

**CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, August 22**

- Work Day
- Substitute Training, location: SDC, 8:30am - 2:30pm
- AHS BEARCAT Freshman Orientation, freshmen receive their schedules, 9am - 1:30pm
- AMS - 8th Grade Open House, 4-6pm

**Thursday, August 23**

- Work Day
- WES Open House, 9-11am & 4-6pm
- Substitute Training, location: SDC, 8:30am - 2:30pm

- AES Open House, 2 - 5pm
- PPES Open House, 2 - 5pm
- LES Open House, 2:30-5:30pm
- MES Open House, 3 - 6pm
- WES Meet the Teacher Open House, 3 - 6pm

**Friday, August 24**

- Work Day
- ANTHS Senior Picture Day (by appointment only)
- ANTHS Open House and Freshmen Mixer, 5 - 6:30pm

**Saturday, August 25**

- AHS BEARCAT Back to School Day, Open House for Parents and Students, 10am - 12 noon

**Monday, August 27**

- First Day of School for students
- Kindergarten Registration, last names beginning with A - E

**Tuesday, August 28**

- Kindergarten Registration, last names beginning with F - J

**Wednesday, August 29**

- Kindergarten Registration, last names beginning with K - O

**Thursday, August 30**

- Kindergarten Registration, last names beginning with P - Z

**Friday, August 31**

- Kindergarten Registration, late enrollees
- WES Girl Scout Rally Assembly, 8:15am

**Monday, September 3**

- Labor Day - No School

**Tuesday, September 4**

- First Day of Kindergarten - all schools
- AES Girl Scout meeting, 1pm
- MES/WES/WPS Girl Scout recruitment night at WPS, 6:30pm

**Wednesday, September 5**

- AES 9th, 10th and 11th Grade Fall Pictures
- WES Boy Scout Rally Assembly, 8:15am
- MES Staff Meeting, 3pm
- WES Staff Meeting, 3pm

**Thursday, September 6**

- AES Girl Scout Rally, 6pm
- WES/WPS Boy Scout Recruitment Night, at WES Cafeteria, 6:30pm

**Friday, September 7**

- MES Grits for Grands Day, 7:30am
- WES You are Just Grand Parents' Day, 7:30am

**Saturday, September 8**

- AES Back to School Splash, PTO Sponsored

**Monday, September 10**

- MES Boy Scout Rally Assembly, 8:15am
- PPES Boy Scouts - Student Meeting, 10:30am
- WES S.I.T. Meeting, 5:15pm
- MES Boy Scout Recruitment Night, 6pm
- WES P.T.A. and Title I Parent Involvement & Rights Meeting, 6pm

**Tuesday, September 11**

- WPS S.I.T. Meeting. All parents are invited, 5:45pm
- MES PTA & Title I Parent Involvement and Rights meeting, 6pm
- LES Girl Scout recruitment, 6:30pm

**Wednesday, September 12**

- AES Boy Scout meeting, 12:30pm
- MES S.I.T meeting, 2pm

**Thursday, September 13**

- AES Boy Scout Rally, 6:30pm
- LES Boy Scout recruitment, 6:30pm

**Monday, September 17**

- AHS Senior Portrait Make-up Day at Media Center
- ANSON ACADEMY Senior Portrait Make-up Day
- LES School Improvement Team meeting, 5:15pm
- LES PTO meeting, 6pm

**Tuesday, September 18**

- PPS PTO Cabinet meeting, 5:30pm
- PPES General PTO meeting, 6:30pm

**Wednesday, September 19**

- AES Fall Pictures
- MES Staff meeting, 3pm
- WES Staff meeting, 3pm

**Thursday, September 20**

- AHS Fall Sports Team/Individual Pictures

**Friday, September 21**

- LES Fall Picture Day
- PPES Girl Scouts Student Meeting, 1pm



**Inside Your Anson County Schools**

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**Board of Education** Marilyn Bennett, Lisa G. Davis, Bobbie Little, Michael Livingston, Beulah Pratt, Russell Sikes, George Truman, Daniel Wilson  
**Superintendent of Schools** Gregory A. Firm, Ed. D.  
**Deputy Superintendent of Schools** Michael Freeman

