

Board Highlights

.... from April 3, 2006

✓ Margo Holbrook, local representative of Relay for Life, presented commemorative signs to Dr. Ray Spain and Dr. Tony Cozart in honor of their commitment to the Relay for Life events at Warren County High School.

✓ The Board recognized Mattie Boyd as the Stellar Performer for the month of March.

✓ Also recognized were March (Perserverance) Lights of Character: Lucy Brown, Hawkins; Dameion Hunt, Mariam Boyd; Malik Hawley, Northside; Judy DuPre, South Warren; Donna Liles, Vaughan; Sharika Taylor, WCHS; Shirlecia Hunt, WCMS; Odell Clanton, Central Office.

✓ Samantha Ayscue and James Fields were recognized for being accepted to the 2006 session of North Carolina Governor's School in English and Spanish, respectively.

✓ A report on School Plant Operations was presented to the Board by Costel Evans, associate superintendent.

✓ A report concerning the contract for bus fuel was also presented by Mr. Evans.

✓ Mrs. Princine Jefferies, assistant superintendent, announced that Warren County Schools is one of 52 districts in the state to receive acknowledgement that all eligible schools are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The Warren County School district is accredited for 2006 and is entitled to all the services and privileges of regional, national, and international professional recognition.

✓ The Board discussed and approved expansion budget priority items to be presented to the County Commissioners for FY 2006-2007.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommenda-

WCMS PTSA wins WEF Spelling Bee

The WCMS PTSA was the winning team at the sixth annual Community Spelling Bee, sponsored by The Warren Education Fund on Friday night, March 31.

The team, composed of three teachers and a parent, Jacque Teeters, Daniel Riley, Geoffrey Rutledge, and Rebecca Burgess, correctly spelled the word "autochthonous" in the final "Master Blaster" round to capture the first place trophy.

The second place winner was Wesley Memorial UMC. Team members were Jimmy Wooten, Lou Ann Elam, Stephen Pelfrey, and Norman Pate. The third place trophy was presented to the "Infomaniacs", Rita Williams, Dawn Thompson, Tammy Gallagher, and Barbara Medlin.

The spelling bee was hosted by the Fund at Warren County High School to raise money for various projects it sponsors, including the Teacher MiniGrant Program and the Schoolwide Grant Program.

"This is our sixth annual effort," said Portia Hawes, Fund president. During the bee, teams of four are seated at tables. When words are called out, team members may collaborate on the spelling, writing down their "best guess" on a tablet within time constraints. Floor judges determine if the word is correctly spelled when the word is shown on a large screen.

"If the team spells the word correctly, it remains in the competition. If the word is incorrectly spelled, the team has the option of 'buying' the word for \$10," Hawes said, "to remain in the competition."

"We are particularly grateful to Time-Warner Corporation for giving us a \$1000 grant to support the Spelling Bee," said Hawes. The Warren Education Fund was among several community organizations and foundations in the area to receive a grant from Time-Warner to fund projects that carry out the organization's mission.

In all, 388 words were purchased, totaling \$3880. Added to the funds collected in registration fees, additional donations and sponsorships, the amount collected was over \$6,000.

Refreshments purchased for the evening were prepared by the Warren County High School Family and Consumer Sciences Department under the direction of Halona Richardson.

Board adopts 2006-2007 calendar

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Ray Spain, superintendent, and the Calendar Committee, the Board approved the calendar for the 2006-2007 school year.


The calendar reflects changes in the school calendar law that were implemented as a result of legislation passed by the General Assembly stating that the school year could not begin before August 25th or end after June 10th.

To develop the calendar, the committee distributes surveys seeking staff input and major concerns. Staff members are asked to indicate the "impact these concerns have on instruction."

The results of the surveys are compiled and discussed as the proposed calendar begins to unfold.

The proposed calendar was presented at Monday night's meeting and adopted by the Board. It brings teachers to school on August 18, 2006 and students on August 25. The last day for students is June 8, 2007 and for teachers, June 14.

