

DECEMBER 02 - 06, 2024

THE BLAZE

Official Newsletter of HCS Early College High School

"Endless Possibilities and Opportunities"



from the desk of Ms. Williams...

Greetings, Trailblazers!

I hope everyone enjoyed time with family and friends.

We are at the halfway point for this grading quarter. Interims will be emailed Wednesday, December 04. Parents not able to access PowerSchool can contact the school to get assistance from Ms. Patti.

In the next two weeks, students will be taking their End of Course (EOC) tests in English II Writing (Dec. 11), Biology I (Dec. 17), Algebra I (Dec. 18), English II Reading (Dec.19), and US History (Jan. 07). 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.

As we approach the holiday season and students prepare to end college courses, I wanted to remind our families about Care Solace, a mental health resource provided by Horry County Schools at no cost. Care Solace is a free, confidential service that connects students, staff and their families to mental health providers and substance use treatment matched to their needs - regardless of insurance. If you have additional questions about this valuable resource, please do not hesitate to contact the school to speak with Dr. Adams, our school counselor.

Please take a moment to review this edition of the newsletter for updates.

Upcoming Events

School Improvement Council Mtg.

- Tuesday, December 03
- 3:00 PM

Quarter 2 interim Report

- Wednesday, December 04

FAFSA Workshop (Seniors Only)

- Thursday, December 05
- 5:00 - 7:00 ~ Cafe

Rivers Lynch Day of Service

- Friday, December 06

Toys for Tots Donations

- December 02 - 12

Important Trailblazer Links

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Homework Assistance](#)

[Scholarship Website](#)

[ECHS Website](#)

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

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

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

Advisory: Friday, December 06, 2024, will be an AM Advisory and a Monday/Wednesday day.

School Improvement Council Meeting: All parents and students are invited to attend the SIC meeting on Tuesday, December 03, 2024 at 3:00 PM.

FAFSA Workshop: All seniors and their parents are reminded to attend the financial aid workshop **Thursday, December 05, 2024, at 5:00** in the Trailblazer Cafe. Students will need to bring tax information for the 2023 year. All information is confidential.

Rivers Lynch Day of Service: Rivers Lynch, former ECHS Drivers' Ed teacher and Myrtle Beach High School tennis coach, was known for his kindness and service to others. In memory of Mr. Lynch, ECHS students will take on the challenge of a day of service Friday, December 06, 2024. Students, teachers, and their advisory groups will work together to come up with ways they can give back to their respective communities to honor the memory of Mr. Lynch.

Toys for Tots: 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 holiday a little brighter. The last day to bring in items is December 12, 2024. Deposit boxes are located in the lobby and cafe.

After School Clubs/Activities: Students remaining after school for clubs or activities must wait inside ECHS for their rides. Students are not allowed to wait inside buildings on campus for safety and supervision reasons.

End of Course Tests: Students in Algebra I, English II, Biology I, and US History will take EOC's December 11, 17, 18, 19, 2024 and January 07, 2025. Students should get plenty of rest and eat breakfast prior to the test.

Winter Wonderland Winter Formal: The annual winter formal dance is Friday, January 10, 2025, at the Marina Inn-Grande Dunes. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased online using mypaymentsplus.com or during lunch. The permission slip is included in [mypaymentsplus](https://mypaymentsplus.com) with online purchases. Students purchasing tickets during lunch must have the signed permission slip. Permission slips are included on the ECHS Activity Calendar on the date January 10. Tickets will be sold only during lunch. The dance is for ECHS students only. The last day to buy tickets is December 19, 2024.

"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 12/2/24

Chicken Bacon Ranch Mac & Cheese
PB&J



Tuesday 12/3/24

Walking Tacos
Turkey & Cheese Croissant



Wednesday 12/4/24

Chicken Nuggets
Crispy Chicken Salad



Thursday 12/5/24

Baked Ziti
Turkey & Cheese Wrap



Friday 12/6/24

Cheesy Bites/marinara
PB&J



December 05

5:00 - 7:00

Trailblazer Cafe

**Students must bring
tax information for the 2023 year.**

All information is confidential.

