




LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

When you've read, you can pick up a book and go to another world that is full of adventures. A book can take you to a far away land to learn about different cultures. Books help you look at people in a different way and help you understand those who are different from you.

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

As a school resource officer, I can help the younger generation be aware of how they do today will follow them throughout their lives. I can establish a relationship with my students so they feel comfortable discussing their problems and concerns with me. I can be a trustworthy source of information and present a positive image of law enforcement to my students.

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

One of the things I like as an administrator is being in the classroom. Teaching students gives me a chance to get "back to the basics" of teaching and learning. It is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference. And that's what education is about — making a difference in a child's life.

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

THANK YOU!
STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK
May 7 to May 13, 2000

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

A facility by itself does not make a good school. You have to have the staff, students, parents and community working together to provide the best possible education for the children. However, at our new school, we now have the tools that will assist in helping these students become ready for life in the 21st century. It is our commitment and our mission to do just that.

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

The Story-N-Training program provides parents of pre-school children with a free picture book to read together and add to their home library. We begin to encourage families to read daily and create an interest in learning together.

nie



LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

I like to learn a lot and do my best at school. I like helping others in my classrooms because if they haven't finished their work and are having problems, I can explain it to them and help them to finish. I help frequently because with her work a lot and she likes for me to help her. This is her first year at Sadler and we have become good friends.

nie

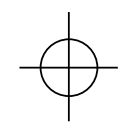
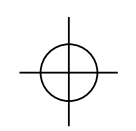
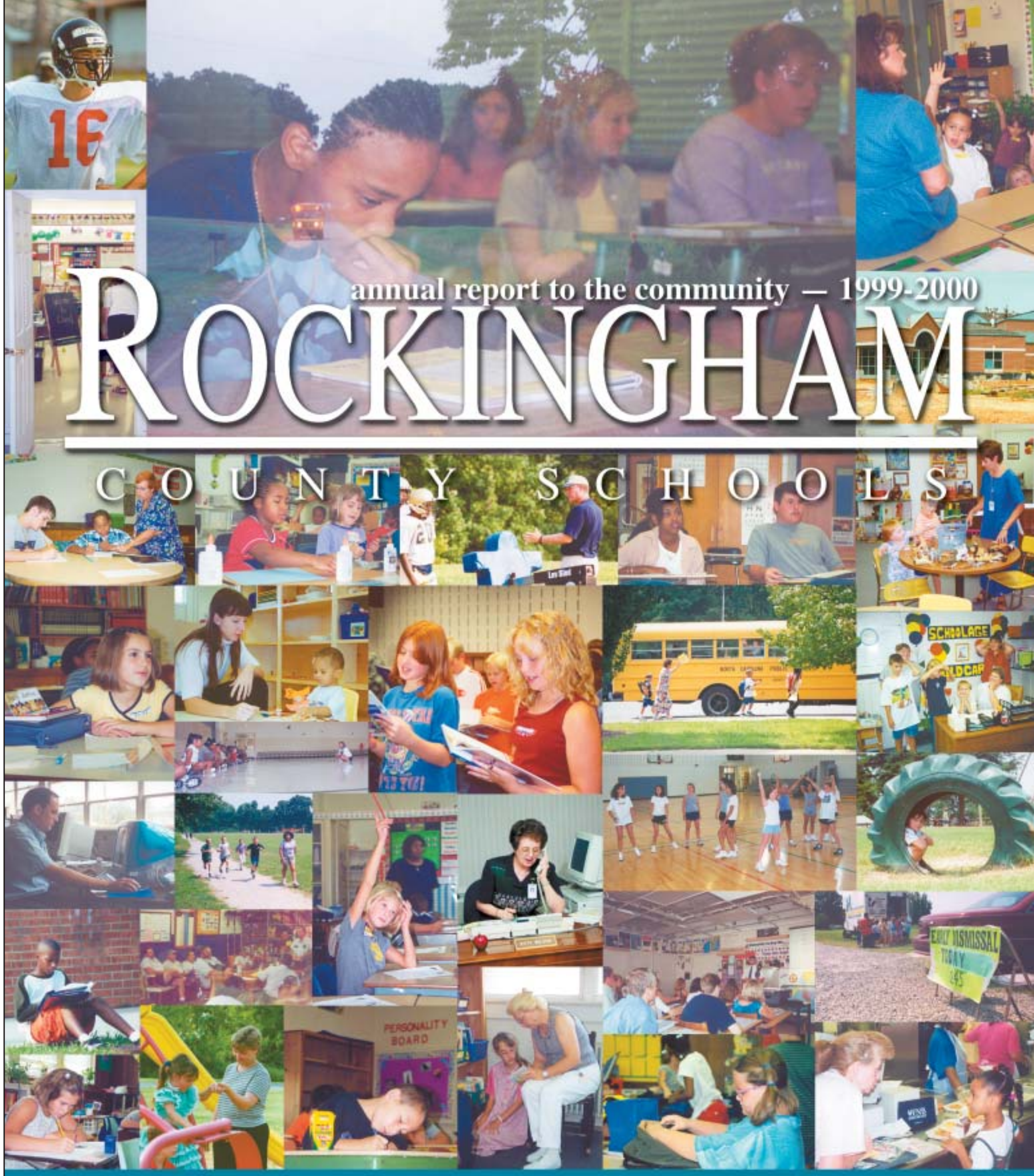


LIFE READY

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

School is important because you need to learn a lot and get a good education. When you get a good education, you can get a good job. School is also important because you can make new friends. I have a lot of friends in my class at Williamson School.

nie

ROCKINGHAM

annual report to the community — 1999-2000

COUNTY SCHOOLS

... a day in the life ... a year in the life ... getting ready for life

Samples from the Rockingham County Schools' "Life Ready" poster series — 1999-2000



Rockingham County Schools recently completed one of the most successful years in its history. In 1999-2000, more than 90% of the schools met or exceeded state expectations on the ABCs of Public Education, the second consecutive year the system has achieved this standard on North Carolina's accountability program.

**Board of Education
1999-2000**

District 1: Herman Hines
 District 2: Sandi Gann
 District 3: Debra Paschal
 District 4: Nell Rose
 District 5: Celeste DePriest
 District 6: Jeff Eanes/Wayne Kirkman
 District 7: Carol Wright
 District 8: Lounette Vaden/Mary Martin

Superintendent
 George R. Fleetwood, Ph.D

This past school year, Rockingham County's 92% rating on the ABCs was the highest percentage in the Piedmont Triad. Our schools performed better than the rest of the region, and for the first

time, we had five "Schools of Distinction." Our school system is organized around six strategic goals. They are:

- Shared expectations for high performance and student success
- Safe and orderly schools
- A system to recruit, compensate and retain quality teachers, administrators and staff
- Strong partnerships through effective communications with family and community
- Efficient and effective operation and communication
- Character education

Financial Report

Rockingham County Schools' total budget for 1999-2000 was \$111,899,024. Here is the breakdown of how the majority of the funds were spent:

Salaries
 ■ \$67,877,404 (without benefits)
 ■ \$82,913,796 (with benefits)