The most obvious difference in the new calendar is the suggestion of early release days prior to holidays, additional days for the Christmas break, and the return of the Memorial Day holiday.



Stellar Performer
Hazel Richardson always gets the job done!

Nominated by Child Nutrition director, Janet Farrar, the Stellar Performer for the month of April is Hazel Richardson, cafeteria manager at the Hawkins Educational Center.

“There were some changes among the managers at Warren County High School, Mariam Boyd, and Hawkins after Nell Moss retired in December,” said Mrs. Farrar. “I asked Hazel if she would go to Hawkins as manager--it took some arm-twisting, but fifteen minutes after she started, she was a pro. She’s doing a beautiful job in her new position.”

Clara Thompson, director of Hawkins, concurs with Farrar’s statements.

“Mrs. Richardson takes her work very seriously and she is going to make sure things are always done correctly,” Thompson said. “The transition between managers has been extremely smooth and Mrs. Richardson makes everything so pleasant for our students and staff. We are lucky to have her!”

“Hazel is the right person for the job because she is so determined,” added Barbara Alston, new manager at Warren County High School. “She entered her new position ‘blindfolded’ and stuck to it with such strong perseverance. I’ve known Hazel all my life and we’ve worked together in the child nutrition program since 1996--she is such a go-getter and her strong sense of responsibility is going to help her as she continues to grow in her position. The group of managers in the system are a tight-knit bunch and we serve as a support system for one another. To have only started in January, she is already quite a success.”

Hazel’s good friend, Annie Joyce Williams said that her “beautiful personality would add to her success as she continued with her job.”

“Hazel is the kind of person that you can talk to about anything and she is so understanding--I think that is what helps her to get along with everyone so well,” Williams said.

Connie Hendrick, manager at Mariam Boyd helped to train Richardson for her current position.

“Hazel is determined to do things the right way and she never complains about anything that has to be done,” Hendrick said. “She is a hard worker and she takes such pride in her job. Mrs. Farrar couldn’t have picked a better person to take over the Hawkins site.”

An ordained minister since February of last year, Richardson is proud of both her job in the ministry at Jones Chapel Baptist Church and her job with Warren County Schools.

“This is my eighth year working in the child nutrition program and taking on the job at Hawkins was a tremendous step for me,” Richardson said.

“I knew it was going to be a big challenge and a huge responsibility. Every day is getting better and I love working with the younger children.”

Richardson gives a great deal of credit to Barbara Alston and Connie Hendrick for helping to prepare her for the management position and for being good listeners when she calls daily with questions or asks for assistance with issues.

“Barbara, Connie, and Mrs. Farrar, have been so supportive--they said I could do this job--I’ve stepped out onto the plate and said ‘why not’. I’ve just got that faith and belief that things will work out.”


Richardson’s second love is her role as associate minister at her church.

“My former pastor and his wife were such great influences on my life and encouraged me to follow my heart into the ministry. I’m currently enrolled in the American Bible Comeback Institute to complete my ministry studies.”

Married for thirty-six years to Theodore Richardson, the couple has three daughters:

(SEE **STELLAR PERFORMER**, PAGE 3)

Monthly Attendance Award



Warren County Schools
Putting Our Children First


We are now “springing” forward through the school year and the days are counting down closer toward the end!

Attendance data was not quite ready before the print date...so we will have to wait until next month to find out who may or may not have taken away the trophies from the mighty Mariam Boyd Eagles!!

The monthly battle seems to continually go back and forth between Mariam Boyd and Vaughan...everyone else needs to boost up their attendance ratings and get in the game!!