Your Donation Makes A Difference



Toys for Tots of Horry County
Collecting new, unwrapped gifts
now through December 12, 2024



Relay for Life of the Grand Strand
Collecting donations now through
Saturday, April 12, 2025



ECHS Events Calendar

All dates are tentative and could change based on need.

[Calendar Link](#)

December 2-6	
2	
3	Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society Meeting After School Tutoring - 2:30 -4:30
4	Quarter 2 - Interim Reports Issued After School Tutoring - 2:30 -4:30 ECHS Class of 2029 Informational Meeting - Cafe @ 6:00
5	FAFSA Workshop (Seniors Only) - ECHS Cafe 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
6	MW Friday - AM Rivers Lynch Day of Service
7	HCS Academic Olympics - ECHS Host Site

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



EOC

Test Schedule

EOC Schedule	
English II Writing	Wednesday, December 11, 2024
Biology I	Tuesday, December 17, 2024
Algebra I	Wednesday, December 18, 2024
English II Reading	Thursday, December 19, 2024
US History High School	Tuesday, January 07, 2025

Key Reminders

- **Start Time:** Approximately 8:00 when buses arrive
- **Before the Test:** Get plenty of rest the night before
- **Morning of the Test:** Eat breakfast

Congratulations to our
November
Students of the Month!



NOVEMBER 2024
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

WILLIAM REEMSNYDER

Senior

DAYSHAUN MARKS

Junior

GRACEY LLAKA

Sophomore

LIAM CATRICALA

Freshman



Congratulations!

Congratulations , Mrs. Calos!

November

Teacher of the Month!



TEACHER OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER '24

MRS. CALOS

SPANISH

"I BELIEVE THAT MRS. CALOS SHOULD BE THE TEACHER OF THE MONTH BECAUSE WHEN I WAS STRUGGLING IN CLASS, SHE STAYED EVERY TUESDAY TO HELP TUTOR ME SO I COULD BRING UP MY GRADE."

Early College
Trailblazers



Title I Newsletter

December 2024

[English](#), [Spanish](#)

High School Parents

November 2024
Vol. 32, No. 3

Horry County Schools

still make the difference!



Five strategies boost your teen's analytical thinking skills

When students develop their analytical thinking skills, they are better prepared to face academic and personal challenges. To provide practice using these essential thinking skills, encourage your teen to:

1. **Explain situations**, examples and problems in detail. To describe an issue effectively, your teen will need to learn vocabulary and practice expressing thoughts clearly.
2. **Analyze information**. When reading something online or in print, your teen shouldn't just take it at face value. Suggest finding credible sources to determine the actual facts.
3. **See all sides of an issue**. Is your teen passionate about a particular issue? Ask your student to develop arguments defending opposing

viewpoints with equal dedication. This will help your teen look deeply at an issue and understand different perspectives.

4. **Participate in "thinking"** extracurricular activities. Working on a school newspaper will teach your teen to conduct interviews and write articles based on information. A drama club will expose your teen to great works of literature. A chess club will teach strategic decision-making. All of these skills enhance analytical thinking abilities.
5. **Embrace people's differences**. Throughout life, your teen will interact with people from all kinds of backgrounds. Trying to understand differences will help your teen gain insights about others and the world.

Family meals foster strong relationships



Where's the best place to connect with your high schooler? It may be over a meal.

To make the most of family mealtimes:

- **Schedule them**. If you can't eat together every day, try to sit down together a few times each week.
- **Be flexible**. If evening meals are often difficult to schedule, share breakfast with your teen instead. You'll have the same opportunity to connect.
- **Include your teen** in mealtime conversations. Ask your high schooler specific questions to get more than a *yes* or *no* answer. "What's one interesting thing you learned in science class today?"
- **Keep it pleasant**. Don't use mealtimes as opportunities to criticize your teen or start arguments.
- **Laugh**. Humor can make mealtime fun for everyone.
- **Go low-tech**. Turn off digital devices and enjoy family meals free from distractions.

