

from the desk of Ms. Williams...

Trailblazers,

I cannot believe our semester is almost over! This week, students will be taking their End of Course (EOC) tests in Algebra I (Dec. 12), Biology I (Dec. 13), and English II Reading (Dec. 14). The results from the EOC will serve as the final exam grade for the course and count as part of the school's report card data. All students are encouraged to do well on the tests by getting plenty of rest the night before, eating a good breakfast, and taking their time.

Students enrolled in college courses will take their last final exam for the fall semester on December 07. College grades will be posted in PowerSchool prior to winter break.

Juniors will take the ASVAB test on Friday, December 15 in Building 300. The scores from the ASVAB will be used to help students pinpoint their career interests and strengths. Students are encouraged to do their very best on the test.

We are looking forward to our annual Cookies and Milk Holiday Social in the cafe on Friday, December 15 during PM Advisory. Students are encouraged to bring in their favorite cookies to share with others.

We are a drop off destination for the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. We are asking students and families that are able to please donate a new, unwrapped toy and make someone's holidays just a little bit brighter. The last day to bring in an item is Friday, December 08, 2023.

This week and the two days prior to winter holiday break will be our December to Remember dress up days. Students are reminded to follow the designated days listed in the flyer below and on the activity calendar.

Students planning to attend the Winter Formal on Friday, January 05, 2024, must have a signed permission slip along with their payment to purchase a ticket.

Please read below for additional important updates and reminders.

Upcoming Events

Toys for Tots Drive

• November 13 - December 08

English 2 Writing EOC

December 07

Algebra I EOC

• December 12

Biology I FOC

• December 13

English 2 Reading EOC

December 14

Cookies & Milk

December 15 ~ Advisory

ASVAB Test - Juniors Only

- December 15
- Building 300 Rm. 110

Winter Formal Dance

- January 05, 2024
- \$15.00
- Marina inn-Grande Dunes

THE BLAZE PAGE 01

Important Trailblazer Links

Lunch Menu

Student Handbook
Homework Assistance
Scholarship Website

ECHS Website

Safety Protocols (<u>English</u> / <u>Spanish</u>)
Transcript Request (<u>ECHS</u> / <u>HGTC</u>)
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

<u>Advisory</u>: Friday, December 08, 2023, will be a AM Advisory and a Monday/Wednesday day.

<u>Toys for Tots Drive</u>: ECHS is a drop-off location for the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy and make someone's holidays just a little bit brighter. **The last day to bring in items is December 08, 2023**.

<u>College Textbooks Return</u>: Students enrolled in college classes can return their textbooks to the cart in the front lobby. Students will not be issued textbooks until they return books from first semester.

<u>End of Course Tests</u>: Students in Algebra I, English II, and Biology I will take EOC's on December 12, 13, and 14. Please get plenty of rest and eat breakfast prior to the test.

<u>Peer Tutoring</u>: The Key Club will be offering peer tutoring Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in the cafe 2:30 - 3:30.

ASVAB Test: All juniors will take the ASVAB test on Friday, December 15 in Building 300 Room 110. Students will leave their personal belongings including cell phones and smart watches in in Mr. Powley's Room 127. The results from the ASVAB serve multiple purposes (determine college and career readiness, career interests, etc.).

Cookies and Milk: The annual cookies and milk celebration will be Friday, December 15 during the PM Advisory in the cafe. Students are encouraged to bring in their favorite unopened cookies to share with others. Cookies can be dropped off the front office December 12 - 14.

Winter Formal: The annual Winter Formal dance will be Friday, January 05, 2024, at the Marina Inn- Grande Dunes, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Tickets are \$15.00 and includes food and drinks. Students can pay in person to Ms. Katie before school and during lunch or online using mypaymentsplus. The last day to purchase a ticket is Tuesday, December 19, 2023. A signed parent permission slip is required with payment. Permission slips are available on the counter in the front office and in the link with the advertisement.

"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.

