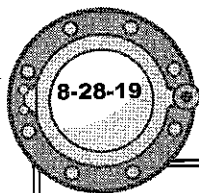


PEEK OF THE WEEK

Beech Hill Elementary

A Palmetto's Finest School ❖ A 2018 National Blue Ribbon School



2019-2020 ~ Theme: Blue for a Reason

Mission Statement: Beech Hill will lead the way to lifelong learning through excellence, leadership and empowerment.
Vision: All students will meet or exceed academic standards as measured by grade level benchmarks.

Goals and Focus for 2019-2020 School Year

- Beacons exhibit Self-Efficacy and Social Emotional Learning/Non-cognitive Skills
- Beacons are Globally Competitive and College/Career Ready
- The percentage of parents satisfied with our home/school relations will increase from 79% to 95% as per the state's report card survey
- The percentage of students meeting or exceeding ELA, Reading, Math and Science expectations will increase from 81% to 85%
- The percentage of teachers who indicate that we provide students choice in language arts selections will increase to from 84% to 95%

Lighthouses of Lifelong Learning:

CREATE (arts-infusion & appreciation), CONNECT (team building and community awareness), NURTURE (ecology and service learning), LIVE (healthy choices), THINK (growth mindset and metacognition), & DREAM (technology and innovation)

Save the Dates • Important Events



August

- 29 Color Day-Purple
- 30 Lighthouse Leagues Spirit Day

September

- 1 Labor Day (No School)
- 3 Book Fair Opens
- Grand Beacons Breakfast 7:15 a.m.
- 4 Grand Beacons Breakfast 7:15 a.m.
- 5 Color Day-Gray
- SIC/PTA Meetings 5:00
- Parent Information Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 6 Color Day-Pink
- Book Fair Closes
- 9 Color Day-Black
- 10 Color Day-White
- Parent Liaison
- 11 Color Day-Brown
- WERD Clubs-7:30-8:15
- Boosterthon Kick-off Rallies
- 8:30-PreK-2nd Grades
- 9:30-3rd-5th Grades
- 13 Kona Ice Spirit Days
- 14 Free Produce Give Away-9:00-12:00 @ BHES
- 17 Newk's Spirit Night 5:00-7:30
- 18 Interim Reports Go Home

September ~ Lunch Menu

- 3 Spaghetti, toast, green beans, watermelon
- 4 Chicken tenders, sweet potato fries, peas
- 5 Corndogs, broccoli, corn, strawberry mango
- 6 Pizza, squash, salad, grapes
- 9 Chicken alfredo, lima beans, local peaches
- 10 Salisbury steak, potatoes, carrots, pear cup

Career Carousel Needs You

If you are the parent or relative of one of our Beacons and you would like to participate in our 2019 Career Carousel, which will be held on October 12th from 8:00-10:15, contact Mr. Helton at jahelton@dorchester2.k12.sc.us. State your name, student's name(s) and his/her grade(s), your career, and contact information. Please let us know

At the Helm: No Lion King!

We're going to see the *Lion King*... no we're not... yes we are. This tennis match went on between my husband and me for several rounds until he finally, astutely gave in. It was the day of the premiere of the remake of a Disney classic. The original film is one of my favorites, so my anticipation of this new offering was over the moon. The mere sight of little Simba in the trailers had brought me to tears. I found myself talking to the screen and saying "soon my friend, soon."

On the opening day of the newest version, my husband and I sat in our strategically selected seats with our bucket of popcorn ready to see an exceptional film. After a movie of previews (what's up with that!), the feature started. As the musical score started with that infectious tune, I found myself emotional and tears streamed down my cheek. It wasn't long into the movie before I started to lose enthusiasm. Some of the all-familiar songs from the soundtrack, now seemed boring and mundane. I found myself having difficulty concentrating when some of the animals were "wink-wink" talking. And while I have nothing against the Queen Bee, it seemed like we had more Beyoncé than Nala in the jungle. I started to be a little resentful thinking this is not what I signed up for. Because I had forced my husband to attend, I sat quietly looking for places to redeem it.