**Greetings,**

Welcome to our August edition of "Inside Your Anson County Schools" This edition features many important information items about the opening of school - just around the corner - our instructional year begins Monday the 27th of August. We're very excited about starting the 2012 - 2013 instructional school year. However, before we do, there is much to celebrate from the very 1911 - 2012 year. In each of our schools, there were several outstanding achievements. Several of our schools made high growth and are counted as some of the best schools in North Carolina. As we begin this instructional year, there are several "different" challenges for our students, staff, and community. First, we have a new curriculum with new standards. These standards are being implemented to ensure that each learner is college and career ready. We will have new assessments as well. These assessments will be very different than what our students have experienced. We will also have new graduation requirements. Our commitment is to you is to provide many opportunities to learn about these new initiatives throughout the year. Please look for and plan to attend our Community Forums, Open Houses, Listening Sessions, Parent Conferences, and other activities to increase awareness, understanding and support for the Anson County Schools. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the negative impact of the economy on our budget. As we all know, the economy has been slow to recover at the local, state, and national level. This slow recovery has resulted in fewer dollars for education. This has an impact. Our staff has worked very hard to be good stewards of the resources we are provided. My commitment continues to be to maximize these scarce resources to ensure that each learner meets or exceeds standards. Lastly, and not as an afterthought, we appreciate our community, our parents, staff, and students. In just a few days, our schools will come back to life as students continue their learning journey. We are excited and prepared to greet them. Together, let's make this a great year of learning for each student. This is an "All Means All" year. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Anson County Schools.  
*Gregory A. Firm, Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools*

**Changes in Assessments**

The 2012-2013 school year brings about many changes with regards to assessment. New assessments for our students, as required by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, are Measures of Student Learning in Science for students in grades 3, 4, 6, and 7, and Social Studies for students in grades 3 to 8. Also Measures of Student Learning will be required at the high school level in Environmental Science, Chemistry, English I, III, and IV, Advanced Functions and Modeling, Algebra II, Civics and Economics, American History I, OCS English I, III, IV, OCS Applied Science, Physics, Physical Science, Pre-Calculus, Geometry, World History, US History, OCS Financial Management, and OCS Introductory Math. Additionally, all End of Grade tests for grades 3 to 8 in Reading Language Arts and Math along with Science in Grades 5 and 8 will be continued. At the high school level, End of Course tests in Algebra I, End of Course II will continue as in the past. Lastly, for the first time all 8th grade students will be taking the EXPLORE assessments, 10th grade students will be taking the PLAN assessments, 11th grade students the ACT assessments, and 12th grade students the WORK KEYS. These new assessments will help our teachers determine the readiness of our students for 21st century college and/or career readiness.

**Curriculum News**

Anson Schools will undergo curriculum changes in the 2012 - 2013 school year. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's New Common Core and Essential Standards are replacing current curriculum in every grade and every course. **What are Common Core Standards?** The Common Core curriculum provides states with a set of standards for English language arts, math, and literacy that create more consistency and uniformity across the nation. These standards are designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary to graduate high school prepared for college and career opportunities in a globally competitive workplace. At this time 45 states have joined together to implement these new standards. **What are Essential Standards?** North Carolina Essential Standards apply only to North Carolina. They are for the areas of science, social studies, information and technology, the arts, healthful living, world languages, and the Occupational Course of Study. Each academic subject area was developed to provide students with a more demanding curriculum to challenge all learners.

**LES Principal's Outlook**



*By Maresa Dutton Phillips, Principal*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** As I prepare for the 2012-13 school year I am excited about the opportunity to visit classrooms where students are learning, observe best practices and highly effective instruction, and nurture teacher-leaders. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** Each student learner is expected to be ready to acquire new skills, put forth their best effort and participate-never settling for mediocre work, and reflect on their work to make good and even better decisions, daily. Each teacher is expected to have high expectations for themselves as a teacher, believe all students can learn and succeed in their classroom, and reflect on their lessons and teaching.

**How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and parents in your position?** Building relationships with the students, staff, and parents will be a primary focus as we all work together to accomplish our goals. Together there are no limits to what we can achieve. I will help to ensure that all decisions and actions taken will be made by doing what is in the best interest of the students we serve.

**LES Start and End Times**

- Earliest Arrival Time for morning buses: 7:20am
- Latest Arrival Time for afternoon buses: 7:25am
- AM Bell: 7:30am
- PM Bell: 2:30pm

**ANTHS Principal's Outlook**



*By Chris Stinson, Principal*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** I am most excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the community, staff, students, and parents on new innovative and relevant approaches to the overall educational experience. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** Two expectations I have for each learner are to do their best and keep an open mind.

