



Hanover Advocats End-of-Year Report

Greetings Advocats and Wildcats -

Having entered the month of May, and having a Senior, the year-end seems close at hand. Much like we will be celebrating our upcoming NHHS graduates, the Advocats have much to reflect on and cheer for in our first year of formation.

Our Financial Accomplishments:

1. We raised over \$32,000 from our annual campaign! Thank you to all our donors!
2. Using some of these funds, we invested in the following:
 - Painting and installing mirrors in the bathrooms in the main building;
 - Campus clean-up day;
 - Monthly Teacher/Staff Appreciation events, including Appreciation Week starting next Monday; and,
 - Launch of our Teacher/Staff Grants Program with 4 Grants being funded to date.

Our Advocacy Accomplishments:

1. We are committed, consistent voices advocating for significant, long-overdue renovations to the facilities at NHHS. Improvements we are advocating for:
 - New cafeteria;
 - Improvements to Brogden Hall building including classrooms, locker rooms, training room, offices, concessions, and bathrooms;
 - Improvements to Princess St gym to allow NHHS to also have a working "second gym" that is able to host basketball and volleyball games; and,
 - Improvements to 13th & Ann facilities given the importance of 13th & Ann being our only "on campus" outdoor practice facility within walking distance of campus with the exception of the tennis courts.
2. We've given tours and/or had meetings with almost all of the current School Board, Dr. Foust and Eddie Anderson from NHCS, the County Commissioners, the District Attorney, Mayor Saffo, Senator Michael Lee, and several employees from the New Hanover Community Endowment.
3. There appears to be consensus that NHHS needs attention. Because there will not be an Education Bond on the ballot in November thanks in part to NHCS's annual budget blowup, we are requesting that the County Commissioners fund NHHS renovations from alternative resources.
4. We are determined and dedicated to being persistently present until renovations aren't just discussed and theorized, but meaningful improvements are actively underway.

Speaking of which, Projects Underway:

- 1. Repairs to the front left corner of the Main Building are in the planning stages and the work should soon begin to secure the foundation, repair the terracotta, and reopen the affected classrooms for fall.**
- 2. The front office is being reconfigured and renovated over the summer to allow for a more streamlined and secure entrance.**
- 3. Re-turfing of Legion Stadium is soon to begin.**
- 4. Plans for a culinary arts classroom renovation are completed (unclear when the work will be performed).**
- 5. Renovations to Godwin Field for softball have started (as mandated by Title IX).**

Projects to Come:

- 1. It is our understanding that the Schools/County are focused on the facilities located on Market St & Dock St. (the Main building, Brogden Hall, and the George West campus).**
- 2. We are currently meeting with Coaches and Staff to discuss and hopefully prepare a cohesive plan for renovations to the 13th & Ann field. Once completed, our plan for the AdvoCats is to launch an extensive and intensive Capital Campaign to raise the funds needed for these renovations. With the Schools/County focused on Market and Dock St. renovations, we hope to address and finance the much needed improvements to our home field.**

Just a reminder that if you are interested in joining an AdvoCats Board or Committee position please let us know. Allison McWhorter (cc'd on this email) is our upcoming President and is already working on great plans for the fall.

We also have spirit wear - sweatshirts and tshirts! Please contact Allison if you are interested in buying anything over the summer. Otherwise we will be selling swag online and at the Open House in the fall. Please follow us on our social media channels @hanoveradvocats to be informed of the Clean Up Day, Open House, etc.

On a personal note, it's been a tremendously rewarding experience starting this non-profit with Allison, serving as its President, and working together to support our NHHS Community. We can't do this alone, and we are just getting started.

Wildcats and AdvoCats proud.

Kassie Rempel