Monthly Attendance Award

Most Improved



Warren County Schools
Putting Our Children First

Teachers' Corner

► **Middle Grades Science Resources Available**-New science resources are now available online to support sixth, seventh, and eighth grade educators. These were written by a team of middle school science teachers. The "Middle Grades Science Support Document Strategies Book" is a compilation of ideas that represent years of successful science teaching. The document's goal is to equip the novice teacher with sound, practical ideas to incorporate into designing lessons. It also provides seasoned teachers with new formatting for instructional ideas. Also available, the "Middle Grade Science Support Documents" (separate document available for each grade 6-8) includes a narrative storyline of the "big ideas" associated with each goal, an explanation of how National Science Education Standards and benchmarks that define content for a specific goal, ideas for exploration of goals and Web resources. Visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/science/middlegrades/> and click on the appropriate link to access these useful resources!

► **Draft for Exceptional Children Extended Content Standards Online** The North Carolina Extended Content Standards is a document designed to make the North Carolina Standard Course of Study accessible at grade level to all students as required by No Child Left Behind. The document is a result of a year-long collaborative effort by five divisions of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (Accountability Services, Exceptional Children, Elementary Education, Middle Grades Education, and Secondary Education). In addition, forty-five regular and special education teachers, parents, university personnel, school and system administrators devoted many hours to create this document. To learn more, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/> and click on the appropriate link.

► **Coordinated School Health Program in Wilmington for Conference** "CSHP By the Sea" is scheduled for July and participation will be limited to 250 people. Bring your team representing the eight areas of a Coordinated School Health Program to hear national speakers as well as presenters from all parts of the state. School Health Advisory Councils will have the opportunity to apply for possible funding as well as submit the Healthy Active Children Progress Report. To learn more or to access the registration form, please visit <http://www.nchealthyschools.org/> and click on the appropriate link under Current News.

► **Preserve American History Teacher of the Year Award** -The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Preserve America announce the third annual Preserve American History Teacher of the Year Award, which honors outstanding teachers of American History across the country. One North Carolina educator will be selected as the 2006 state winner. For additional guidelines and application information, please go online to <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/socialstudies/>. The application deadline is April 28. For questions regarding this program, please contact Steven Weber at sweber@dpi.state.nc.us or 919.807.3828, or Judy McInnis at jmcinnis@dpi.state.nc.us or 919.807.3924.

STELLAR PERFORMER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Michelle, Wanda, and Rakeliah; and three grandchildren, Tiffany, Jamil, and Jakada.

In her spare time, Richardson enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, visiting local nursing homes, reading, and singing.

Check It Out...

Awards for Unsung Heroes

For ten years, ING Unsung Heroes awards have been given to K-12 educators pioneering new teaching methods and techniques that improve learning and inspire success in the classroom.

Educators submit applications that describe projects they have initiated or want to pursue. Projects are judged on innovation, creativity, and the ability to positively influence students.

Each year, 100 finalists receive a \$2,000 award, payable to both the winning teacher and his or her school. Winners are selected by Scholarship America, a national non-profit educational support and student service aid service organization. Of the 100 finalists, three are selected for additional awards of \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$25,000.

For more, go to www.ING-usa.com/aboutING/communityconnections/ineducation/unsungheroes/index.htm or contact Scholarship America via email at ing@scholarshipamerica.org or by phone 1.800.537.4180. The deadline for 2006 applications is May 1, 2006.

*Have
a
Safe
and
Enjoyable
Spring
Break!*

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion, the Board approved a continuation budget for FY 2006-2007.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved an overnight fieldtrip request for members of Warren County High School's chapter of FCCLA to attend their annual leadership conference and competitive events in Greensboro, NC from April 3-5 with advisor, Mrs. Oney Jones.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved a \$1,500 mini-grant from the American Lung Association to be used for the implementation of a 10-week Not On Tobacco educational session at Warren County Middle School.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved the donation from Wal-Mart of five refurbished Dell computers for use in the Health Rooms of Warren County Middle School, Northside Elementary, Vaughan Elementary, South Warren Elementary, and Mariam Boyd Elementary.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved the acceptance of a \$1,000 donation from Wal-Mart to be used for elementary staff wellness. Mrs. Katherine Hilliard, school health educator, will be accepting the donation on behalf of the school system.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved the acceptance of donations of up to \$2,400 from parents, community members, and businesses to purchase materials to build a dugout for Warren County Middle School's baseball program. The carpentry class at Warren County High School will be constructing the dugout under the supervision of the carpentry teacher, Mr. Noland Parham.

