August 2026 Newsletter

Communities In Schools®
Brunswick County

Although school ended for the summer at the end of May, our staff remained hard at work! From preparing year end reporting of program outcomes, to planning our Stuff the Bus event and other back-to-school supply drives with community partners, to planning and hosting mini summer camp experiences for elementary students, our Success Coaches were busy throughout June supporting students and families!

For too many of our students, summer can be a time of social isolation, learning loss, and food insecurity. Linking families with needed resources, providing reading books and educational games for students to have at home, and providing time to stay connected with our staff through our summer camp experience helps support student well-being and helps them remain connected to their community.
Our administrative team is at work throughout the summer months as well, planning for the next school year to begin in August, evaluating all elements of our programming and making adjustments to enhance student outcomes, planning staff trainings and shared planning time, preparing year end outcome reports to the school district and other stakeholders, and strengthening existing partnerships to provide greater breadth and depth to our student supports and interventions.

As we prepare to welcome students back at the end of August for another new school year, CIS will need community volunteers to serve as mentors and tutors for the students served through our Action for Success Dropout Prevention Program. Through our partnership with caring community members, we can reach more students, meet more needs, and connect more resources to students. Being a positive role model is something anyone can do. It does not require a college degree or any special training. It just takes a caring heart and a willingness to dedicate 1 hour each week to spend a lunch period with a student and lend a listening ear to support their hopes, dreams, and listen to their thoughts. This role is particularly important for students who do not have a strong support system at home.

Serving as a volunteer tutor is another way to help students as they work to attain their academic goals. One to two hours weekly to sit with one or more students to aid them by reinforcing Math or Reading concepts learned in the classroom, practice reading or spelling, prepare for a test, or complete a missed homework assignment, goes a long way to helping students keep pace with his or her peers in the classroom, build self-confidence, and remain committed to attending school regularly. If you can help, or know others who can, please reach out to our Program Operations Officer, Mallory Wells, at mwells@cisbrunswick.org or at (910) 351-8007. Our volunteers frequently tell us they believe they benefit as much, or more, from the experience than the students do. Help us build bright futures for students throughout your community. The few hours it takes will have a lasting impact on these students and the experience is guaranteed to brighten your day.

We look forward to the 2026/2027 school year and the privilege of working once again with the amazing students who attend Brunswick County Schools!

Bernie Jordan

Executive Director

Summer Camp Fun!

Through the generosity of a grant from the St James Service Club in Southport, CIS hosted a series of mini summer camps in June for students attending the elementary schools served by our Action for Success Program: Jessie Mae Monroe, Supply, Bolivia, and Virginia Williamson. Camps were held at Town Creek Park in Winnabow and Shallotte District Park in Shallotte. Activities included lunch, crafts, games, face painting, tie dying, and STEM projects enjoyed by students and their families. Everyone reported having a wonderful time and parents and guardians appreciated the cost-free summer camp experience for their children. Our staff were thrilled to be able to stay connected with the students they work with during the school year through the summer camp sessions. It was a win/win for all!

Compass Pointe Community 8th Annual Back to School Bash

Sunday July 19th was a hot but busy day at the lanai at the Compass Pointe community in Leland as they held their 8th annual Back to School Bash to benefit CIS. What began 8 years ago as a small neighborhood gathering in a cul-de-sac in Compass Pointe has evolved into an annual event with a live band, food trucks, a car show, and more. This amazing community collected and donated 1,644 backpacks, 6,907 school supply items, and over $2,500 in monetary contributions! Event Coordinators Judy Hogan and Kathy McEvoy outdid themselves once again this year! We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the Compass Pointe residents year after year. They make a significant impact in their community and help so many students start each new school year ready to learn and grow!

Give Back to CIS

Brunswick Beer and Cider
11% Campaign to Benefit CIS

Stop by Brunswick Beer and Cider in Leland during the month of August, purchase a Hefeweizen, and CIS will receive 11% of the sale amount. Please drink responsibly, remember to use a designated driver, and help support CIS and our student-centered programs.

Harris Teeter
Neighborhood Food & Pharmacy

Your Harris Teeter Round Up to Support Communities In Schools

This summer, when you shop at Harris Teeter, please ask at the checkout to round up your purchase to support Communities In Schools. Harris Teeter in Leland is a participating partner in this campaign. Your support will help us continue meeting the needs of students from your community this coming school year!

Back to School

Help CIS of Brunswick County Stuff the Bus for Brunswick County Students!

August 10th & 11th - 10 AM - 4 PM
Leland, Shallotte, & Southport Walmart Locations

Supplies Needed:

Pencil Box	Wired Headphones	2" Binders
Pencil Pouch	Paper	3" Binders
Dry Erase Markers	Glue	#2 Pencils
Highlighters	Folders	Dividers
Composition Books	Scissors	Post-its
Colored Pencils	Erasers	Notebooks
Crayons	Ink Pens	Bookbags

Communities In Schools®
Brunswick County

For more information:
www.cisbrunswick.org

Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive

Our annual Stuff the Bus collection of backpacks and school supplies to benefit all Brunswick County schools, will take place August 10 and 11 at each Brunswick County Wal Mart location: Leland, Southport, and Shallotte. Look for the big, yellow Brunswick County Schools bus and stop by our tent to see our staff and pick up a list of needed school supplies. Shop at Wal Mart and donate the items purchased on your way out of the store to help us "stuff the bus" for student success this school year! Monetary donations will also be accepted at each location.

If you have a topic, you would like us to address in an upcoming newsletter, please send your questions or suggestions to bjordan@cisbrunswick.org so we can ensure our newsletter keeps you informed about what matters most to you, our valued community members. Enjoy the remainder of your summer and look for our September newsletter when we will share more updates about what's ahead for the 2026/2027 school year and ways that you can get involved in helping local students!

Communities In Schools®
Brunswick County

Visit our website to learn more:
CISBRUNSWICK.ORG