VANCE COUNTY SCHOOLS
BOARD BRIEFS



SEPTEMBER 2023

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Board Recognitions

National Arts in Education Week

The Board of Education proudly acknowledged National Arts in Education Week, celebrated from September 10 to September 16, highlighting the significance of the arts in our district. Vance County Schools is deeply committed to fostering Arts in Education as an integral part of our curriculum. We recognize the transformative power of the arts in nurturing creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment among our students. Through dedicated programs, passionate educators, and collaborative partnerships, the district aims to provide every student with meaningful opportunities to explore and excel in the arts, ensuring a well-rounded education that prepares them for a diverse and dynamic world. Andrew Markoch, Director of Arts and Physical Education, expressed his gratitude to the Board of Education for their commitment to the Arts.





National Teacher Assistants' Day

The Board of Education extends heartfelt appreciation to all our Teacher Assistants on September 29, in recognition of their invaluable support on National Teacher Assistants' Day. We are grateful for the unwavering dedication and invaluable support provided by our teacher assistants. Their tireless efforts in assisting teachers and nurturing students play a pivotal role in shaping young minds and fostering a positive learning environment. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to these remarkable individuals who make a profound difference in the lives of our students every day.



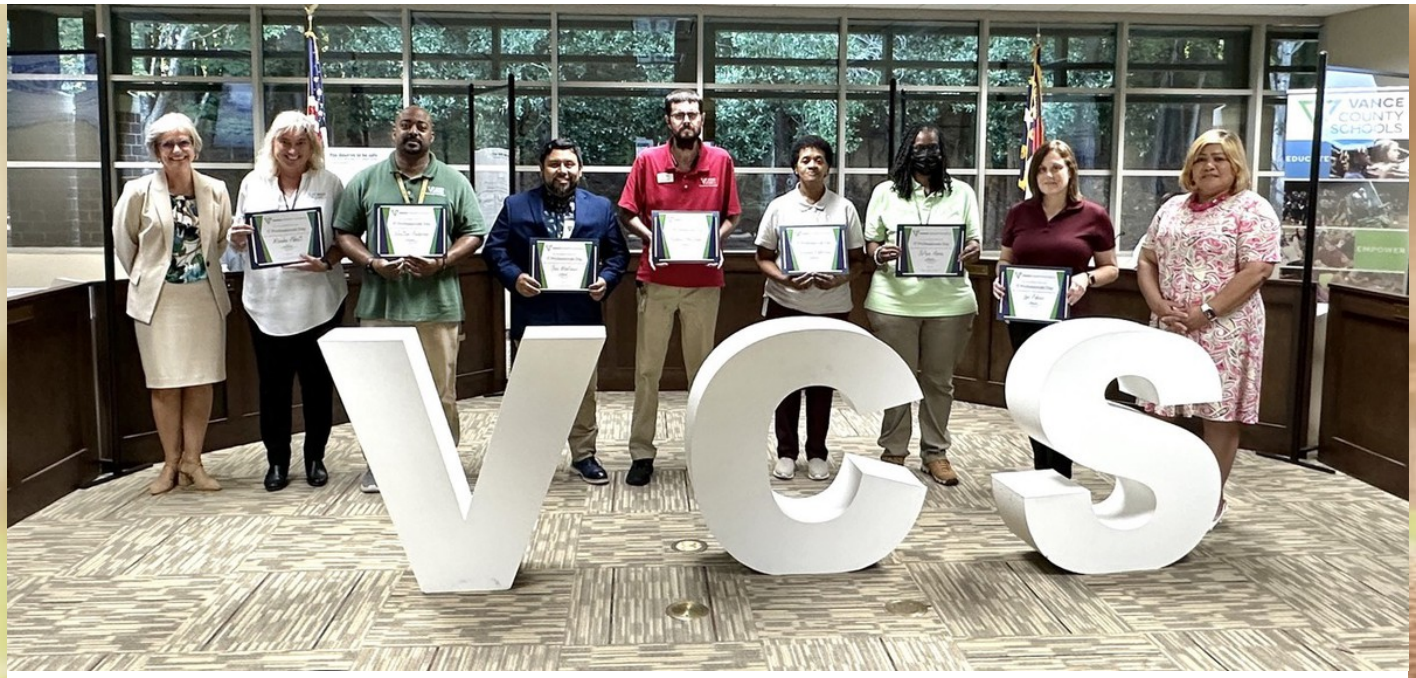
National HR Professionals Day

The Board of Education celebrates Human Resources Professional Day on September 26 by honoring the dedicated Human Resources Staff for their outstanding contributions and commitment to the district. We extend our sincere gratitude to our HR professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth functioning of our organization. Their expertise in recruitment, employee development, and maintaining a healthy workplace culture is instrumental in our success. We appreciate their dedication in shaping a positive and thriving work environment for all. Recognized was Dr. Jennifer Carraway, Shelly Watson, Denice Roberson, Elizabeth Gray, Devin Stevenson, LeighAnnTwisdale and Kedecia Stewart-Faines.



