



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



*School Office Hours are now 6:45-3:15.

November

- 15 Day of Carling (Thank you~ MUSC)
- 18 Welcome Juggling Artist-in-Residence
DHEC-Flu Shots at BHES
- 20 Early Release Day 11:00
- 21 Terrific Kids 7:45 a.m.— Create Lighthouse
Terrific Readers 8:30 a.m.
- 22 Academic Achievement Bowl 7:45 a.m.
- 27 Thanksgiving Break
- December
- 2 Sweetgrass Residency with Ms. Henrietta Snype
- 4 WERD Clubs 7:30 a.m.
Early Release Day 11:00 a.m.
- 6 The Buzz at the Beech— School Spelling Bee-8:00
- 10 Giving Market Holiday Shop-One Day Only
- 19 Terrific Kids 7:45 a.m.— Connect Lighthouse
Terrific Readers 8:30 a.m.
School Improvement Council Meeting 5:30
Holiday Concert 6:30 (at BHES)
- 20 Early Release Day 11:00

At the Helm: The Rest of the Story

I was born on the Fourth of July, and contrary to popular belief, my favorite color is blue. Patriotism courses deep through my veins. Not more so than others, but simply because throughout my whole life, I've had to share my birthday with a nation. And so whenever a nation pauses to celebrate and I remember our American history, heritage and heroes, I too do the same with pride, joy, and humility.

I remember the day when my mother explained to me that the fireworks and parades were not in honor of my birth. It hurt like a tooth in desperate need of a root canal. But over the years, I came to terms with having to share my special day with others. So on holidays like Memorial day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day, I have a true sense of emotions and connections. In this, our 11th year of celebrating Veterans Day at BHES, I had an opportunity to see the video that our media specialist, Ms. Jeni Nix, so beautifully produced. It is truly a labor of love. As I saw the faces of our servicemen connected to the faces of our beacons, Veterans Day took on a new and daunting meaning for me. I saw dads and moms who I have seen many times at the fall festivals, Terrific Kids ceremonies, and other special events. The pictures displayed on the screen were of real people who impact our lives daily. As I looked into the young faces of some of our soldiers, I realized that their service had come before they were married or even parents. Before them lay an entire future, yet they bravely and courageously chose service over self.

When I think of a Beacon who has a family member serving our country, I will look with new eyes at that child and the challenges that their family may face. It would be reasonable that a homework assignment or a signed paper may take a backseat to precious long-awaited Facetime or a family trip. For the mom or dad who is serving in both parental roles, a parent conference or attendance for a school event may be harder than just arranging child care.

I hope the Veterans who were honored last week felt the love and respect that we want to convey to them. They deserved that and so much more.

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. I return calls after 4:00 to ensure my undivided attention.

Lunch Menu

November

- 14 Corn dog, broccoli, corn, strawberry mango
- 15 Pizza, squash, salad, grapes
- 18 Nachos, black beans, rice, grapes
- 19 Turkey, ham, dressing, green beans, cranberries
- 20 Bag lunch (Early Release Day)
- 21 Chicken taco, black beans, rice, peach cup
- 22 Pizza, green beans, salad, banana
- 25 Chicken parmesan, veggie cup, honey dew melon
- 26 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, corn, watermelon

Say "Cheese," or Cut It!

Parents, did something funky happen with your child's picture order? We feel your pain and we are working to resolve your concerns. We want your experience to be "Picture Perfect." Email Ms. Victoria Williams with your problems at vicwilliams@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

November Reading Challenge!

We have reached the time of year where there is LOTS to do. The holiday season is upon us and in this busy time, a healthy reading habit can fall to the wayside. However, busy days are the *best* days to fit in some time with a book. Here are some reading challenge ideas from Brightly.com to keep your Beacons engaged in their books!



Rebecca Malinowski
Curriculum Facilitator/Reading Coach
Beech Hill Elementary School
843.821.3470



Creative Writing Winners

After receiving many creative entries for our Red Ribbon Week Send a Message Contest, we are proud to announce that Cauthen Rogers and Nathan McKee have been selected as our contest winners. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped us send a message to resist negative peer pressure. Congratulations Cauthen and Nathan! Both of you have earned a coupon for a free Kona Ice!

