

from the desk of Ms. Williams...

Greetings, Trailblazers!

I cannot believe we are near the end of the first grading quarter. The last day for ECHS Quarter 1 grades is Wednesday, October 23, 2024. Report cards will be emailed to students and parents Wednesday, October 30, 2024. I ask students and parents to review PowerSchool and make sure all assignments are turned in. Students are reminded to take advantage of after school tutoring on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and the math interventionist during the school day Tuesday - Thursday.

We are excited about Aric Jackson returning to ECHS as a guest speaker. Mr. Jackson will share his motivational message with students on Friday, October 18 in the B & C Auditorium at 8:20 am.

We will have our annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration through food Friday, October 18 during lunch. Students will have an opportunity to sample a variety of cultural foods during lunch. Following lunch, the cultural celebration will conclude with an assembly in the B & C Auditorium at 1:15. The students have been working hard to plan, organize, and prepare for the luncheon and assembly. Parents are invited to attend the assembly.

 $\mbox{\sc P}$ lease take a moment to review this edition of the newsletter for updates.

Upcoming Events

Guest Speaker - Aric Jackson

- Friday, October 18
- B & C Auditorium @ 8:20

Hispanic Heritage Celebration

- Friday, October 18
- Luncheon & Assembly
- B & C Auditorium @ 1:15

ECHS Blood Drive

- Thursday, October 24, 2024
- 9:00 12:00

Advisory Trunk or Treat

• Friday, October 25 @ 1:15

Student Led Conferences - Grds 9-10

- October 28 30, 2024
- 2:30 7:00 (Sign up- Advisory)

Q1 Report Card

• Wednesday, October 30

Unity Day - Wear Orange

Thursday, October 31

Underclassmen Make-up Pictures

- November 01
- 7:30 8:30

Senior Make-Up Portraits

Friday, November 08

THE BLAZE PAGE 01

Important Trailblazer Links

Lunch Menu
Student Handbook
Homework Assistance
Scholarship Website

ECHS Website

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

<u>Advisory</u>: Friday, October 18, 2024, will be an AM Advisory and a Monday/Wednesday day.

Homecoming Queen & King: Congratulations to Jocelyn Jenkins, Homecoming Queen, and Jerry Gordon, Homecoming King.

Blood Drive: The annual Blood Connection Blood Drive will be Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 9:00 to 12:00 pm. Donors must be 17 years of age or older to donate. Students who are age 16 can donate with parent permission. To be eligible to give, donors must be 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, have a good meal and stay fully hydrated, and bring a photo ID. We are accepting walk ups but donors can make appointments.

<u>Hispanic Heritage Cultural Celebration</u>: Parents and family members are invited to attend a celebration of culture through dance on Friday, October 18 at 1:15 in the B & C Auditorium.

Student Led Conferences: Students in grades 9 and 10 will participate in mandatory conferences on October 28 - 30, 2024. Students must sign up for a date and time for their conference with their parents and advisor. Conferences will begin at 2:30. Students are responsible for reminding parents of the time, date, and location of their conference.

<u>Last Day of Quarter 1</u>: The last day for grades for the first grading quarter is Wednesday, October 23. Report cards will be emailed to students and parents on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. Students are reminded to submit all assignments on time and communicate with teachers about make-up work for all absences.

Red Ribbon Week: October 23 - 31 will be our annual Red Ribbon Week activities to promote safe choices and encourage everyone to Say No to Drugs. Students should see the flyer for each day's attire.

<u>Unity Day</u>: All ECHS students are asked to wear orange on October 31, 2024, to stand up against bullying. Students will sign the online pledge against bullying.

<u>Title I Parent Survey</u>: Parents are asked to complete a Title I survey to provide us feedback. We are asking parents to complete the survey by Friday, October 18, 2024. Survey Link https://forms.gle/SD8yTkMV1PQLvYGa8

"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



<u>Title l</u>

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 10/14/24 No School

Tuesday 10/15/24
No School



Wednesday 10/16/24
Chicken Tenders
Crispy Chicken Salad



Thursday 10/17/24
Chicken Bog
Turkey & Cheese Croissant



Friday 10/4/24
Pizza Crunchers
PB&J

ECHS Events Calendar

All dates are tentative and could change based on need.

Calendar Link

October 14-18				
14	NO SCHOOL - ECHS Only; HGTC is Open			
15	NO SCHOOL - ECHS Only; HGTC is Open			
16	After School Tutoring - 2:30 -4:30			
17				
18	MW Friday - AM Hispanic Heritage Month Cultural Celebration - Lunch Hispanic Heritage Cultural Dance - B & C Auditorium @1:15 Top Youth Guest Speaker - A'ric Jackson - B & C Auditorium @ 8:30			





We need your feedback. Please click the link to complete the survey by

Friday, October 18, 2024.