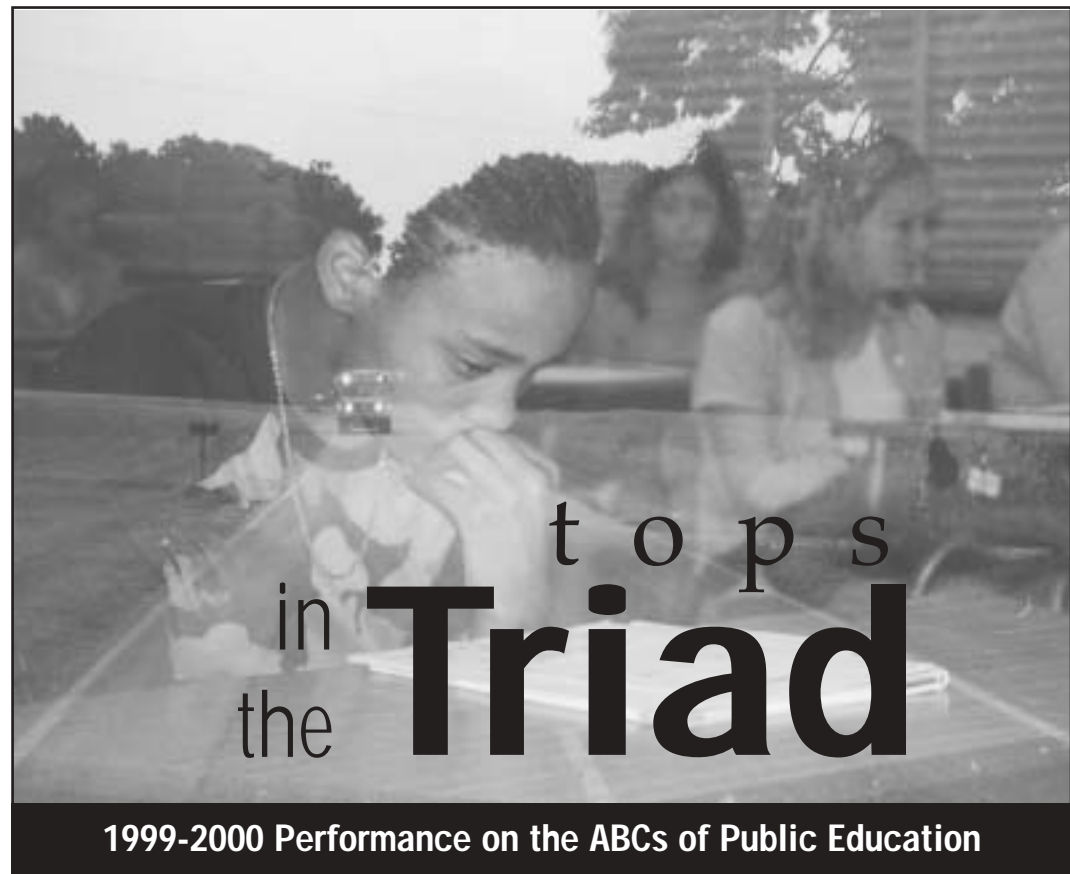
New Construction
 ■ \$11,274,165

Child Nutrition
 ■ \$5,603,326

Utilities
 ■ \$2,187,208

The Finance Department of Rockingham County Schools publishes its own annual report in March. Copies of the report will be available to the general public.

Throughout this annual report, you will see how Rockingham County Schools is striving to meet these objectives. The text on these pages reflects the achievements of our students and staff members during 1999-2000. The photographs look ahead to the future, illustrating how we are working to help your children become "Life Ready."



1999-2000 Performance on the ABCs of Public Education

Systemwide:

More than 90 percent of Rockingham County's schools met or exceeded state expectations on the ABCs for the second consecutive year.

16 schools were ranked as "Exemplary," an increase of one from 1998-99 and up from 10 in 1997-98. Six were at "Met Expectations" while only two schools were "Proficient."

For the first time, Rockingham County had five sites listed as "Schools of Distinction," meaning more than 80% of students tested at or above grade level.

Every school in Rockingham County has met or exceeded state expectations at least once since the ABCs model was put in place (1996-97 for grades 3-8; 1997-98 for high schools)

Every elementary and middle school had at least 65% of its students performing at or above grade level, the highest percentage in the four years of the ABCs. Of 20 elementary/middle schools tested, five had performance scores of more than 80%, 11 had scores of 70% or

more and four had scores of 65% or more.

Three of four high schools were ranked as "Exemplary."

No schools were low performing for the 3rd straight year.

Schools:

In its first year of existence, the 900-student Rockingham County Middle ranked as a "School of Distinction" and was "Exemplary" on the ABCs.

For the third consecutive year, Monroe Elementary was listed as a "School of Distinction" for having more than 80% of its students at or above grade level. Others ranked as "Schools of Distinction" are Sadler, South End and Williamsburg.

Williamsburg Elementary is the only school in Rockingham County to have been "Exemplary" for all four years in the elementary/middle school ABCs model. Williamsburg also has been a "School of Distinction" for two of the four years.

Morehead and Reidsville High School have been ranked "Exemplary" for all three years of the high school ABCs model.

Schools of Distinction
 Monroe Elementary
 Rockingham County Middle
 Sadler Elementary
 South End School
 Williamsburg School

Exemplary (Grades 3-8)
 Bethany Elementary
 Central Elementary
 Douglass Elementary
 Draper Elementary
 Lawsonville Avenue School
 Leaksville-Spray Elementary
 Monroe Elementary
 New Vision Intermediate
 Reidsville Intermediate
 Rockingham County Middle
 South End School
 Stoneville Elementary
 Williamsburg School

Exemplary (Grades 9-12)
 McMichael High School
 Morehead High School
 Reidsville High School

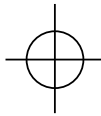
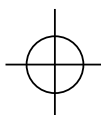
Met Expectations
 Happy Home School
 Holmes Middle School
 Moss Street School
 Sadler School
 Wentworth Elementary
 Western Rockingham Middle

Proficient (Grades 3-12)
 Reidsville Middle School
 Rockingham County High

About the Annual Report

The Annual Report to the Community — 1999-2000 was published by the Rockingham County Schools Communications Department. It is being published at a cost of \$5,250 (8 cents per copy) and inserted into The Daily News, The Messenger, The News & Record and The Reidsville Review.

The Day in the Life photo series was taken by Glenn Cook, Director of Communications, on the first day of school — August 16, 2000.



ABOUT THE ABCs

The ABCs of Public Education were implemented by the State Board of Education at the start of the 1996-97 school year for grades 3-8. The testing was expanded in the 1997-98 school year to include the high schools.

The ABCs effort measures growth in student achievement. Performance is part of the component, but a school can be exemplary even if a majority of students do not test at or above grade level.

Schools with extremely high marks in achievement that do not meet the state's formula for growth are not recognized. For example, Sadler had more than 80% of its students test at or above grade level, earning it "School of Distinction" status, but the school only "Met Expectations" on the ABCs.

Rockingham County had the best overall performance of high schools in the system, but was "Proficient." Reidsville Middle, the only other school in the system to be "Proficient," had more than 70% of its students test at or above grade level.

Glossary of Terms

School of Distinction: More than 80% of the students tested were at or above grade level.

Exemplary: Schools scored at least 10% above state-established performance goals

Met Expectations: Schools in which students achieved a year's growth in achievement. Schools also had more than 50% of students test at or above grade level.

