



AUGUST 28- SEPTEMBER 01, 2023

# THE BLAZE

Official Newsletter of HCS Early College High School

"Endless Possibilities"

*from the desk of Ms. Williams...*

Trailblazers,

I hope everyone had an amazing first week of school! As you settle into the routine of school, students are reminded to use their ECHS agenda books to keep track of assignments and binders to keep organized for each class. Students should check their grades using PowerSchool. To access PowerSchool, students will use their computer login.

Grade-level meetings were held Friday, August 25 to review academic and social expectations for Trailblazers. Students can click the [link](#) to review the presentation and see administration with any questions.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and are looking forward to helping students achieve the goals they set for themselves.

Please read below for additional important updates and reminders.

## Upcoming Events

### Graduation Supply Orders

- August 31
- 11:00 - 3:00 ~ ECHS Lobby

### Jr. Class Ring Ceremony

- August 31 - 6:00
- ECHS Cafe

### Informational Club Meeting

- August 31 @ 2:30
- Room 152

### Spring 2023 Awards Ceremony

- September 08
- 8:30 ~ ECHS Cafe

### Fall Pictures

- September 15
- ECHS Cafe

# Important Trailblazer Links

## [Lunch Menu](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Homework Assistance](#)

[Scholarship Website](#)

## [ECHS Website](#)

[Safety Protocols](#) ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))

[Transcript Request](#) ([ECHS](#) / [HGTC](#))

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)

**Technology Distribution:** Students must pay the \$25.00 technology fee and have no outstanding technology fees in order to receive a computer for the 2023-2024 school year. Devices will not be issued until the fees are paid or payment arrangements have been approved by the principal.

**Graduation Information and Supply Orders:** Herff-Jones representatives will be on campus Thursday, August 31 from 11:00 - 3:00 in the lobby for seniors to place graduation supply orders. The early bird discount to order supplies will end December 01.

**Jr. Class Ring Ceremony:** The Herff-Jones sponsored Ring Ceremony for juniors will be Thursday, August 31 at 6:00 in the ECHS cafe. Students must have a zero ring balance to participate.

**ECHS Informational Meeting for Clubs:** Students interested in joining a club can meet after school Thursday, August 31 in Room 152. Students unable to attend the meeting can still participate in clubs. Information about each club will be given out during lunch the following week.

**Spring 2023 Awards Ceremony:** The spring 2023 semester honor awards will be Friday, September 08 at 8:30 in the ECHS cafe. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be recognized for their academic achievements.

**Fall Pictures:** Photographers from School Bell Fotos will be on campus Friday, September 15 for Fall Pictures. Students will be receiving information for how to order picture packages soon.

"To provide a small, personalized learning community that accelerates our diverse student population to become responsible citizens who are strong critical thinkers, collaborators, and communicators who can successfully meet and face the challenges of competing in an ever-changing global society."

## THE MISSION OF ECHS



## Title I

HCS-Early College High School receives federal funding through Title I. A copy of the Title I school wide plan can be reviewed in our main office. Parents are encouraged to provide feedback with regards to our school wide Title I initiatives.

# **TRAILBLAZER**

## **DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS**



***Monday 8/28/23***

***Smash Bowl***

***PB&J Meal***



***Tuesday 8/29/23***

***Queso Nachos with Beef***

***Turkey and Cheese Sub***



***Wednesday 8/30/23***

***Bosco Sticks***

***Breaded Chicken Salad***



***Thursday 8/31/23***

***Baked Ziti with Garlic Toast***

***PB&J Meal***



***Friday 9/01/23***

***Bacon Cheeseburger***

***PB&J Meal***

WFXB FOX TV PRESENTS



# BEST Teacher\_ EVER

UNITING STUDENTS AND  
PARENTS IN CELEBRATING EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS

THIS INITIATIVE AIMS TO HONOR THE HARD WORK, DEDICATION, AND POSITIVE IMPACT THAT TEACHERS HAVE ON THE LIVES OF THEIR STUDENTS. THROUGH A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS, THE PROMOTION SEEKS TO CELEBRATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE REMARKABLE TEACHERS WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND.

EACH MONTH PARENTS AND STUDENTS WILL VOTE ON A BEST TEACHER EVER IN HORRY COUNTY. ONE WINNER WILL BE SELECTED. EACH MONTHLY WINNER WILL BE PUT INTO A DRAWING FOR AN END OF THE YEAR GRAND PRIZE!

HEAD OVER TO **WFXB.COM** TO NOMINATE YOUR  
"BEST TEACHER EVER" OR SCAN THE QR CODE!



**WFXB** **FOX TV**

# Bus Transportation

Students planning to ride the bus can contact the bus office for their attendance area to get information on route numbers and pick up times.



