

# Cumberland County Schools

# SPRING 2026

## CTE Newsletter



## DOUGLAS BYRD HIGH SCHOOL INNOVATES YEARBOOK DESIGN



Douglas Byrd High School will become the first high school in Cumberland County to craft a yearbook made entirely by students using Adobe InDesign! Students Adriana Tilke, Alex Castro, Akai Reed, Hayden Lollis, in collaboration with other students and teachers, have received the golden opportunity to be the first school in the county to create their own yearbook by hand. This self-service directly saves Douglas Byrd High money, given the end of a contract with memorabilia company Jostens.



# CAPE FEAR HIGH SCHOOL SHINES BRIGHT

## RISING FRESHMEN NIGHT

Rising Freshman Night on February 9th, 2026 was a jam-packed house with over 300 people in attendance! Families got a glimpse of what makes Cape Fear High School such a special place, from incredible performances by our Arts Department, to campus tours led by our freshman mentors, and a Program & Sports Fair in the gym highlighting our academies, CTE Pathways CTE CTSO's, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities.

## IT'S A NIGHT TO SHINE!



There truly is no night quite like Night to Shine, a complimentary event for people with special needs hosted by local churches around the world. The event is open to anyone living with disabilities, ages 14 and older. Each event is unique to its location, but some cornerstone activities are a red carpet entrance complete a crowd and paparazzi, hair and makeup stations, shoeshines, limousine rides, karaoke, gifts, a catered dinner, a Sensory Room, a Respite Room for parents and caregivers, dancing, and a crowning ceremony where every guest is honored as a King or a Queen. We are so thankful to Temple Baptist Church for allowing Cape Fear High School DECA, HOSA, NTHS, SkillsUSA, and the CFHS drum line students to be a part of this AMAZING event held on February 13th, 2026.



# HONORING EXCELLENCE: NTHS INDUCTION AT SOUTH VIEW HIGH SCHOOL



The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) chapter at South View High School recently hosted its Induction Ceremony on March 24, 2026, inducting a total of eighteen students. The event was well-attended and successfully coordinated under the leadership of advisor Stacy Frazer and co-advisor Shameka Johnson. The ceremony featured guest speaker Ms. Sharon Thompson-Journigan, whose message on leadership and excellence was both encouraging and well-received.

Inductees were presented with certificates by Principal Phyllis Jackson and CTE Department Assistant Principal Dorothy Woodfork, recognizing the students for their hard work and academic achievement. In addition, all senior members were corded by Senior Advisor Damaris Prieto in honor of their dedication and accomplishments within the organization.





# THE FUTURE STARTS HERE AT CAPE FEAR

## SIGNING OFF, SOARING ON

On May 6, 2026, SkillsUSA Senior Signing Day, was held at Jack Britt High School. Students, family, friends, and advisors celebrated the next steps in the lives of our SkillsUSA Chapter seniors. The students featured will be attending Fayetteville Technical Community College, North Carolina State University, and Appalachian State University in the fall. The Jack Britt High School Advisors wish all of the SkillsUSA Seniors the best in their future endeavors.



## PINNED FOR SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Donna Kennedy's Nursing students at Cape Fear High School! The CNA pinning ceremony is a meaningful and symbolic event that marks the transition from student to professional caregiver, recognizing not only the completion of training but also the dedication, compassion, and resilience required to serve in healthcare. Shout out to Lachlan Parnell for receiving the United Way Allied Health Scholarship.





# JUMPING INTO LEARNING: CAPE FEAR STUDENTS AT THE CAROLINA HORSE PARK



Fourteen students from Cape Fear High School traveled to the Carolina Horse Park in Raeford, NC on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 for an unforgettable learning experience! Students had the opportunity to observe multiple Olympic-level riders compete in show jumping. This real-world exposure allowed them to see classroom concepts come to life right in front of them. In addition to spectating the competition, students walked the cross-country course, giving them a deeper understanding of course design, obstacles, and the skills required for success in eventing. It was a fun and engaging day filled with learning, exploration, and inspiration for all involved!