Source: S.G. Wallace, "The Art and Science of Family Dinner," *Psychology Today*, Sussex Publishers, LLC.

Boletín Título I

Diciembre 2024

Spanish

Escuela Secundaria

Los Padres

Noviembre 2024
Vol. 32, No. 3

Horry County Schools

¡aún hacen la diferencia!



Cinco estrategias para mejorar el pensamiento analítico de su joven

Cuando los estudiantes desarrollan sus habilidades de pensamiento analítico, están mejor preparados para enfrentar desafíos académicos y personales. Para proporcionar práctica en el uso de estas habilidades de pensamiento esenciales, anime a su joven a:

1. **Explicar situaciones**, ejemplos y problemas en detalle. Para describir un problema de manera eficaz, su joven deberá aprender vocabulario y practicar cómo expresar pensamientos con claridad.
2. **Analizar la información**. Al leer algo en internet o en papel, su joven no debería tomarlo al pie de la letra. Sugiera que encuentre fuentes confiables para determinar cuáles son los datos reales.
3. **Ver todos los lados** de un problema. ¿A su hijo lo apasiona un tema en particular? Pídale que desarrolle argumentos para defender los

puntos de vista opuestos con igual dedicación. Eso ayudará a su joven a profundizar en el tema y comprender distintas perspectivas.

4. **Participar en actividades** extracurriculares "analíticas". Trabajar en el periódico de la escuela le enseñará a su joven a hacer entrevistas y escribir artículos basados en información. Un grupo de actuación expondrá a su joven a grandes obras literarias. Un club de ajedrez le enseñará a tomar decisiones de forma estratégica. Todas estas habilidades mejoran las capacidades de pensamiento analítico.
5. **Aceptar las diferencias** entre las personas. A lo largo de su vida, su joven interactuará con personas de todo tipo de contextos. Intentar comprender las diferencias lo ayudará a comprender mejor a los demás y al mundo.

Comer en familia fomenta las relaciones sólidas



¿Cuál es el mejor lugar para relacionarse con su joven? Podría ser durante una comida.

Para aprovechar al máximo las comidas familiares:

- **Prográmelas**. Si no pueden comer juntos todos los días, intenten sentarse unas cuantas veces por semana.
- **Sea flexible**. Si suele ser difícil programar una cena, comparta la hora del desayuno con su joven. Tendrán la misma oportunidad de conectarse.
- **Incluya a su joven** en las conversaciones durante la cena. Hágale a su escolar de secundaria preguntas específicas para obtener más que una respuesta de *sí* o *no*. "¿Qué cosa interesante aprendiste en la clase de ciencias hoy?"
- **Asegúrese de que sea agradable**. No use el horario de la comida como una oportunidad para criticar a su joven o iniciar una discusión.
- **Ríanse**. El humor puede hacer que las comidas sean divertidas para todos.
- **Deje de lado** la tecnología. Apague los dispositivos digitales y disfrute de las comidas en familia sin distracciones.

Fuente: S.G. Wallace, "The Art and Science of Family Dinner," *Psychology Today*, Sussex Publishers, LLC.