THE BLAZE PAGE 02

TRAILBLAZER

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS





Monday 12/11/23 Mandarin Orange Chicken PB&J



Tuesday 12/12/23

French Bread Pizza

Turkey & Cheese Sub



Wednesday 12/13/23
Chicken Filet Sandwich
Crispy Chicken Salad



Thursday 12/14/23
Chicken Bog
Chicken Salad Wrap



Friday 12/15/23
Bosco Sticks/marinara
PB&J

ECHS Students & Parents Events Calendar

All dates are tentative and could change based on need

Link to Calendar

Week of December 11-16, 2023			
Monday, December 11	Rudolph Day (wear reindeer antlers)		
Tuesday, December 12	Algebra 1 EOC Candy Cane Day (wear red & white) Mu Alpha Theta Meeting		
Wednesday, December 13	Biology I EOC Mad About Plaid (wear plaid)		
Thursday, December 14	English 2 Reading EOC Holiday Socks (wear your holiday socks) Club Day (Student Council, Recycling, Tollywood, InvenTeam, Dungeons and Dragons)		
Friday, December 15	PM Advisory T/TH ASVAB Testing (Career Interest Assessment)—All Juniors Bldg 300 Rms. 110 & 104 Tacky Holiday Sweater (wear your holiday shirt/sweater) Holiday Cookies & Milk ~ Advisory		
Week of December 18-19, 2023			
Monday, December 18	EOC Make-ups Holiday Character (dress like your favorite holiday character)		
Tuesday, December 19	EOC Make-ups Comfy Cozy Day (pj's can be worn)		
Winter Break (No School) December 20, 2023-January 1, 2024			



Show your holiday spirit December 11 - 19, 2023



Congratulations, Ms. Benton! November Teacher of the Month

NOVEMBER TEACHER OF THE MONTH MS. BENTON

"Ms. Benton helps us a lot; she cares for the students in her classes. If you're struggling on something or need someone to talk to, she's there for you. She's also really funny and caring. Every time she sees you, even slightly down, she goes in to check in on you. I love herrrrr so much!"

Nominating Student



EARLY COLLEGE

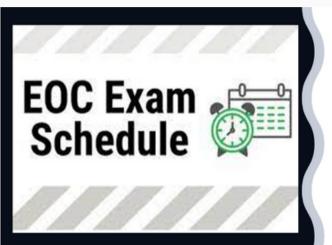




Congratulations, Dr. Kristy Floyd! ECHS 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year.

We appreciate all you do for students and ECHS!

Fall /Winter 23-24 EOC Testing Dates



2023 End of Course Test Schedule English II Writing

December 07

Algebra I

December 12

Biology I

December 13

English II Reading

December 14

Thursday,

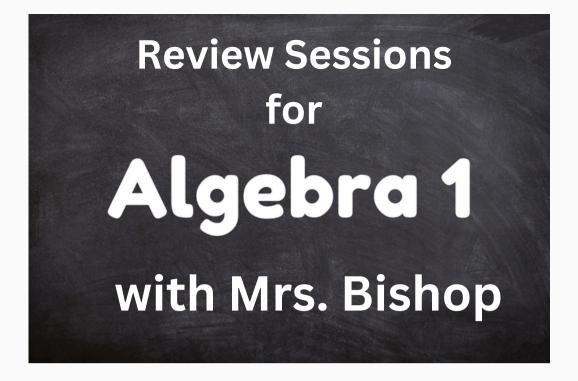
Tuesday,

Wednesday,

Thursday,

Please reschedule doctor/dental appointments that fall on a test day! Per South Carolina mandate, the EOC test score will count as 20% of the student's final grade in the corresponding course.

Students who do not test will receive a score of zero as the final exam grade in the corresponding course. Make up exams may not be rescheduled due to vacations/unexcused absences. Students will not be allowed to have any electronic device other than the HCS computer in the testing location.



EOC: December 12, 2023

After School Review: December 05, 06, 07, 08

2:30 - 3:30

Room 207

Variety of Topics Covered & last-minute questions answered.

Virtual Review: December 06, 2023

Both sessions will cover the same content.

Session 15:00 - 6:00

Session 2 6:00 - 7:00

Virtual Link: meet.google.com/cnk-fofp-utj

(also in Schoology)

Title I Newsletter

December 2023

English, Spanish





Artificial intelligence can be used to enhance learning

A rtificial intelligence (AI) is shaping every aspect of our lives, which means students need to understand how to use the technology responsibly. Knowing what AI can and cannot do will help teens analyze the data it provides—and even use it to enhance their own learning.

