

Auxiliary Adviser

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AUXILIARY SERVICES DIVISION

Vision

Providing Services That Power Education

Mission Statement

Provide quality facilities and support services to ensure safe, healthy, inviting and optimal learning environments.

Goals

- 1.) Recruit, develop and retain a qualified and high quality workforce.
- 2.) Provide and maintain quality facilities and support services that result in a safe and healthy learning environment.
- 3.) Effectively communicate successes, challenges and needs.

EHAS's Osborne Co-authors Kid's Book



WCPSS Environmental Health and Safety Supervisor Dennis Osborne, Ph.D., J.D. was one of ten co-authors of a new children's book titled, *Soil! Get the Inside Scoop*. Published last month, the 36-page book is written for children ages 9 to 12 and has been integrated into a new exhibit at the National Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. <https://www.soils.org/smithsonian/>

We asked Dr. Osborne a few questions about this new accomplishment:

How did you get involved in writing this new book?

It seems I've always been interested in "How do we learn?" Because of that curiosity, about 25 years ago I began volunteering as a science teaching assistant in elementary classrooms and met kids and teachers who thought science was too hard or not fun. I realized that I, (as most scientists), had taught myself under the guidance of a master. From classroom work with K – 9, I began to develop science "stuff" that got kids involved in their own education. Others across the state and nation were also interested in the topic and our common interest led us to partner as a community of learners eventually called "inquiry based" educators. About 15 years ago, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund awarded a large grant to Duke's Engineering School to formalize various uncoordinated efforts in the field. As an earth scientist and geomorphologist, I was offered a chance to contribute to the team—developing what became several of the NC competencies about geology, earth science, water, and related plant and environmental topics. I then helped teach teachers from around the state about using new materials in the classroom, and one thing we found missing was a book suitable for kids, not just teachers. Some of us raised this need at an annual meeting of the Soil Science Society of America and in essence the Society said "Go write one and we will sponsor the effort!"

What was your reaction to learning it would be on display at the Smithsonian? *All of us involved as authors were elated. We have long felt that earth science is undervalued as a discipline, so having such a prestigious institution adopt "our" field as worthy of a national exhibit made us feel validated in our careers. The Smithsonian has been developing the exhibit for many years and has a well-earned reputation for creating the best of exhibits, so we were all excited to partner with an organization we felt would present the best possible image of the subject to the country.*



Most of us know you as Supervisor of Integrated Pest Management in EHAS, but what some may not know is that you're also a licensed soil scientist, among other things. *You know, WCPSS is the best place I ever worked, and one reason I feel that way is because everyone I meet in Auxiliary Services*

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Facilities Works with High School Interns

Students and department featured on The New School Connection TV show

The New School Connection

Channel 11 in Raleigh:

- Sundays at 6:30 p.m.
 - Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.
 - Fridays at 12:30 p.m.
- Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

Channel 11 in Cary:

- Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
 - Fridays at 3:00 a.m.
 - Saturdays at 8:30 p.m.
- Sundays at 1:00 p.m.



This summer the Facilities department supported learning and teaching in a much different role. The department had the opportunity to provide internship experience to four interns from the *Construction Technology Career Academy* at Wake Forest-Rolesville High School (WFRHS).

Jesus Avila, Lindsay Allen, Landin Burud, and Will Brickhouse spent the summer learning from Facilities staff by attending regular staff meetings, visiting job sites and performing many administrative duties.

“We’ve been excited about it and we’ve enjoyed having them. It’s good to see these young people who are juniors in high school interested in construction and I hope through this experience they get some idea of what it takes to get schools built,” said Facilities Project Manager Warren Jones.

The Construction Academy is best described as a “school within a school”

with a focus on developing student interest in a particular field.

“We’re very proud of our Construction Technology Academy. We don’t have another one like this in the county,” said WFRHS Principal Andre Smith. “Our focus is on recruiting those students starting in the 10th grade who are interested in pursuing a career in construction technology, including all aspects of it from engineering to drafting to carpentry.”

The interns were recently featured in an August segment of *The New School Connection* TV show. *The New School Connection* is produced by WCPSS Communications Dept. and currently airs on Time Warner Cable channel 11 in Raleigh and Cary. The episode will run the entire month of August and you can catch the program at 4 different times during the week (see the listings on the left). Or simply visit: <http://www.wcpss.net/schooltv/>, to view the show/segment online.

I Want the Shirt Right Off of Your Back!

