



## Hickory Public Schools

# Week in Review

March 3, 2017

*“A snapshot of HPS good news”*



## HPS Announces New Head Football Coach



There's something to be said when a high school football coach, over the course of the years, sends nearly 300 athletes to play on the college level. That's surely the result of building a solid foundation for football programs, as led by M. "Russell" Stone, Jr., the newly selected head football coach for Hickory High School.

Stone's selection was unanimously approved on Monday night, February, 27, 2017, by the Hickory Public Schools Board of Education. A reception to welcome Coach Stone is scheduled for this Thursday evening, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Hickory High School, starting at 6:30 PM. The entire community is invited to attend. Stone's first day on the job at HHS begins March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the following morning.

Wisdom comes through experience and after 38 years in the classroom, 62 year-old Coach Stone is ready to bring his knowledge to Hickory High. "God has been good to me," said Stone. "My wife and I are embracing this exciting move to Hickory."

"I enjoy working with all players and getting to know their families. I want to be a face in their lives—from front lawn chats to dedicating extra time in helping the players build upon their strengths.

"It's really about building a foundation, said Stone. "I coach from a positive perspective—engaging all players, including those who've made mistakes. Changing lives, creating positive environments—it's important the players want to be better athletes, smarter athletes—better people all around—for themselves and for their team."

For full story, click [here](#).



**Colorful art placed in the halls of the HPS Admin Building! Art was completed by the students at Viewmont Elementary (art teacher, Denise Knowles, seen here displaying the artwork).**



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# HPS Announces Associate Head Football Coach

Hickory Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved the selection of Justin Harper as the new Associate Head Football Coach for Hickory High School.

Reporting to the new Head Football Coach of Hickory High, Coach Russell Stone, Harper will begin his duties at Hickory High, effective Friday, March 3, 2017.

Raised in Catawba County, Harper is a 2003 graduate of Bandys High School where he played four sports including football, basketball, baseball and track.

"I never played football until the eighth grade," said Harper, "but playing at Bandys with Coach Randy Lowman gave me the opportunity to excel and build my confidence. It really wasn't until my senior year that my skills began to surface. I am thankful to Coach Lowman for his steadfast dedication in working with me, helping to guide my course for collegiate and professional football."

Upon graduation from Bandys, Harper attended Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia, and soon thereafter, he received a full scholarship to play football for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, known as Virginia Tech.

A successful four years at VT propelled Harper for draft with the National Football League as a wide receiver with the Baltimore Ravens. He played with the team from 2008-2011. Following his term with the NFL, Harper played with the Canadian Football League—playing wide receiver for the Saskatchewan Roughriders (2012) and the British Columbia Lions (2013).

For more of the story, click [here](#).



## Earning National Board Certification

A reporter with the Hickory Daily Record recently interviewed **Peter Rothenberger** at Longview Elementary and **Jeanne Turner-Simms** at Hickory High about the benefits of earning National Board Certification. Rothenberger serves as a 4th grade teacher and Turner-Simms is a school counselor. Watch for an upcoming article featuring both educators.

Earning National Board Certification does not come easily. Now more than ever, teachers must prove themselves in a constantly changing education landscape. Board certification allows teachers to hone their practice, showcase their talent in the classroom, and demonstrate their dedication to their students and their profession.

Among the 112,000 teachers in the nation who have earned this impressive certification, twenty-three teachers have achieved the certification here at Hickory Public Schools.

North Carolina has more National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) than any state in the nation, with 20,873.



North Carolina offers statewide support for teachers interested in pursuing National Board Certification as a result of legislation adopted in 1994 and enhanced via the Excellent Schools Act in 1997. NBCTs move to a new salary schedule upon achieving National Board Certification, resulting with a 12-percent salary increase.



## Welcome Reception @ HHS for New Football Coaches!

(L-R) Athletic Director, Coach David Craft, Superintendent, Dr. Robbie Adell, Head Football Coach, Russell Stone, Associate Head Football Coach, Justin Harper, HHS Principal, Katherine Cater, HHS Athletic Boosters President, Guy Guarino.

Thanks to the Athletic Boosters for the wonderful décor and refreshments—as well as all community sponsors!

### W.I.N. Program at Northview

“What I Need” will soon be featured in the Hickory Daily Record—a new concept at Northview Middle that is receiving great feedback from both students and teachers. For one (focused) hour each Wednesday, the students engage in learning with a twist—visual, technical, mechanical, engineering, artistic — all the elements that collectively open the path to creative thinking and problem solving.



# Recruiting Teachers for HPS!



Sandi Fotheringham setting up the HPS recruitment table at Florida A&M University.

### ATTENTION HPS EDUCATORS!

If you were asked to help recruit teachers to HPS, what would be your top reasons that potential teachers (and even families) should consider moving to Hickory and become a part of Hickory Public Schools?

Email your ideas/reasons to:  
[snowdenbe@hickoryschools.net](mailto:snowdenbe@hickoryschools.net)

Thank you for your suggestions and support!



## Student-Led Conferences at Jenkins Elementary — A Big Success!

On Thursday, February 3, 2017, Jenkins Elementary held its first Student-Led Parent Conferences from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The teachers helped their students select assignments, projects, and/or assessments to share with their parents. Many of the students discussed their progress and goals with their parents as well. It also provided the opportunity for parents to see their children's classrooms and speak with the teachers.



*“Mr. McCreary, Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the student-led parent conference tonight. My little second grader was so very proud to show me samples of his work from each subject. I was impressed with how seriously he took the responsibility given him. It was a special time for us!”*

~Traci Palmer, parent of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader