

Haywood County School Program Highlights

AIG Program

The North Carolina Academically and Gifted Standards require all school districts to employ challenging, rigorous, and relevant curriculum to accommodate the academic, intellectual, and social/emotional needs of gifted learners. Academically and/or intellectually gifted students perform or show the potential to perform at substantially high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience or environment. Academically and/or intellectually gifted students require differentiated education services beyond those ordinarily provided by the regular educational program. An AIG program is provided to afford these students the opportunity to develop to their potential.

Articulated Course Offerings

Haywood County Schools has established an articulation agreement with Haywood Community College that enables the district to offer college level classes for high school students. This agreement allows our students the opportunity to earn college credit for those classes that are part of this agreement. School Board Policy 3101- Dual Enrollment regulates course offerings through the college.

Career Technical Education

Career and Technical Education provides students with experience in practical, meaningful applications of basic skills such as reading, writing and mathematics and offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills in a technical or trade career. Haywood County Schools offers a comprehensive career and technical education program for students in grades 6-12. Competency-based courses are offered in 8 program areas: Agriculture, Business, Marketing, Family and Consumer Science, Health Sciences, Technology, Trade and Industrial Education and Career Development. Opportunities for work-based learning experiences such as internships and apprenticeships are available at the high school level. Students entering the 9th grade complete a Career Development Plan outlining academic and Career and Technical Education courses that are needed to meet a tentative career objective by their senior year.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery

All students in North Carolina Public Schools in grades 9-12 are eligible to request an opportunity to earn credit by demonstrating mastery for available courses. Middle school students may request an opportunity for high school courses offered in grades 6-8. For more information go to <http://www.haywood.k12.nc.us/resources/parentscommunity/>.

Exceptional Children's Program

The Exceptional Children's Program provides specially designed instruction to ensure that all children with disabilities, ages 3 through 21, have available to them a free and appropriate public education. The program emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities and prepare them for further education, employment and independent living. Exceptional Children's services may include specialized educational intervention, speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, hearing impaired services, visually impaired services, and transportation. The EC Program is

looking for any children and youth ages 3-21 with special needs that are not identified or may not be receiving the help they need. You can assist us in finding these unidentified students by calling Brandi Stephenson, Director of Exceptional Children's Program at 828-456-2400 or email bstephenson@haywood.k12.nc.us.

Human Resources

Our Mission is to provide the best possible experience, training, and support for our Teachers, Administrators, and Support Staff in service of Haywood County Students and Parents.

Employment opportunities and applications can be located at TeacherMatch:

<https://www.haywood.k12.nc.us/employment/>.

Substitute Teacher Training is offered on-line year-round. Instructions for on-line training are posted at: <http://www.haywood.k12.nc.us/hr/substitute-teachers/>. If you have questions about substitute teacher training please call Margaret Rogers at [828-456-2400](tel:828-456-2400). We appreciate your interest in Haywood County Schools.

Local Student Accountability Policies

The Haywood County Board of Education has policies pertaining to student accountability. These policies include 3400 Evaluation of Student Progress, 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability, 3460 Graduation Requirements, and 4400 Attendance. These policies may be accessed through the "Resources" link at www.haywood.k12.nc.us. Policy highlights include:

- Minimum attendance requirements
- Minimum attendance for at least one-half of the day to be counted present
- Minimum expectations on Kindergarten through second grade state assessments
- Minimum achievement of Level III on state-mandated assessments
- Minimum grade of "D" in all except one core course in grades three through eight.
- High school end-of-course tests representing 25% of the student's final grade
- Options for students not meeting minimum performance standards.

Public Information

Haywood County Schools is committed to providing students, parents, staff and the community with school district information. Each school has a media contact person who works with the principal to submit regular school news to the media. Public information is shared through newspaper columns, the Haywood County Schools Report podcast and district-level press releases online at www.haywood.k12.nc.us. You may also access information by following Haywood County Schools on Facebook and Twitter. Parents and staff also have the opportunity to register for email, voice and text alerts.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued each nine weeks in grades one through eight. Report cards are issued each six weeks or nine weeks from all high schools. Schools also send a mid-grading period progress report to students in grades 1-12. Parents may access student grades, mid-grading period progress reports and report cards via the Parent Portal on the HCS website. Parents should contact individual schools if they need assistance signing up for the Parent Portal. All Haywood County students in grades 3-12 are on a 10-point grading scale.

School Nutrition Services

All schools in Haywood County participate in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. The Haywood County School Nutrition Program is self-supporting. Customer revenue and federal reimbursement are the only revenues received. Due to the Pandemic USDA has authorized free breakfast and lunch for all children 18 and under. Although school meals are free to all students for the 2021-2022 school year, it is important to submit a free and reduced meal application if you think your family might qualify. It's more important than a meal application. The percentage of students approved for free and reduced meals is used to ensure continued funding to support all students in our district through Title 1 and E-rate programs that provide supplemental funds to school districts to assist with meeting educational goals. If you feel your family may qualify please go to www.lunchapplication.com and fill out an online application. If you do not have access to the internet, you can contact the school or call the School Nutrition Office at 828-627-1150 to request a paper copy.

School Safety and Security

Security of buildings and grounds is essential in assuring student safety. Each school has a plan to secure buildings for the purpose of protecting students from potentially harmful offenders. Plans contain procedures for monitoring the school. Procedures are in place to notify the superintendent, parents and the media when appropriate.

Threats

A threat is any communication, written, verbal, or otherwise, that specifically implies harm to self or others. Any staff member who hears or otherwise learns of a threat against property or persons shall report the threat to the principal or designee. The principal or designee will investigate the matter. Action may include warning, parent conference, in-school or out-of-school suspension, counseling referral or law enforcement intervention. The principal may require persons involved to have a risk assessment with a certified mental health counselor before returning to campus. **Parents will be responsible for the cost of this evaluation, which may include multiple visits.**

Student Health Statement

Additional student health information is available in the Annual Public Notices document published at the beginning of each school year. Parents of students who have chronic health problems such as asthma, diabetes, etc., are requested to inform school personnel upon the diagnosis and at the beginning of each school year. This can be very beneficial to establishing and maintaining the best school based support.