

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

Surrounding students with a community of support,  
empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.



Communities  
In Schools

Brunswick County

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## CIS News: Winter 2017



# Happy Holidays from CIS!



## Science takes over Shallotte Middle School with CIS STEM-fest family night

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics – Oh my! That's what was heard throughout Shallotte Middle School when over five hundred parents, students, and family members came out for a Communities In Schools of Brunswick County (CIS) and SMS Family STEM-Fest in November. Participants learned how STEM concepts play an important role in our everyday lives and were able to perform experiments and tests using the science concepts. From Floating Pennies to Binary Wizards, students and parents became scientists and tested their theories to see first-hand how science works.



There were experiments of mass dispersion in how much weight from pennies an aluminum boat would hold before sinking or using dry ice and water bubbles to show density of two competing objects. There were 23 different STEM stations where parents and students received hands on experience with demonstrations and experiments.

CIS and SMS school staff were on hand working stations and teaching science lessons in a fun and memorable way. STEM based businesses

from the community also had demonstration tables to show how STEM makes a difference in their work and the environment we live in. Some examples of STEM stations for participants included: Brunswick County Early College "Girls that Code" and the Sea Perch Robot, Brunswick County High School Robotics, Duke Energy Plasma Ball, Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation Enviro Scape, 4H Youth Development Bottle Rockets, Cygnus Technologies Pipettes, Ingram Planetarium Pasta Challenge, UNCW STEM kits; Drops on a Penny, Floating Pennies, Ghost Bubbles, GAK, Brush Bots, Binary Wizard, Ping Pong Practice, Cartesian Divers, and Roller Coaster.



CIS and SMS provided each student/parent with a STEM passport to have checked off for each STEM station visited. Once the passport was filled by visiting and completing all of the stations, it became a "golden ticket". Students and parents were able to use the golden tickets to get hotdogs, popcorn, and ice cream sundaes as well as raffle prizes donated by Village Point United Methodist Church.

More pictures of STEM-fest Family Night can be viewed at the CIS Facebook page or by [clicking here](#).

### Gala Donor Spotlight

We want to thank our partner community organizations that support our Gala and our Action for Success Programs with grants and sponsorships.

**CORNING**  
Incorporated Foundation

  
**ORTON**  
FOUNDATION

### Recent Grant Awards

- CIS was awarded a grant from the International Paper Foundation to support the Word Warriors project providing independent reading books to students receiving tutoring through the CIS Action for Success Program.
- CIS was awarded a grant from the Landfall Foundation of Wilmington providing funds to work with at risk students served through the CIS Action for Success Program at Brunswick County middle schools.
- CIS received a donation from the Southport Lions Club for continuing the CIS mission of working with at-risk students served through the CIS Action for Success Program in Brunswick County middle schools.

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## The power of CIS Success Coaches to change student outcomes

The CIS mission is built on student success. Our mission is to “surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.” CIS Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program is a primary partner for providing opportunities and supporting student achievement and success in Brunswick County Schools.

CIS currently provides an Action for Success program in four Brunswick County middle schools and Waccamaw School by incorporating Success Coaches, community volunteers and club and business partnerships to support student achievement. CIS assists Brunswick County students through tutors, mentors, Teen and Peer Court programs, 21st Century Community Learning Center Afterschool programs, and parenting education, with a major focus on dropout prevention services.

The unique aspect of the CIS Action for Success program is the placement of CIS Success Coaches in each middle school and Waccamaw School for direct student assistance and intervention. Life circumstances create obstacles for students that often don't have the home and family support needed for educational success. CIS Success Coaches give students a consistent support person located right in their school every day.

Shyanne was a seventh grader at Cedar Grove Middle School, with a reputation for troublemaking and classroom disruption throughout the school. Her CIS Success Coach Whitney Franklin remembers her first involvement with Shyanne at school. “I had my first encounter with Shyanne two years ago during End of Grade testing. She scribbled all over her test and circled answers without reading. The sentence “I hate this test” was written all over her test booklet. I soon discovered this was a consistent behavior demonstrated during all Shyanne's testing sessions. Shyanne was also disrespectful daily to teachers, used bad language, and caused fights with her peers.” Ms. Franklin spoke with the principal at Cedar Grove to allow her to work individually with Shyanne for 45 minutes every day.

As Shyanne's CIS Success Coach, Ms. Franklin also met weekly with Shyanne's teachers and the school's administrative staff to discuss her progress, and see if any additional support was needed. Through CIS programs and Ms. Franklin's direct assistance Shyanne began listening and responding to things in a more positive way. With individual case management, Ms. Franklin was able to use CIS programming to work on anger management, conflict resolution, healthy choices and character building. Together Shyanne and her Success Coach set daily goals, worked on study skills and building of self-awareness.

The 2017-2018 school year will be Shyanne's final year of middle school. She finished last school year much improved and even graduated from the seventh grade with honors achieving the A/B honor roll. Shyanne feels much more excited about school now and learning new things to prepare her for the future. While sad to be leaving Ms. Franklin after this year, with her grades and behavior consistently improving Shyanne is planning on trying out for basketball, volleyball and track in high school. Shyanne has expressed how her goal in life is to work with students who are having difficulties in school and at home. She wants to support kids and students in education to give them a better future.