Proficient: Schools in which more than 50% of students tested at or above grade level, but did not meet state's performance goals.

Dillard Primary, which serves grades K-2, and The SCORE Center, Rockingham County's alternative school, are not included in these results. Dillard's performance is measured by results gathered at New Vision Intermediate.

MET EXPECTATIONS/PROFICIENT: Grades 3-8

Happy Home Elementary
 Grades Served: PK-5 Students: 221
 Happy Home served grades PK-4 until 1999-2000

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	65.0%	64.2%	74.7%	41.7%
1998-99:	58.90%	65%	62%	39.3%
1997-98:	50.29%	56%	56%	29.7%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Met Expectations
 1998-99: Exemplary 1997-98: Proficient

Holmes Middle School
 Grades Served: 6-8 Students: 927

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	75.6%	72.8%	76.2%	77.9%
1998-99:	74.10%	71%	73%	78.6%
1997-98:	68.1%	63%	69%	72.6%

ABCs Achievement: 1998-99 and 1999-00: Met Expectations Proficient (1997-98)

Moss Street Elementary
 Grades Served: K-5 Students: 517

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	66.9%	72.0%	63.4%	60.5%
1998-99:	70.80%	77%	74%	59.1%
1997-98:	64.77%	67%	66%	47.5%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Met Expectations
 1997-98 and 1998-99: Exemplary

Wentworth Elementary
 Grades Served: PK-5 Students: 614
 Wentworth served grades PK-8 until 1999-2000

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	71.3%	74.0%	76.5%	50.0%
1998-99:	73.90%	76%	75%	42.3%
1997-98:	67.98%	66%	73%	44.7%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Met Expectations
 1997-98 and 1998-99: Exemplary

Western Rockingham Middle School
 Grades Served: 6-8 Students: 787

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	79.2%	77.8%	80.2%	76.5%
1998-99:	79.50%	78%	80%	76.3%
1997-98:	73.77%	71%	76%	73.6%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Met Expectations
 1998-99: Exemplary 1997-98: Met Expectations

Reidsville Middle School
 Grades Served: 6-8 Students: 816

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	71.1%	68.0	75.3%	60.0%
1998-99:	71.80%	70%	73%	66.9%
1997-98:	68.21%	52%	68%	79.1%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Proficient (No Recognition)
 1998-99: Exemplary 1997-98: Met Expectations

High Schools and the ABCs: Grades 9-12

McMichael High School: Exemplary
 Number of Students: 915

	Algebra I	Algebra II	Biology	Chemistry	English I	English II
1999-00:	52.8%	55.0%	45.3%	53.2%	69.7%	78.8%
1998-99:	51%	58%	50%	58%	70%	66%
1997-98:	44%	60%	44%	54%	52%	57%

	ELPS	Geometry	Physics	Phys. Science	U.S. Hist.	ABCs Status
1999-00:	72.4%	56.7%	70.6%	54.4%	43.4%	Exemplary
1998-99:	72%	46%	82%	62%	38%	Exemplary
1997-98:	58%	43%	75%	46%	39%	Met Expect.

Reidsville High School: Exemplary
 Number of Students: 831

	Algebra I	Algebra II	Biology	Chemistry	English I	English II
1999-00:	47.0%	40.2%	38.7%	41.8%	66.2%	87.6%
1998-99:	46%	42%	37%	40%	63%	71%
1997-98:	37%	52%	46%	31%	56%	59%

	ELPS	Geometry	Physics	Phys. Science	U.S. Hist.	ABCs Status
1999-00:	55.6%	47.4%	90.0%	41.2%	36.7%	Exemplary
1998-99:	55%	41%	68%	34%	35%	Exemplary
1997-98:	46%	32%	77%	18%	44%	Exemplary

Morehead High School: Exemplary
 Number of Students: 1,118

	Algebra I	Algebra II	Biology	Chemistry	English I	English II
1999-00:	49.3%	70.5%	59.1%	54.1%	71.9%	80%
1998-99:	54%	82%	64%	62%	64%	76%
1997-98:	68%	82%	67%	67%	59%	62%

	ELPS	Geometry	Physics	Phys. Science	U.S. Hist.	ABCs Status
1999-00:	73.7%	57.7%	53.0%	64.8%	37.8%	Exemplary
1998-99:	60%	60%	63%	48%	46%	Exemplary
1997-98:	56%	63%	40%	62%	46%	Exemplary

Rockingham County High School: Proficient
 Number of Students: 979

	Algebra I	Algebra II	Biology	Chemistry	English I	English II
1999-00:	59.4%	55.6%	66.5%	40.4%	71.7%	76.7
1998-99:	52%	43%	56%	57%	74%	66%
1997-98:	52%	57%	64%	49%	73%	55%

	ELPS	Geometry	Physics	Phys. Science	U.S. Hist.	ABCs Status
1999-00:	68.6%	59.3%	77.5%	60.7%	53.6%	Proficient
1998-99:	69%	58%	57%	61%	48%	Exemplary
1997-98:	81%	48%	46%	53%	52%	Exemplary

TOPS IN THE TRIAD: Rockingham County Schools and the ABCs

SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION

Monroeton Elementary
Grades Served in 1999-2000: K-5
Number of Students: 296

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	83.4%	84.7%	83.1%	80.0%
1998-99:	87.18%	88%	89%	72.7%
1997-98:	81.02%	79%	84%	79.1%

ABCs Achievement:
1999-00: Exemplary 1998-99: Exemplary
1997-98: Proficient

Note: Monroeton has been named a "School of Distinction" for the past three years.

Sadler Elementary
Grades Served in 1999-2000: K-5
Number of Students: 203

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	81.9%	80.7%	85.4%	74.1%
1998-99:	79.80%	77%	77%	85.4%
1997-98:	78.26%	74%	83%	61.9%

ABCs Achievement:
1999-00: Met Expectations 1998-99: Exemplary
1997-98: Exemplary

Note: Sadler served grades PK-4 until 1999-2000. The school will be merged with Happy Home when Lincoln Elementary opens.

South End Elementary
Grades Served in 1999-2000: PK-3
Number of Students: 293

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	86.3%	88.4%	84.3%	N/A
1998-99:	73.40%	79%	67%	N/A
1997-98:	67.61%	71%	64%	N/A

ABCs Achievement:
1999-00: Exemplary 1998-99: Exemplary
1997-98: Proficient

*** South End has been "Exemplary" for three of the four years of the elementary/middle (grades 3-8) ABCs program.**

Rockingham County Middle School
Grades Served in 1999-2000: 6-8
Number of Students: 893

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	86.1%	80.7%	88.7%	91.6%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-2000: Exemplary

Note: First year as a school; ABCs results measured against 1998-99 scores of grades 6-8 students from Bethany, Lincoln Middle, Monroeton and Wentworth.