Contests

Student of the Month

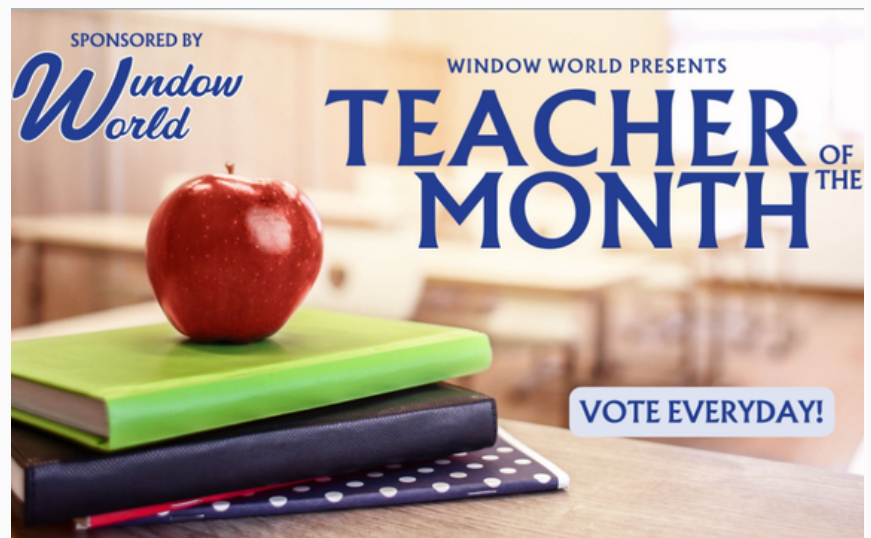
Make your nominations for the November 2024 Student of the Month! Vote & Nominate EVERYDAY! The student with the most votes will win a plaque, prize from Beazer Homes, and a follow up story in our local papers! Vote & Nominate:11/1-11/30 Winner Contacted:12/1

Football Fans Choice

The 2024 Horry County Football Fans' Choice Awards are HERE! Now is the time to nominate & vote for football players, coaches, cheer squad, athletic directors & more across all of Horry County! One random participant will win \$500 from Grand Strand Nissan just for voting! Voting & Nominating: August 19 - November 17 Winner Contacted: November 18 Awards Ceremony for Winners: Early December (invitation to follow) Don't forget to vote EVERYDAY!

Teacher of the Month

Make your nominations for the November Teacher of the Month! The teacher with the most votes at the end of the month wins a plaque, prize from Window World and a follow up story in our local papers! Nominate & Vote: 11/1 - 11/30. The Winner will be contacted: 12/1



Ms. Jonelle Benton

ECIS
**Teacher
of the
Year**
2024-2025



Mental Health Matters

care solace

Help is Available

Care Solace is available 24/7/365 to connect you to the help you need.

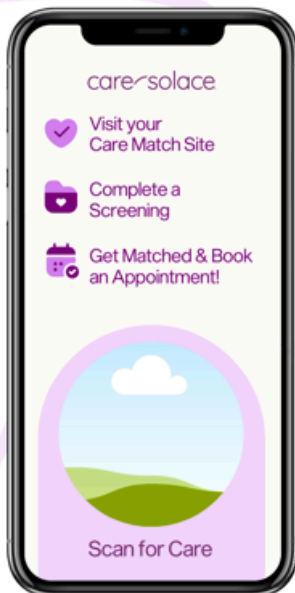
care solace

It's okay to ask for help.

 (888) 515-0595

Care Solace is a free, confidential service that connects students, staff and their families to mental health providers and substance use treatment matched to their needs – regardless of insurance.

Scan the code or use your link:
caresolace.com/



If you have a life-threatening emergency, please call 911 or the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988. Care Solace is not an emergency response service or mental health services provider.

care solace

Esta bien pedir ayuda

 Llame al (888) 515-0595

Care Solace conecta a los estudiantes, el personal y sus familias con el cuidado. Sin costo alguno para usted, Care Solace encontrará rápida y confidencialmente proveedores de salud mental y uso de sustancias disponibles que coincidan con sus necesidades.

Escanee el código QR para conectarse con atención hoy.

O ir a este sitio web:
caresolace.com/



Tenga en cuenta: Care Solace no es un servicio de respuesta a emergencias ni un proveedor de servicios de salud mental. En caso de una emergencia que ponga en peligro la vida, llame al 9-1-1 o a la Línea Directa Nacional de Suicidio 1-800-273-8255.

InvenTeam

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

February 28, 2025 - last day to donate

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. They should be finishing up all college applications by December 1, 2024.

