

# MEDIA CENTER NEWS

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy Newsletter

VOL 3.

WINTER 2018—2019

## Halifax County Public Schools, “I Matter Rally!”



Students participated in Action Based Learning, by dancing to music.

Halifax County Public Schools held an “I Matter Rally,” in November. Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman facilitated Action Based Learning (ABL) Workshops and Digital Citizenship for Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy and Southeast Collegiate Prep Academy. Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman volunteers to teach Zumba to Northwest staff and community on Tuesday’s after school.

One of the easiest ways to incorporate movement in a lesson is to have an Action Based activity as a “Bell Ringer.” There are also other creative ways to include movement in lessons. Brain Break ideas is another way to add ABL, view this website: <https://insidetheclassroomoutsidethebox.wordpress.com/2015/02/01/incorporating-brain-breaks/>.

Northwest will soon have an Action Based Learning Lab where students can awaken all of their senses and retain more knowledge.

## The North Carolina Museum of History visits Northwest



Mr. Earl Ijames, curator for The North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh, NC came out to speak to History classes on African Americans and The Civil War on December 7, 2018. The American History teachers shared their were only two pages on African Americans and their impact in the Civil War in the United States of America in their history books. It is wonderful to have additional resources. Mr. Ijames shared Civil War artifacts from The Museum. Mr. Ijames also procured two classroom sets of Civil War text books for Northwest, *Understanding The War Between the States : A Supplemental Booklet* by 16 Writers that Enables A More complete and Truthful Study of American History, and *American History for Home Schools, 1607 to 1885, with a Focus on Our Civil War* By 16 Members of the Society of Independent Southern Historians.

A visitor Mr. Steven Greene, a alumni of Northwest, was elated to visit the school. Mr. Greene is also on the board of The Underground Railroad of Halifax. The town of Halifax and The Historic Halifax Visitor Center Museum and members of The Halifax Underground Railroad Committee are planning to share more information on a Underground Railroad Tour, there is a five year planning stage. Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman, is also on the committee.

There is a rich history of The Civil War, many fought for African Americans to have their freedom. Frederick Douglass spoke up for African American to fight for the Union Army, once they helped assist in war efforts, the North finally won.



A picture of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. Their story was told in the 1989 movie, *Glory*. Their most famous battle was when they led the Union charge on Fort Wagner. This painting is by Kurtz and Allison.

# Kwanzaa

## Held in the Media Center

Kwanzaa is a celebration of a community's spirit of hope. Dr. Gary Grant has been visiting Northwest every December to share what Kwanzaa is with students. He has followed the students from their freshmen and sophomore years. Kwanzaa is a positive reminder of how everyone should be productive in our society all year. Kwanzaa begins on December 26 and ends on January 1, 2019. This year Dr. Grant was unable to visit our students; nevertheless, we celebrated Kwanzaa on December 7, 2018/ Each student discussed what each day of Kwanzaa represented and then lit a candle.

The meaning of each day of Kwanzaa are the following: Umoja is Unity, Kujichagulia is self determination, Ujima is collective work and responsibility, Ujamaa is cooperative economics, Nia is purpose, Ku-umba is creativity, and Imani is Faith.

Each symbol represents the spirit of family and community. The symbols of Kwanzaa are the following: mkeka is a mat, mazao are fruits and vegetables, muhindi are ears of corn, kinara is a candle holder, mishumaa saba are the seven candles, kimobe cha umoja is the unity cup, and zawadi are gifts.



Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's students celebrate Kwanzaa.



# Senior Interviews

## Held in the Media Center

Senior Interview were held in the Media Center on December 5, 2018. Community members came out to assist the 'Seniors in preparing for real world business interviews. The students prepared for the interviews with the English Department and the Career and Technical Education Department.



## Mrs. Kinsey's Biology Class and The National Society of Black Engineers Jr. Club learn about hydroponics



February 7, 2019, Northwest's Biology Class and the National Society of Black Engineers Junior Club learned how to grow lettuce in water, the process is called "Hydroponics." Assisting in the event were The Lake Gaston Links, Inc. and A&T State University's professor, Mr. Kurt Taylor. Mr. Donald Ford, the Northwest's Horticulture teacher also teaches the seed germination process.

Each student was given a foldable styrofoam plate, rock wool, peat palets, clear plastic cups, and two lettuce seeds. The rock wool has to become saturated with water, the peat palets are emersed in water.

After the students followed the directions on how to grow the hydroponic lettuce, the plants were then transported to Northwest's greenhouse.

The students are now documenting weekly on the plants growth. The plants are growing and soon the lettuce would have reached its final germination stage.

Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman attended a STEM workshop at A&T State University last summer, the university donated the equipment to grow the hydroponic lettuce. Mrs. Kinsey also purchased extra resources for her Biology class.

# The Lake Gaston Links Host A British Tea Party and Mr. Vernon Bryant Host a Young Men's Etiquette Workshop



## The Lake Gaston Links Host a “British Tea” continued.

The Lake Gaston Links hosted a “British Tea, February 1, 2019. Reser’s Fine Foods donated food for the tea. Mrs. Brinkley’s English Honors young ladies participated in the event. The young men in Mrs. Brinkley’s English Honors class were given a young men’s etiquette workshop in Mr. Vernon Bryant’s classroom.

The Lake Gaston Links shared the history of how traditional afternoon teas began in England. China was the first to drink tea and later England and other countries. During the 1660’s King Charles II and his wife Catherine de Braganza began afternoon tea because there was such a long stretch between lunch and dinner. She asked that she be served a tray of tea, a biscuit with butter, cream and jelly. A British Tea should always serve something sweet and something savory. Catherine de Braganza’s tea ideas spread to regular households in England.

Today’s teas in England are celebrated by commoners and well as the royals. According to hellomagazine.com, Meghan Markle has hosted teas and has invited her friends in Kinsington Palace. Markle’s teas have consisted of avocado toast and chocolate Fortnum and Mason’s truffles with tea. Serving avocado toast is something savory and new and sometimes it takes young people to share their taste and ideas to tweak the old traditions and make them better. Having a tea brings people together and friendships blossom.

Mr. Vernon Bryant, Northwest Director of Communities and School’s, spoke with the young men of Mrs. Brinkley’s English Honors Class on Etiquette. The young men discussed highlight’s from Hill Harper’s book, ***A Letter To A Young Brother***. The students were also served hors d’oeuvres.



Meghan Markle has hosted her own tea.

