

CCS Staff In the Know



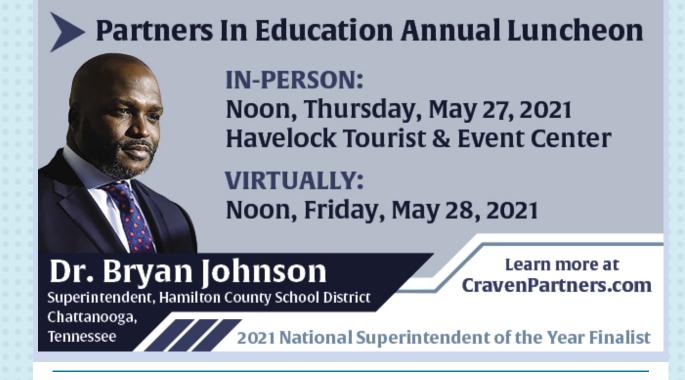
Revised: April 19, 2021

Board of Education Approves Calendars for 2021-2022

At the April Board of Education Meeting held on April 15, 2021, the Board of Education approved the academic calendars for the 2021-2022 school year for our traditional schools and early colleges. When creating a school calendar, local school districts are required to adhere to <u>General Statute 115C-84.2</u>. According to NC School Calendar Legislation, school calendars must meet certain criteria, including, but not limited to:

- First day of school can be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26th.
- Last day of school can be no later than the Friday closest to June 11th.
- Must cover at least nine calendar months.
- Includes a minimum of 185 days OR 1,025 hours of instruction.
- Teacher contracts must cover 215 days.

(*Please note if the General Assembly passes any revisions to the legislation for the 2021 school year there is a possibility the approved calendars will have to be updated.) To view the calendars please visit: https://www.cravenk12.org/Page/18380



Board of Education April Board Highlights



iPad and Home Network Issues:

Thank you everyone for your patience as we continue to investigate and troubleshoot the issue we are experiencing with some devices not connecting to some home networks. We are in constant contact with several vendors, Apple, and our network



service partners. We are working diligently to gather and provide more information on a cause and a solution. Again, thank you for your patience.



Safety and Security - RAPTOR EM Alert training / practice week, April 19-23.



RAPTOR EM Alert is an application through RAPTOR Technologies that gives school leadership, SROs, and district administration a critical incident / drill management tool to use during real critical incidents and training / drills. RAPTOR EM Alert is also set up to be used during reunification events, and will be part of the reunification training coming up on April 28th.

As part of our RAPTOR EM Alert roll out and training, we are coordinating a RAPTOR EM Alert "practice week".

This will allow all staff the opportunity to login and practice a RAPTOR initiated drill, training in logging onto the app, using Team Assist, group messaging, location sharing, accessing incidents, and using accountability features.

The practice week will take place next week, April 19-23. During this time, we will be initiating a test drill called *Shelter – Raptor Practice Week*. Please ensure that you use the drill entitled "*Shelter - Raptor Practice Week*". At any point throughout the week, you can perform the steps outlined in the training. This does not have to be done in a formalized training session – this can occur from any location, at any time throughout the week.

Additional information and directions will be sent through email. Please follow the directions and view all the attached videos, as they are part of the training.

Again, this is self-paced training that allows flexibility for staff in completing the training. This short training will give everyone an opportunity to acclimate with the use of the application; this application will be used at all schools as we move into

the fall semester, for both real critical incidents and drills.

Please complete this training by 4/23/2021.

RAPTOR Reunification Training

We have planned reunification training with Raptor Technologies on April 28th (Wednesday), at Vanceboro Farm Life elementary school, using the auditorium and gymnasium as our practice reunification site. Trainers from Raptor will be on site to lead the training and help us to be better prepared.

Two training sessions will be held; 0900 - 1200, and 1300 - 1600. The training will be broken down into a one hour review of the RAPTOR EM Alert application, navigating the accountability and reunification feature in that application. The remaining two hour portion will be practical training for mock, small-scale reunification scenarios and will include using the RAPTOR EM Alert application.

This training is geared toward district reunification team members; all team members should have received an email on 4/15 outlining the training. All safety coordinators are strongly encouraged to attend if at all possible; SROs will also be participating in the training.

Once this training is completed, we will begin training at individual schools on reunification procedures for on site events / dismissals over the course of several months and the fall semester.