National IT Professionals Day

The Board of Education honors the Vance County Schools technology team for IT Professionals Day, to be celebrated September 20. Their tireless efforts in maintaining and advancing our technological infrastructure are pivotal to the efficient operation of our school district. We honor their expertise, problem-solving abilities, and commitment to ensuring that our students and educators have access to the best digital tools and resources for a successful learning experience. Recognized was Marsha Abbott, Jose Martinez, Celestine Wilkerson, JoAnn Harris, Todd Sullivan, Lori Askew, Haley Moore, Andrew Holtzman, Shelton Anderson and Roderick Lewis.



Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month takes place September 15 to October 15 every year as a time to recognize and celebrate the many contributions, diverse cultures and extensive histories of the American Latino community. The Hispanic Heritage Week began in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson. President Ronald Reagan expanded the celebration to a month in 1988. Kim Meza and the English as a Second Language team presented information about themselves. This team also presents at different schools and within the community to celebrate their heritage.





Superintendent's Report

North Carolina School Board Association

The Board of Education sends delegates to the North Carolina School Board Association meeting, scheduled for Monday, November 13. The board selected Omega Perry, Randy Oxendine, Linda Cobb and Dorothy Gooche to represent the Vance County Board of Education, with Gloria J. White serving as the alternate.

Opening of Schools Update

Superintendent Dr. Cindy. Bennett shared the opening of schools update with the Board of Education. With all 16 schools back in session, the district has just over 5,200 students enrolled and 12 teacher vacancies at this time. Average daily attendance is around 87-90%. Schools will be hosting parent engagement nights at each of the schools. Superintendent Bennett shared that this Friday, the football team will play Southern Durham at home and next Friday, September 22 will be homecoming. Dr. Whitt, VCHS Principal, shared that currently the Varsity football team is 4-0 with the most recent win over Northern Durham and JV football is 3-0 with their most recent win over Orange High School.

Dr. Bennett thanked all of the principals for their hard work opening schools this year. She shared that three schools improved their accountability letter grade - New Hope Elementary, led by Principal Letitia Fields, Carver Elementary, led by Regina Miles and EM Rollins STEAM Academy, led by Principal Dr. Carnetta Thomas.

Board Business

Action Items by the Board of Education



The Board of Education voted and approved the following:

- HVAC controls upgrade at the Center for Innovation
- Concrete slabs for the Outdoor Learning Environments, along with sidewalks to connect to existing sidewalks
- Personnel Recommendations

VANCE COUNTY SCHOOLS
Personnel
SUMMARY

Personnel

The Board of Education approved 21 employment recommendations. We would like to formally welcome the following: Janesha Marrow (Aycock), Kristy Crower (EM Rollins), Alfreda Murphy (EM Rollins), Hannah Yeboah-Fenteng (EM Rollins), Katlyn Aiken (New Hope), Sharnell Hunt (Transportation), Dian Bowers (Adv. Acad.), Karrene Turner (AA, LB Yancey), Katie Frazier (Aycock), Ashley Royster (Aycock), Linda Shelton (Carver), Karma Taylor (Clarke), Tamara Nelson (Dabney), Fitzroy Jones (LB Yancey), Angel Gilchrist (New Hope), Kenneisha Mitchell (STEM), Joshua Lewis (Transportation), Mya Davis-Cummings (VCHS), Jared Dongsao (VCMS), Samantha Hedgepeth (VCMS) and Camille Robinson (Zeb Vance).

The Board accepted resignations for 4, retirements for 1, temporary employment for 4, 15 contracted services and transfer/promotions for 9, which includes Dr. C'Monee Wilkins as Principal of Clarke Elementary (previously AP at Clarke) and Daniel Sandlin as Assistant Principal of Clarke Elementary (previous AP Intern at STEM).



Student Transfer Requests

The Vance County Board of Education approved 35 requests to transfer into Vance County Schools and 6 requests to transfer out, totaling 41 transfer requests.

Next BOE Meeting will be October 9, 2023 at 6pm.

View the September 11, 2023 Board of Education Meeting

All meetings take place at 6pm at VCS Administrative Services Center.

November 20, 2023
December 11, 2023
Adopted by the Board of Education on December 12, 2022.

About Us

Vance County Schools, located in Henderson, NC serves students Pre-K through 12th grade, as well as Early College 5th year students. There are 16 schools served in our district.

Website: www.vcs.k12.nc.us
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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Vance-County-Schools-920214704715692
Twitter: @VanceCoSchools

2023-2024 Quick Access Information



Aarika Sandlin
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