Mazie Smith, Director of Organizational Development

The Auxiliary Services Training Center has moved with the Organizational Development staff to Building A on Rock Quarry Rd. While getting settled into our new digs, numerous employees have asked if and when the quilt that hung in the old Training Center will be hung in the new building. We are waiting for some final renovations to be made on the wall where it will be hung, but the answer is yes, there will be a quilt. Not the same quilt however; we have decided **our new classroom deserves a new quilt, and we want all the employees to be a part of it.** Since Auxiliary Services employees will give you “the shirts right off their backs” to help someone, I want to create a “**Shirt Right Off Our Backs quilt**” using scraps of cloth from Aux. Service employees. I would therefore like to ask that you bring or send in a clean piece of fabric, at least 6 inches wide, that I can incorporate in the pattern. Any fabric, any shape, any

design will be accepted, but I’d like to feature blues, greens, and yellows as much as possible to match our classroom colors. I think the different shapes, textures and colors will be a great representation of how we come together as a diverse group to make “beautiful” things happen for our schools! After the quilt is complete, the plan is to have a “Quilt Signing Party” where everyone will sign their initials on the piece of fabric they contributed. I’d like to get started as soon as possible, so I’m asking that you bring or send the fabric to our office at Rock Quarry Rd, Building A, Suite 108 **no later than August 29th**. Just so you’ll know, the “Shirt Right off Your Backs” quilt project will not be accomplished using school system resources or funds. The quilt will be constructed with donated fabric and pieced together by me -- at my home -- on my own time. The purpose of

this project is to welcome employees to the new computer classroom and make them feel that they’re a part of it. If you have questions, please call Mazie Smith at 856-8048, or send me an email at mssmith@wcpss.net.

Education Matters

The August 2008 Education Matters employee newsletter is out. Be sure to pick up your copy!

This month’s issue focuses on the successful opening of year-round schools, an employee point of view column on supporting learning and teaching, and an article featuring Sanford Creek Head Custodian Jack Wall.

Have a story? Contact Christy Barnett at cbarnett@wcpss.net or 850-1616

EHAS's Osbourne Co-authors Kid's Book (continued)

has had and continues to have interesting lives doing things outside of their primary responsibility at WCPSS. Not to make light of what we do here by any means, rather I mean everyone here is multi-dimensional and seems to have made contributions outside of work. We are all part of a professional learning community here. We bring an amazing world of practical experience to Rock Quarry everyday. For instance, EHAS people deal with the widest possible range of basic environmental science questions: water, air, soil, food, and yes, bugs and critters. I am privileged to be part of that team. In part, I believe my experiences as Raleigh's first Conservation Engineer in the '70's, a field soil scientist and later a consulting business owner in the 80's, and as a USDA food safety researcher and educator for the south region in the 90's fitted me for life in Aux. Services and for our constant interactions with teachers and principals.

Who did you work with on the book and talk about your role? Once the Soil Science Society of America decided to sponsor such a book, a committee was formed. A friend of mine in the NCSU Soils Department who was also interested in effective teaching, became the team leader of the project. He issued a national call for those of us interested in the topic. About a dozen of us from all over the US stuck with the project over the last 18 months to 2 years. We would have monthly phone conferences to discuss philosophy and format, then draft sections in which we were interested. The writings and photographs were circulated by email and criticized in phone calls and in emails. We continued until we all felt we had a book that satisfied us as being something completely new and very kid-friendly. Sometime in May, the Smithsonian contacted us and wanted to produce the final product. This led to their graphic artist compiling the work in a uniform graphic format and in one matched to the exhibit. Talk about a lot of negotiating! It shows good things can come from a committee.

What do you hope readers will get out of this book? I hope readers will sense the fun one can have studying soils. Soil scientists are famous among earth scientists for being strongly individualistic. I hope readers will see that a basic mastery of any of the disciplines of physics, chemistry, math, microbiology, hydrology, and mineralogy will equip someone to be a welcome contributing member of the earth science community, and work inside or out.

How are teachers using it in the classroom? The book has been very well received and is being adopted by several states already. Although it was prepared for 9 -12 year-old kids, I assure you it is usable by college students and K- 12. Teachers are using the book as a supplement to or replacement for standard materials on earth science, most of which bore even earth scientists. I have seen teachers use the material to get kids to develop and answer "Why?" questions and that excites me the most. Why is a great question if you want to learn.

CNS Summer School Prepares Staff

Summer training for Child Nutrition Services staff began in June and continued on until early August. This year's training including a wide-range of courses for personal and professional development. A Customer Service Workshop and Human Resources 101 were just some of the optional courses offered to employees in addition to several required courses such as Year-round cashier training, food safety and sanitation certification and diversity sensitivity training for new managers.