Explain that AI systems:

- Are created and controlled by humans—they are not conscious or all-knowing.
- Learn by analyzing information provided by people. But they can't judge the accuracy of that information or think "outside the box," so your teen may receive incorrect or incomplete answers.
- Target data for particular users, which means they can present

biased information. Your teen should always verify information using multiple trustworthy sources. Encourage your high schooler to use AI to dive deeper into class material. Your teen could ask a chat bot to "explain the Pythagorean theorem" or "tell me about the periodic table of elements." However, be sure to caution your teen against using AI to plagiarize.

Also, have your teen research ways
AI is used in careers. From human
resources to agriculture to entertainment, many industries now incorporate
AI. For example, AI may screen candidates for jobs, power drones that
monitor crops, and even generate music
and art. What other examples can your
teen find? Does working with AI in these
ways sound interesting to your teen?

Show your teen how to manage test anxiety



Whether they are preparing for a driver's test or a end-of-unit test, high school students

have to learn how to perform well under pressure.

Studying thoroughly is the best way to go into a test with confidence. In addition, to help your teen keep test stress under control:

- Put things into perspective.
 Remind your teen that tests
 are just a part of life. It's important to always try your best, but
 also realize that a test merely
 reflects what happened on
 one day. A poor grade on one
 test doesn't mean your teen
 is a failure.
- Share relaxation strategies.
 Teach your teen to tense and then relax muscles. Your teen should start by tightening toes, counting to three, and then relaxing them. Then do the same with legs, arms, shoulders and neck.
- Teach visualization. Athletes practice "seeing" themselves winning the game. Help your teen do the same, and picture going into the test feeling confident and prepared.

Toys For Tots Drive

ECHS is a drop-off location for the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy and make someone's holidays just a little bit brighter.





CLOTHING Tive

Help families in need with new or used clothes

Associated Charities of Myrtle Beach Now through early December See Mr. Chappell in 221 for more information .

Winter Formal Dance

January 05, 2024

Marina Inn - Grande Dunes
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
\$15.00

Food & Drinks Included



Pay in person to Ms. Katie or online (mypaymentsplus). <u>Permission slip</u> required with payment.





Saturday, January 27, 2024
Plunge Time: 10:30 AM
Sands Ocean Club Resort
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Join our team or make a donation! https://www.classy.org/team/540635 See Ms. Hecklinger for more information.



College of the Week USC Upstate





Spartanburg, SC

USC Upstate

"As a leading institution of higher learning, we provide an outstanding educational experience through rigorous academics, cutting-edge research, and a vibrant campus community. With a diverse faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, and a wide range of programs, USC Upstate offers unparalleled opportunities for pursuing passions and achieving goals."



https://www.uscupstate.edu/

College of the Week

USC - Columbia



COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

"AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, YOU CAN BUILD A FUTURE FROM MORE THAN 350 DEGREE OPTIONS — MORE THAN ANY OTHER SCHOOL IN THE STATE. FIND A MAJOR THAT FITS YOUR STRENGTHS AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT YOU ENJOY DOING."

Class of 2024

Order Graduation Supplies

Graduation Supply Catalog

Grad Gear



Senior AVID News

Updates on Key Information for Seniors Only!

Newsletter Link

SENIOR AVID NEWS



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AVID 401

The seniors have been busy in AVID 401 this year. We have completed college applications, done test prep for ACT and SAT, learned about the Cost of Attendance at College, and learned about financing higher education.

ACT/SAT DATES AND DEADLINES

- ACT Test-Dec. 9, 2023
- Late Deadline-Nov. 17, 2023
- SAT Test-Dec.2, 2023
- Late Deadline-Nov.21, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 22-24-HGTC Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 4-8-HGTC Final Exam Week

IMPORTANT

are

 SC State Scholarships are still requiring ACT/SAT scores. They are NOT test

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

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 & O-tips
- Cotton balls & pads

Tips to Successfully Email a Teacher or Professor

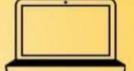
Tips for Writing an Email to a Teacher

- Use a Clear Subject Line
- Choose the Correct Greeting
- Structure as a Formal Letter
- Include Only Necessary Information
- Keep Your Tone Respectful
- Use an Appropriate Salutation

HOW TO EMAIL A TEACHER

- 1 SUBJECT LINE
 - 2-5 word summary of the email
 - Missing Grade
 - Homework Question
 - Late Work

- 1 CLOSING
 - Thank you
 - Have a nice day!



