



NEWPORT NEWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

REPORT *to the* COMMUNITY

FALL 2009



A Message from the Superintendent

Today's kindergartners will be retiring in the year 2067. Who knows exactly what that world will look like then? So, each day in Newport News Public Schools we focus on one goal: ensuring all students graduate college, career, and citizen ready. To this end, the experiences of students in our Smart, Safe Schools prepare them for their roles as a learner, employee, and a contributing citizen in the 21st century.

College Ready – STUDENTS AS LEARNERS

The job market of the 21st century requires employees to successfully complete some post-secondary education. This is why we are committed to affording all Newport News students with access to coursework and experiences that will guarantee their readiness for all post-secondary options.

Career Ready – STUDENTS AS EMPLOYEES

Many of the jobs for our graduates have yet to be created. To prepare for a future that is unpredictable requires a focus on skills and experiences necessary to be a successful employee, no matter what career pathway they choose. All Newport News students will graduate with an electronic portfolio, internship or job shadowing experience and connections with employers in our community through the Career Pathways initiative.

Citizen Ready – STUDENTS AS CITIZENS

Thriving communities need citizens who can and will contribute their time and talents and lend their service. Newport News Public Schools provides the supports and opportunities necessary to foster these citizenship skills. Our emphasis on youth development builds leadership skills and encourages school and community involvement. Students are expected to join a school club, organization, or athletic program to give them a vital connection to school and practice skills necessary for productive citizenship.

During American Education Week, I invite you to see for yourself how Newport News Public Schools is getting students college, career, and citizen ready for the 21st century. Plan to visit any one of our schools on Tuesday, November 17 and take part in the NNPS Smart, Safe Schools Expo.

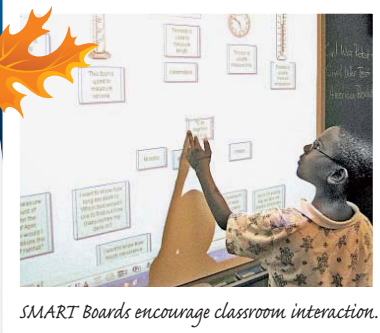


Ashby C. Kilgore
Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Ashby Kilgore congratulates school staff for earning full accreditation.



Hilton Elementary celebrates its national Blue Ribbon designation.



SMART Boards encourage classroom interaction.



Newport News Public Schools
celebrate
**AMERICAN
EDUCATION WEEK**
with a
Smart, Safe Schools
EXPO
NOVEMBER 17

Newport News Public Schools invites the community to celebrate public education in the 21st century.

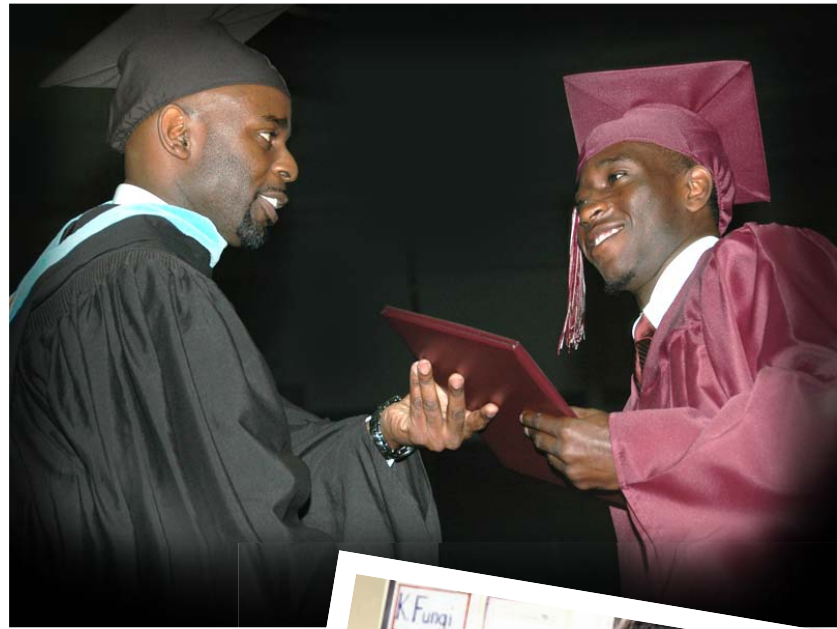
In celebration of American Education Week, Newport News Public Schools is hosting a Smart, Safe Schools Expo on Tuesday, November 17. The community is invited to visit a neighboring school or enjoy a student presentation. See for yourself how Newport News schools are teaching students the skills necessary to be college, career, and citizen-ready.

For a complete listing of all scheduled activities, visit www.nnschools.org



Newport News Public Schools' success continues, with all 40 schools *accredited* for the first time.

