

Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Lunch Menus

Sept 19 — 25

ELEMENTARY
Friday — Cheese Pizza; Sausage Pizza; Sloppy Joe on a Bun; Garden Salad w/ Dressing; Green Beans; Applesauce
Monday — Chicken Nuggets w/Wheat Roll; Beef Taco w/Salsa, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato; Spanish Rice; Sweet Yellow Corn; Fresh Apple Halves
Tuesday — Pork Egg Roll; Mozzarella Cheese Sticks w/ Marinara Dipping Sauce; "Fun on the Run"; Brown Rice Pilaf; Asian Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Apricots
Wednesday — Cheese Pizza; Pepperoni Pizza; Chicken Salad w/Wheat Crackers, Lettuce & Tomato; Carrot & Celery Stix; Steamed Broccoli; Fresh Banana
Thursday — Ham & Cheese Sub; Turkey, Dressing & Gravy w/Wheat Roll; "Fun on the Run"; Lettuce & Tomato Salad; Sweet Potato w/Apples; Seasoned Lima Beans; Chilled Pears

MIDDLE & HIGH
Friday — Whole Grain Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce & Garlic Bread; Corn Dog; California Mixed Vegetables; Sweet Yellow Corn; Fruit Cobbler
Monday — Double Cheeseburger on a Bun; Fishwich; Lettuce & Tomato Salad; Tater Tots; Peas & Carrots; Fresh Apple
Tuesday — Three Cheese Baked Rotini w/Garlic Bread; Chicken Fajitas w/Salsa & Sour Cream; Vegetable Rice; Steamed Broccoli; Fresh Orange
Wednesday — Chicken Patty Sandwich; Baked Potato w/ Meat & Cheese w/Wheat Roll; Traditional Mixed Vegetables; Pineapple Tidbits; Chocolate Pudding
Thursday — Baked BBQ Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Grilled Cheese Sandwich; Baked Beans; Collard Greens; Fresh Orange

SCHOOL NEWS?
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Phoenix Academy celebrates new facilities, 10 years of success

BY MARY LIDE PARKER
 Staff Writer

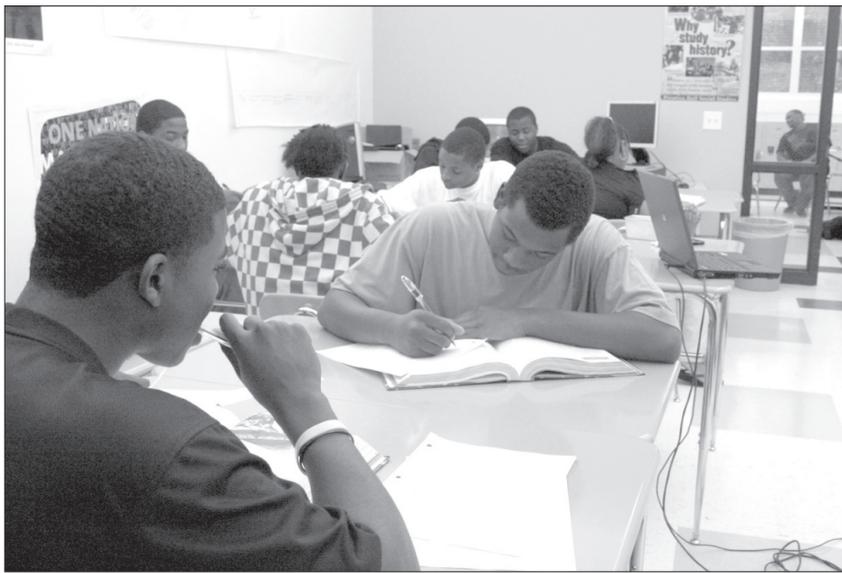
What started out as a one-room schoolhouse 10 years ago is now a full new building for Phoenix Academy.

On Thursday at 9 a.m., Phoenix Academy, the alternative high school in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools system, will celebrate with a ribbon-cutting ceremony the opening of its new facilities as well as 10 years of success. Valerie Foushee, a county commissioner and a member of the school board that started Phoenix Academy, will be the keynote speaker at the event.

Foushee said Phoenix Academy was one of the best programs implemented during her time on the board.

In 1998, the school board decided to create a facility for kids who were at risk of dropping out of high school due to long-term suspension. Long-term suspension is defined as missing 45 or more school days.

Until this year, Phoenix Academy was housed in three trailers in the parking lot of Lincoln Center at 750 Merritt Mill Rd. Over the summer, a building behind the Lincoln Center was renovated to accommodate the Phoenix students.



Students at Phoenix Academy benefit from a smaller class size and a closer relationship with instructors.