Williamsburg School
Grades Served in 1999-2000: PK-3
Number of Students: 209

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing	ABCs Status
1999-00:	81.7%	73.2%	90.2%	N/A	Exemplary
1998-99:	74.70%	73%	76%	N/A	Exemplary
1997-98:	71.74%	76%	68%	N/A	Exemplary

*** Williamsburg has been "Exemplary" for all four years of the ABCs. It was also a "School of Distinction" in 1996-97.**

EXEMPLARY SCHOOLS: Grades 3-8

Bethany Elementary
Grades Served: PK-5
Students: 449
Bethany served grades PK-8 until 1999-2000

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	77.1%	76.7%	79.3%	70.6%
1998-99:	79.10%	77%	76%	53.1%
1997-98:	71.45%	72%	77%	64.1%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1998-99: Exemplary 1997-98: Met Expectations

Central Elementary School
Grades Served: K-5
Students: 538

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	74.8%	73.8%	78.6%	65.5%
1998-99:	71.50%	73%	75%	55.2%
1997-98:	72.2%	71%	72%	67.8%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1997-98 and 1998-99: Met Expectations

Douglass Elementary
Grades Served: PK-5
Students: 529

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	75.5	73.5%	84.6%	55.7%
1998-99:	67.80%	65%	72%	58.5%
1997-98:	72.9%	74%	74%	66.4%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1997-98 and 1998-99: Met Expectations

Draper Elementary
Grades Served: PK-5
Students: 326

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	73.2%	71.8%	87.1%	42.6%
1998-99:	75.20%	74%	79%	65.9%
1997-98:	60.4%	60%	68%	35.0%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1998-99: Met Expectations 1997-98: Proficient

Lawsonville Avenue School
Grades Served: PK-3
Students: 274

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	68.1%	66.1%	70.0%	N/A
1998-99:	52.95%	53%	58%	N/A
1997-98:	50.0%	48%	52%	N/A

ABCs Achievement: Exemplary (1999-2000)
Met Expectations (1997-98 & 1998-99)

Leaksville-Spray Elementary
Grades Served: PK-5
Students: 553

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	68.3%	74.4%	73.7%	36.6%
1998-99:	62.37%	64%	63%	46.2%
1997-98:	59.9%	60%	64%	46.9%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
Proficient (1997-98 and 1998-99)

New Vision Intermediate
Grades Served: 3-5
Students: 604

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	76.0%	78.4%	83.5%	45.9%
1998-99:	71.50%	73%	77%	49.5%
1997-98:	68.6%	69%	72%	53.7%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
Proficient (1998-99); Met Expectations (1997-98)

Reidsville Intermediate School
Grades Served: 4-5
Students: 502

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	72.0%	69.1%	82.1%	57.5%
1998-99:	69.00%	67%	79%	52.4%
1997-98:	65.7%	66%	73%	50.0%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1998-99: Met Expectations 1997-98: Exemplary

Stoneville Elementary
Grades Served: PK-5
Students: 530

	Performance	Reading	Math	Writing
1999-00:	71.8%	70.9%	80.8%	48.3%
1998-99:	71.30%	69%	80%	51.9%
1997-98:	72.8%	72%	77%	63.7%

ABCs Achievement: 1999-00: Exemplary
1998-99: Met Expectations 1997-98: Exemplary

a day in the life...

August 16, 2000

At first glance, you'd be surprised at how "normal" things are on the first day of school. Teaching, learning, performing and playing can be found at every site. Following an extraordinary 1999-2000 year for Rockingham County Schools, the photo essay on the following pages captures "A Day in the Life" on the first day of 2000-2001.

GETTING STARTED: The photo on Page 2 is a double exposure taken on the first day of the 2000-2001 school year in two different parts of Rockingham County. At 7:18 a.m., Rockingham County High School student Jason Knight waits for the bus to pick him up on Miller Chapel Road. At 8:11 a.m. Western Rockingham Middle School student Catherine Fultz studies her class rules



7:43 a.m.
Maintenance Department
Maintenance Director Dwane Strader meets with his staff to discuss new and ongoing projects to be addressed the first day of school.



8:27 a.m.
McMichael High School
Dana Hart and Brian Straton listen to Health Occupations teacher Jeannie Manuel go over class rules.



8:56 a.m.
Stoneville Elementary
1st grader Jakeira Scales and other students raises their hands to get the attention of teacher assistant Denise Vaden.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE: Headlines & Highlights

August 16-31, 1999
• More than two decades after they were first discussed and more than a year after construction began, **Rockingham County Middle School** and **Wentworth Elementary** open doors for students.
• **SCORE**, which is short for the "Second Chance Opportunity and Resource Education Center," opens at the former Wentworth School building. By the end of the year, the alternative school will serve more than 60 students.

September 1999
• **Mary Martin** is appointed to the District 8 seat on the Rockingham County Board of Education. She replaces Lounette Vaden, who resigned after moving to Greensboro.
• Holmes Middle School's "**Communities in Schools**" program gets underway. More than 80 volunteers donate 1,147 hours to the program during its first year. Forty CIS students at McMichael receive diplomas at the end of the year. CIS names an executive director — Dan Moore — and makes plans to expand the program to Western Rockingham Middle, Morehead High and Reidsville Intermediate.
• The **Parent Resource Center** and **Best**

Friends of Rockingham County receive a \$2,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. The "Reading Together" project is designed to increase the amount of time single parent families and Best Friends volunteers spend reading and participating in learning activities.
• **Ann Dunn**, choral director at McMichael High School, is named president-elect of the North Carolina chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.
• **Senior citizens** in Rockingham County receive discount tickets to high school sporting events. The tickets are available to senior citizens who pick up an ID badge from one of Rockingham County's four high schools.

• **Carol Knight**, a 4th grade teacher at Monroeton Elementary and **Jennifer Hines**, a 5th grade teacher at Draper Elementary, attend the 3rd annual National Board Certified Teacher Meeting in Washington, D.C. Hines presents at one of the sessions.
• **Glenn Cook**, communications director for Rockingham County Schools, receives one first place and two third place awards from the North Carolina Association of Government Information Officers. Rockingham County Schools received the most awards of any school system. This

marks the third consecutive year the system has won awards for publications from NCAGIO.
• The Rockingham County Schools **Preschool Program** is selected to participate in a research project conducted for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services by the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center at UNC-Chapel Hill. The project is a follow-up to an earlier study that investigated the effect of Smart Start on young children (birth to age 5) with disabilities.

October 1999
• Schools across Rockingham County collect supplies and funds to send to communities ravaged by Hurricane Floyd. **Highlights:** **Holmes Middle School** students raise more than \$8,300, while a flood relief drive conducted by **Rockingham County High School's** JROTC and Student Council brings in more than \$7,500. Forty staff and students from **McMichael High School** volunteer at a Salvation Army distribution center in Greenville.
• **Rayvis Key**, a chemistry teacher at Reidsville High School is named "Teacher of the Year" for Rockingham County Schools. **Carol Underwood**, a kindergarten teacher at Douglass

Elementary, is the runner up. Key later is named a regional finalist for the statewide "Teacher of the Year" award.
• Stoneville Elementary's **Sherri Kallam** is named "Title I Teacher of the Year" and **Rebecca Stafford** is "Math Teacher of the Year" for grades K-6.
• The **Alternative Learning Program of Study (ALPS)**, which is run through Rockingham County's Youth Involvement Program, opens for students who have been suspended for the remainder of the school year. The program, which began in 1995 at the National Guard Armory in Wentworth, serves more than 30 students.
• **Rockingham County High School's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** welcomed three international guests from Russia as a part of the Russian Leadership Program. Sponsored by the Library of Congress, the program was coordinated by Mike Jordan, pastor of Woodmont United Methodist Church in Reidsville. The Russian delegation of Slava Zverkov, Leo Sobolev and Alex Roshenko — visited several schools during their stay in Rockingham County.