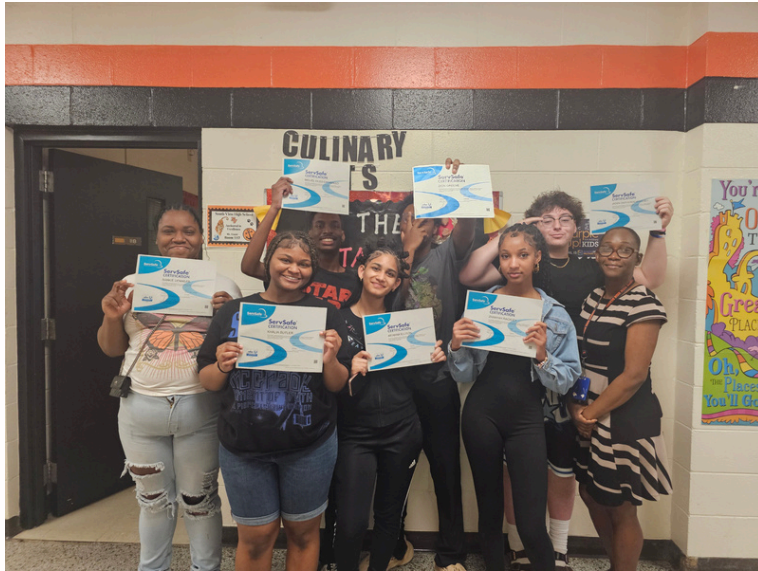






# SERVING EXCELLENCE AT SOUTH VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

South View High School's Spring Semester Culinary Arts II students achieved a 100% pass rate on the ServSafe Certification Exam! This is a major accomplishment that reflects their dedication, discipline, and commitment to excellence in the culinary field. Each student rose to the challenge, studied diligently, and demonstrated industry-level knowledge in food safety and sanitation. A special recognition goes out this semester to "Khalia Bulter", truly the GOAT (Greatest of All Time) for leading, motivating, and pushing excellence throughout the cohort. The energy, leadership, and consistency displayed made a lasting impact on this success story!



## MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! CFHS WINS ROTC COMPETITION



On March 20th, 2026, Cape Fear High School NJROTC took first place as the overall winners in Cumberland County, beating all Army, Navy, and Air Force units in the annual county-wide Org Day field meet!



