

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

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

## CIS News: Summer 2017



Communities  
In Schools

Brunswick County

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**Staff Spotlight**

**Mallory Wells**

Mallory Wells is the Director of Middle School Programs. She is completing her second year at CIS of Brunswick County. However, she has been with CIS since 2007; working as an intern in Pitt County, then as Site Coordinator for CIS of Cape Fear from 2008-2015. Mallory graduated with a BS degree from ECU in Family and Community Services with a concentration in Education.

As Director of Middle School Programs, Mallory oversees the Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program, Peer Court Program, and 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs. She manages operation of programs to ensure standards are met and provides support and professional development to CIS staff working in middle school programs. Mallory also delivers volunteer training for CIS as well as Brunswick County School volunteers.

"I love working with the staff to ensure that their students are meeting and exceeding personal and academic goals," said Mallory. "The excitement and joy on a child's face when they reach a goal is the best reason for doing what I do every day."

In her free time, Mallory loves spending time with husband, Tyler and daughter, Jordyn, and friends. They love boating as a family and exploring new adventures.

### Look who's talking:

CIS helped me with a tutor,  
now my social studies grade  
is a B and I'm doing better in  
other classes too!

- CIS student

We couldn't begin to fill the  
void if we lost our CIS  
Success Coach. CIS does so  
much for our students.

- Bryan Tunstall,  
SBMS Asst. Principal

Parenting class is definitely  
an asset to residents and  
deserves so much praise. I  
am so thankful for this class!

- Parent Education  
Program participant

### CIS Action for Success building strong foundations at Waccamaw



*Friends of Rachel club at  
Waccamaw School*

Forming partnerships and helping students toward success describes the 2016-2017 school year for the CIS Action for Success program at Waccamaw School. In CIS's first year at the school, Success Coach Amber Malave built solid foundations for a CIS dropout prevention program at the school. As part of CIS's Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program, Malave is embedded full-time with the Waccamaw school team managing a growing caseload of students. Malave started her year by providing classroom presentations about healthy habits, violence, and respect. These early student interactions helped the program form roots and build trust with school staff and students.

Five evidence-based, weekly programs started at Waccamaw this year through Malave and CIS. Programs introduced through CIS Action for Success include WhyTry, Mind-Up, Social Thinking, Inside Out, and Mobymax. CIS served an average of 55 students per week and hosted a minimum of one service daily. CIS after school tutoring provided assistance and guidance to 15 students twice a week throughout the school year. A CIS tutor provided in-school academic support serving 10 students per week. The interactive computer-based tutoring program Mobymax helped 58 students with individual academic support at school and at home. CIS Peer Court behavioral intervention program recruited 23 student volunteers and 10 adult volunteers. Waccamaw's Friends of Rachel Club kicked off with an average of 10 members meeting for one-hour afterschool one day per week.

CIS Action for Success program also provided school supplies to students in need (serving over 100 students), clothing (five families), and books to promote summer reading (23 students). CIS provided individualized evidence-based intervention services to 66 students in the 2016-2017 school year. These services were adapted to the needs of each student. CIS collaborated with Waccamaw staff, providing educational opportunities and services that included field trips, class presentations, resource referrals, positive behavior interventions and supports (PBIS), promoting a positive school environment, volunteer recruitment, and student advocacy. The CIS Action for Success program at Waccamaw has blossomed and continues to grow. CIS Success Coach Malave's goals for next school year are to increase volunteers, expand tutoring groups, and continue to run evidence-based programs to assist even more students with needed support, empowering them to be successful in their continued education.



*Waccamaw second graders using  
Mobymax computer program*

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## One year later: CIS Thrift Shop still serving Leland community

Communities In Schools of Brunswick County opened a new thrift shop at the Village Plaza in Leland last summer. CIS expanded thrift shop operations to offer a donation and purchase destination for Brunswick County's northernmost customers and to support current shops' ability to raise funds to support CIS programs in schools.

"The opening of a CIS Thrift Shop in Leland was in direct response to customer demand and being able to offer the community increased low-priced, high quality merchandise," said Bonnie Jordan, CIS Executive Director. CIS provides an Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program in five Brunswick County middle schools and incorporates community volunteers to support student achievement. CIS also provides community Parenting Education Programs, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center afterschool programs, and Teen and Peer Court through partnerships with Brunswick County Schools and the Brunswick County District Attorney's Office.