• Continued on Page 4

a day in the life...

August 16, 2000



9:26 a.m. — Douglass Elementary
Casey Belton colors on his first project of the 3rd grade in Amy Lemons' class.



9:58 a.m.
Leaksville-Spray Elementary
Kindergarten teacher Karen McCaslin helps student Alison Edmon get down safely off the playground equipment.



10:11 a.m. — Morehead High School
His room still not finished due to a \$2.5 million summer renovation project, teacher Todd Dellinger goes over class rules in his U.S. history class.



10:23 a.m.
Holmes Middle School
On her first day of middle school, 6th grader Kassy Watkins listens to teacher Karen Patrick go over plans for the year.



5:09 p.m. — Early Childhood Center
Johnnie Foster Jr. works on a puzzle at Reidsville High School's new Early Childhood Center while center director Karen Rhinehardt looks on.



5:23 p.m.
Reidsville High School
Reidsville Rams coach Jimmy Teague lectures Ian Harrison on proper blocking techniques while player Terry Turner waits his turn. RHS holds its football practices behind Reidsville Middle School.

a day in the life...

August 16, 2000



5:31 p.m.
Reidsville Middle School
Chace Foxx, a 6th grader at Reidsville Middle School, works on his studies as he waits for the Reidsville High School football practice to end.



5:48 p.m. Monroeton Elementary
Students and staff members in the school-age child care at Monroeton Elementary celebrate the end of a long first day. Pictured are students Ethan Beck, Devan Bolin and Alex Bolin with staff members April Draper, Autumn Hudson and director Susan Jordan.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE : Headlines & Highlights

October 1999 (continued)

• Rockingham County Schools opens the "Homework Assistance Line" on weekdays from 4 to 8 p.m. The phone line — 623-3689 — is manned by two certified teachers who answer questions from students and parents. Operated out of the Parent Resource Center in the Eden Mall, the assistance line will be available again in 2000-2001 to students in grades K-12.

• **Wentworth Elementary** becomes one of Dr. Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots schools. Roots and Shoots is an environmental program for young people who participate in ongoing educational and service projects that promote care and concern for animals, the environment and human communities.

November 1999

• 11 teachers receive **National Board Certification**, bringing the total to 16 who have received the credential over two years. The teachers are: **Tracy Blackard**, **June Koster** and **Debra Wilson**, Western Rockingham Middle; **Gayle Chaney** and **Beth Craft**, McMichael; **Gay City**, Wentworth; **Phyllis Daugherty**, Moss Street Elementary; **Marti Hyatt**, Dillard

Primary; **Joan Kimmel**, Reidsville High School; **Cynthia Lawrence**, Douglass Elementary; and **Ann Montaigne**, Reidsville Intermediate. The five who received certification in 1998-99 are **Jennifer Hines** of Draper, **Virginia Johnson** and **Cecilia Murphy** of Rockingham County High, **Carol Knight** of Monroeton and **Debbie Smith** of Dillard.

• **Wayne Barnett** of Rockingham County High School is named as the school system's "Wachovia Principal of the Year" by the local Principals' and Assistant Principals Association. **Ron Kropa** of RCHS receives the "Assistant Principal of the Year" award.

• **Stoneville Elementary** is named a "Signature School" by the Piedmont Triad Education Consortium for its efforts to involve parents and ensure student achievement for all students. Stoneville, which serves grades pre-K through 5, was one of 15 schools to be recognized by the consortium at its annual meeting.

• **Harold W. Hill** presents a \$28,350 check to the school system for a computer lab at the new Lincoln Elementary School. Hill sold the property on which Lincoln is being built; the school will open in October 2000.

• The **Academic Challenge Competition** begins its second season in Rockingham County. Three matches each are held in the fall and spring. **Morehead High School** wins the overall competition, which receives a boost from sponsor **Tri-City Auto Group**. Tri-City sponsors an end-of-year banquet and awards more than \$1,000 in scholarships to team members from the four high schools.

• An 8th grader at Rockingham County Middle School wins highest honors in this year's WordMasters Challenge — a national language arts competition entered by more than 240,000 students annually. **David French**, the son of David and Megan French of Reidsville, was one of only 100 8th graders to earn a perfect score in the year's first meet.

• Rockingham County veterans from all of America's wars take part in an informal conference with students in the media center at **McMichael High School**. The conference was set up to give students a close-up view of U.S. history.

• More than 1,300 **8th grade students** from all four middle schools begin tours of Rockingham Community College, getting a snapshot of the programs offered.

December 1999

• The Board of Education approves the system's "Gateways 2000" summer school program. A series of six posters on "Why We Test" is published and sent to schools and major employers in Rockingham County. Curriculum team members later visit parent meetings at every school to discuss the "Gateways" initiative with parents.

• Rockingham County Schools is honored with seven awards — the most of any system in the state — for special accomplishments in school communications. **Glenn Cook**, the system's communications director, is honored with the "Blue Ribbon Awards for Communication Excellence" by the North Carolina School Public Relations Association. Rockingham County competed in the category of school systems with 10,000 or more students.

• **Morehead High School's web site** is selected to appear in "Focus on Success! North Carolina's Best," a program sponsored by the state's Department of Public Instruction. The state's web site showcases examples of educational excellence in North Carolina.

• Continued on Page 5

A YEAR IN THE LIFE : Headlines & Highlights

June 2000 (continued)

• Working the equivalent of a full-time job for 51 straight weeks, Dillard Primary's **Hazel Pitchers** is named "Volunteer of the Year" for Rockingham County Schools. Pitchers volunteered for 1,872.5 hours at Dillard Primary and another 200 hours at Western Rockingham Middle School. More than 2,100 volunteers donate more than 66,000 hours to Rockingham County's 26 schools during the 1999-2000 year. Giving more than 500 hours are: **Moses Staton**, Reidsville High, 1,260 hours; **Carol Small**, Western Rockingham Middle, 1,240 hours; **Joan Denny**, Central Elementary, 822 hours; **Franklin Freeman**, McMichael, 900 hours; **George Hooper**, Lawsonville Avenue, 520 hours; **Todd Widel**, Morehead, 520 hours; **Jackie Faint**, Stoneville Elementary, 602.5 hours; and **Sandra Griffith**, Wentworth Elementary, 723.5 hours.

• **Jennifer James**, a 1st grade teacher at Douglass Elementary, is named regional "Teacher of the Year" by the Wal-Mart Foundation. James received the honor, which included a Wal-Mart jacket and a \$500 check to be used in her classroom, during a brief ceremony on the last day of school.

• Three Rockingham County educators gain actual on-the-job experience by "working" in industry. **Ann Hoerter** of Morehead High School, **Nicole Penn** of Western Rockingham Middle School and **Denise Booth** of South End School participate in the BEST (Business Experience in the Summer for Teachers) program. Hoerter works at Morehead Hospital, Penn at Unifi and Booth at Annie Penn Hospital.

• Three teachers from Rockingham County attend the **Summer Leadership Institute for Teachers** at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Participating teachers were recommended by principals at USTEP schools based on their potential to take on leadership roles. Attending are **Elizabeth Fulton** of Reidsville Intermediate School, **Mechelle Herschman** and **Christie Dalton** of Moss Street Elementary School.