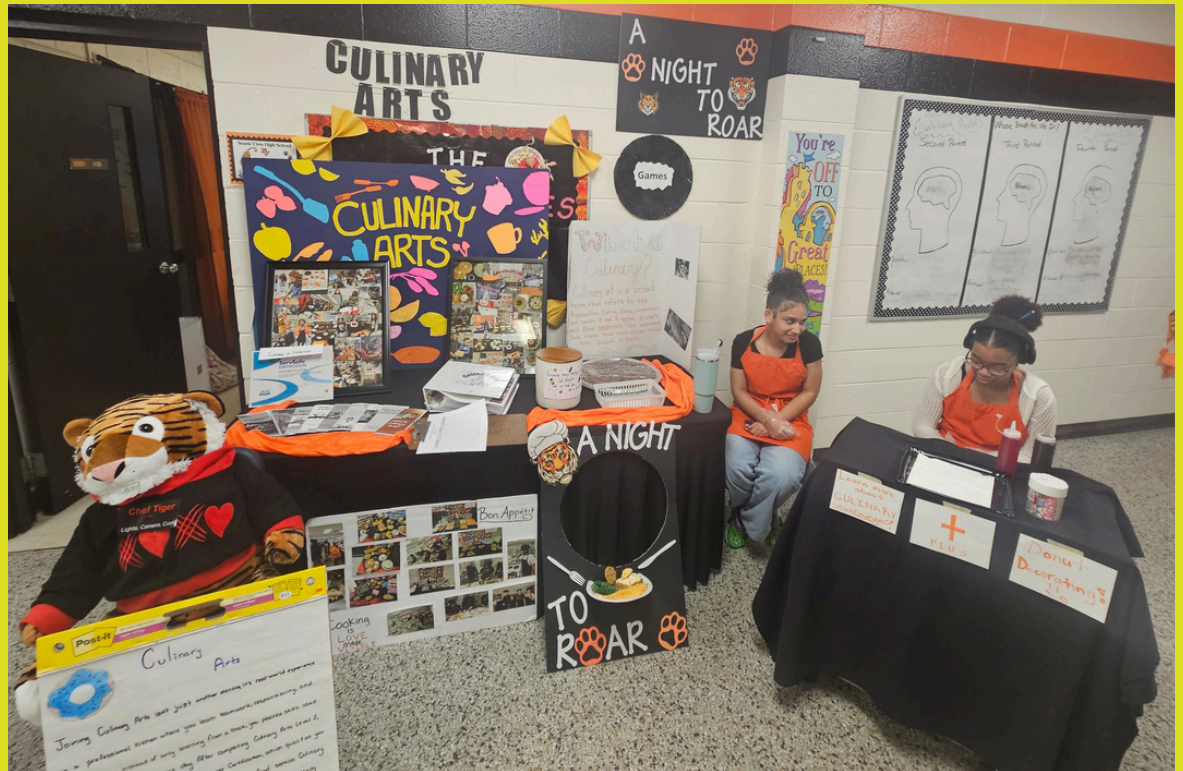




# ROARING AT SOUTH VIEW HIGH SCHOOL



On March 12, 2026, South View High School hosted “A Night to Roar,” an engaging evening designed to welcome middle school students and their parents to explore a wide range of career pathways and academic programs while enjoying a fun, hands-on learning experience. The Culinary Arts students and their teacher, Ms. Stacy Frazer, did an outstanding job preparing and serving sumptuous meals for all attendees. Their professionalism, teamwork, and creativity were on full display as they presented dishes with pride.



## FUN FACT:

**Tiger stripes are unique. Like the human fingerprint, each tiger's stripe pattern is one of a kind.**

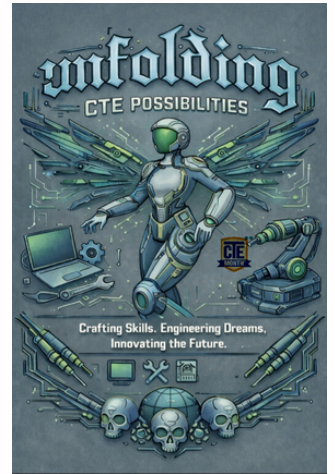


# GETTING COMPETITIVE AT DOUGLAS BYRD HIGH SCHOOL

## CTE DESIGN CONTEST



Takayla McQueen and Jose Moreno-Torruco from Ms. Rollins' Business Essentials class at Douglas Byrd High School entered the CTE T-Shirt Design Contest with these innovative designs.



## FCCLA FIRST PLACE WIN!

On March 16, 2026, Alex Castro, Jessie Garcia, Gianna McLucas, Isabella Smalls, and Adriana Tilke from Douglas Byrd High School took first place in Parliamentary Procedure at the FCCLA state competition.





# CAPE FEAR HIGH SCHOOL WINS BIG WITH SKILLSUSA

On February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Cape Fear High School SkillsUSA students competed in Regional Rally Conference at FTCC in Culinary Arts, Restaurant Services, Drone & Crime Scene. Congratulations to the winners:

## 1st place

Culinary Arts: Zachary Paz

Restaurant Service: Eden Hibler

## 2nd place

Crime Scene: Karena Nelson & Mareesa Clipper

Drone: Chris Strange & Malachi Benjamin

Restaurant Service: Juan DeLeon

## 3rd place

Baking & Pastry: Jada Ballard

Crime Scene: Olivia Hall, Lorelei Jackson & Kensey Hood

## 4th place

Baking & Pastry: Sinsi Polite Tinajero





# LAYING THE FOUNDATION AT SOUTH VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Seven South View High students in Mr Underwood's Masonry I & II Classes have earned OSHA 10 Certification. For high school students, earning this credential signals to employers that they have basic knowledge of workplace safety and are serious about their careers.

