

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

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PAGE A2, A3
Latest on state moving to Phase 2.5, coronavirus case information.



PAGE A6
Toast of Perquimans to become virtual event



PAGE B1
Group announces art show winners

Education Gap Between Black and White Students Improving

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor



TURNER

between these groups across the state in most areas.

"Perquimans County Schools will continue to focus on educating every child, every day," she said. "We will strive to provide all students equitable access to a challenging curriculum and engaging instruction in order to

Perquimans Schools Superintendent Tanya Turner said the education gap between Black and White students statewide continues to be an area of focus and improvement.

While this gap exists in Perquimans County as well, the data indicates that the education gap between these two subgroups is less in Perquimans County than the gap

Dropout Data	Total	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
2018-2019	7	3	4	4	4	2
2017-2018	7	5	2	<10	<10	
2016-2017	13	6	7	11	<10 (2)	
2015-2016	15	10	5	10	<10 (5)	
2014-2015	12	<10	<10	<10	<10	

SUBMITTED GRAPHIC

High school drop out data

decrease achievement gaps by race, economic, and EC status annually. This is a major focus of our strategic plan."

Quality teachers provide

educational opportunity. "A proven strength of the school system is the effectiveness of teachers in our classrooms," Turner said.

"Our teachers are committed to ensuring that our students receive a quality education.

See GAP, A3

Reward in Edenton Case to be Issued

FROM STAFF REPORTS

EDENTON — Sen. Bob Steinburg (R-Chowan) will hold a press conference at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8 to announce a significant reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Makiia Slade's killer.



SLADE

On July 24, Makiia Slade, a 9-year-old girl, was shot and killed in a drive-by shooting near West Queen Street in Edenton, NC, while sitting in the car with her mother.

"Unlike the dangerous and out of control streets of Chicago or Detroit, rural North Carolina will not stand for nor accept failure in the seeking of justice regarding the vicious murder of children in our streets," Steinburg said. "The name of Makiia Slade will not fade and be stored on the shelves of obscurity, because as a community of law abiding, life honoring citizens, we will not stand for lawlessness. Makiia Slade's life was significant and her life also mattered."

Chowan County Sheriff's Office and the SBI are searching for any information which could lead to an arrest and conviction of Makiia's killer.

If anybody has any information regarding the fatal shooting, contact the Sheriff's Department by phone at (252) 482-8484 or at 305 West Freemason St., Edenton, NC.

SBI can be contacted at (919) 662-4500.