July 2000

• **Glenn Cook**, communications director for the school system, receives four "Awards of Honorable Mention" for writing, posters and a recruitment handbook from the National School Public Relations Association. Posters depicting

the school system's "Life Ready" logo and the "Why We Test" booklet and poster series were honored in the Special Purpose category. A recruitment booklet for the system's human resources department was recognized in the Marketing Material division.

• **FNB Southeast** officials announce plans for the second annual "FNB Football Jamboree" at Rockingham County High School. The jamboree, held August 19 at Rockingham County High School, featured a cheerleading competition and eight scrimmages between Rockingham County teams and out-of-town opponents. Athletic programs at each of the high schools received \$1,250 from the jamboree in 1999.

• Seven schools in Rockingham County receive grants from the State Library of North Carolina under the Library Services and Technology Act. The grants, designed to improve school libraries, total more than \$18,000. Schools receiving grant funding are **Dillard**, **McMichael**, **Morehead** and **Reidsville High**, **Monroeton**, **Douglass** and **Williamsburg**.

• **Reidsville High School's** athletes win the **Burlington Cup**, which is awarded to the school

with the highest grade point average for athletes for the third time in seven years.

• **McMichael High School** is declared the winner of the **FNB Southeast Sportsmanship Award** for the third consecutive year.

August 1-15, 2000

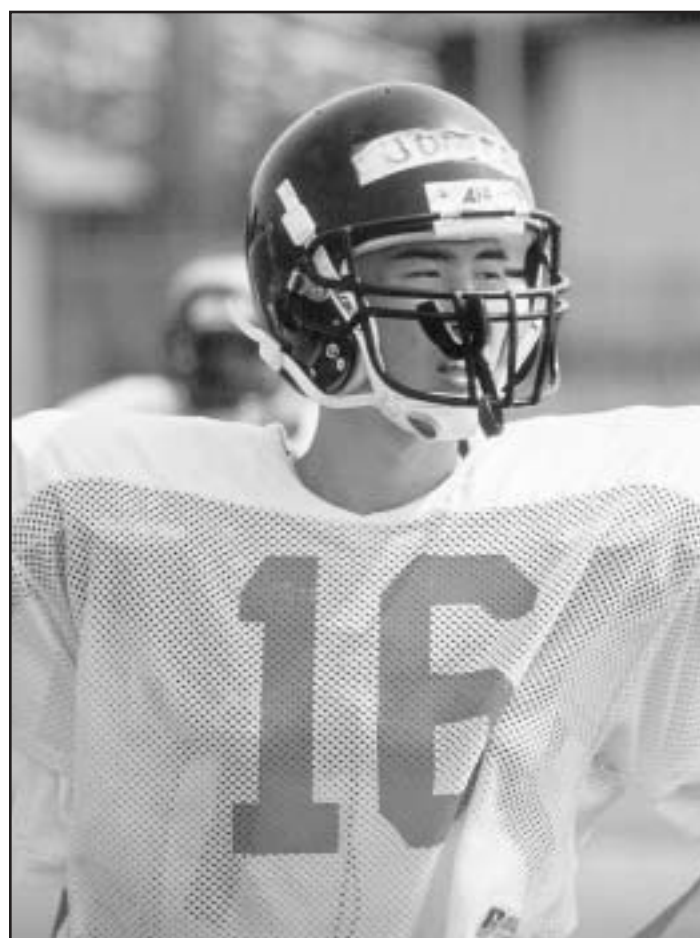
• Thirty-eight teachers and administrators from Rockingham County Schools, Rockingham Community College and staff from Rockingham County Job Link attend the **2000 Summer Business Institute**. Groups of educators tour two industries each during the one-day workshop.

• The **Reidsville High School Early Childhood Center**, a joint project with the Rockingham County Partnership for Children, opens for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. Participants are children of school system employees and teen mothers whose child care is subsidized by the local Smart Start agency.

• Crews complete work on a \$2.5 million renovation and air conditioning project at **Morehead High School**. The project was designed to improve conditions in the school's main building.

3:37 p.m. — Rockingham County High School

Football player Jung Bang listens to Head Coach Tommy Grayson call roll as practice begins.



3:54 p.m.
Rockingham County Middle School

Members of the cheerleading squad hold their first after-school practice of the year. The sponsor is Donna Johnson.

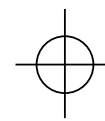


4:15 p.m.
Parent Resource Center
Sandy Morrison, coordinator of the Parent Resource Center, helps Justin and Lexy Lambert put away toys. Justin, 5, is in kindergarten at Stoneville Elementary.



4:15 p.m.
Central Office
Kitty Wilson, receptionist for the Rockingham County Schools Administrative Office, answers questions from a caller.

August 16, 2000
a day
in the life...



CYAN

MAGENTA

YELLOW

BLACK



10:32 a.m.
Central Elementary

Kindergarten student Tyleah Hampton peers out of her class as teacher Jennifer Fargis gets children to stand in line for lunch.

a day in
the life...
August 16, 2000

11 a.m.
Draper Elementary

Cafeteria cashier Cindy Scott tells new student Brianna Bennett how much she owes for her lunch.



11:20 a.m.

Lincoln/Happy Home School

Students wait in line for the Rockingham County bookmobile as the temperature climbs at one of two schools without air conditioning. Students at Happy Home and Sadler were released two hours early due to the weather.



11:40 a.m.
Lincoln Elementary construction site
Construction crews work on the roof at the school where Happy Home and Sadler students will move in October 2000.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE : Headlines & Highlights

May 2000 (continued)

• Two students in the Rockingham County Schools migrant education program are cited for their poetry and writing on the national level.

• **Jose Quiroz** of Western Rockingham Middle and **Elisa Ramirez** of Stoneville Elementary won second place honors in the 7th annual Richard A. Bove Migrant Students Poets and Writers Festival. More than 800 students ages 8 to 19 submitted entries from across the nation.

• **Phil Kirk**, chairman of the State Board of Education, speaks at the Reidsville Rotary Club's annual "Excellence in Education" assembly. It is the second time Kirk visits a school in Rockingham County during the year. The Rotary Club assembly is designed to honor achievements by Reidsville High School students and staff during the year.

• **FNB-Southeast** awards \$2,000 scholarships to one senior from each of Rockingham County's four high schools. The bank, which is headquartered in Reidsville and has seven locations in Rockingham County, has awarded the scholarships every year since 1979.

• **Rockingham County Middle School** wins the first annual middle school "Battle of

the Books," a competition centered around 20 books read by students in grades 6-8.

• **McMichael High School's Andy Shelton** makes a perfect score of 800 on the math section of the SAT.

• A team of one freshman and three sophomores from **McMichael High School** finished second in the state in the annual WRAL-5 "Brain Game." The team, consisting of freshman **Zac Hicks** and sophomores **Johnny Gilbert, Emily Moore** and **Luke Spencer**, was one of 42 from high schools around the state that competed in the "Brain Game." Along the way, the team defeated schools that were three times the size of McMichael's enroute to the second place finish.

• Rockingham County Schools employees are honored as part of "Staff Appreciation Week." School board members and central office employees serve ice cream at after-school socials for teachers and staff members.

