



Pulaski County Schools

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Focus on Hawkinsville High School...

Rosemary Wright, Principal

Learning for a Lifetime

Special points of interest:

- * Please visit our website: www.pulaski.k12.ga.us for more information about student achievement and announcements from each school, as well as an electronic copy of this newsletter. The 2010-11 school calendar is also available on the website. We are working hard to make our website more user friendly. If you have any questions about it, please let us know.
- * Parents for students in grades 4-12, don't forget about I-Parent! If you have questions about using I-Parent, please call the appropriate school.
- * Coming soon: Partners in Education!

The year has started off great at Hawkinsville High School. We have lots of new faces and some new programs. We even have some old faces in new positions. The main reason for all of the change is because the high school received a school improvement grant over the summer. With this grant we will have access to 2.5 million dollars over the next three years. This money has enabled us to hire two academic coaches, one for literacy and one for mathematics; an additional counselor, who will also serve as our parent liaison; an extra math teacher; and a person to help our students transition into high school from middle school and continue on until they graduate from high school with a post-secondary plan.

Another service we are going to be able to offer is for the school's computer lab and the media center to be open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. This will begin in October and last from 6:00pm until 8:30pm. Students and parents will have the opportunity to use the computers and any references available at the school during evening hours. For students this could be extra time on a credit recovery course,

using the computers to work on a project, or to complete a classroom assignment. Parents can use the extended learning time to help their students or use the computers for I-Parent and communicating with teachers via e-mail.

Some of the other activities going on at the high school involve our athletic teams. We have students representing us in cross country, softball, and football. Competition cheerleading started Sept. 25.

Homecoming, October 8th, is just right around the corner. The queen will be crowned during half time of the HHS vs. Chattahoochee County football game. The presentation of the court, football lead-out, and the dance will start at 8:00 on Saturday night.

Each year Collegeboard recognizes students who have taken three or more Advanced Placement Exams during their high school career and scored three or higher. A score of three, four, or five enables the student to receive college credit for the courses taken in high school. This year we would like to recognize Kyle Hollomon as an AP Scholar. Kyle took

AP US History, AP English, and AP Government. Congratulations, Kyle!

Another group of students and teachers is busily preparing for our One-Act Play. Mrs. Amanda Coody and Mrs. Kelli Green held auditions and chose 20 students as cast and crew members. They are rehearsing and making props for their production of "Play the Hand That's Dealt." The play cast will compete in region competition on November 3rd at the Rilander Theater in Americus. **Go Big Red !!**

OOPS!

Last month some folks were left off the list of new faces at HHS. Teachers new to HHS include Ronnie Vivas, Spanish; Jack Gaston, math; Charles Trumbo, agriculture; Tracy Mays, ISS; and Dr. Skip McDannald, human anatomy and physiology. Dr. McDannald is **volunteering** to teach this class for the 2010-11 school year! Many thanks, Dr. McDannald! Christa Nelson has transferred to HHS as Transition Specialist and Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Coach. Also, Sherry Sinyard transferred from PCMS teacher to PCMS/HHS Media Specialist.



WAY TO GO, LADY RED DEVILS!



Front row, L-R: Olivia Daniell, Kelli Long, Ansley Holland, Bryce Thompson, Miranda Fowler, Kaitlin Sutherland, Skylar Fisler Back row, L-R: Coach Brian Simmons, Brianna Simmons, Sarah Williams, Madison Hulett, Emily Williamson, Raven Dollar, Niki Jackson, Michelle Simmons, Harley Hattaway, Booster Club President Eddie McDaniel, Coach Dale Jones, Not pictured: Coach Jennifer Britt

Staci Vickers, Asst. Principal, PCMS

Pulaski County Middle School's softball team has had a tremendous season. They have set a record for the most wins in a season since PCMS Fast Pitch began. They were undefeated in their region games as they went into the championship game on Saturday, September 25. They are Region Runner Up! Out of the nine games they played this season, they scored 68 runs and only gave up 18 runs. The team batting average is .336 with the leading hitter being Harley Hattaway with a batting average of .619. Pitcher Niki Jackson ended the season by having 82 strike-outs and only 26 walks. All of these young ladies have practiced hard and it has paid off.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2009-2010

Student achievement for the 2009-10 school term improved in most areas from the previous year. Two of our schools, Pulaski County Elementary and Hawkinsville High, made adequate yearly progress (AYP). At PCES, 72% of third through fifth graders passed the CRCT math test; 85.5% passed the reading/English language arts tests. At PCMS, 71.4% of sixth through eighth graders passed the CRCT math test; 90.0% passed the reading/English language arts tests. PCMS did not make AYP this year because two of their subgroups did not have the required percentage of students passing in math and one of the subgroups did not have the required passing percentage in reading/English language arts. At HHS, 73% of the eleventh graders made the enhanced score required for AYP in math; in English language arts, 92% made the enhanced score. For the district, one of the subgroups did not meet the required passing percentage on the CRCT in both math and reading/English language arts; therefore, the district did not make AYP.

Fifth grade math, sixth grade social studies, and eighth grade reading passing scores percentage exceeded the state; third grade reading percentage was the same as the state. Our goal is to meet or exceed the state in all areas.

Overall, Pulaski scores improved on 28 out of 44 indicators of achievement. The average percentage point increase in those indicators was 5. For the sixteen areas where there was a decrease in the average passing rate, the average percentage point decrease was 3. Social studies and science continue to be areas in which our students generally do not score as well as in reading, English language arts, and math. Teachers are addressing the issue through increased interdisciplinary instruction. Individual test data is being used this school term to address areas of skill deficiencies throughout the system. The 21st Century Learning Center's after school program is designed around providing individual help to students in skills they have not yet mastered and in helping them with any problems they are encountering in their current classes.

The Report Card for the district will be on our website within the next two weeks and will include student achievement information used to determine whether schools and the district made Adequate Yearly Progress. If you have any questions about student achievement or about the testing program for Pulaski County students, please call Mrs. Jane D. Williams at the BOE office.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Mrs. Majie Bentley. Mrs. Bentley was chosen to serve on State Superintendent Brad Bryant's Parent Advisory Council for 2010-11. Thank you for your willingness to serve, Mrs. Bentley!

You are always welcome in our schools. For the safety of our students, all visitors must report first to the front office and register with the secretary.