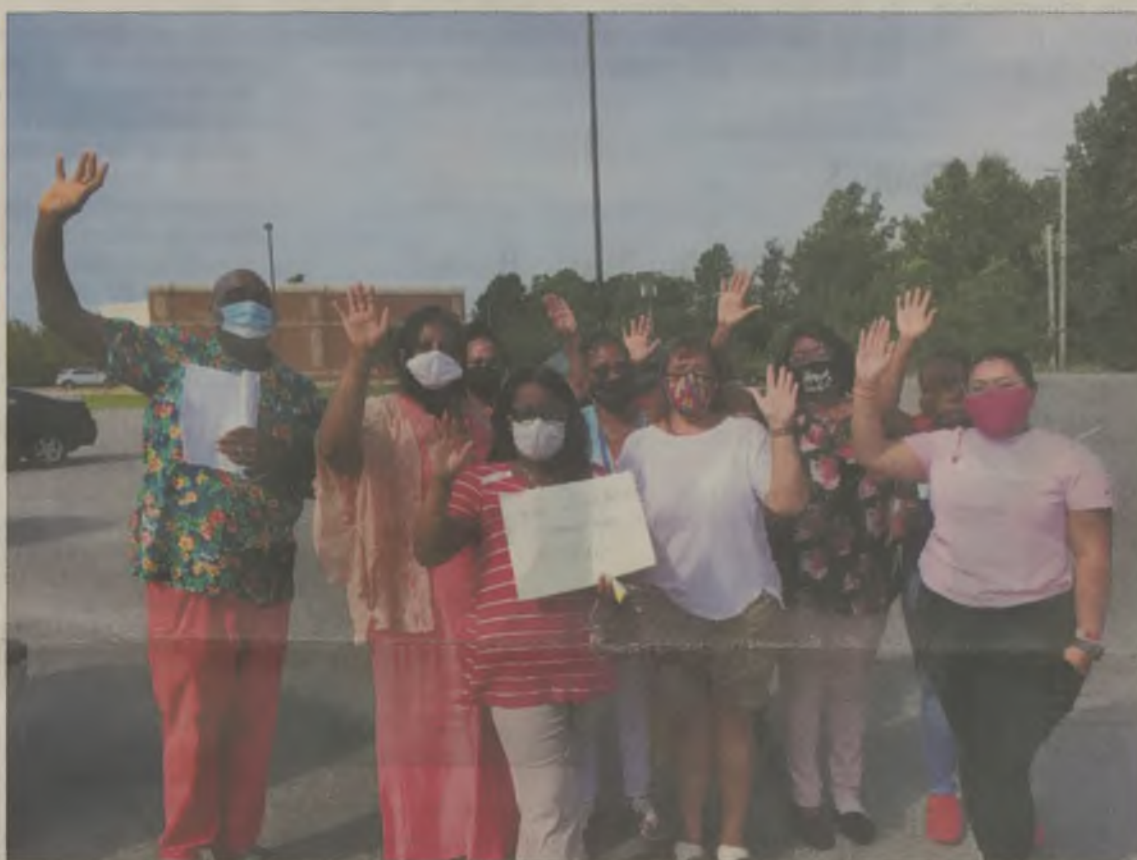


PHOTO BY MILES LAYTON

Head Start teachers held rallies Monday and Friday protesting unfair reductions in pay. Teachers raising their hands said their pay was affected. Economic Improvement Council Executive Director Landon Mason disputes these claims saying salaries were not reduced.

Head Start Teachers Rally Against EIC

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Area Head Start teachers protested Friday and Monday what they called unfair and unannounced cuts to pay and benefits.

However, Economic Improvement Council Executive Director Landon Mason said in a statement the agency did not cut teachers' pay.

"As documented, EIC did not cut the salaries of 35 Head Start Program teachers as indicated by a recent social media post," he said. "Four Head Start Program employees did share concerns about salary inaccuracies and the program's executive director. Upon further review by agency staff, a system's error was realized, and the issue was resolved immediately by the executive director on Aug. 29. We must emphasize, EIC is committed to addressing and resolving

matters impacting its workforce, as professionally and swiftly as possible."

Mason said the four employees, who were affected by the computer glitch, would be reimbursed in their next paycheck.

About 35 Head Start staff protested Friday in the parking lot outside the main office of the Edenton-based Economic Improvement Council, which operates Head Start centers in the area. A few carried signs.

Monday, teachers moved their protest from the EIC parking lot to near Rose's at Chowan Crossing.

Two teachers – Thomas Midgette and Amy Cisneros – were terminated before Monday's rally for insubordination.



MASON

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Two teachers – Thomas Midgette and Amy Cisneros – were terminated before Monday's rally for insubordination.

Teachers in the crowd said they are not necessarily on strike but are concerned about changes in pay and are looking for answers before they return to work.

When teachers were asked if their pay had not been changed to reflect their salary before the cuts, a group of at least 8-10 people raised their hands – one person even showed bank information indicating nothing had been changed.

"It has not been fixed," one teacher said. "I just looked at about 5 minutes ago and there still is a large deduction that has not been fixed ... We are behind on bills because we expected that one thing and we got something else."

Cisneros added, "Because we weren't even told to try to prepare for it. Our change was effective a week after our pay period

See EIC, A2

ROUND-UP

Roberts & Movies

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

A round-up of all things Perquimans County...

Per Mason Roberts and his family, they want to extend many thanks for all the support that was shown during the recent fundraiser held for 11-year-old Mason.

"Words cannot express all the love we felt from our community during this time. You all touched our hearts with your kindness. Thank you to everyone that helped make this a successful event. The plan is for him to receive his service dog March 2021 to help with managing his Type 1 Diabetes." – Mason Roberts & family

Per Ken Rominger, Hertford's American Legion Post 126 will host a Public Yard Sale, Saturday, Sept. 12, 7-11 a.m., in their parking lot at 111 West Academy Street.

See ROUND-UP, A3



MASON ROBERTS

Math Teachers' Dynamic Duo Embraces Team Concept

BY MILES LAYTON
Editor

Editor's Note: From time to time, Perquimans Weekly will share stories about teachers to highlight their commitment to education. These folks are unsung heroes and role models to many students.

Amy Craddock and Kim Ty-

son embrace a team approach to teaching math at Perquimans High School. While conjuring up the solution to an algebra problem, imagine the crowd roaring as these two teachers team up to hit the blackboard like two NBA stars – Kobe Bryant passing the chalk to Michael Jordan to "carry the one" so he can slam dunk the answer to that math question.

Craddock and Tyson's teamwork scores success for students. Check their answer out – won't spoil the surprise. Math I is the first for four math classes that students are required to pass in order to graduate from high school in North Carolina.

"Four years ago, we approached our principal with the idea of team teaching Math I," Craddock said. "We feel like it is so important for students to begin high school with a strong foundation in math. Being sisters gives us such a unique experience for team teaching. Our teaching styles are so similar that the co-teaching model works perfectly with us. Our students tease us because we are always finishing each other's sentences."

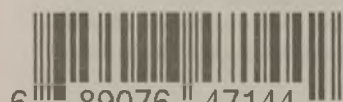
Did you catch the hook – they're sisters with math super



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Perquimans High School teachers (l-r) Amy Craddock and Kim Tyson use a team approach to solve life's great mathematical mysteries. What they feel is their biggest strength is creating a lesson that engages the students and gives them the opportunity to be successful in math.

See MATH, A3



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