• Rockingham County Schools employees take over the entire executive board of District 6 of the **North Carolina Association of Educational Office Professionals**. The officers and their positions include: **Pam Kendrick**,

Finance Department, president; **Tammie Hill**, Douglass Elementary bookkeeper, vice president; **Frankie Woods**, TIMS coordinator, secretary; and **Lois Rudd**, Finance Department, treasurer. District 6 includes office professionals who work in education in Rockingham and Guilford counties.

• **Draper Elementary Principal Steve Hansel** presents a session on reduced class size at the Southeastern Regional Vision for Excellence (SERVE) conference in Washington, D.C.

• **Leaksville-Spray Elementary** holds its annual "Accelerated Reader Recognition Parade," in which students are recognized at the end of the school year for their successes in reading.

• **Douglass Elementary School** completes a student-centered garden that mirrors the three geographical regions in North Carolina. The garden contains picnic tables, a fishpond and flowerbeds to be planted by each grade level. The project was a joint effort with the PTSO, Rockingham Community College's Landscape Design Department and the school administration and staff. Funding was provided by the school, PTSO and a grant from News Channel 12.

June 2000

• More than **700 students graduate** from Rockingham County's four high schools. Of those, more than 80% indicate they will attend a two-year college or four-year university.

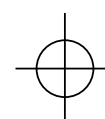
• **Reidsville High School** awards its first six **International Baccalaureate** diplomas to graduating seniors.

• Less than 900 students — one third of the original projections — attend **eight-day summer school sessions** in reading and math. Students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 8 who did not pass the end-of-grade tests take part in the sessions; more than half pass one or both of the exams at the end of summer school.

• Rockingham County Schools honors 42 retiring employees at the "Annual Retirement and Recognition Banquet."

• A **Job Fair** for teachers seeking employment in the Rockingham County Schools is held at Rockingham Community College. More than 70 applicants visit school booths to discuss employment opportunities.

• Continued on Page 9



A YEAR IN THE LIFE : Headlines & Highlights

December 1999 (continued)

• Students from **McMichael High School** and **New Vision Intermediate** complete work on a 25x10-foot mural as part of "Growing Up in America," a college-public school collaboration with Rockingham Community College. McMichael students **Lee Ann Mitchell** and **Sara Mraz** and New Vision student **Stephanie Lowder** won essay contests held in conjunction with the project.

• Students from **Central Elementary** collect 3,467 canned goods for the YMCAs Empty Stocking Fund, the most in the school's history.

• Four students from local high schools are honored by the Student Health Centers for their contributions to the agency's annual Christmas Card Contest. Winners are **Seth Tongbua** (Morehead), **Jonathan Tilley** (McMichael), **Carl Ross** (Reidsville) and **Justin Johnson** (RCHS).

January 2000

• **Winter weather** hits the Piedmont Triad, forcing the school system to close for students for more than two weeks. When students return in late January, the school day is extended by up to 15 minutes for the rest of the year to make up for the lost time.

• The **Parent Resource Center** is honored as one of nine "Governor's Programs of Excellence in Education." The center, which opened in October 1998, is located in the Eden Mall.

• **Sandra Dickens**, a kindergarten teacher at Wentworth Elementary School, receives a \$1,000 Grassroots grant from the Rockingham County Arts Council to bring two programs to the school.

• **Rockingham County Middle School** has received \$400 in grants for its programs from the Region 5 of the North Carolina Middle School Association. Teacher **Ward Triche** received a \$200 grant to spend on a North Carolina collection for the Tar Heel Junior Historians, a program he helped start while at the former Wentworth School. Another \$200 was awarded to **Rhonda Brown** to be spent on a field trip opportunity for the school's Advocacy Team.

• Two students from Rockingham County high schools are selected to attend Governor's School 2000. **Kathryn Thomas** from Rockingham County High School is chosen for the English program. **Janna Edwards** from McMichael High School is chosen for Mathematics.

• Rockingham County High School teachers **Cecilia M. Murphy** and **Virginia P. Johnson**

participate in the North Carolina Distinguished Teachers Forum. Governor James Hunt, State Board Chairman Phillip J. Kirk, Jr. and State Superintendent Dr. Michael E. Ward honored the teachers and entertained their ideas on how to recruit and retain quality professionals.

February 2000

• Middle school and high school students have an opportunity to experience live theatre for free as the **Theatre Guild of Rockingham County** presents "The Diary of Anne Frank." Free admission to the play for students in grades 6-12 is made possible by a grant from The News & Record.

• **SAT scores** rise 11 points overall at Rockingham County's four high schools in 1998-99, but participation on the exam for college-bound students dropped to the lowest level since 1996. System-wide, the average score rose from 945 to 956, the highest level in three years.

• **Morehead High School's Curry Pickard** and **Drake Dickenson** win individual state titles in wrestling. Wrestling coach **Greg Frye** has led Morehead's wrestlers to numerous state titles for the past several years.

• **Joye Latta**, director of media and technol-

ogy for Rockingham County Schools, receives a "Distinguished Technology Leadership Certificate" from the Department of Public Instruction's Educational Technologies Division. Latta was one of the finalists for the North Carolina Technology Educator Award, which is given to individuals who have provided outstanding leadership in planning and implementing instructional technology into the ongoing school program.

• More than 80 students from Rockingham County's middle schools work with employers as part of "Groundhog Job Shadow Day." Reidsville Middle students work with mentors from Annie Penn Hospital, while Holmes students do the same at Morehead Memorial Hospital. The Rockingham County Governmental Center serves RCMS students, while Mayo Yarns employees are shadowed by WRMS students.

• Two Rockingham County graduates now attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill return to their alma maters to perform in a fundraiser for choir programs. McMichael graduate **Cameron Russell** and Morehead graduate **Brittain Cherry** sing with the Clef Hangers, a 16-member men's cappella group from the UNC-CH, at a benefit for both schools.



12:03 p.m. — **Lincoln/Sadler**
5th grader Kristen Ward does a "Stem-and-Leaf Plot" as part of her first day math assignment.

a day in the life...

August 16, 2000



1:12 p.m. — **Williamsburg School**
Jasmine Scott and Tristan Stone work on a project as 2nd grade teacher Kelly Gunn helps another student in the background.



1:38 p.m. — **SCORE Center**
Science teacher Gail Stowe works with students Jeremy Turner (left) and Dominic Foote on an assignment.



2:26 p.m. — **New Vision Intermediate School**

Skylar Sands, a student in Sue Weston's 3rd grade class, packs up to go home on the first day of school.



12:28 p.m. — **Reidsville Intermediate School**
Barbara Cross, a teacher assistant in Kristi Harris' class, shows a book to student Danielle Yoho.



12:37 p.m. — **Moss Street Elementary**: Students race around the track while others enjoy the new playground during an after-lunch activity time.



12:46 p.m. — **South End School**
Katie Lin Jernigan raises her hand to get the attention of her new 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Rountree.

P.E. teacher Valerie Paschal talks to kindergarten students about the rules for her class.



1:59 p.m. — **Bethany Elementary**
1st grader Vicki Tapia peers out from a playground tractor wheel as students play in the background.



