

Dr. Will Hoffman, Superintendent

February 5, 2021

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

02/22/21	Board Meeting	
	Central Support	
	Closed	5:00 PM
	Work	5:30 PM
	Open	6:00 PM

Attachments:

2.05.21 Press Release Gear Up Grant

The State Board Approves New K-12 Social Studies Standards: The North Carolina State Board of Education has approved new social studies standards for the state's kindergarten through 12th grades that underscore the study of more diverse perspectives on history. The board voted 7-5 in favor of the standards, which opponents feared did not emphasize enough the study of the country's progress toward racial equity. Proponents argued the new standards would ensure a more comprehensive and honest history of the U.S. was taught. The difference between the current standards and what the board passed Thursday is largely the degree of specificity of the varying perspectives students should consider. Students will be asked to discuss racism, marginalized groups and the impact of policies on different populations. Students will be asked to compare narratives of different perspectives, critique systems and practices or explain how inequities continue today.

Madison County Schools Receives New Gear Up Grant: The new grant is worth \$980,000. The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a \$29.5 million GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) grant to Appalachian State University for funding to begin this academic year (effective Sept. 30). The scope of the grant includes Madison County and nine other partnering school districts, eight partnering North Carolina higher education institutions and approximately 14,000 middle and high school students and their families. Appalachian is one of only six institutions awarded a GEAR UP Partnership grant in 2020. For more information see the attached letter.

National School Counseling Week: February 2-5 is National School Counseling week. We are thankful for all of our school counselors that go above and beyond helping our students achieve school success and plan for a career!

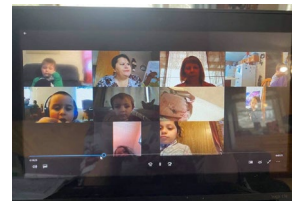
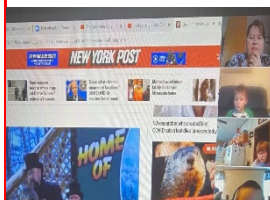


Madison County Schools Mission



The students of Madison County Schools will have meaningful experiences and valuable academic preparation to ensure a brighter future.

Remote Learning in Kindergarten: Hot Springs Elementary kindergarten students are learning about tapping out CVC words and doing Heggertys. This week the students also learned about Groundhog day on February 2nd. The students and teachers watched the Groundhog day news coverage on Zoom. Our students and teachers are Making It Happen with remote learning!



Bear Ambassador Student Leaders: Brush Creek Elementary School has elected 4th and 5th grade students to serve as Bear Ambassadors for 2020-2021. Even though this year is much different, the importance of students learning leadership skills is even more critical. The Bear Ambassadors will work with Ms. Adams to plan events for our school community.