In the quiet moments, I would hear my husband grunt or render an audible to the screen. After several of these, it dawned on me that he was actually engaged in the movie. Were we watching the same film? I didn't express my opinion; I watched more of his expressions than the movie for the remainder of it. After the show, we caught a quick bite to eat and talked about what we saw. He asked me first what I thought about the remake. I went into a soliloquy about all the things that were wrong with it in comparison to its previous one. Then I asked for his impression (knowing that he had not been enthused about even attending). "I loved it!" he responded, continuing, "I'm actually surprised to say it, but I'd see it again."

I guess it is true one man's trash is another man's Lion King. This "bares" a slight resemblance to the beginning of the school year. Parents, teachers, students and principals wait with wild anticipation for that premier event, a new school year. Book bags are stuffed to capacity, sneakers are brighter than the lights of Broadway and everyone's engines are ready to go. The music begins and the hype is on. But by the second or third scene, audience members start to realize that perhaps they have created a difficult act for any teacher or even school to follow. Not every film will be an Oscar winner; that is why we have Oscar winners, but every school year can be beneficial, informative, entertaining and life changing.

Weeks later, I was amazed by the mixed reviews yet continued success of the *Lion King*. Looking back, it really was a pretty good film. It simply wasn't the original. The cinematography and special-effects were stunning and some of the musical numbers were catchy. The first few weeks are challenging for EVERYONE. Students and parents are learning about a new teacher with new norms and expectations and teachers are trying to learn about their children. It can be overwhelming for everyone. It will take time for the two to determine personalities, and figure it out. But in most cases, with a little time, lots of transparent conversations and working together, it will be figured out.

We all want the same thing for our children. Sometimes we may differ slightly in the navigation; even GPS systems have alternate routes depending on needs, traffic and expectations. Parents are sending us their best and no teacher wakes up and says, "I think I'll crush a dream today." We have to work together if we want better for our kids. We can make this year a "regal" year for our children.

René Wyatt Harris, Proud and Grateful Principal

Your ideas, questions and concerns are very important to me. I can be reached by phone or by email at rharris@dorchester2.k12.sc.us | return calls after 4:00 to ensure my undivided attention.

Our Beacon Business Partners Rock!

Charleston Signage • Ledyard Catering • ABC Trophies • Family Chiropractic & Massage of Charleston • Staples • Broad Street Printing • Chick-fil-A • Education Station • Kona Ice • Palmetto Flats • Good Faith Mortgage • Fleet Feet Sports • The Inn at Middleton Place • Lowcountry Orthodontics • Legend Oaks Golf Club • Scott Mongillo ~ Attorney at Law • Advanced Dental Center • Newk's Eatery • Swasty Orthodontics • Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market • JW Picture Studio

Bragging Beams ~ Points of Pride

2018 National Blue Ribbon School ~Ranked 25th Among 640 South Carolina Elementary Schools, SchoolDigger.com 2018
 Best Public School ~ Mom's Choice Award *Lowcountry Parent Magazine* 2014 ~ Palmetto's Finest ~ 2012 PBIS- Ribbon School: 2010 & 2011
 Federal Accountability Grades-A:2012-2014 ~ Report Card Rating: Excellent 2018

9 National Board Certified Teachers, 19 Gifted & Talented Certified Teachers, Lowes or Educator Grants: Jackie Leggette, Jana Hooks, Paula Luciano & Kentrel Clement
Donors Choose Grants: May Frazier-Robinson, Margaret Day, Viki Fernandez, Haley Foster, Madison Hines, Schoneke Summerhill, Elizabeth Tutterow, Letitia Uyak, Stef Satterfield, Jana Hooks, Megan Seitz (4), Kristina Elliott(2), Glenna Broughton(2), Elizabeth Norman, Meggie Wegmann (2), Laura Hattabaugh (2), Dianne Lewis (5), Stevie Ward (2), Courtney Creech (2), Jeni Nix (2), Erica Kennedy, Tricia Ruddick, Paula Luciano, Becca Malinowski (3), Debby Yanchik, Taylor Wilson (2) Rose Stephens (6)

PTA for a REASON!

