

# 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: Winter 2016



Communities In Schools

Brunswick County

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## Happy Holidays from CIS!



### CIS 2016 Gala a Success



Dinah Gore dances the Viennese Waltz with Paul McTaggart.

This year's annual benefit gala for children was held October 27, 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 provided by our area's finest chefs, a Live Auction, 50/50 raffle, and entertainment by the Blackwater Rhythm and Blues Band. The band's Gala performance was sponsored by Gene and Rebecca Steadman.

Major sponsors of the event were Cygnus Technologies, Duke Energy, Crow Creek Golf Associations, and Mrs. Dinah E. Gore. This is CIS's biggest fundraiser of the year to raise support for our programs in Brunswick County.

More than 350 attendees showed overwhelming support for Brunswick County students and CIS programs through bidding on live and silent auction items, participating in the 50/50 raffle, and donations. CIS currently provides an Action for Success program in five middle schools incorporating Success Coaches, community volunteers and club and business partnerships to support student achievement. CIS supported 3,500 Brunswick County students last year through tutors, mentors, Teen and Peer Court programs, school/business partnerships, academic scholarships and parenting education, with a major focus on dropout prevention services. Eighty-eight cents of every dollar raised goes directly toward services, education and support. Thank you to our volunteers, donors, attendees, and supporters!



### Gala Donor Spotlight

We want to thank Joan Madsen for assisting and securing the Southport Rotary Gala donation. The donation came in after program print date.



Thank you also to the Southport Lions Club for donating to CIS supporting our mission and programs.



### CIS receives Landfall Foundation grant

CIS received a grant from the Landfall Foundation of Wilmington, NC. The grant will provide funds for tutors and counselors to work with at risk students served through the CIS Action for Success Program at five Brunswick County middle schools. Recognized as the most effective dropout prevention program in the nation, the CIS Action for Success Program follows best practices of the national CIS Model, providing students with one-on-one relationships with caring adults to help remove barriers to learning.



Last year, a Landfall Foundation grant enabled CIS to utilize tutoring money to aid students in increasing reading and math proficiency, and 85% of the students who received support improved skills in these core subject areas. Counselors also worked with students needing to improve negative behaviors so they could focus on learning and decrease disruption in the classroom. Of those provided with counseling, 84% showed improvement in behavior at school.

This is the 21st year Landfall Foundation has been awarding grants to organizations in the community. Since its inception in September 1995, the Landfall Foundation has raised and distributed \$3.4 million to support local non-profits. Support from the Landfall Foundation has been instrumental in supporting student success in Brunswick County for the past several years.



# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## Program Spotlight: 21st Century Community Learning Center Afterschool Program Cedar Grove Middle School

The CIS site coordinator and staff at CGMS met with teaching staff to identify ways the CIS 21st CCLC program could assist the teachers and support their work with students in the classroom.

### HOMEWORK

Teachers provide 21cclc with students' weekly homework assignment sheets, copies of students assignment booklets, the web location for their pacing guides and include 21cclc in parent REMIND messages. A new incentive program promotes good study habits and behavior. Students earn one ticket for each session when they adhere to a list of standards developed to promote good study and behavior habits. A HOMEWORK SHEET was created, divided into five sections for each day of the week. Students write down daily homework assignments, teachers initial that the homework assignment is written correctly, teachers initial that student homework is completed/handed in and CIS staff initial if help was given by CIS. Students who return a completed sheet to CIS the following Monday receive an additional ticket. There are different reward levels and students can earn tickets daily.

Subject	Homework Assignment	teacher initials	teacher initials work completed	CIS staff initials
ELA				
Math				
Science				
Social Studies				
Elective 1				
Elective 2				

### GRADE GRAPH

Each student has a personal grade graph divided into 4 sections, one for each nine weeks. The table starts at grade 100 and goes down to 50, the lowest grade given on a report card. Each student designates a HAPPY ZONE, where they want their grades to be and a NO ZONE, where they don't want their grades to be. The HAPPY ZONE is green and the NO ZONE is red. Students mark their grades each time they receive report cards and draw lines to graph how they are progressing. This teaches graphing and shows them if grades have improved or declined. Students also set grade goals for the next nine weeks and are rewarded for each goal reached.

### STEM

Using Brunswick County School pacing guides, STEM activities were created for each grade. Topics include metrics, graphing, plant and animal cells, and the periodic table. Students will also work on robotics in teams to put a robot together using LEGO Education EV3Core and comprehensive Solutions packs to perform a variety of activities. This stimulates learning by having students solve relatable challenges. A learning-by-doing approach boosts learning and helps students reach curriculum targets.