✓ Upon Dr. Spain's recommendation, the Board approved the adoption of the school calendar for 2006-2007 as presented.

✓ The Board recognized the retirements of the following: Barbara Jones, exceptional children's teacher at WCHS, effective 4/27/06; Mamie Simes, teacher assistant at Northside, effective 6/14/06; Joyce Burton, teacher assistant at HEC, effective 7/1/06.

✓ The Board approved the employment of the following: Gracie Davis, receptionist at the Central Office, effective 4/3/06; LaWanda Williams, bus monitor for EC, effective 3/23/06.

✓ The Board approved the employment of the following individuals as districtwide substitutes: Yolanda Carter and Yolanda Hargrove.

✓ The Board approved extra duty assignments for the following individuals: Donna Liles, CECAS audit and Lynn Meyers, after school tutor for Vaughan Elementary School.

✓ The Board accepted the resignations of Geoffrey Rutledge, science/math teacher at Warren County Middle School, effective 6/14/06; Anthony Hargrove, school resource officer at Warren County Middle School, effective 3/31/06; Shirley Hunt, bus monitor for EC, effective 3/21/06.

✓ Current vacancies include: at South Warren, a Reading First Coach and a guidance counselor; at Warren County High School, an exceptional children's teacher and a family & consumer science teacher; at Warren County Middle School, an exceptional children's teacher, a math teacher, a science teacher, a science/math teacher, a Spanish teacher, a school resource officer; at the Central Office, a child nutrition director; districtwide, a painter.

"Discourse" is published monthly during the school year by the Community Schools office of Warren County Schools. News items for each issue should be submitted to the Community Schools office by the Tuesday prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Warren County Board of Education.

Dr. Ray V. Spain, Superintendent
Emmy L. Coleman, Editor
www.wcask12.org

Calendar

April

- 10 Senior Staff, 10 a.m.
- 11 Vaughan Parent Luncheon,
Gr. 4-5, 11 a.m.
WCMS Spring Concert, 7 p.m.
- 12 Northside Spring Pictures,
8:45 a.m.
Northside Vol. Recognition,
9:30 a.m.
Northside SIT, 3:15 p.m.
- 13 South Warren Read-In, 8-1 p.m.
- 14 Good Friday Holiday
- 16-21 Public School Volunteer Week
- 17-21 Spring Break
- 23-28 Administrative Professionals
Week
- 24 Senior Staff, 10 a.m.
Mariam Boyd SIT, 3:05 p.m.
Vaughan SIT, 3:15 p.m.
- 25 WCHS PTSA, 7 p.m.
- 26 Administrative Professional's
Day
South Warren SIT, 3 p.m.
- 27 South Warren Vol. Apprec.,
12 Noon
Northside PTA/Spring Concert,
Gr. K-2, 7 p.m.
- 28 Hawkins Char. Cel., 9:30 a.m.
WCHS Prom, 8-12 midnight
- 30 Senior Citizens Prom, 4-6 p.m.

May

- 2-4 NC Competency Test
- 4 WCMS Scholar's Banq.,
6:30 p.m.
- 5 Vaughan Field Day
Hawkins Parade of Book Char.,
10 a.m.
- 8 Senior Staff, 10 a.m.
Mariam Boyd Staff Mtg.,
3:05 p.m.
Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 9 National Teacher Day
Management Team, 9 a.m.
- 10 National School Nurse Day
Interim Progress Reports Issued
South Warren SIT, 3 p.m.
Northside SIT, 3:15 p.m.
- 11 Hawkins Pre-K visit to South
Warren
- 12 Hawkins Fun Day, 9:30 a.m.