets monthly with the Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Council, Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council, and Student Government Association. These meetings benefit communication efforts through the sharing and disseminating of information.
APPLE VALLEY MIDDLE  *868  Principal:  Ms. Marcie Wilson
Assistant Principals:  Mr. Michael Gates, Ms. Marsha Justice
43 Fruitland Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4545 • Fax (828) 698-6119

ATKINSON ELEMENTARY  *387  Principal:  Ms. Kimberly Deaton
2510 Old Kanuga Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4755 • Fax (828) 698-6120

BALFOUR EDUCATION CENTER  *159  Principal:  Ms. Beth Ferris
43 Fruitland Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4545 • Fax (828) 698-6119

BRUCE DRYSDALE ELEMENTARY  *405  Principal:  Ms. Christine Smith
43 Fruitland Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4545 • Fax (828) 698-6119

CLEAR CREEK ELEMENTARY  *465  Principal:  Ms. Audrey Reneau
737 North Clear Creek Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4760 • Fax (828) 698-6121

EDNEYVILLE ELEMENTARY  *484  Principal:  Ms. Kelly Schofield
1039 Randall Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28791
Phone (828) 697-4752 • Fax (828) 698-6125

EAST HENDERSON HIGH  *969  Principal:  Mr. Matthew Gruebmyer
110 Old Upward Rd, East Flat Rock, NC 28726
Phone (828) 697-4768 • Fax (828) 698-6123

EDNEYVILLE ELEMENTARY  *633  Principal:  Mr. Chad Auten
1985 Butler Bridge Rd, Mill River, NC 28759
Phone (828) 687-1217

ETOWAH ELEMENTARY  *426  Principal:  Mr. Michael Thorpe
320 Etowah School Rd, Etowah, NC 28729
Phone (828) 891-6560 • Fax (828) 891-6579

FLAT ROCK MIDDLE  *774  Principal:  Mr. Scott Rhodes
191 Preston Ln, East Flat Rock, NC 28726
Phone (828) 697-4775 • Fax (828) 698-6124

FLETCHER ELEMENTARY  *586  Principal:  Ms. Jennifer Shelton
500 Howard Gap Rd, Fletcher, NC 28732
Phone (828) 684-0580 • Fax (828) 687-1217

GLEN C. MARLOW ELEMENTARY  *472  Principal:  Ms. Jan King
1985 Butler Bridge Rd, Mill River, NC 28759
Phone (828) 654-3225 • Fax (828) 687-1214

HENDERSON COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL  *77
Principal:  Dr. Helen Owen
120 Alumni Way, Flat Rock, NC 28731
Phone (828) 697-4561 • Fax (828) 697-4564

HENDERSONVILLE ELEMENTARY  *422  Principal:  Ms. Shannon Marlowe
1039 Randall Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28791
Phone (828) 697-4752 • Fax (828) 698-6125

HENDERSONVILLE MIDDLE  *510  Principal:  Ms. Jenny Moreno
825 North Whitted St, Hendersonville, NC 28791
Phone (828) 697-4800 • Fax (828) 698-6127

HILLANDALE ELEMENTARY  *584  Principal:  Ms. Denise Montgomery
40 Preston Ln, East Flat Rock, NC 28726
Phone (828) 697-4782 • Fax (828) 697-4661

MILLS RIVER ELEMENTARY  *597  Principal:  Mr. Jeff Treadway
94 School House Rd, Mills River, NC 28759
Phone (828) 891-6563 • Fax (828) 891-6584

NORTH HENDERSON  *954  Principal:  Mr. Frank Edney
35 Fruitland Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 697-4500 • Fax (828) 698-6129

RUGBY MIDDLE  *881  Principal:  Mr. Bill Reedy
45 Education Dr, Flat Rock, NC 28731
Phone (828) 697-4764 • Fax (828) 698-6131

WEST HENDERSON  *1064  Principal:  Mr. R. Dean Jones
2875 Pace Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Phone (828) 685-7600 • Fax (828) 685-4006

*Indicates student membership as of the 20th day of school (9/22/09)