The 2021-22 NC Energy Literacy Fellows Teacher Professional Development Program

Exploring the Future of the Electric Grid

A year-long teacher professional development program for grades 8-12 STEM teachers in NC's Duke Energy service territory. To be eligible you must teach in a school located in either the Duke Energy Progress or Duke Energy Carolinas service territory. To see if your school is eligible click *here and then in the upper left corner, click on North Carolina and follow the prompts.*

Founded in 2017, the NC Energy Literacy Fellows Program is a year-long teacher professional development program designed to build teacher knowledge of the evolving electric grid as a strategy to authentically engage students in learning about renewable energy and prepare them for careers in the energy sector, with an emphasis on NC's energy landscape. By combining access to experts with hands-on investigations and place-based explorations of electricity generation facilities, energy research facilities, program activities showcase the benefits and challenges of modernizing the electric grid and highlight the knowledge and skills needed to prepare the next generation's energy workforce and support the low carbon economy. Want to find out if there is an Energy Literacy Fellow near you? Click here for a searchable map.

This professional development opportunity will enhance NC Energy Literacy Fellows' ability to deliver energy-related content, conduct STEM-based activities and promote relevant STEM career opportunities.

Connect with other teachers! Any 8th-12th grade STEM teacher who addresses energy in their teaching is eligible to apply. This program will benefit new and experienced teachers! Construct new knowledge and collect resources that align with the *NC Essential Standards for Science* and integrate science and engineering practices outlined in the *Next Generation Science Standards*.

Receive numerous benefits including:

access to current science content related to emerging energy issues and technologies
resources to support classroom integration of content

· over \$250 worth of instructional materials to support hands-on STEM investigations

· access to a peer learning network (2017-2020 Fellows) from across the state

 \cdot opportunity to join a working group to develop an energy lesson alongside one or two program alumni

• 25 to 40+ credit hours towards Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits and credit in the **N.C. Environmental Education Certification Program** offered through the N.C. Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs

 \cdot support for sharing your energy-related STEM instructional strategies and successes with other teaching professionals at the district, regional, state and national levels

"The activities and materials I now have in my teaching toolbox...allow me to help students understand the complexity of the electric grid and the exciting career opportunities awaiting them in this field." – 2018 Energy Literacy Fellow

Prospective Applicants MUST:

• Be an 8th-12th grade STEM teacher at a North Carolina school located in a Duke Energy service territory

· Have access to a working Internet connection with audio capabilities

• Be available to participate in the following activities that will take place during this year-long program:

Virtual Professional Development Institute July 13-15, 2021 (10AM-4:30PM daily with asynchronous "missions")

Participants are required to attend all three days in full; a 90-minute lunch break will occur from 11:30AM-1PM each day; during this institute we will dive into learning about the electric grid and we will explore NC's energy landscape through online mapping tools, guest presentations, and other interactive activities. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in an electricity-themed Goosechase Scavenger hunt and compete for prizes.

PoWer Wednesdays | *Monthly webinar series* | October – March, Third Wednesday of the month from 4:15-5:45PM

Participants are asked to attend <u>at least four webinars</u>, representing an opportunity to customize this professional development experience. During these virtual sessions, we will explore a topic and discuss classroom integration strategies to support classroom application of program resources and materials and offer peer support in incorporating program experiences into instruction. Alumni will be invited to both attend and lead activities.

Regional Science Immersion Experience (In person*)

Participants are required to attend <u>at least one</u> experience and are welcome to attend more than one as long as space is available. Meals, lodging, substitute teacher reimbursement and transportation stipend provided when applicable. These sessions will include place-based explorations of electricity generation and energy research facilities, hands-on activities, and discussions of local energy issues and relevant careers; alumni from each region will be invited to attend and lead activities.

Western Region, Charlotte |Thurs, Nov 11, 2021 (School holiday for most teachers) Eastern Region, Manteo | March 2022 (tentatively scheduled for a Fri/Sat either March 19/20

or 26/27, 2022)

Central Region, Chapel Hill | Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2022 *Please note that in-person programs are subject to change, rescheduling or cancellation depending on COVID-19 restrictions.