**How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and parents in your position?** I will make "All Means All" a reality by being transparent, collaborative, and persistent when working with students, staff, and parents.

**ANTHS Start and End Times, Supply List**

- **Start and End Times**
- School Starts at 8:25am
- School Ends at 3:10pm
- **Supply List**
- Students need to have at least a 4GB jumpdrive

**AHS Principal's Outlook**



*By Charles Murphy, Principal*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** I am excited about implementing the skills and strategies that our teacher have worked hard to attain this summer. The experience that each student will encounter in each classroom should be more engaging and challenging this year. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** I expect every learner to come to school each day with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn. **How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and a parents in your position?** Through high visibility in the classrooms on campus I will work to ensure that the level of instruction that each student receives will be both challenging and achievable for each learner.

**AHS Band Director's Outlook**



*By Matthew Jarrett, AHS Band Director*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** The opportunity to have a positive impact in the lives of my students through a superior and challenging performing arts education experience. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** I expect for each student to challenge themselves to learn beyond their comfort zones in order to reach a new level of excellence, and for them to encourage others to do the same. **How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and a parents in your position?** I don't believe in students that "can't" or "won't." Every student that will walk into my classroom "can" and "will."

**AHS Athletic Director's Outlook**



*By Fred Davis*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** I am excited about the opportunities on the horizon for AHS. Our test scores are improving. If we start strong and finish strong, we can achieve an overall composite score surpassing NCDPI mandates. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Ready. **How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and a parents in your position?** In my dual role as assistant principal and athletic director, I have a unique opportunity to come in contact with parents, students, teachers and other community stakeholders on a daily basis. "All Mean All" will be promoted through announcements at athletic events, with logos on t-shirts, through interpersonal communication, and through visit to student households.

**Important Dates at Anson Academy**

- September 17 - Senior Portraits make-up date
- October 2 - Fall Picture,s 8:45am
- October 16 - Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) test
- November 13 - Make-up, 3 to 4pm
- February 5 - Free Style Pictures, 1pm until
- May 3 - Senior Cap & Gown Pictures, 8:45am

**Anson Academy Principal's Outlook**



*By Preston Waddell, Principal*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** To make sure each child is respected and given the tools and instructional resources to grow and make great advancements in their learning. **What expectation do you have for each learner?** To meet with each child's parents two or three times a school year (keep informed). Each learner will be provided with instructional tools/resources needed for growth. Each child comes to school ready to learn. (good attendance, and willing to work) **How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff, and parents?** We will work as a team to get the job done. I will be visible, I will listen, I will care, I will inform, I will monitor.

**WES School Hours, Supply List**

- **School Hours**
- Cafeteria Opens at 7am
- Students report to homeroom at 7:20am
- Instruction begins at 7:30am
- Tardy Bell rings at 7:40am
- Walkers & car riders dismissed at 2:25pm
- Buses begin loading at 2:30pm
- **Supply List**
- List of supplies and materials on district website ([www.ansonschools.org](http://www.ansonschools.org)) is sufficient for first week of school. Individual teachers will provide information about additional supplies and materials need in their classroom during open house and during the first week of school.

the safe return of all former students and the gaining of new ones to Wadesboro Elementary. In addition, I'm excited to be part of an initiative that puts in place a new North Carolina Standard Course of Studies (NCCSCOS) for students at all grade levels to begin preparing them for college or the workforce. Lastly, I find myself being excited and enthused about the teachers being prepared to implement the NCCSCOS as a result of their extensive professional development training. **What are two (no more than three) expectations you have for each learner?** The expectations that I have for each learner are many. However, I will be brief. I expect that each student will arrive at school each day in the learning frame of mind and refrain from interfering with the learning, safety or wellbeing of others. **How will you make "All Means All" a reality for learners, staff and parents in your position?** I will make "All Means All" for the learner, staff and parents at Wadesboro Elementary School a daily practice. There will be consistency, continuous collaboration among staff and ongoing communication with parents. It will be demonstrated through the establishment of a profound relationship with all stakeholders. Even though Wadesboro Elementary has improved its security measures, it remains committed to the community and its volunteers.

**WES Principal's Outlook**



*By Willie Owens, Principal*

**When you think of the upcoming instructional year, what are you most excited about?** When I think of the upcoming year, I am most excited about