Jill Smith, a 7th grade teacher at Cedar Grove Middle, shared “Shyanne's behavior has improved tremendously. She is more conscientious about her grades and actions in the classroom. She really values the time spent with her CIS Success Coach.”

“Shyanne immediately latched on to me and was searching for support and a caring adult in her life. Working with Shyanne daily helped her to look at situations she had been in and taught her how to calm down and take deep breaths when frustrated or upset. Because of our working together on Shyanne's goals she was able to stay focused on her school work and didn't get involved in drama situations of her peers,” said Ms. Franklin, CIS Success Coach at Cedar Grove Middle School.

Without the help of her CIS Success Coach, teachers and community partners, Shyanne would still be struggling and on the road to certain failure in school. Today she is on track for academic, social and emotional success and is becoming kinder, more self-sufficient, and eager to assist struggling classmates.

The efforts of CIS making a difference in the lives of students and families are well documented. In the 2016-2017 school year, organization efforts resulted in more than 4,400 young people and families receiving services including academic tutoring, social enrichment, and evidence-based intervention services that reach far beyond the classroom.

If helping students succeed and preparing them for a strong future is important, then it is easy to join the many individuals, community organizations, and businesses that are CIS partners and regularly help change lives. To learn more about how you can get involved and change lives with CIS, please call our main office at (910) 832-3494.



*CIS Action for Success Middle School Success Coaches with  
Director of Middle School Programs (2nd from right)*

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## Thankful for CIS volunteers

For CIS, volunteers make all the difference, both in our school programs and our thrift shops. CIS volunteers give back tirelessly to the community through CIS and help students in Brunswick County to stay in school. It takes a special person to give their time and make a commitment to help struggling students. Community volunteers contribute to and support programs offered by CIS. Through CIS multi-tiered interventions, volunteers surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CIS was founded on the belief that "it's relationships, not programs that change children." The difference our volunteers make in the life of a child never goes unnoticed.



CIS is blessed to work with over 400 volunteers providing thousands of hours of support to our students and their families. Some work with students in tutoring and learning enrichment activities, while others donate food and supplies for student projects, events and celebrations. Lunch buddies offer a nurturing adult presence with an open ear and a caring heart. Adult and student volunteers assist with Teen and Peer Court activities. Board members and committee members provide leadership and direction in program development, fundraising, and events.

The four CIS Thrift Shops located in Boiling Spring Lakes, Leland, Southport, and Sunset Beach couldn't operate without the support of volunteers sorting, pricing donations, and helping customers. Volunteers give their time at CIS Thrift Shops for the sole purpose of helping Brunswick County students.

CIS currently provides an Action for Success program in four Brunswick County middle schools and Waccamaw School (K-8) by incorporating Success Coaches, community volunteers and club and business partnerships to support student achievement. CIS supports Brunswick County students through tutors, mentors, Teen and Peer Court programs, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Afterschool Programs, and parenting education, with a major focus on dropout prevention services. Without caring volunteers and community partners CIS could not meet the needs of the over 4,400 students we serve.

The good that CIS and volunteers do for students can be measured in improving test scores and grade promotion rates. The board and staff of CIS recognize and express our gratitude for every volunteer hour given to improve the lives of students in Brunswick County. Thank you for your continued investment in the success of Brunswick County students!

## CIS 2017 Gala a Success

The Supporting Student Success gala was November 2, at Sea Trail Resort and Conference Center in Sunset Beach. The evening was hosted by Jon Evans, WECT News Anchor, and included tasting of gourmet foods from our area's finest chefs, live and silent auctions, 50/50 raffle, and entertainment by the Blackwater Rhythm and Blues Band. Major sponsors of the event were Cygnus Technologies, Duke Energy, Corning Incorporated Foundation, Orton Foundation, and Mrs. Dinah E. Gore.

More than 200 attendees showed overwhelming support for Brunswick County students and CIS programs bidding on auction items, participating in the raffle, and making donations. Eighty-six cents of every dollar raised goes directly to student services, education and support. Last year CIS supported 4,400 students and families with your help. Thank you for making it a success!

## Little Princess Ball 2018 coming soon

The annual Little Princess Ball will be held Saturday, February 17, from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. It will be held in three locations at the Brunswick Center in Southport, the Brunswick Center at 101 Stone Chimney Place, and the Leland Cultural Arts Center. Join us for a special afternoon filled with dancing, face painting, games, and much more. The Little Princess Ball is open to girls in kindergarten through fifth grade accompanied by an adult male role model. Tickets are \$12 each and will go on sale at the CIS main office on January 16, 2018.



## Wishing you a joyous holiday season of friends, family and blessings!



For current CIS of Brunswick County happenings, visit [www.cisbrunswick.org](http://www.cisbrunswick.org)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? Email us at [tbeane@cisbrunswick.org](mailto:tbeane@cisbrunswick.org) or 910-832-3494

**Please consider CIS in your end of the year giving. Your tax deductible donation is truly appreciated and will support CIS as we continue to provide services for Brunswick County students.**