The Leland CIS Thrift Shop is located at 117-I Village Road, beside Leland Family Dentistry in the Village Plaza shopping center. The shop opened for business last July offering a sales floor space of more than 2,200 square feet. Hours are Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The shop's anniversary celebration will begin on July 6 and run until July 12 with special sales each day throughout the shop. The one-year celebration event will be Saturday, July 8 with 2 Bros. Coastal Cuisine food truck, a visit by Leland Fire Department trucks and equipment, and afternoon cupcakes for customers while supplies last. "The growth of our thrift shops with a Leland location help to support our Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program, recently expanded to all middle schools in Brunswick County and services offered in schools around the county," said Jordan.

Special thanks to the community volunteers who have embraced the new shop, volunteering and donating items. Volunteers continue to lend support as the shop grows. The shop is recruiting more volunteers to help with sorting donations, customer service, and retail assistance; as well as volunteers with trucks or SUVs needed to help pick up donations in the Leland area.



CIS operates three other thrift shops in Brunswick County – the Boiling Spring Lakes CIS Thrift Shop, Southport CIS Thrift Shop, and Sunset Beach CIS Thrift Shop. To volunteer or for more information on CIS Thrift Shops please visit [www.cisbrunswick.org/cis-thrift-shops](http://www.cisbrunswick.org/cis-thrift-shops) or call the CIS office at 910-457-3494.



## Donate to CIS through PayPal and change a life



Did you know that you can now donate to CIS of Brunswick County directly and safely through PayPal? You can donate any amount you designate. It's as easy as a few clicks of a mouse and you can change a child's future. Act now and donate today by clicking the PayPal logo on the left or clicking [here](#).



## Stay connected with CIS on social media

Keep up with CIS activities and events by following us through our social media outlets. You can see thrift shop inventory updates, program and volunteer pictures on our Facebook pages; follow activities and events through our Twitter feed; and see images of our programs, thrift shops, and activities on our Instagram feed. Click the icons below to access our social media channels. Get social and stay connected with CIS of Brunswick County!



CIS page



CIS Thrift Shop page



CIS Twitter



CIS Instagram

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## Peer Court and Teen Court offering juveniles a “second chance”



*Brunswick County Teen Court session*

Fewer Brunswick County students are dropping out of school today. In 2014-2015, the Brunswick County dropout rate was 3.82% and in 2015-2016, it had dropped to 3.28%. This is good news for students in our community as staying in school and graduating gives Brunswick County students the best chance for success. When students succeed, our communities succeed. The lower dropout rate is a result of many factors. One of those contributing factors are CIS programs that intervene with at-risk students. More specifically, CIS Peer Court and Teen Court programs directly affect students' futures and reduce county court costs in the process.



*Mentor and students preparing for a case*

The CIS Peer Court program operates in all five Brunswick County middle schools, serving first time middle school offenders and offering volunteer opportunities for students to learn about the judicial system. Peer Court is funded by CIS and support from Brunswick County Schools. Teen Court provides the same services and opportunities to high school students. Teen Court is a partnership between CIS and the Brunswick County District Attorney's Office, made possible through financial support provided by the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, CIS and Brunswick County. Both programs are diversion programs allowing offenders to take responsibility for their offense, have their case heard by a jury of peers, and complete a constructive sentence. This allows youth to avoid a juvenile record if they successfully complete their sentencing requirements. Both programs are highly effective with very few juveniles reoffending within one year of completing their sentencing requirements. Last year the recidivism rate for Teen Court was 4.2% and 11.8% for Peer Court.

"The Teen Court program is one of the very best things that we do in the criminal justice system," said Brunswick County District Attorney Jon David. "Simultaneously, we are able to give consequences to behavior while also providing a teaching moment to our youth. I cannot say enough about the collaborative relationship between the District Attorney's office and CIS."

Peer Court and Teen Court provide a “hands on” educational experience for student volunteers in an effort to help them better understand our system of justice. Student volunteers serve as attorneys, jurors, bailiffs and clerks in real cases involving first-time juvenile offenders. Students are mentored in legal procedures by adult volunteers from the community who have legal backgrounds as well as local attorneys and judges who volunteer their time to hear cases. Both programs show the powerful impact of partnerships: with members of the legal system, a local non-profit, and the community successfully coming together to have a positive effect on local youth.



