

Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies

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<http://chs.darecountyschoolsonline.com/>



Principal's Message

Welcome to Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies where students are offered an enjoyable and unique educational experience. Our dedicated faculty and staff strives to provide an educational environment that is committed to preparing all students for the global community. Working closely with students, families and community members, we strive to meet the needs of all students.

As a School of Coastal Studies we work closely with community members to construct a strong foundational support to meet the needs of all students. We are continually engaged in redefining our standards for success while readjusting our programs based on the needs of our students. Offering innovative educational opportunities helps to promote advancement for both middle and high school students. We work diligently to provide middle school students opportunities to participate in high school level classes and high school students the opportunity to achieve college credits by graduation of high school. Currently, 100% of our 8th grade students are enrolled in at least one high school level class. All students will be provided a strong educational foundation by participating in meaningful opportunities that promote academic excellence and encourage the development of the whole child. Our well developed goals are supported by many innovative educational opportunities that promote standards of success. Our programs are guided by our Coastal Studies theme and by our shared vision of improving our rigor, relevance, relationships, respect and responsibility.

Our school is excited about the many challenges that crest our future. We are prepared to work strategically with students, parents and community members to create a culture of that prepares of students for a bright future.

Beth Rooks
Principal

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School Improvement Goals:

- One hundred percent of students will graduate from Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies college and career ready.
- Collect and disaggregate data in all academic areas to increase performance.
- Increase communication and active participation among staff, students, parents and community.
- Ensure a safe and secure school environment.

2014-2015 Accomplishment Highlights:

Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies welcomed Seth Rose from the Carolina College Advising Corps to assist with increasing the number of students attending and graduating from a technical, 2-year, or 4-year higher educational institution.

The Young Naturalist Program, a year-long field study in natural resource management and sustainability, continues to grow at CHSS. The program facilitates numerous partnerships in our community and provides relevant learning opportunities for our students.

Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies participates in STEAM activities on a regular basis. Students in the math and science classes collaborate on a regular basis with the Art Department. Last year, the science and math department each created a mural to depict PI to help students further examine cross curricular content concepts.

Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies has a long standing relationship with the Coastal Studies Institute. Over the course of the year, students work jointly with the Coastal Studies Institute to maintain our hatchery. Also, students have created 4 "B.O.B." or buoyancy devices to collect data regarding tidal information, salinity, water temperature and wind speed and direction. These devices then transmit the data to weather tracking systems attached to Coastal Studies Institute. Additionally, Coastal Studies Institute works closely with our student body to maintain our oyster reef system. Last year, students added more bedding material to the oyster reef system already in place. The expected result will be continuous growth and sustainment of our reefing system. Finally, several grade levels and high school classes traveled to Coastal Studies Institute to participate in enriching learning opportunities. Our strong continual relationship with the Coastal Studies Institute has benefited our students greatly and has helped our students develop a passion for our environment and establish the need for creating avenues to sustain it.

Foods Program and the high school science department participated in several STEM activities. Both the Advanced Placement Biology and Food I program traveled to Conetoe, NC to study the farm-to-table initiative in place within the community. Over the course of the trip, students studied planting methods, soil testing and enrichment, the science of beekeeping and how each can maintain a healthy community. The Foods I class planted a garden to replicate the food-to-table initiative within the class.

Several middle and high school students participated in the regional Science Olympiad competition at East Carolina University in Greenville. Middle school students earned 1st place Bridge Competition, 3rd place Bottle Rocket, 2nd place Crave the Wave Competition, 1st place Crimebusters Competition, 1st place Duct Tape Challenge, 3rd place Dynamic Planet Competition, 2nd place Green Generation Competition, 1st place It Matters Competition. The high school received 1st place Duct Tape Challenge, 3rd place Experimental Design, and 1st place Write It, Do It Competition. In the state competition, CHSSOCS earned fifth place overall in the Duct Tape Challenge out of 65 teams from across the state.

A record number of band students from Hatteras were invited to participate in this region's Albemarle Band Clinic. This group of students in both Middle School and High School participated in the two-day clinic, and performed in a concert.