- Hilton Elementary School was named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education, the 11th NNPS school to win that designation.
- Huntington Middle School teacher Dr. Marjorie A. Wallace took regional Teacher of the Year honors.
- NNPS leads the state in GED credentials awarded, testimony to the effectiveness of its dropout prevention and recovery programs.
- Three NNPS seniors and a former student are semifinalists in the 55th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, and eight students were named National Advanced Placement Scholars for their achievements on 2009 exams.
- NNPS offers 29 AP classes, more than any other local school district.
- Menchville High School's baseball team won the state AAA VHSL title and finished in first place in national polls at the end of the season. Coach Phil Forbes was named USA Today National Coach of the Year.
- After a successful pilot basketball program in the spring, the middle-school athletic program has expanded to include three sports.



NNPS is working to ensure that all students graduate on time with a diploma.



Dr. Marjorie Wallace of Huntington Middle School is the Virginia Region II Teacher of the Year



Coach Phil Forbes and the MHS team were tops in the nation.



A middle-school track program was launched this fall.



Newport News Public Schools has earned national recognition for its use of technology.



GPS is used to track school buses in real time.



Hidenwood Principal Brian Nichols is one to watch.

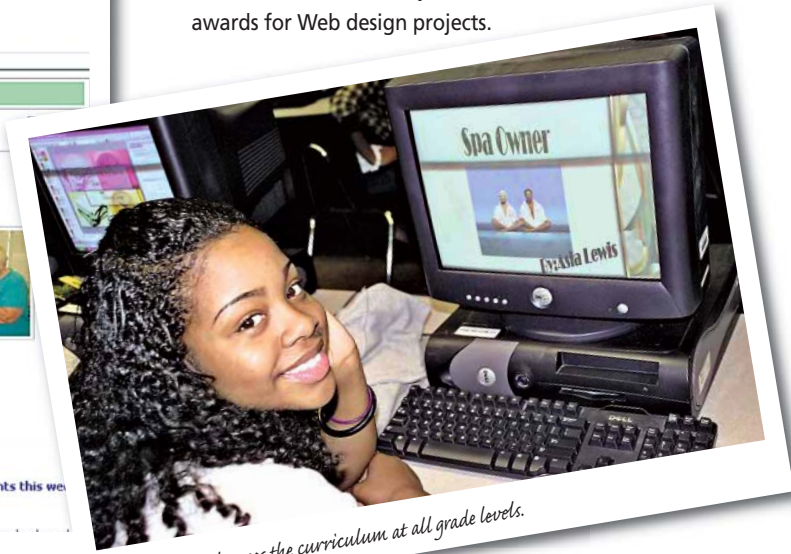
Technology helps keep Newport News Public Schools *Smart and Safe.*

It's used in classrooms and workplaces, but also controls building temperatures remotely, helps students get through lunch lines quickly, and keeps track of school buses, with the help of Global Positioning System technology.

- NNPS is one of three school districts in the country cited by the National School Boards Association for its integration of technology.
- NNPS streams School Board meetings online, publishes electronic newsletters, and communicates on Twitter and Facebook.
- The National School Public Relations Association gave the district Web site its top award for 2008-09, the only school division in North America to receive the honor.
- The NSBA Technology Leadership Network tapped Hidenwood Principal Brian Nichols for its list of "20 to Watch" in education technology.
- Newport News Public Schools' Telecommunications Center won national awards from three industry groups for programming, including live, student-produced football games.
- Students at two NNPS schools – Reservoir Middle School and Riverside Elementary School – won international awards for Web design projects.



Stay informed. Become a fan of NNPS on Facebook and follow NNPS on Twitter.



Technology enhances the curriculum at all grade levels.

Career Pathways

The comprehensive Career Pathways program gets students ready for a 21st-century workplace. Students connect with educators, parents, community members, and businesses to support their awareness, exploration, and understanding of career opportunities from grades pre-K through 12.

Hundreds of local businesses and organizations support the efforts of NNPS by partnering with schools.



Dr. Robert Leber of Northrop Grumman presents the company's Career Pathways model.

The School Board helps ensure that Newport News Public Schools are both smart and safe through its leadership, vision, and commitment. The School Board is comprised of seven elected officials. It is the official policy-making body of the school district.



Students learn about firefighting firsthand.



The Board invites community involvement in our schools, believing that a quality education is a responsibility all must share.



The Newport News School Board (pictured left to right, top and bottom): Chairman Everett "Teddy" Hicks; Vice Chairman Michael Wagner; and members, Carlton Ashby; Dr. William Collins; Betty Dixon; Richard "Rick" Donaldson; and Debbie "Dee" Johnston.