"Summertime is a great opportunity to offer trainings for our staff. The feedback was positive from last year's CNS Summer School, so we conducted a survey of our staff to de-

termine which topics would spark interest this summer," said CNS Training Supervisor Jill M Hively, RD, LDN.

A popular course this year was Cake Decorating. This class was an introduction to the art of cake decorating by utilizing decorating tools and icings to create uniquely adorned treats. A Food Presentation course was offered to those who wanted some simple tips on how to spruce up their cafeteria lines to help boost sales. A new course required for managers this year involved training on new changes in the way ordering, receiving, transferring, inventory and student information management is done due to a recent software upgrade.

Mark Your Calendar

August 25
Traditional Back to School



September 1
Labor Day
Employee Holiday

September 22
Fall officially begins

"We felt it was important to offer courses benefitting our employees both professionally and personally. While most of the offered courses are training on CNS job duties, the Stress Management and Cake Decorating classes filled up very quickly," said Hively.

Auxiliary Services Training Schedule

Training is updated regularly on E-Schools and subject to change. To register for classes, go to <https://ero3.eschoolsolutions.com/user/login.taf?orgID=42358&userID=&PIN=&function>.

Enter your user ID=SS# and Pin=last four digits of your SS#.



OSHA Chainsaw Safety Awareness
September 12
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
SRN 289005501

This class covers basic work practices for chainsaw use and maintenance. Each person will demonstrate safe methods for pre-use inspection, donning (wearing) PPE (personal protective equipment, work positions, and operations of a chainsaw.

OSHA Electrical Hands-On Workshop
September 30
7:30 AM - 12:30 PM
SRN 289028301

Replacing a ballast or light switch for a fluorescent light, swapping out a breaker and other similar work on electrical systems are routinely performed by many multi-task employees at WCPSS. In this hands-on workshop, a mock environment has been set up using real components to resemble several common configurations. Attendees will participate in a step-by-step process to perform these operations safely.

WCPSS Mandatory OSHA Safety Update Awareness Training
September 16
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM
SRN289016701

After completing one of the OSHA 1926 10 hour courses, this follow-on course has been designed specifically for WCPSS employees to attend each year as a means to stay up-to-date on changes in OSHA regulations and enforcement.

OSHA 10 Hour Workshop
October 14—15
Day 1: 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Day 2: 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
SRN 289001201

OSHA 10 Hour – 1926 – An overview of the OSHA regulations for the Construction Industry which consists of ten (10) hours of in-class instruction by an OSHA Certified Instructor.

Defensive Driving
October 24
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
SRN 289002301



This is a 3-hour course in which you learn how to recognize and handle aggressive drivers and identify road rage.

MAXIMO Training
September 25
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
SRN 289006302

This MAXIMO training is for school-based users. Non-school-based MAXIMO users can get information on the latest training by contacting Petra Harris at 856-8128 or pharris2@wcpss.net.

MAXIMO Training
October 23
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
SRN 289006303

This MAXIMO training is for school-based users. Non-school-based MAXIMO users can get information on the latest training by contacting Petra Harris at 856-8128 or pharris2@wcpss.net.

New Employee Orientation (NEO)

This orientation is for newly hired Auxiliary Services personnel only. It is in addition to the Employee Orientation at the Harriet B. Webster Center in Cary. New employees will learn about the different departments within Auxiliary Services and understand WCPSS policies and procedures. Please contact Beth Williams (bwilliams2@wcpss.net or 856-8018) to register for the new employee orientation.

OSHA Articulated Lift
November 5
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SRN 289028101

Articulated Lift – The manufacturers of aerial lifts require each operator to receive specific training prior to their first use of this equipment. This class will review these requirements. In addition, each attendee will operate the lift in a controlled environment.

OSHA Genie Lift/Powered Platform Training
November 6
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
SRN 289003501

Training provided to Maintenance and Operations. Training Conducted at Rock Quarry Training Center with a hands-on Genie-Lift.



Stay Informed

The *Auxiliary Adviser* is e-mailed to subscribers in the school system and posted online at: <http://www.wcpss.net/auxiliary-services/advisernews.html>. A hard copy of the *Adviser* is sent to the head custodian and child nutrition staff at each school and to each district transportation manager. To have the newsletter e-mailed to you directly, simply send an e-mail with "subscribe" in the subject line, to asmith9@wcpss.net