There are 41 students currently enrolled at Phoenix. More students will be accepted during the year in October, January and March. Five teachers, a guidance counselor and the principal make up the staff.

Burmadeane George, the principal of Phoenix Academy, says her job is "one of the best kept secrets in town."

"People think, 'Man, this a

tough group,' and yeah, they're tough — but they're also sensitive," she said.

George said what she loves about the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School district is the rigor of the curriculum, which also applies to the curriculum at Phoenix.

She said the only differences between Phoenix and the other high schools are the smaller class sizes and a block schedule.

"No one wants to go to a remedial school," she said. "When kids go back, they've met the same standards as everyone else."

But not all students return to their former high schools. Montez Edwards is a 17-year-old senior who transferred to Phoenix from Chapel Hill High last year. Edwards said he has struggled academically

since middle school, and when he entered high school it only got worse.

"I told my mama, I'm giving up — it's too hard. It was my grandmother that kept pushing me. Mrs. George won't let me give up either."

Edwards will graduate from Phoenix Academy this spring but his diploma will be from Chapel Hill High. All students at Phoenix have school liaisons that provide them with newsletters and schedules of events to keep them connected with their former high schools. Students at Phoenix still have access to the resources at their high schools as well.

George said that many have the false impression that Phoenix is a school for "violent kids."

"We don't take violent students," she said. "Most kids are here for academic struggling, not for misbehavior."

George and the faculty members constantly engage with the students to make sure they are learning and staying on top of their work. George updates parents weekly about their child's performance at Phoenix.

"It has a real family atmosphere," said George. "Other principals get to do a lot of paperwork. I get to talk to the kids."

School Briefs

Service award

Sue Battle, a mentor with the Blue Ribbon Mentor Advocate program, has been awarded a 2008 North Carolina Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

Battle has served as a mentor with BRMA for 11 years for two different students. Her most recent mentee graduated from the district in the spring and is now a freshman at East Carolina University.

Battle will receive a certificate and letter from Gov. Mike Easley at a meeting of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Teen center

Street Scene Teen Center provides a safe environment for middle and high school students from 3 to 7 p.m. on regular school days.

The center also operates on Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. The facility is always staffed by two adults, who seek to engage students in designing

the programming. Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation supports this initiative, which also serves as a project for the Chapel Hill Youth Council.

Noodles donates

Noodles & Company, a new restaurant on Franklin Street, will donate 100 percent of sales from Chapel Hill High School supporters during its grand opening on Sept. 26 to the Chapel Hill High Athletic Booster Club.

The grand opening will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. at the restaurant at 241 W. Franklin St., the former location of the Wicked Burrito. Don't forget to mention that you are there to support the Chapel Hill High School athletic program.

Anyone who presents a Noodles receipt at the Chapel Hill High home games on Sept. 26 will receive free popcorn. The men's varsity soccer and football teams will play games that night at 5 and 7:30, respectively.

Hawbridge

Prospective students and families are invited to an open house and free concert from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Hawbridge School.

The free public charter high school emphasizes environmental sciences and the arts. The school is open to any student who is a North Carolina resident. Most students are from Orange, Alamance, Durham and Chatham counties.

The open house will feature a meeting with teachers and students, a look at student artwork and a concert.

For more information, visit www.hawbridgeschool.org or call (336) 376-1122.

Board meeting

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education meets tonight (Thursday) at 7 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Town Hall on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The board will consider several policies, including one on student substance abuse and another regarding board member opportunities for development. In addition, the board will hold a work session to review a policy on the N.C. Address Confidentiality Program and an animals in schools policy.

For the complete agenda, visit www.chccs.k12.nc.us.

College fair

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and Orange County Schools will hold their annual college fair on Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Dean Smith Center on the UNC campus.

A number of college representatives will be available to answer questions about their schools. The event is targeted toward juniors and seniors, but all are welcome.

Shop for a cause

The Chapel Hill High School chapter of Students Against Violence Everywhere/Destructive

Decisions (SAVEDD) will participate in Macy's "Shop for a Cause" event on Saturday.

Students will sell shopping passes for \$5 that are good for 20 percent off most items in the store that day. In addition, those who buy passes can register for a \$500 Macy's Gift Card. All of the proceeds from passes sold by Chapel Hill High students will benefit Chapel Hill High SAVEDD.

To purchase a pass, contact Jim Wise at 929-2106, ext. 1270 or jwwise@chccs.k12.nc.us. Students will also sell passes at the Macy's store at the Streets at Southpoint from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

CHHS Picnic

Chapel Hill High School will present *Picnic*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning drama by William Inge, Sept. 25 to 27 at the Hanes Theatre at Chapel Hill High.

The show will start at 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets \$8 adults, \$5 students. For reserved seating, call 929-2461.

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