*Peer Court session at Leland Middle School*

Many partners work with CIS and the Brunswick County District Attorney's office to make these programs successful. Area attorneys, District Attorneys, judges and retired individuals from the legal profession and law enforcement assist to make Peer Court and Teen Court a success. Kiwanis Clubs from North Brunswick and Southport-Oak Island also provide countless volunteer hours with students helping to prepare cases and mentoring students in taking on roles as defense attorneys and prosecuting attorneys in presenting cases for trials in Peer Court and Teen Court.



Caleb, an eighth grade volunteer student attorney from Shallotte Middle School says, "Peer Court is an amazing experience that allows kids to experience the legal world. Because of what Peer Court has helped me learn, I plan to become a lawyer. Peer Court allowed me to see how lawyers work and do trials. A Peer Court trial is nothing short of amazing."

Evidence indicates that not only do young people stay out of trouble following their court appearance, but the program also saves thousands of dollars in taxpayer court costs by diverting cases away from the county court system. In 2015-2016, the use of CIS Peer Court and Teen Court saved Brunswick County juvenile courts more than \$184,000.

If you have questions about CIS Peer Court or Teen Court, would like to reserve a seat to observe the next session, or want to volunteer, please contact Jamie Duesing, Teen Court Director at 253-4087 or [teen.court@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:teen.court@brunswickcountync.gov). You can also learn more about Peer Court and Teen Court by visiting the CIS website [www.cisbrunswick.org](http://www.cisbrunswick.org).

# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## Volunteer Spotlight



Jane Petrole CIS  
volunteer at South  
Brunswick Middle School

**1. Tell us about your volunteer work with CIS.** I volunteer as a mentor at South Brunswick Middle School with a student named Chris, to encourage attending class and be there for him. We have met weekly for 2 years.

**2. What is your favorite thing about CIS?** The staff at SBMS are so friendly and working with Calie, CIS Success Coach. But my favorite thing is getting to spend time with Chris.

**3. What is your favorite thing to do in Brunswick County?** I enjoy walking on the beach. I feel very blessed to live in such a beautiful place.

**4. What inspires you to continue giving back to CIS and the students of Brunswick County?** I truly enjoy my time spent with Chris. He has a great sense of humor, is open, friendly, and respectful.

**5. Tell us one of your most rewarding experiences as a CIS volunteer.** Chris's attendance has improved dramatically. I love watching him thrive as a person and a student.



Henri,  
Sunset Beach CIS  
Thrift Shop volunteer

**1. Tell us about your volunteer work with CIS.** I volunteer Wednesdays at the Sunset Beach CIS Thrift Shop. I process donations and hang clothing to go out on the sales floor.

**2. What is your favorite thing about CIS?** The fact that CIS supports students that may fall through the cracks if the organization was not here.

**3. What is your favorite thing to do in Brunswick County?** I love going to the beach, sipping a martini and enjoying the ocean's beauty and peacefulness.

**4. What inspires you to continue giving back to CIS and the students of Brunswick County?** Being in my 90s, I have always been taught to leave the world better than you found it. This organization gives me the chance to have a positive influence and help change the lives of so many. CIS is a great organization.

**5. Tell us one of your most rewarding experiences as a CIS volunteer.** Volunteering in the thrift shop has allowed me to meet new people that have become life-long friends.

## CIS 21st Century Community Learning Centers summer camp



21st CCLC  
Summer Camp 2016

The CIS 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) 2016-2017 after school programs are gearing up for summer camp and will be offering many exciting activities for middle school students. The summer camp program provides students with a safe, supportive and enriched learning environment where they can participate in STEM projects to help understand mathematical and scientific concepts, engage in team building, explore arts and education projects, and enjoy recreational field trips.

"Summer camp is a great time for pre-teens to experience learning in a well-thought-out atmosphere that fosters working together, making choices and taking responsibility, developing creative skills, while boosting their self-confidence. Our educational and recreational field

trips expose children to life outside their community and open their minds to think more globally," said Joann Shanley, Program Director of 21st CCLC.

The 21st CCLC summer camp program is FREE and students will receive bus transportation to and from home. The summer camp takes place at Cedar Grove Middle School and Shallotte Middle School and started June 19, continuing through July 27, 2017. The summer camp program operates Monday – Thursday from 9:00 am – 3:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact:

Vincent Marino, Site Coordinator, Shallotte Middle School – 910.712.0745;  
Gigi Kenna, Site Coordinator, Cedar Grove Middle School – 910.712.0816,  
or Joann Shanley, Program Director at 910.253.5327 ext. 1516 and [jshanley@cisbrunswick.org](mailto:jshanley@cisbrunswick.org).



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 910-457-3494