OSHA 10-Hour Construction training is crucial for high school masonry students because it provides foundational safety knowledge, covering fall protection, scaffolding, and hazard recognition, that significantly reduces job-site injuries. It increases employability, acts as a required, competitive credential, and cultivates a "safety-first" mindset essential for working in the high-risk masonry trade.

By earning their OSHA 10 card in high school, students start their careers as safer, more valuable professionals, which often leads to better pay and more job opportunities.

Congratulations to Masonry I students, (left to right) Martavion Cofield-Mack, Mayell Castillo-Salazar and Denim Pahdocony and Masonry II students, (left to right) James Crosland, Dominico Boulder, Chaynce Beamon and Alexander Rodriguez De Leon.





# GROWING SUCCESS: CELEBRATING ACADEMY GRADUATES AT CFHS

Cape Fear High School celebrates twenty-seven wonderful seniors who graduated from the Academy of Agriculture & Natural Sciences on April 14th! Over the last four years, these students have taken 5+ agricultural courses with one required to be a level II course, maintained a high GPA, participated in various community service activities, and completed several work-based learning hours! These students have worked so hard the last four years and we are so proud of each and every one of them!



Recipients of our special awards:

**Highest GPA in Ag courses:**

**Hunter Matthews, 4.3 GPA**

**Most Community Service Hours:**

**Billie Faith Fulcher, 72 hours**

**Most Ag Classes Taken:**

**Mason Canady, 8 courses**





# JACK BRITT HIGH SCHOOL IS LEADING THE PACK!

Forty-six students of the Jack Britt High School Chapter of SkillsUSA competed at the North Carolina Leadership conference in Greensboro April 15th - 17th, 2026, where twenty-six chapter members received medals. The six First Place winners and the newly elected state officer will travel to the SkillsUSA National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia in June.

**Newly Elected NC State Officer:** Chiamaka Ogbuoji

**Outstanding Chapter Members of the Year:** Chiamaka Ogbuoji, Sara Reese

**1st Place Winners Going to Nationals:** Crime Scene Investigation: Reagan Decker, Abharika Gurung, Ta’Kera Jenkins, Technical Drafting: Samantha Traum, Mechatronics: Kaidan Richter, Maya Storms

**2nd Place Winners:** Samantha Higgs-Job Skill Demonstration A - Gun Shot Residue, Chase Marquis-Drafting I, Bransen Buckner-Technical Drafting, Kiprutto Chongwony-Mechatronics, Elise Coomes-Mechatronics

**3rd Place Winners:** Crime Scene Investigation: Joanna Lee, Keira Locklear, Leiniah Sanders, Technical Drafting: Chiamaka Ogbuoji, Auto Tool ID, Jacob Jabola, Related Technical Math: Steven Nguyen, Adobe Video Design: Jacob Brink, 3D Visualization and Animation: Brooklynne Sprehe, Grace McDonald, Photography: Annabel Rittler

**5th Place Winners:** Technical Drafting: Jan Michael Galarza DelValle, Principles of Technology: Elinor Decker, Job Skill Demonstration A -Digital Breadboarding: Gavin Cahill, Interactive Application and Video Application: Katie Tran, Brent Fortich

**Chapter Awards:** Gold Chapter of Distinction, Total Participation Award, Largest Chapter Membership





# CAPE FEAR HIGH SCHOOL GETS PAWSITIVELY INSPIRED



In March, Cape Fear High School took thirteen students interested in pursuing careers in the veterinary field on an educational field trip to visit two local veterinary hospitals. During the visit, students were given a behind-the-scenes look at the day-to-day operations of a veterinary practice. They had the opportunity to observe procedures, explore different areas of the clinics, and learn about the wide range of responsibilities veterinary staff take on each day. Students also engaged in meaningful conversations with professionals in the field, asking questions about education requirements, career paths, and real-world experiences. This hands-on exposure allowed them to connect what they are learning in the classroom to real-life applications.