The focus now is shifting to completing the 2025-2026 FAFSA form. The FAFSA becomes available at the beginning of December. Dr. Adams and I will be hosting a FAFSA workshop on Thursday, December 5 at 5:00 p.m in the Trailblazer Cafe.

Mark your calendars!!

ACT/SAT DATES AND DEADLINES

- ACT Test-Dec. 14, 2024
- Late Deadline-Nov. 22, 2024
- SAT Test-Dec.7, 2024
- Deadline-Nov.22, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 25-29-HGTC/HCS Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 5-FAFSA Workshop
- Dec. 9-13-HGTC Final Exam Week

IMPORTANT

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



WINTER
WONDERLAND

Winter Formal

JANUARY

Friday 10th | Marina Inn Grande Dunes | 7:00 PM

\$15 ADMISSION

TICKETS ON SALE TILL DECEMBER 19TH

8121 AMALFI PL,
MYRTLE BEACH, SC, 29572



SCAN HERE

- Tickets can be purchased online or in person during lunch.
- Permission slip required with in-person purchase.
- Online sales - MyPaymentsPlus.com (permission slip included).

Tickets are nonrefundable.

[Permission Slip](#)

ECHS Talent Show

February 21, 2025

1:15

B & C Auditorium



EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

TALENT SHOW

SIGN UP BY FRI. DEC 6TH

Get ready to unleash your talent!

Sing, dance, play an instrument, recite poetry, do a skit, solve a Rubik's cube, do gymnastics, perform a magic trick, cheer, do karate, etc.

Complete the Google form in the ECHS Google classroom. See Mrs. Bishop or Dr. Floyd for more information

FEBRUARY 21

The poster features a stage light on the left, a microphone on the right, a drum with sticks, and two theatrical masks (one purple, one teal). A calendar page for February 21 and a scroll with a quill are also present.

[Sign up](#)

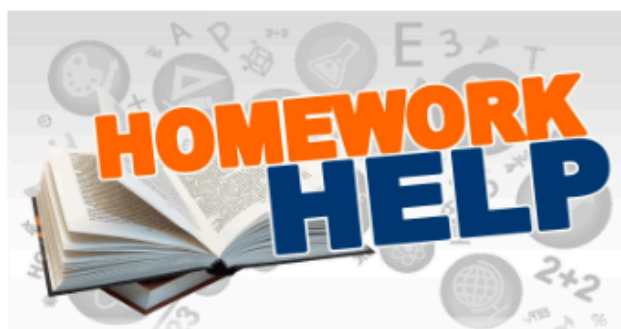
Trailblazer Tutoring Program

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
<i>*no math tutoring with Mrs. Bishop on the 2nd Wednesday of the month*</i>			
All Subjects, Group Projects, & Math			
Room 152B	Ms. Rautsaw	Tuesdays	2:30 - 4:30

Trailblazers are reminded to review the cell phone policy.

ECCHS 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.