- Checkout our one stop shop at <https://www.ddtwo.org/domain/408>
- The volunteer training and forms are all online and must be completed each school year. Volunteer forms can be returned to school with your student. Once forms are processed by the district and volunteer coordinator you will receive an email. Keep in mind you must be volunteer trained to attend ANY field trip with your student.
- Don't forget you can shop online for yearbooks, PTA memberships and all spirit wear. The Back to School Spirit Wear sale ends August 30th! All orders placed by August 30th will be delivered to your child's classroom.

School Improvement Council

Parents, if you want to help make our school better, lead relevant initiatives and serve along with school leaders to analyze data and generate solutions, please consider serving on the BHES School Improvement Council. The dates of the meetings are posted in the school calendar and rarely last more than an hour. This cohesive action-based team serves as a positive vehicle in leading school projects and events. If you are willing to serve, contact Principal Harris at rharris@dorchester2.k12.sc.us by September 4th and join us on Thursday, September 5th at 5:00 for our first meeting.

Counselor Connection -- Facts about School Attendance

- Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade.
- Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.

To learn more, visit **Attendance Works** at <https://www.attendanceworks.org/chronic-absence/the-problem/10-facts-about-school-attendance/>
 School Counselors: Ms. Masopust, 4K/1/3/5 and Mr. Helton, PD/K/2/4

The Book Fair is Coming to the Beech

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at Beech Hill Elementary Sept. 3rd-6th. We will be open for Parent Information Night on Sept. 5th. In addition, grandparents can shop if they come for breakfast on Sept. 3rd & 4th.



Your child will have the opportunity to make purchases during the school day. Gift certificates may be purchased. Books make wonderful gifts for teachers and we will have wish lists available.

If you are sending checks they should be made out to Beech Hill Elementary or BHES. We accept cash, checks and credit cards. In addition to shopping here, you can also shop online. This is a great option for friends and family members that want to support our school, but don't live close enough to shop. If you know someone interested in shopping online go to scholastic.com/fair.

If you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions, e-mail Mrs. Nix at jnix@dorchester2.k12.sc.us. We appreciate your support and hope to see you at our book fair!

FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!

Once again, our school will partner with New Ashley Baptist Church's Missionary Board in sponsoring a free produce give away program on Saturday, September 14, 2019 from 9:00-12:00.

The produce will be provided via *Trident United Way ~ AmeriCorps* Produce Give Away program. All families are encouraged to take advantage of this tremendous opportunity. There are no financial requirements or restrictions. Everyone is eligible to receive the fresh bountiful produce. The contents of the give away vary with the season. Last year's spring give away included: milk, cabbage, strawberries and potatoes.



Meet us in the front loop for a peck of produce and a bushel of fun.

Welcome Grand Beacons!!! (Grandparents)

Grandparents, join us for breakfast and a school visit. Choose ONE day to attend this special event.

- Return this form with your payment to the school by **Wednesday, August 28th** to receive the required meal tickets.
- Clearly complete the form. Make out checks to **Beech Hill Elementary**.
- Photos will be taken and available for purchase.
- All visitors must present a valid ID (driver's license) which will be retained while they are on the school campus.
- Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee meals for guests who do not include payment with registration.
- Due to capacity and fairness, we must limit participation to **grandparents** and current **Beacons**.

_____ I plan to attend on Tuesday, September 3rd

_____ I plan to attend on Wednesday, September 4th

Number of Adult Grandparent Breakfast Tickets (@ \$3.00 each) _____ Total Cost for Grandparents _____

(This event is for current Beacons and their grandparents only.)- Please send in the exact amount, change back will not available.

Number of Beacon (student) Breakfast Tickets (@1.50 each) _____ Cost for Beacons _____

(All students eating breakfast must pay. Meals can not be charged to school lunch accounts.)

Total Number of Breakfast Tickets ordered. _____ Total Amount Due _____

(Payment must be included to be a complete registration and receive tickets for this event.)

Student (please print) _____ **Classroom Section** _____ **Homeroom/Classroom Teacher** _____