



September, 2013
Issue 69

Back to School on the BH Express and Heading for Success!

On August 15th at our district wide in-service we welcomed new and returning staff back with what has been called a “Back to School Revival”. We felt revived and energized with all staff united in our Blackville-Hilda shirts sporting the words – **“Working Together to Achieve Excellence”** and having introductions made using a common theme of **“ All Aboard the Success Express”**. It was a recommitment to our purpose and a renewal of spirit as we heard from our PLUS Member, Rev. Dr. Herman Wallace, Representative Bakari Sellers, current and former teachers of the year – Ms. Doris Sanders, Ms. Uday John and Mrs. Barbara Glover, along with a “State of the District Address” that I will share excerpts from in this article.

The State of the District echoed sentiments of excitement at the start of a new year and a new beginning. Our district is ready to face the challenge of constantly trying to do more with less. In the past we have benefited from programs and funds for one or two years then when we make progress the funds are taken away. We have made major accomplishments and our students have performed well in many areas. We attained district accreditation last year, made gains in our PASS Scores in several areas as in 6th grade, our graduation rate improved and there is a steady decrease in the number of drop outs. The SAT scores increased by 30 points last year. Scholarships for the graduating class of 2013 totaled \$1,198,535 which is nearly \$200,000 more than the previous year. Our schools are moving from good to great and our students are being prepared to lead productive lives.

We now have a new program TAP (Teacher Advancement Program) that comes with a 2.1

million dollar grant for the next four years. TAP will help us build capacity and sustain the growth that is sure to take place. The program will help our teachers by providing support in areas such as classroom management, curriculum alignment, and effective practices with the ultimate outcome of reaching the goals from our Strategic Plan as approved by our School Board.

Continuous improvement is required and expected. We have some data to look at and of course we have to face the new (Elementary /Secondary Education Act) ESEA Accountability System that labels us as an “F” School/District but we know better. Our intent is not to make excuses for the label but to use the information to find additional ways to improve.

We have a strong relationship with our town and community. We want to build on that relationship by finding additional ways to involve parents and all stakeholders. **“Our Children are Our Future”** and we must all take a part in improving the quality of education they receive. My challenge to each of us is to do what we can to the best of our ability to support our students.

It’s very exciting to know that this year we will have a “Hawk Athletic Booster Club”. Plans are also underway for pairing students with caring adults by providing more mentorship and advisory programs. Remember change comes when we do something new, do something different, and do something better. The BH Express is moving to success and all of us need to get on board!

Teresa L. Pope, Ph.D
Superintendent

FREE!! FREE!!

“PARENT HEALTH SCREENINGS”

September 9, 2013 – 9:00am
Macedonia Elementary School
Call Ms. James, 803 284-5615 for
appointment

“LEARN HOW TO SAVE” COUPONING 101

September 27, 2013 – 9:00am
Macedonia Elementary School

MEETINGS

- **September 5, Community Development Corporation**, Town Hall, 6:00pm
- **September 9, Blackville-Hilda**, Board of Ed., Board Conference Room, 7:00pm
- **September 9, Blackville Civic Club**, Edwards Heating and Cooling, 7:00pm
- **September 10, Neighborhood Watch**, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 6:00pm
- **September 10, Barnwell County Council**, Agriculture Building, 6:00pm
- **September 16, Town Council**, Community Center, 6:30pm
- **September 23, Barnwell-Blackville NAACP**, Macedonia Baptist Church, 7pm
- **September 26, Downtown Development Corporation**, Russell's Pizza, 6:00pm

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September 5, David and Joann Elmore
September 20, Billy and Olanda Johnson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 3, Marcus Sanders
September 5, Jamisha Roberts
September 6, Billy Johnson
September 6, Carneal Hammonds, Sr.
September 8, Kenneth Aiken, Sr.
September 12, Tiffany Aiken
September 14, Larry Elmore
September 14, Linda Roberts
September 14, Lawanda Brown
September 15, Mrs. Annie Lee Washington
September 16, Susie Miller
September 16, Willie "Lowe" Washington
September 17, Andre Patrick
September 19, Mayor Michael Beasley
September 19, M. Ann Pernell
September 20, Isabell Parmlee
September 21, Ashley Woods
September 27, Dora White
September 27, Kwarne A. White
September 30, Sterling Dunbar

LIBRARY NEWS

Pre-School Story Time

10:30am

September 10, 2013 and September 24, 2013

SCHOOL NEWS

September 2nd - Labor Day - No School

MES

September 5th - Grandparents Day Lunch, K-3rd
September 6th - Grandparents Day Lunch, 4th-6th
September 19th - Little Miss/Master Pageant, 6:00pm
September 19th - 6th Grade Parent Night, 5:30pm
September 26th - PTSO/SIC 5:30pm
September 26th - Character Night, 6:00pm

BHJH

Sept 23rd - PTSO/SIC, 6:00pm

BHHS

September 5th - Open House, 6:30pm
September 12th - Shepheard Blood Drive
September 23rd - PTSO/SIC, 6:30pm
September 24th - Freshman Night, 6:00pm

BARNWELL-BLACKVILLE NAACP 18TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND DINNER

September 14, 2013 – 7:00pm
Blackville Community Center
Speaker - Rev. Floyd Hughes, Sr.,
Pastor Macedonia Baptist Church
\$15.00 donation

GRANDPARENTS DAY

September 8, 2013

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP
Macedonia Baptist Church
Dexter Street, September 7, 2013
College and College Bound Students!!
11:00AM – 12:30PM
Parents come with your child!!

SEPTEMBER 2, 2013 TOWN HALL CLOSED

Contact information: blackville@bellsouth.net and
vtalston@bellsouth.net add "NEWSLETTER" to subject
line. Please provide information by the 15th of the preceding
month.

*Published by Blackville Community Development
Corporation and the Town of Blackville*