2:48 p.m. — **Dillard Primary School**: 2nd grade teacher Donna Brewer waves to student Darrell Hawkins as she helps other children to the bus.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE: Headlines & Highlights

February 2000 (continued)

- Reidsville Middle School's **Danell Harrison** wins the Soil and Water Conservation Speech Contest on the county and district levels. **Tiffany Hayes** was the winner of the "Laws of Life" Essay Contest, and was one of two runners-up for the state competition.
- Rockingham County Schools** receives two awards from the United Way of Rockingham County for employee contributions to the program.
- The Town of Wentworth donates \$4,000 to **Rockingham County Middle School** to help with the installation of a 16-camera surveillance system.

March 2000

- Wayne Kirkman** is appointed to the Rockingham County Board of Education. He replaces District 6's Jeff Eanes, who resigned after 3½ years on the board.
- Six students planning to major in education from the county are picked as part of the 2000 class of North Carolina Teaching Fellows. Each receives \$26,000 in scholarships in return for agreeing to teach in North Carolina public schools for four years. Winners are **Elizabeth Cassidy Fargis**

and **Andrea Dawn Lehman** (Morehead), **Erin Cassandra Bailey**, **Pamela Michelle Billings** and **Brittany Hope Cobb** (Rockingham), and **Amy Caroline Price** (McMichael).

Rockingham County Schools sweeps the top three honors for excellence in financial reporting and management for the third consecutive year. Assistant Superintendent **David Wise** and the school system's **Finance Department** are honored with the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) "Certificate of Excellence," the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence" and the State Board of Education's "Recognition of Achievement in Financial Resource Management."

- Scott McInnis**, a senior at Rockingham County High School, is named a Morehead Scholar to UNC-Chapel Hill. He is the first Morehead winner in Rockingham County since the 1993 merger.
- A dedication ceremony is held at **Moss Street School** for a new playground in honor of former teacher **Sharon Macklin**. PTA members raise \$30,000 for the playground named after Macklin, who was named "Physical Education Teacher of the Year" for the state of North Carolina two weeks prior to her death in 1994.

- A team of 5th grade students representing **New Vision Intermediate School** wins highest honors in the WordMasters Challenge — a national language arts competition entered by more than 240,000 students annually. Ten students, under the direction of Pamela Dalton, placed 10th in the nation among 763 school teams in the 5th grade Blue Division. **Alyssa Martin** was one of only 54 5th graders nationwide to earn a perfect score in the meet.

- DECA students **Clifton Williams** and **Roselyn Pinnix** of Reidsville High School and **Cindy Baillies** and **Joshuah Smith** of Morehead High School win state level awards at the North Carolina Career Development Conference. The four advanced to the national DECA competition in Louisville, Ky.

- Four Draper Elementary 5th graders — **Brittney Mostela**, **Whitney Woods**, **Julie Reese** and **Blake Chatham** — are chosen to participate in a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. The four were chosen based on essays they wrote about civic awareness.

- Morehead High School** and **Western Rockingham Middle School** students sweep top

honors in the annual Rockingham County Science Fair. Morehead students **Christie DeMason**, **Michael Brodeur**, **Danny Cavanaugh** and **Megan Spivey** win the top awards in all four categories in the high school division of the annual countywide science fair. Three students from WRMS — 7th graders **Tucker Cardwell** and **David Drews** and 8th grader **Leah Vernon** — win first place honors in the middle school division.

- Moss Street Elementary** brings in 152 parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to "Bring a Parent to School Day." The visiting adults participate in their child's routine class schedule to better understand what happens during their child's day.

- Rockingham County High School's Women's Ensemble** receives a "Superior" rating at the North Carolina Music Educator's Association Large Ensemble Festival. The **Concert Choir** earns an "Excellent" rating. Three students — **Stephen Brown**, **Susan Simmons** and **Jennifer Turner** — receive "Superior" ratings in the NCMEA Solo/Small Ensemble Festival.

- Jay Miller**, an 8th grader at WRMS, was one of the top 100 qualifiers on the state level in the National Geography Bee.

- Reidsville Intermediate** holds a "Safety in Our Schools" program to focus on ways parents can get involved with their children before violence starts.

April 2000

- Fourteen of 21 schools — including all four high schools and three of four middle schools — exceed the state average on the North Carolina Writing Test. **Highlights: Rockingham County Middle** had the best average systemwide at 91.6%; **Reidsville** had the largest gain among the high schools, increasing from 71.1% to 87.6% on the English II exam; **Monroeton Elementary** had 80.0% of its students pass the 4th grade writing test.

- The **Parent Resource Center** and **Morehead Memorial Hospital** co-sponsor the second annual "Ready, Set, Go 2000" festival at the Eden Mall. The festival draws more than 500 people who come to learn about services available from the school system and hospital.

- Five **Bethany Elementary** teachers receive "Model Classroom" certification from the Institute for Academic Excellence. **Honey Williamson**, **Cindy Jones**, **Melinda Glenn**, **Nancy Isley** and

Meredith Rogers were the first elementary teachers in the county to receive the certification, which is given to those whose students receive a minimum of 60 minutes of reading practice time each day.

- Three high school seniors — two from McMichael and one from Rockingham County — earn appointments to United States military academies. **Alfred Maynard** of RCHS and **Michael Hatley** of McMichael receive appointments to the Air Force Academy from U.S. Rep. Richard Burr. **Wesley Kennerly** of McMichael earns an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy from Burr.

- Susan Peele**, director of pre-school and school-age child care programs for Rockingham County Schools, receives the "2000 Direct Services Award" from the North Carolina Division of Early Childhood. The award is presented annually to a professional who coordinates and organizes projects that provide early childhood services to children and their families. Early childhood programs target children ages 0 to 5.

- Douglass Elementary School's **Barbara Swanson** is named as one of six finalists in a state essay contest on literature. Swanson, a 5th grader, was selected as a state finalist in the annual "Letters About Literature" essay contest. She was the only

elementary school student to be selected for the honor and received a \$100 prize.

- Theatre students join forces for the **first All-County Theatre** production of "West Side Story," which draws more than 800 people to Reidsville High School over two nights.

- A display commemorating **Bethany School's** 75th anniversary is set up in one of the classrooms of the science building at what is now Bethany Elementary School. The school holds events throughout the year to mark the anniversary.

- Rockingham County Schools** and the **Rockingham County Public Library** co-sponsor "The Very Best Place to Start," a festival for children and adults to kickoff National Library Week.

- Rockingham County High's **Dyrell Houghton** wins fifth place (out of 105 participants) in the Medical Spelling event at the 24th Annual North Carolina HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) State Leadership Conference. **Teresa Harris**, club advisor, was named a Gold Star HOSA Advisor during the conference.

- Reidsville Intermediate School's **Douglas Staley** and **Tony Dockery** receive first place awards in the national Continental Math League

competition. Seven RIS students earn second place honors

- Reidsville High School's Future Farmers of America Chapter** receives an \$825 grant as part of the 1999-2000 FFA Community Development Grants Program. The program, which is funded by the North Carolina Rural Rehabilitation Corporation as a special project of the North Carolina FFA Foundation, is designed to help local FFA chapters improve their school and community.

May 2000

- Board of Education members decide to build a **new elementary school** in the southwestern portion of Rockingham County first in Phase II of the system's long-range facilities plan. Also approved are renovations to **Dillard Primary** and **New Vision Intermediate** to enable both schools to serve grades PK-5, along with the expansion and renovation of **Western Rockingham Middle**.

- Wade Apple**, a senior at Reidsville High School, is awarded a National Merit Scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

• Continued on Page 8