## Bus Transportation Office

Aynor	843.488.7125
Carolina Forest	843.236.0705
Conway	843.488.6094
Green Sea Floyds	843.392.3134
Loris	843.390.6822
Myrtle Beach	843.445.2041
North Myrtle Beach	843.399.8575
Socastee	843.293.6941
St. James	843.650.1937

District Transportation Office  
843.488.6957





**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,  
DO YOU WANT TO SERVE?**

**DO YOU WANT TO HELP  
EARLY COLLEGE BE THE  
BEST IT CAN BE?**

AVID Site Team	Title I Planning Team	School Improvement Council
Meets <b>three</b> times per year; Mondays at 2:30	Meets <b>three</b> times per year; Weekday at 3:00	Meets <b>once per month</b> ; Weekday at 3:00
Learn about instructional best practices	Review the Title I and Parenting Budget	Review long term plans
Ensure that progress is being made toward our AVID yearly goals		Look for ways to improve the school



# STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

## COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

## HOLD

**"In Your Classroom or Area"**

**Students** are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



## SECURE

**"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"**

**Students** are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



## LOCKDOWN

**"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"**

**Students** are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



## EVACUATE

**"To a Location"**

**Students** are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



## SHELTER

**"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"**

**Hazards** might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

**Safety Strategies** might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

**Students** are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

**Adults and staff** are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





# STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

## PARENT GUIDANCE

In the event of a live incident, parents may have questions about their role.

## SECURE

**"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"**



Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside of the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and the outside doors will be locked. The school might display the Building is Secured poster on entry doors or nearby windows. Inside, it will be business as usual.

## SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

Probably not. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a Secure event.

## WHAT IF PARENTS NEED TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENT?

Depending on the situation, it may not be safe to release the student. As the situation evolves, Secure might change to a Monitored Entry and/or Controlled Release.

## WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a wild animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place.

With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security.

## LOCKDOWN

**"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"**



A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside of the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked, and maintain silence.

A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

## SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

## SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis.

In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.

## WHAT ABOUT UNANNOUNCED DRILLS?

The school may conduct unscheduled drills, however it is highly discouraged to conduct one without announcing that it as a drill. That's called an unannounced drill and can cause undue concern and stress.

Parents should recognize that the school will always inform students that it is a drill during the initial announcement.

It's important to differentiate between a **drill** and an exercise. A drill is used to create the "Muscle Memory" associated with a practiced action. There is no simulation of an event; this is simply performing the action. An exercise simulates an actual event to test the capacity of personnel and equipment.

## CAN PARENTS OBSERVE OR PARTICIPATE IN THE DRILLS?

The school welcomes parents who wish to observe or participate in drills.



# Florida Trip - Summer 2024

**June 08 - 12, 2024**

Florida Keys, Florida Everglades, & Miami  
for more information contact

**Dr. Kristy Floyd**

**[kfloyd001@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:kfloyd001@horrycountyschools.net)**



## RECYCLING

WE ARE ASKING ALL STUDENTS TO HELP WITH RECYCLING DURING LUNCH.

STUDENTS SHOULD SORT THE ITEMS ON THEIR TRAYS PRIOR TO DUMPING TO ENSURE THEY ARE PLACED IN THE CORRECT BINS.

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE NON COMPOSTABLE ITEMS IN THE COMPOST BIN BECAUSE IT WILL CONTAMINATE THE BIN AND IT CANNOT BE USED FOR COMPOST.

# WHAT TO COMPOST

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### DO COMPOST



- Food scraps
- Fruits & vegetables
- Meat & bones
- Non-liquid dairy (e.g. cheese)
- Grain products (e.g. bread)
- Pizza & pizza boxes
- Coffee grounds & paper filters
- Tea & paper tea bags
- Napkins & paper towels
- Paper to-go boxes (non-coated)
- Items labeled BPI Certified Compostable or ASTM D6400 Certified

### DO NOT COMPOST



- Plastic of any kind
- Foam or Styrofoam
- Metal
- Glass
- Liquids
- Foil or plastic-coated products
- Saran wrap & plastic film
- Hazardous & medical waste
- Used facial or toilet tissue
- Plastic bags
- Hand & face wipes
- Dental floss & Q-tips
- Cotton balls & pads



# Qualify for the SC LIFE AND PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP with your ACT® test score!

Changes that will apply beginning  
with the class of 2023:



## LIFE

**3.0**

SC UGP

**1100**

SAT

-or-

**22**

ACT

**TOP 30%**

RANKING

Students must meet **2 out of 3**  
(to receive LIFE at an eligible four year institution)

## PALMETTO FELLOWS

**3.5**

SC UGP

**1200**

SAT

-or-

**25**

ACT

**TOP 6%**

RANKING IN 10, 11, OR 12 GRADE

ALTERNATIVE CRITERIA

**4.0**

SC UGP

**1400**

SAT

-or-

**31**

ACT



[Superscore Calculator](https://act.org/superscoring)  
[act.org/superscoring](https://act.org/superscoring)



[FREE ACT Test Prep](https://www.act.org/freetestprep)  
[www.act.org/freetestprep](https://www.act.org/freetestprep)



[South Carolina  
Student Resources](https://act.org/southcarolina)  
[act.org/southcarolina](https://act.org/southcarolina)