## FUTURE READY: NTHS INDUCTION AT CAPE FEAR HIGH

On February 26, 2026, Cape Fear High School inducted thirty-one students into the National Technical Honor Society, with guest speaker Ruben Garcia talking about “Reasons or Results.” Congratulations to the inductees for all your hard work and dedication. This is an honor that you will be able to carry with you throughout your education and your career! Way to go Colts!





# JACK BRITT HIGH SCHOOL EXCELS AT SKILLSUSA!



Jack Britt High School's Career and Technical Education (CTE) students showcased their abilities at the SkillsUSA Southeastern Regional Rally held at Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) on February 20, 2026. A team of advisors, including Ms. Dobie, Ms. Newsom, Mrs. Jutson, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Perez, and Mr. McGhee, brought a delegation of approximately forty students who represented the future of the American workforce. With the mentorship of their advisors, these students are proving that they are not only "college and career ready" but are already leading the way in their chosen professions. The Buccaneers claimed the top spot in seven different categories across creative and technical fields. The success at the Regional Rally serves as a springboard for students who are now setting their sights on the SkillsUSA North Carolina State Leadership & Skills Conference. Congratulations Buccaneers!

## 2026 Award Winners

**1st Place:** Jacob Brink (Adobe Video Design), Tyler Buckner (Drafting I), Sophia Schwerdt (Extemporaneous Speaking), Samantha Higgs (Job Demonstration A), Sara Reese (Open Demonstration), Kaidan Richter (Mechatronics), Kiprutto Chongwony (Mechatronics), Samantha Traum (Technical Drafting)

**2nd Place:** Austin Cowart, Brent Fortich, Katie Tran, Tiffany Bui, Elinor Decker, Maya Storms, Annabel Rittler, Stepven Nguyen, Michael Baker, Chiamaka Ogbuoji

**3rd Place:** Chase Marquis, Gavin Cahill, Michah Miray-Dominquez, Elise Coomes, Arianna Forth, Bransen Buckner

**4th Place:** Jacob Jabola, Abharika Gurung, Keira Locklear, Leiniah Sanders, Danica Decker, Justin Tran, Madalyn Hefron

**5th Place:** Aliakin Adivar, Reagan Decker, Ta'Kera Jenkins, Joanna Lee, Demario Freeman, Cohen Hall



# CHAMPIONS AMONG US: ★ CAPE FEAR STUDENTS ★ BRING HOME THE TITLE ★

## RIDING HIGH: CAPE FEAR HIGH EQUINE TEAM EARNS HONORS



Cape Fear High School's Senior Equine Evaluation Team traveled to Martin Community College on April 11th to compete at the state level! Team members Alyssa C., Hailey P., Ashlyn P., and Abigail W. evaluated eight classes of horses, presented two sets of oral reasons, and completed an identification test. The team earned an impressive 19th place in the state and 2nd overall in the South Central region. Way to go, ladies! Congratulations on your hard work and dedication!

## UDDERLY AMAZING: CFHS DAIRY EVALUATION TEAM RISES TO THE TOP



Cape Fear High School's Jr. Dairy Evaluation Team competed in Winston-Salem, on Friday April 10th. Team members Alyssa C., Mary Claire C., Caroline C., and Ella R. spent the day judging dairy cows, identifying feedstuff, and presenting oral reasons. The team did wonderful placing 9th in the State and 1st in the South Central region. Way to go girls!