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 • Lifetouch • Newk's Eatery • Swasty Orthodontics • Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market • JW Picture Studio • Carrie Crosby Interiors, LLC

Please visit <https://www.datwo.org/DO> to access our website.

Bragging Beams ~ Points of Pride

2018 National Blue Ribbon School ~ Ranked 24th Among 640 South Carolina Elementary Schools, SchoolDigger.com 2019
Palmetto Gold Award 2018 & 2019 ~ Best Public School ~ Mom's Choice Award *Lowcountry Parent Magazine* 2014 ~ Palmetto's Finest ~ 2012
PBIS- Ribbon School ~ Red Carpet School ~ Federal Accountability Grades-A: 2012-2014 ~ Report Card Rating: Excellent 2018 & 2019
9 National Board Certified Teachers, 19 Gifted & Talented Endorsed Teachers, Dollar General Grant: Jackie Leggette, Lowes or Educator Grants: Jackie Leggette, Jana Hooks, Paula Luciano & Kentrel Clement; **Donors Choose Grants:** May Frazier-Robinson(2), Margaret Day, Viki Fernandez, Haley Foster, Madison Hines (3), 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 Points

We will be opening up the spirit wear store for 2 weeks from November 6th- 20th. All orders can be placed online at: <https://beechhill.memberhub.store/> Please be sure to select your child's grade and teacher's name. Once orders are processed the items will be delivered to the child's classroom.

* We are excited to see the great group of approved volunteers for this school year. If you would like to be a volunteer at the Beech or even go on a field trip, please complete the required volunteer forms. These forms can be found online at <https://www.ddtwo.org/Page/1214> or in your Beech Hill student handbook. If you do not have access to a printer, please email the PTA at ptabeechhill@gmail.com.

Counselor Connection – PERSONAL BODY SAFETY

School Counselors: Ms. Masopust, 4K/1/3/5 and Mr. Helton, PD/K/2/4

School Counselors will conduct classroom lessons on Personal Body Safety in Nov/Dec. Keeping children safe is our number one priority; we are ethically and professionally committed to help children learn strategies to keep themselves safe in unpredictable situations, understand that they have rights as children, and know how to protect themselves when approached or touched in a way that bothers them. All school districts in South Carolina follow approved guidelines for teaching Personal Body Safety. Beech Hill counselors will follow the formats provided by The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and The Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation. Unfortunately, we will not be able to cover all content available. Please view the following websites and continue discussions with your children about personal body safety. If you have any questions regarding the lessons, feel free to contact your child's school counselor at (843) 821-3970.

- Fight Child Abuse <http://fightchildabuse.org/>
- Kid Smartz <https://www.kidsmartz.org/>
- Erin's Law <http://www.erinslaw.org/>

Hey Man! That's Not Cool!

Parents, it has come to our attention that one of the Kona Ice Trucks that was here on our campus last Friday included a listing of menu items not appropriate for children. Because the company anticipated a large amount of sales, the owner secured a second truck for the event to reduce long lines. After a parent made me aware of the flavor options, we contacted the company immediately. We would never knowingly endorse, support or promote the sale of alcohol in any format or fashion. We apologize for the confusion and have asked the company to refrain from posting any such items while on our campus. The kids love having the chilly treat and we appreciate your support in our fund raiser.

Beacon Angel Tree

The Angel Tree program assists families in need with holiday gift giving. If your child attends Beech Hill Elementary and you would like him/her to receive an Angel Tree gift, please complete this form and return it to Guidance before **November 15, 2019**.

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Teacher: _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Contact Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Shirt size: _____ Pant size: _____ Shoe Size: _____ Jacket size: _____

Clothing items needed: _____

Toys requested: _____

Please limit the cost of each item to \$20.

Parents must pick up gifts on Wed. Dec. 18 or Thurs. Dec. 19 between 7:30 am and 3:00 pm. Mark your calendar.

If you would like to provide gifts for an Angel Tree Beacon:

1. Select an envelope from our Lighthouse in the front lobby (after November 20).
2. Complete the card attached to the envelope.
3. Leave the completed card with the receptionist at the front desk.
4. Return wrapped gifts with tags *before* Friday, December 13, 2019.