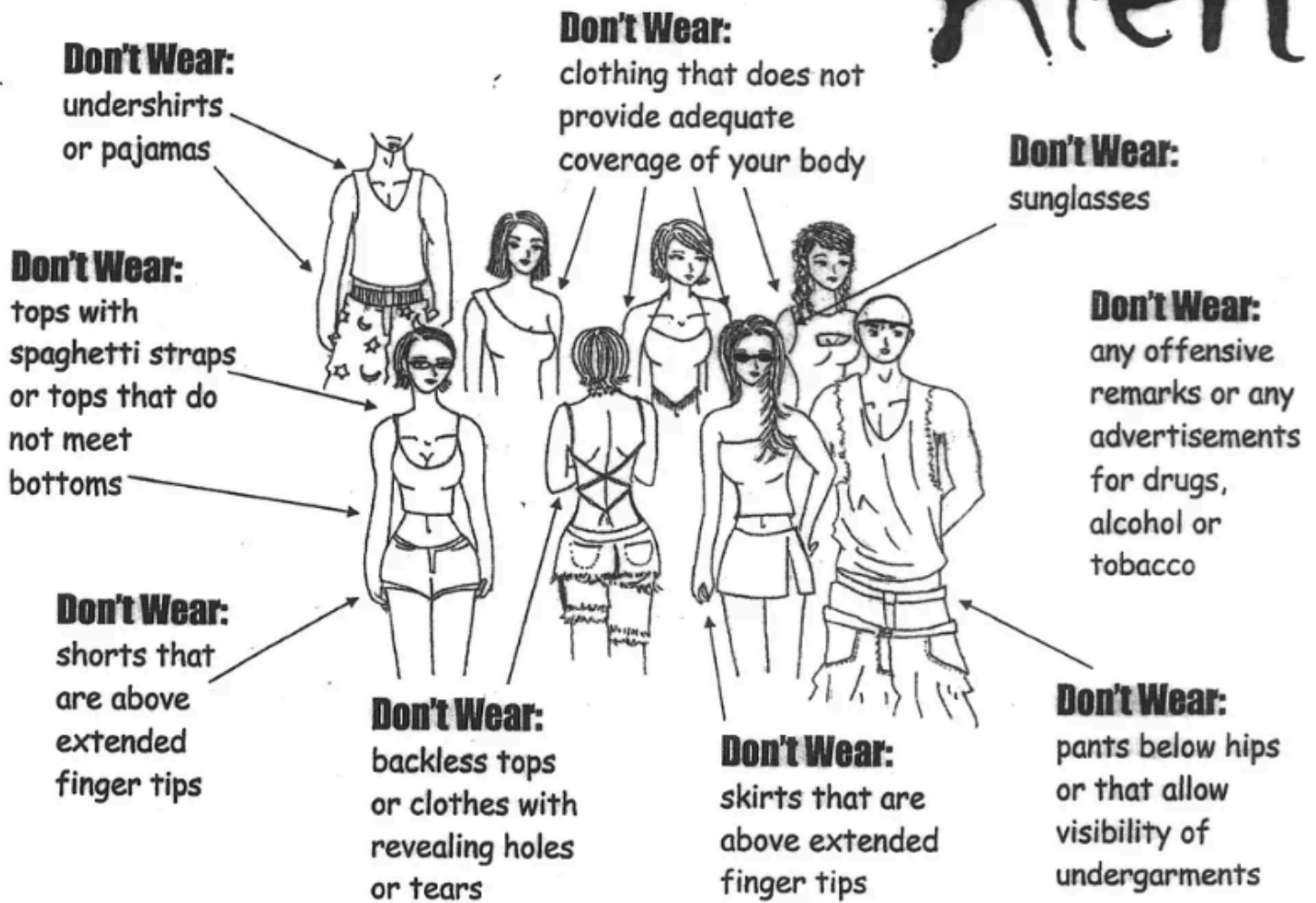
2024-2025 Student Handbook

The ECCHS 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.

Dress Code Alert



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 & Q-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.



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





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.





2024 - 25 Calendar

<h3>August 2024</h3> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<h3>September 2024</h3> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<h3>October 2024</h3> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									
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Any non-instructional day, including Saturdays, may be considered a make-up day, due to school cancellation.

Testing
 Dates for SCREAY[®] and SCPASS assessments are May 9 - June 4, 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.

Interim Report and Report Card Dates
 Interim reports will be issued on September 20, 2024, December 4, 2024, February 25, 2025, and May 4, 2025.
 Report cards will be issued by October 30, 2024, January 27, 2025, April 2, 2025, and June 10, 2025.

Emergency Closings
 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.

Make-Up Days
 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.

Transportation/Bus Offices:
 If you have a question or concern about school bus transportation, call the bus office in your area.

Aynor.....	843.488.7125
Carolina Forest.....	843.236.0785
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

Horry County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, immigrant status, English speaking status, or any other characteristics protected by federal or S.C. law in its programs or activities. For questions regarding the nondiscrimination policy call 843.488.6700, Horry County Schools, 333 Four Mile Road, Conway, SC 29526.