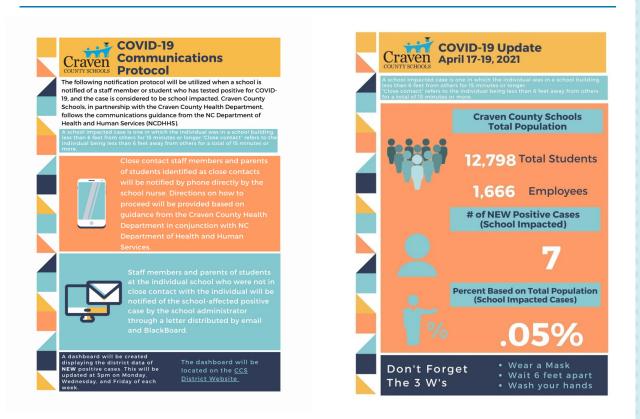
Health and Safety Precautions:

<u>All in-person program components will follow current</u> **University**, **state** and **federal** health guidelines and apply a range of safety measures to mitigate health risks, including: Physical distancing Requiring properly worn face coverings when social distancing is not possible Smaller class sizes Leading activities outdoors as much as possible Increasing sanitation efforts If indoors, leaving doors and windows open to increase air exchange

Click here to access the online application

All applications due by 11:59PM Sunday April 25th. *Please note: There are a limited number of seats available for this program*. All applicants will receive email notification of their acceptance status on or before May 3rd , 2021. Upon notification of acceptance, teachers will be asked to submit a \$100 deposit check to reserve their spot in the program. Your spot will be forfeited if your deposit is not received in a timely manner. The deposit check <u>will not be deposited</u> unless teacher cancels and spot cannot be filled; it would then be considered a tax-deductible gift to the Institute for the Environment. The deposit check will be returned after a teacher completes their first regional science immersion event.

This program is offered by the UNC-Chapel Hill **Institute for the Environment's Center for Public Engagement with Science** with funding provided by the Duke Energy Foundation.



POST-SECONDARY PLANNING / COLLEGE & SCHOLARSHIPS

Shawn Carter Foundation Scholarships - Apply by April 30

SCSF attracts candidates that have a compelling desire to pursue higher education, in spite of many personal, socio-economic setbacks, including teen pregnancy, former incarceration, interrupted schooling, poverty, and homelessness. They are hardworking, resilient and determined individuals who want to make positive contributions to their local and global communities and begin their college at a 2- or 4-year college or trade school. 2.0 GPA required to apply. Application available here

Over 100 Local Scholarships have April Deadlines

By the end of April, local organizations will determine the candidates for over 100 scholarships --- merit and need based FREE money for 2- and 4-year colleges. Applications are all accessible online or in the high school counseling office. View the **Craven County Schools College Advising and Scholarship website** for the complete list as well as links for FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) appointments and applications for college and summer enrichment activities for K-12 students.



The Concert Truck Presented by the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival Two free concerts in New Bern!

April 25, 2021 12 PM- New Bern Waterfront near Traffic Circle 3 PM- Broad St Christian Church Parking lot

Craven Arts Council & Gallery is proud to present two free outdoor concerts by the Four Season Chamber Music Festival and Concert Truck. These performances will feature modern and classical compositions performed by two pianists and special guests. The concerts will take place at noon at the New Bern Waterfront near the downtown Traffic Circle, and at 3 pm in the parking lot of Broad Street Christian Church. Both concerts will take place on April 25th.

The Concert Truck is a mobile music venue equipped with lights, sound equipment, and two pianos. The side of the truck opens to create a stage for the performances, which will feature the pianists for the Concert Truck, Nick Luby and Susan Zhang, as well as performers from East Carolina's Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival. Both concerts will feature classical and modern compositions from a variety of performers. Both concerts are free and open to the public. Attendees are asked to bring their own chairs or blankets to sit on and to maintain social distancing throughout the event.

For more information please contact: Jonathan Burger Exectuive Director Craven Arts Council & Gallery, Inc.

Bank of the Arts 317 Middle Street P.O. Box 596 New Bern, NC 28563 (252) 638-2577 www.cravenarts.org

SPECIAL OFFER

Boeck Chiropractic Center located at 1910 South Glenburnie Rd., New Bern, NC on May 5, 2021, is offering a special in honor of TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK. It is just \$20 for existing "teacher" patients to update your records, do an adjustment, e-stem, and roller table. On this date, ALL-NEW "TEACHERS" PATIENTS for \$20 will receive consultation, examination and any necessary x-rays. This visit normally costs \$150 in the office. Please call Lauren to schedule your appointment time (252) 634-3111.

Last week's Families in the Know was distributed on Friday, April 16th. To view this publication **click here**

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