Title I Parent Survey

Loris Middle School Volunteer Opportunity



LMS Title 1
Picnic with My Parent

FREE

October 24th 4:30pm - 6:00pm

GAMES

Learn about the Academic Supports we have available and fun and easy ways to promote Physical Activity.

Students/parents must get their Conference passport signed at least 4 Academic Stations to get the free meal.

Free Food and Drinks while supplies last.

Interested students can email or text the principal, Mrs. K. Shaw.

Email:

kshaw001@horrycountyschools.net Text:

843-877-4638







ECHS Cultural Celebration Friday, October 18

Lunch: Students will sample a variety of cultural foods during lunch

Assembly: Students will attend a cultural dance celebration in the B & C Auditorium at 1:15.

Congratulations to our

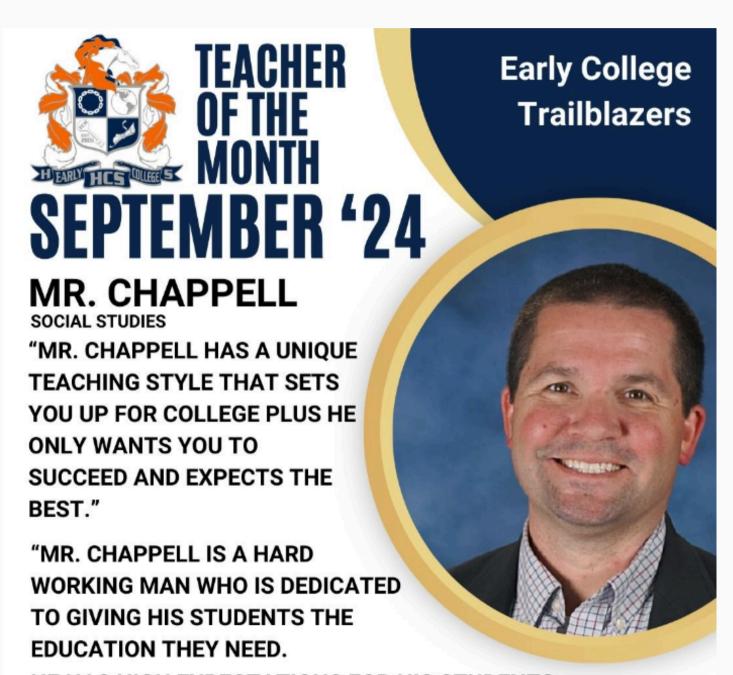
September

Students of the Month!



Congratulations, Mr. Chappell! September

Teacher of the Month!



HE HAS HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR HIS STUDENTS BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT WE'RE CAPABLE OF IT."

Congratulations, Key Club!

Early College Key Club was recognized for going above and beyond in the Kiwanis Carolinas District Division 20 monthly newsletter!



SENIOR AVID NEWS



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AVID 402

The seniors have been busy in AVID 401 so far this semester. They have been completing college applications, sending out their official high school transcripts and completing test prep for the SAT and ACT tests. Some have even been accepted into college already!

Soon they will be learning what makes up the Cost of Attendance at a college and different options for financing the cost of higher education.

ACT/SAT DATES AND DEADLINES

- ACT Test-Dec 14, 2024
- Deadline-Nov. 8, 2024
- SAT Test-Nov. 2, 2024
- Deadline-Oct. 18, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 23-24 Coastal Application Days
- October 25-Trunk or Treat
- October 26-ACT Test
- October 28-HGTC Spring Scheduling Opens

IMPORTANT



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

Title I Newsletter

October 2024

English, Spanish





Reinforce study skills to help your teen's developing brain

eens' brains are still developing and they continue to develop until they reach adulthood. During adolescence, high school students are learning how to think analytically, plan ahead, solve problems and control

While teens may be able to process more complicated and abstract information, they need practice putting these new skills to work. Teens also need to develop processes that help them learn new information.

To support this developmental stage, encourage your teen to:

 Color-code materials to stay organized. For example, your teen might write down assignments in blue ink, new information in red ink and long-term project details

in green ink. Your teen's brain will categorize the information it sees in different colors as it processes what steps to take next.

- Use charts and diagrams to visualize new information. Seeing facts in graphic form may make it easier for your teen to comprehend the material and recall it later.
- Outline the steps of long-term projects. This will help your teen keep track of progress, what remains to be done and due dates.
- Rely on routines. Consistent expectations from you will help your teen stay up-to-date with school assignments, manage time when studying for tests and more.

Source: P. Lorain, "Brain Development in Young Adolescents," National Education Association.