- 5 SIGN YOUR NAME!
- 2 BEGIN WITH A GREETING
 - Good Morning
 - Hello
 - Good Afternoon

This is in the body of the email

- 3 BODY OF THE EMAIL
 - I am writing because......
 - I need help help......
 - I am confused by......

General Tips:

- Be sure to use proper capitalization & punctuation.
- Always use proper grammar.
- Plz spell out ur words.
 - Please spell out your words.



Free Tutoring Available Help Every Day, Any Time





TutorMe provides free, one-on-one online tutoring for HGTC students. Support is available 24/7. To try TutorMe, click the link on the

Student Resources card in myHGTC.

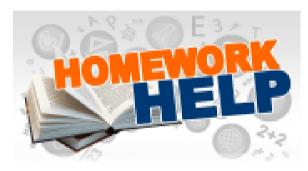
Homework Assistance

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

2:30 - 4:30 (after school)

4:00 - 7:00 (Online)





Homework Help Guidelines:

- In Person Help is available after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2:30 4:30.
- Students will meet the teacher at the designated location and remain there until they are picked up.
- Students must be picked up by 4:30
- Virtual Help is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:00 7:00.
- Students will use the links below to join the virtual group.

After School Assistance					
English					
Room 230	Ms. Robinette	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	2:30 - 4:00		
Math					
Room 207	Mrs. Bishop	Wednesdays	2:30 - 4:00		
Room 223	Ms. Woodard	Tuesdays & Wednesday	2:30 - 4:30		

Online Assistance				
All Subjects (except math)				
Ms. Benton	Tuesdays	4:00 - 6:00		
Link	https://meet.google.com/lookup/bentontutor			
Math				
Mrs. Kelly	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	5:00 - 7:00		
Link	https://meet.google.com/lookup/kellytutor			



Principal Approved Absences

Successful completion of high school courses results in the issuance of Carnegie units needed for a high school diploma.

Since our high schools and program schools operate on a 4 x 4 block schedule, it is crucial that students miss as few days as possible.

Based on this information, it is not feasible for our secondary schools and program schools to grant principal-approved days effective this year. Religious-based camps, retreats, trips, and conferences are not excused.

Absences due to major religious holidays are excused. Please send notes to the attendance office regarding absences for religious holidays.



Parent Access to College Grades

- Download Brightspace Pulse to your phone.
- Have your students log into their myHGTC account.
- You can view grades & upcoming assignments.



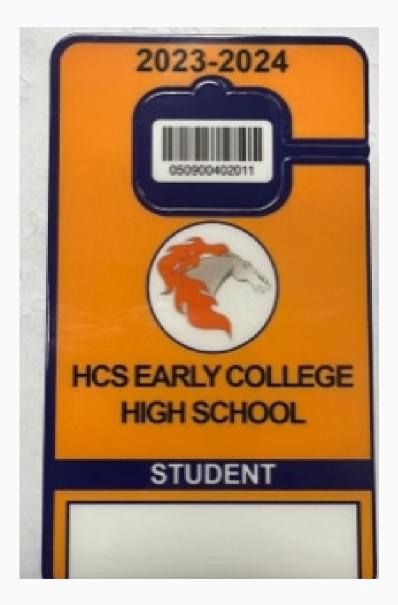
Brightspace Pulse

Parking Decal for Student Drivers



Drivers must register their cars with HGTC Public Safety and complete the information form for ECHS.

Registered drivers will receive an ECHS placard to place in the window on the dash near their HGTC parking decal.





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 allhazards 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.







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.



ACT

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

PALMETTO FELLOWS

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

RANKING IN 10, 11, OR 12 GRADE

ALTERNATIVE CRITERIA



Susperscore Calculator act.org/superscoring



FREE ACT Test Prep www.act.org/freetestprep



South Carolina Student Resources act.org/southcarolina

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.

