October 2023 Parent Newsletter



Dear friends of Crenshaw County Schools,

We are delighted to provide you with a glimpse of the teaching and learning occuring in our schools and share the events we have planned for the upcoming month. We also want to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students, faculty, and staff who continue to inspire us with their dedication and accomplishments.

We encourage you to stay engaged, ask questions, and actively participate in your child's educational journey. Together, we can create an enriching and supportive environment where every student can thrive.

As a reminder, attendance is important for every child, every day.



STEM FOCUS: BETABOX

Crenshaw County School District is dedicated to student success and is utilizing educational innovation such as the Betabox Mobile STEM Program to prepare students for college and career readiness. This forward-thinking approach to education not only equips students with essential 21st Century skills, but also empowers them to become lifelong learners and problem solvers. By bringing STEM education to our students, Crenshaw County Schools hopes to inspire the next generation of leaders, scientists, and innovators.

Recognizing the importance of STEM educational opportunities, Bev Sport, a former science teacher at Luverne School, began searching for STEM opportunities and resources for students in Crenshaw County last year. When she learned about Betabox and discovered that they had partnered with the Alabama State Department of Education and that a grant was available, she enlisted Mr. Hawthorne, Superintendent of Crenshaw County Schools, to partner with her in putting cutting-edge technology, tools, and materials into the hands of the students throughout our district. Sport is passionate about improving educational outcomes for students and believes that STEM is one way that our schools can achieve this goal. "STEM education involves moving beyond the borders of the classroom and enables students to view problems from different perspectives and is an interdisciplinary approach to education. Because of its interdisciplinary component, STEM is critical in supporting literacy and numeracy and cultivates critical thinking skills that are necessary for success in today's world."

Mr. Hawthorne shares Sport's enthusiasm for STEM and has led a district initiative to increase STEM opportunities for students. "This is just the beginning. By 2030, 85% of jobs that students will do don't exist yet. We have to provide educational opportunities to prepare our students for those jobs." said Hawthorne. Since bringing Betabox on board, Crenshaw County Schools have integrated other STEM-based programs into their schools- Rocket Drones, a unique learning opportunity that incorporates drone flight and the engineering design process, and Plasma Games, a virtual platform that connects learning standards with real-world technologies and exposes students to STEM and career technical careers. Sport states that "Education is no longer confined to the traditional classroom setting. I'm excited about the changing landscape of learning, and thrilled that Crenshaw County Schools have taken a pioneering step toward preparing our students for college and career readiness through an innovative, hands-on and minds-on approach."



Dr. Dahlgren Visits Crenshaw County Schools

Crenshaw County Schools welcomed Dr. Mary Dahlgren, nationally renowned literacy expert, to our campuses. Dr. Dahlgren is the founder of Tools 4 Reading and has focused on developing practical tools and training opportunities to bridge the gap between the Science of Reading and classroom practice. Dr. Dahlgren has over 25 years of experience in the field of education, having served as a dyslexia therapist, elementary classroom teacher, international literacy consultant, and author. Additionally, she served as a national LETRS trainer for 18 years until her retirement in December 2021.

Dr. Dahlgren's longstanding interest in early childhood and elementary education has compelled her to spend much of her career working directly with classroom teachers to embrace the science behind reading. She provides training on how to provide the best first instruction along with implementation of effective interventions for struggling readers. We are honored to have her in our schools empowering teachers with knowledge, skills, and strategies for teaching students to read.



#EXCELLENCE IN OUR SCHOODS



HIGHLAND HOME'S AMBER MAJORS, JAG AMBASSADOR, JOINED GOVERNOR IVEY IN ACCEPTING A \$15,000 DONATION FOR ALABAMA JAG.



LUVERNE'S SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS, JORDAN JOHNSON (PRESIDENT), TAYLOR HERMELING (VICE PRESIDENT), TAYLOR TURNER (SECRETARY), AND TURNER CLAYBROOK (TREASURER) PARTICIPATED IN LBW'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.



CAREER TECH STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE ACADEMY OF CHAPTER EXCELLENCE PROGRAM TO BUILD & SHARPEN THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS.



FOURTH GRADER'S AT BHS EXPLORED CAREERS IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL AVIATION MONTH. CONGRATULATION TO THE WINNERS!



HIGHLAND HOME'S FAMILY CURRICULUM NIGHT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS! MANY THANKS TO THE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO CAME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS AND SCHOOL.



STUDENTS MADE THEIR MARK AND CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL DOT DAY! WHAT BEGINS WITH A SMALL DOT BECOMES A BREAKTHROUG IN CONFIDENCE AND COURAGE.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Crenshaw County College Fair 10/4 (LHS Auditorium 10:45 am)

<u>Brantley:</u> Curriculum Night Oct. 12 Family Day Oct. 13 Fall Festival TBA

<u>Highland:</u> Family Day Oct. 12 Fall Festival Nov. 2

<u>Luverne:</u> Family Day Oct. 12 Curriculum Night Oct. 16 Fall Festival Oct. 26

A PEEK INSIDE

OUR CLASSROOMS





Adj, Adj: Illuminating & gigantic, afire roars aggressively reautifully.

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