### ACADEMICS

CIS staff met with the CGMS Principal to discuss the computer learning activities he wanted CIS to concentrate on. The school is moving from The Study Island program to the PLATO Courseware. In the past, CIS used PLATO Courseware so this shift will provide continuity for students. An individual account is set up for each student. Once they've completed testing they're given a prescription, which includes activities to help them master skills needed to reach their current grade level.

### ART

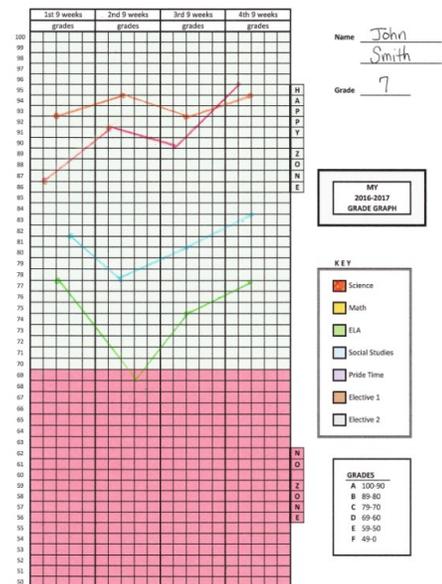
CIS is fortunate to be able to use the school's art room and partner with the school's art program to use the school's kiln, which will allow the students to create ceramic pieces. Students are currently working on creating a personal Zentangle image. When complete, they will frame and wrap it to give to someone or keep as their own.

### CREATIVE WRITING

Students are working on writing skills and reading and reading comprehension activities, adding endings to pre-written story worksheets to spark creative thinking. CIS organized a student newsletter staff and researched story ideas. Students have interviewed staff members and hope to have their first newsletter ready for distribution by report card day.

### COASTAL HORIZONS

Coastal Horizons visits once a week to help students with social skills, teamwork, leadership, discipline and problem-solving.



# Communities In Schools of Brunswick County

## Volunteer Spotlight



**Beth Strickland,**  
So. Brunswick Middle School  
CIS volunteer

**1. What influenced your decision to work with CIS?**

I enjoy working with teens and CIS is the only organization in the area serving those students.

**2. What would you like to be remembered for?**

The positive impact I make on people's lives. I don't need to be remembered as long as the positive impact is made.

**3. Tell us something that might surprise us about you.**

I am the person you want on your trivia team (just not sports).

**4. What advice do you have for kids who are struggling in school?**

Ask questions and ask for help. If you don't understand, someone else probably doesn't either. Don't be afraid to be yourself. It's the bravest thing you can do and it will inspire others.

**5. What is your favorite thing about working with CIS?**

I love working with and fostering relationships with students. I've worked with some for two years, and it's great to look and see how far we've come.



**Donna Cowan,** Leland  
CIS Thrift Shop volunteer

**1. What influenced your decision to work with CIS?**

I wanted to give back to the community.

**2. What would you like to be remembered for?**

That I gave as much as I could and enjoyed life the best I could.

**3. Tell us something that might surprise us about you.**

I worked for a building products company and rose to Tax Administrator in the corporate tax department. I was selected for the company's president's award for outstanding work in cost savings.

**4. What advice do you have for kids who are struggling in school?**

Set goals and continue to work toward them. Don't give up. There are many different avenues to success!

**5. What is your favorite thing about working with CIS?**

I love working with the friendly staff and the ability to give back to the community through volunteering. There is no better use of time than to invest in our young people.

## CIS Thrift Shops holiday open houses scheduled

This holiday season plan to come by one of our thrift shops and experience holiday magic of the season! Each shop is beautifully decorated to showcase holiday inventory. For your shopping convenience we will have extended hours Thursdays and Fridays starting November 25 - December 23. Shops will stay open until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays.

### OPEN HOUSE DATES

Dec. 5: Leland CIS Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
117-I Village Rd, Leland, 910-769-6956

Dec. 6: Boiling Spring Lakes CIS Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
3000 George II Highway, Boiling Spring Lakes, 910-845-3555

Dec. 7: Southport CIS Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
1635 N. Howe Street, Southport, 910-457-7008

Dec. 8: Sunset Beach CIS Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
1780-8 Chandlers Lane, Sunset Beach, 910-579-2300

Extended holiday hours  
for your shopping convenience:

Thursdays and Fridays (through Dec. 23)  
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.



## Notable

CIS will be participating in the St. James Service Club Celebrate the Holidays Festival. During the festival on Wednesday, Dec. 7 from 2 - 5 p.m. there will be a CIS information table located in the St. James Community Center. Stop by and say hello!

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



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.

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