Try these five family-tested discipline tips



Student behavior affects a teacher's ability to teach, as well as your teen's ability to learn.

To support better school discipline, try these tips at home:

- 1. Stay actively involved in your teen's life. Ask about classes. Go to school events when possible. Meet your teen's friends.
- 2. Discuss the dangers of drugs and alcohol. They are a part of many teen's social activities. And they can take a serious toll on your teen's health and school performance.
- 3. Involve your teen in setting rules. Teens are more likely to follow rules they helped create.
- 4. Set consequences and enforce them consistently. A consequence may not have to be severe if your teen knows that you will always impose it.
- 5. Work with the school. If a teacher contacts you with a concern, keep an open mind. Listen to all sides before making a decision or taking action.

Source: D.W. Haffner, What Every 21st-Century Parent Needs to Know: Facing Today's Challenges With Wisdom and Heart, HarperCollins.

Trailblazer Tutoring Program

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 2:30 - 4:30



HCS EARLY COLLEGE TRAILBLAZERS



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

After School Assistance					
English					
Room 230	Ms. Robinette	Tuesdays	2:30 - 4:30		
Math (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry)					
Room 207	Mrs. Bishop	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	2:30 - 3:30		
no math tutoring with Mrs. Bishop on the 2nd Wednesday of the month					
All Subjects, Group Projects, & Math					
Room 152B	Ms. Rautsaw	Tuesdays	2:30 - 4:30		

ECHS Blood Drive October 24, 2024 9:00 -12:00

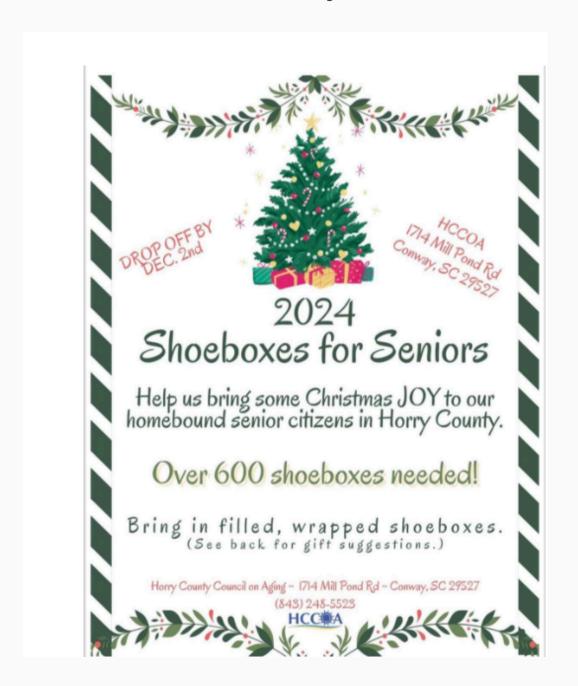
Donors must weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be 17 or older. Students age 16 who meet the weight requirement can donate with parent permission.



Shoeboxes for Seniors

Donate by November 22, 2024

Dr. Floyd's Advisory will be collecting items for Shoeboxes for Seniors. The last day to donate will be Friday, November 22, 2024. Boxes can be placed in the bins in the ECHS lobby.



nventeam

The InvenTeam is in need of your help to collect several items for an upcoming project.

These items can be dropped off in the box in the main lobby.

We need the following items:

- tall aluminum cans (Arizona, Monster, etc)
- plastic lids (all sizes, colors)
- bottle caps
- cd/dvd
- Capri Sun pouches
- chip bags (all sizes)
- candy bar wrappers (M&M, Skittles, Sour Patch, etc. all sizes)

Please make sure all items are clean, dry, and undamaged

Trailblazers are reminded to review the cell phone policy.

ECHS CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phone usage Before school, after school, and during lunch

- 1st Offense The phone will be confiscated, discipline infraction entered in PowerSchool, & parent notified of the incident.
- 2nd Offense- The phone will be confiscated, a discipline infraction entered in PowerSchool, and the phone returned to a parent.
- 3rd Offense- The phone will be confiscated, discipline infraction entered in PowerSchool. The student's parent/guardian must come to the school to retrieve the device and the student loses cell phone privileges while on school grounds.

