

## EDUCATION

# Students start first days of early college high school

REBECCA PISCOPO

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On Monday August 11 Cleveland Early College High School opened its doors to its inaugural freshman class of 50 students. The school is located on the campus of Cleveland Community College.

Raising the bar over traditional high schools, 76% (38) of the students are first generation collegians. To put that number in perspective that's almost an entire class in a school facing teacher cut-backs.

Since Cleveland's program is one requiring more money, CECHS received a planning grant from the New Schools Project helping politicians, community college faculty, and teachers plan further along.

"Cleveland Early College High School is a partnership among Cleveland County Schools and Cleveland Community College. Teachers will use research-based instructional strategies and engage students in problem-based learning, collaborative learning, problem solving, and work-based educational experiences," stated a press release from Governor Mike Easley's office.

In other words students receive hands-on experimentation and greater vocational knowledge.

During their first week of school kids created their own websites

which they will use as a tool in presenting themselves first to their classmates and later to employers.

"Power Point's old hat for them because they do that in 8th grade. We decided to do a webpage to be dynamic and they could continue to add to that throughout their five-year career," said the school's Principal, Dr. Anita Ware.

Fourteen of the kids who will graduate in the school's first class with an Associates Degree and high school diploma came to CECHS from KMMS. Principal Ware said that most of the applicants came from Kings Mountain.

One of her staff, Jo Rountree, who is the Expeditionary Learning Instruction Guide for CECHS, is a Grover native and had taught at KMHS for 25 years.

The former AP European History teacher, who had instructed Dr. Ware, is part of one of the school's features - active learning. Friday, for example, the students involved themselves in the exploration of the "Silence of the Bees."

"A former member of the school board, Jerry Blanton, spoke Friday. He said, 'The questions your kids asked were the best, most sophisticated,'" Rountree stated.

In the kids' 8:30-4 p.m. school days they come to CECHS on high school classes to begin their high school-college courses. Dr. Ware revealed that in the students' third year they will take college

courses outside the CECHS parameter and return from 2:30-4 p.m. for their remaining secondary core.

"Our kids will have an intern requirement and senior project to graduate. For all our kids, there are no wasted course hours," Dr. Ware said.

As told by Rountree, the school in its first six days has had perfect attendance. He claims that that is a big reflection on what the kids think of the school. CECHS will be recruiting from middle schools again next spring.

### McHenry visits CECHS

Steve Thornburg, President of Cleveland Community College, welcomed Congressman Patrick McHenry on campus Monday where he presented the school with a Title III Grant from the U.S. Department of Education worth \$1.9 million. Thornburg claimed that the significance of the grant was that very few schools succeed in being awarded a Title III their first time applying.

McHenry addressed an audience mixed with the Cleveland Early College High School's first class, administrators, teachers, and members of CCC's Student Government who accepted the \$1.9 million check.

AT&T also wrote a \$25,000 check to CECHS for a full wireless network environment.

## SOCIAL BRIEFS

### Barber shop to give away 300 free bookbags Saturday

Boyz II Men Barber Shop, 501 E. King St., will be giving away 300 bookbags packed with school supplies at 12 noon Saturday, August 23, 2008.

The backpacks will be given out for free on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information, call the shop at 704-730-8090.

### KM Woman's Club to host yard and bake sales August 23

The Kings Mountain Woman's Club is sponsoring a Yard Sale and Bake Sale on Saturday, August 23rd from 7:30-noon at the clubhouse, 109 E. Mountain Street.

Items for the sales will be collected until August 23rd. Proceeds from the sales will benefit the \$1,000 Sallie Southall Cotton Scholarship which is awarded to a Kings Mountain High School senior each year.

To order a cake, pie, brownies, or anything sweet send an email to lorirs@bellsouth.net or call Lori Sutherland at (704) 739-2292.

### Quilts and needlework exhibit at KM Museum

This is the last week of the Kings Mountain Historical Museum's exhibit, "A Stitch in Time: Quilts and Needlework Pre 1960." The

exhibit will run through August 24 with Sunday hours from 1-4 p.m.

The exhibit features decorative as well as utilitarian quilts dating from the 1840s. Needlework examples include embroidery, crewel, crochet and needlepoint.

The Museum is located at 100 East Mountain Street. Hours are Tuesday - Saturday 10-4 p.m. and Sunday 1-4 p.m. For more information call 704-739-1019, E-mail kmh-museum@bellsouth.net or visit www.kingsmountainmuseum.org

### Mauney Library offers programs for adults

Mauney Memorial Library is offering the following classes for adults:

**Saturday, Aug. 23** - Tom Shytle, author of "Carolina Roots: From Whence I Came" will do a brief presentation and book signing on his new book about life and events that shaped our nation and N.C. in the past 75 years, at 10 am on Saturday, August 23rd.

**Monday, Aug. 25th** - Dr. Tom Hanchette, historian from The Museum of the New South in Charlotte, will present a program.

**Tuesday, Aug. 26th** - 6:30 p.m. - Dr. Jay Majors will give a round table discussion on hormones, health and happiness in the community room.

**Aug. 16-Sept. 27th** - "Rhythm of the Factory" exhibit will be offered at the library during normal business hours. The exhibit will feature the "Life and Labor in North Carolina's Textile Mill Communities."

For more information, call Margot Plonk at 704-739-2371, ext. 5.

## BACK2SCHOOL

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### North Elementary

900 N. Ramseur Street  
704-734-5663

Principal Lynda Stewart

Principal's email: lstewart@clevelandcountyschools.org

School day: 8-2:40 p.m.

Est. enrollment for 2008-09: 228

### West Elementary

500 W. Mountain Street  
704-734-5693

Principal Brian Hunnell

Principal's email: bhunnell@clevelandcountyschools.org

School day: 8:05 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Est. enrollment for 2008-09: 320

New additions this year:

Heather Walton, former teacher

at Grover Elementary and

author of the children's book "Do you see the miracle?" joins the staff at West as a fourth grade teacher

### Kings Mountain Intermediate

227 Kings Mountain Boulevard  
704-734-5658

Principal Henry Gilmore

Principal's email: hggilmore@clevelandcountyschools.org

School day: 8:10-2:50 p.m.

Est. enrollment for 2008-09: 701

### Kings Mountain Middle

1000 Phifer Road  
704-734-5667

Principal Aaron Allen

Principal's email: aallen@clevelandcountyschools.org

School day: 8-3 p.m.

Est. enrollment for 2008-09: 717

New additions this year: Aaron

Allen joins the staff at KMMS as

the new school principal. A graduate of KM schools, UNC-Chapel Hill and Temple University, he has served as the assistant principal at North Lincoln High and, most recently, as the principal at West Lincoln Middle. He looks for this year at KMMS to be the best one yet.

### Kings Mountain High

500 Phifer Road  
704-476-8330

Principal Ronny Funderburke

Principal's email: refunderburke@clevelandcountyschools.org

Assistant Principals: Jon

Fleisher, Dave Greene, Dianne

Dooley

School day: 8-3:10 p.m.

Est. enrollment for 2008-09:

1,247

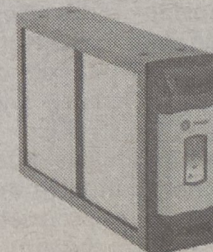
New additions this year: In

addition to the new Freshmen

Academy, KMHS notes the addition of nine new faculty members to its staff: Maggie Butler will be teaching P.E., Candice Fleming - athletic trainer/P.E., Beth McGraw - math,

Brad Melton - business, Traci Morrison - drama, Candice Scott - science, Maegan Spicer - english, Daniel Wydo - science, Lauren Yatko - history.

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