# CAPE FEAR HIGH SKILLSUSA STUDENTS EARN STATE HONORS

On March 18th-19th, 2026 Cape Fear High School SkillsUSA students competed in State Competition in Morehead City in Wedding Cake Design and Restaurant Service and on April 15th-17th, 2026, Cape Fear High School SkillsUSA students competed at the State Leadership Conference in Greensboro in Crime Scene Investigation and Drones. Congratulations to the winners:

**1st place (Going to Nationals) -  
Restaurant Service:  
Juan DeLeon-Perez**

**3rd place - Restaurant Service:  
Eden Hibbler**

**4th place - Wedding Cake  
Design: Jada Ballard and Sinai  
Tinajero Polito**



**4th place  
Crime Scene Investigation:  
Kensley Hood, Olivia Hall,  
and Loralie Jackson**



**4th place  
Drones: Christopher Strange  
& Malachi Benjamin**





# LUTHER NICK JERALDS IS OUTRUNNING THE COMPETITION!



In celebration of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month and National FFA Week, Luther Nick Jearlds Middle School CTE educators showed their commitment both inside and outside the classroom. Mrs. Teresa Hammonds, Computer Skills Teacher, and Mr. Tyrone Hendry, Career Exploration Teacher, participated in the First Annual GC FFA Field for Heroes 5K Race held on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at S & K Farm Market in Hope Mills, North Carolina.

This meaningful community event brought together educators, students, families, and local supporters to honor service members while promoting agricultural education and career pathways.



All proceeds from the 5K race will benefit the STAG (Soldiers to Agriculture) program, sponsored by Cumberland County Cooperative Extension, which provides a comprehensive five-week training course designed to equip transitioning soldiers and their spouses with in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience in various agricultural fields and careers.

By participating in this inaugural event, Mrs. Hammonds and Mr. Hendry demonstrated their commitment to service, workforce development, and community engagement. Their involvement reflects the core values of CTE—preparing students for college, careers, and life—while supporting initiatives that create real-world opportunities for veterans and military families.





# UNVEILING EXCELLENCE: SEVENTY-FIRST HIGH SCHOOL MASQUERADE



The Mystery Masquerade, which took place on Friday, March 13, 2026, was an incredibly vibrant and formal affair. All guests arrived fully dressed up and wearing masks, instantly transforming the venue into an elegant masquerade ball. Not just a fundraiser, this event was a grand celebration designed to bring awareness of CTE and SkillsUSA to the entire community.

The success of the Mystery Masquerade was a true testament to the power of collaboration across Seventy-First High School's departments and was meticulously coordinated by SkillsUSA students, who worked tirelessly alongside their dedicated advisors: T. Williams, K. Oliver, G. Hermis, and J. Price. The stunning masks available for purchase were beautifully designed by visual arts students under the guidance of Ms. N. Graybeal, while behind the scenes, the culinary arts students, under the direction of Chef G. Hermis, skillfully created a delectable three-course meal, preceded by a delightful appetizer.

The centerpiece of the evening was the outstanding "Who Done It" performance put on by the talented theater arts students under the direction of Mrs. Susannah Wagner. In addition to the delicious food and captivating performance, the event featured exciting prizes, like beautiful chessboards and plant stands, expertly built by the talented woodworking students under the direction of Mr. Jeffrey Price. The success of the Mystery Masquerade is a shining example of the incredible outcomes achieved when students, educators, and the community come together to support CTE.



# 2025-2026 CCS CTE TEACHER OF THE YEAR



**TAMMY COX**  
**CAPE FEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

Congratulations to Tammy Cox of Cape Fear High School on being named the 2025–2026 CCS CTE Teacher of the Year! As a dedicated Marketing teacher and DECA advisor, her commitment to student leadership and career readiness is making a lasting impact. This recognition highlights the vital role CTE plays in preparing students with real world skills, critical thinking abilities and career readiness. Educators like Ms. Cox bridge the gap between classroom learning and practical application, empowering students to succeed. Ms. Cox is dedicated to making a lasting impact - well deserved!



**Chip Lucas, Executive Director**  
**2465 Gillespie Street**  
**Fayetteville, NC 28306**  
**910.678.2442**

**CTE News Editor - Jennifer Milton**

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