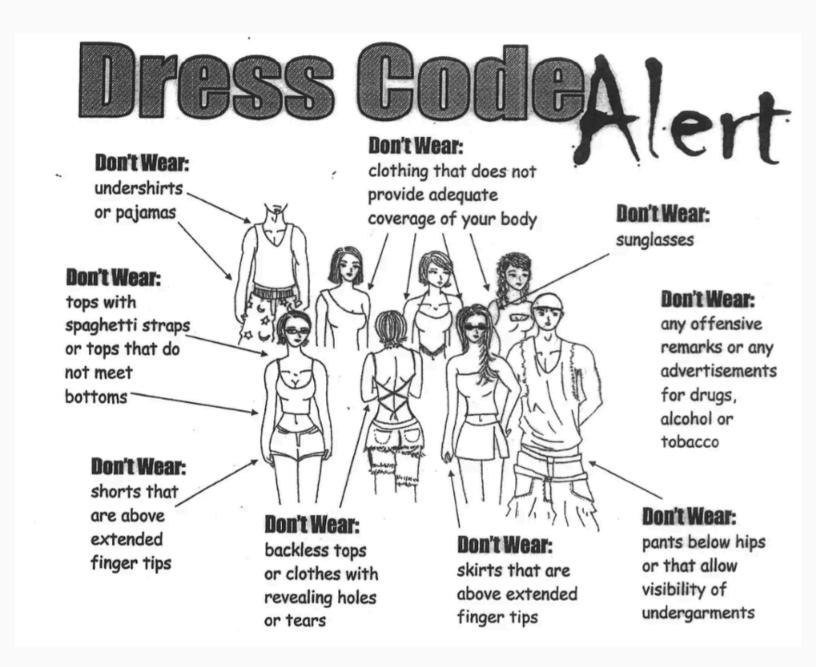


2024-2025 Student Handbook

The ECHS cell phone policy is on page 17 of the student handbook.

Changes will be shared as a result of the new cell phone law in January 2025.

Trailblazers are reminded to review the dress code policy.



2024-2025 Student Handbook

The ECHS dress code policy is on page 21 of the student handbook. All students are required to follow the dress code policy.

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



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.

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.





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.

HOI D

"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

"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

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"

- 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.





2024 - 25 Calendar

August 2024	September 2024	October 2024
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5
4 5 6 7 3 3 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
11 🙍 🔞 🕲 🕕 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	13 14 (25) 16 17 18 19
18 (19) 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
25 28 27 28 29 30 31	29 30	27 28 29 30 31
November 2024	January 2025	
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
10 11 12 13 14 15 18	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	29 20 22 22 24 25
24 25 28 27 28 29 30	29 30 31	28 27 28 29 30 31
February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
SMTWTFS	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1	1	1 2 3 4 5
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
16 17 19 20 21 22	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 28
23 24 25 26 27 28	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30

May 2025						
8	M	T	W	T	F	8
				1	2	3
4	5	6	T		9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	8
1	2	3	4	(5)	(8)	7
8	9	10	11.	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	28	27	28
29	300					

Any non-instructional day, including Saturdays, may be considered a make-up day, due to school cancellation.

Dates for SCREADY and SCPASS assessments are May 9 - June 6, 2025.

Dates for EOCEP - English II Reading, Algebra, Biology, and USHC assessments are the last 15 days of each semester. English II writing is the last 20 days of each semester.

Final exams for high school students are the last two days of the semester.

Report Card Dates

Interim reports will be issued on September 20, 2024, December 4, 2024, February 25, 2025, and May 6, 2025.

Report cards will be issued by October 30, 2024, January 27, 2025, April 2, 2025, and June 10, 2025.

If at any time HCS determines the need for a delayed opening, early dismissal, or school closure, notification will be made via our mass notification system, HCS-TV, the HCS website, the HCS Mobile App, all forms of HCS social media, as well as the local news media. Please ensure that your student's records contain current contact information that will enable HCS to reach you during the school day and after hours. Report changes of information to your school.

October 14, 2024, October 15, 2024, and February 18, 2025, are possible make-up days. Any non-instructional day, including Saturdays, may be considered a make-up-day due to school cancellation.

First day of school: Aug. (19)
Last day of school: June
Last day for teachers: June 🔞
Schools Closed
Schools Closed/Possible Make-up Days
Teacher Work/Staff Development Days - Student Holidays
Additional Staff Development Day for Teachers - Approved by the Board
2 1/2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students

n/Bus Offices:

If you have a question or concern about school bus transportation, call the bus office in your

Teacher Work/Staff Development Days-Student Holidays (Possible Make-up Days)

Aynor	_843.488.7125
Carolina Forest	843.236.0705
Conway	_843.488.6094
Green Sea Floyds	.843.392.3134
Loris	
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

Henry County Schools does not disprisonate on the basis of soon religion, unless natural origin, see, disability, age, termigrant status, Brighth speaking status, or any other characteristic port and by federal or S.C. has in its programs or activities. For questions reporting the nondiscrimination policy sell 853.688.4700, Henry County Schools, 333 Four Mile Nood, Conseq, SC 29526.