

NAAHHS Newsletter



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History of Hillside High School

The largest black schools in Durham prior to the building of Whitted School in 1887 were the Ledger Public School in Hayti, under the supervision of Miss Ledger, and the Hack Road Public School, where James Whitted, "a highly respected man of mixed races (Black and Indian) who had managed to educate himself," was superintendent.

In 1887, the Whitted School existed as the James A. Whitted High School, in honor of its first principal. The school, which was located on the corner of Blackwell and Pettigrew Streets, burned in 1888 and was located in a Bull Factory warehouse. In 1890, 161 pupils attended the school's six grades. Whitted taught the upper grades, William G. Pearson taught the middle grades, and two female teachers taught the first and second grades.

The first class graduated from the ninth grade of Whitted School in 1896. Also in 1896, a permanent brick building was constructed on Proctor and Ramsey Street for black children at a cost of \$8,000. In 1899, the building was destroyed and reconstructed, but students were housed in churches during that school year. In 1901, another black school, West End, was built. At this time 707 students were enrolled in the Durham black graded schools. In 1909, the East End School was constructed.

(continue page 12)

Johnson Offered 10 Full-Ride Scholarships

Alysia Johnson is a track athlete who was offered more than 10 full-ride scholarships to universities and colleges across the country. In the fall, she will attend the University of South Carolina to run the 200-meter dash, the 400 and the 4x400 relay. "My goal for high school was to have a personal record, state champion and, of course, a full-ride scholarship," she said with determination seeping through her eyes.

(continue page 2)

In Memory



Dr. Beverly Washington Jones



Missouri Arledge Morris

Alysia Johnson (cont.)

It hasn't always been easy for Alysia Johnson. A week before the indoor state championship her sophomore year, Johnson pulled her hamstring. Later on in her outdoor season, she pulled her other hamstring and had to sit out for the rest of the spring and summer season.

Johnson said that by trying to be the team's hero, she overworked herself. Johnson's injury caused her to see a new side of herself, which helped her and her teammates understand the importance of taking breaks. She returned her junior year, winning every state championship and beating all of her personal records.

Inspired by her own journey, Johnson wrote a 4,000-word essay on resilience, ambition and black student-athletes. "It was personal for me because, at the same time, I went through that myself," she said. "I had to be ambitious by having that work ethic, and I had to have that drive and dedication in my sport and in school."

On November 13, everyone crowded in the Hillside High School library to see what school Johnson would commit to. Her top six choices included North Carolina A&T State University, Arizona State University, University of South Carolina, University of Miami, University of Alabama and Ohio State University. Johnson placed five hats from each school on the table, except for the University of South Carolina. She removed them one by one until only the Miami hat was left. Everyone cheered, shouting "Miami, Miami!"

"They all thought I was going to Miami," she said, "and I was like, 'whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa.' I took it off, and I got the South Carolina hat out of my bag."



Alysia Johnson

University of South Carolina • Columbia, SC
Hillside • Class of 2020 • Durham, NC

NAAHHS Donation for HHS Students Computers

The National Alumni Association of Hillside High School (NAAHHS) made a financial contribution of \$ 5,400.00 toward the purchase of personal computers for usage by the students of Hillside High School. The National Alumni Association of Hillside High School extends thanks to all alumni, who contributed financially, to make this donation possible.



Front Row Left to Right) Cora Bryant (Treasurer NAAHHS); Claudine Lewis (Member of '61); Dr. William T. Logan (HHS Principal); Frederick S. Brown (President NAAHHS); Susie Whack Surles (Vice-President '64); Jessica Austin (HHS Assistant-Principal); and Renee Wilburn (HHS Administrator).

(Back Row Left to Right) William Turner (President Emeritus NAAHHS); Edward Fulbright ('78); Kwame Lewis (HHS Administrator); James Sanders, Jr. (Treasurer '64); Louis Harrison (HHS Assistant-Principal); and Alfred A. Brown (Member of '68 (not pictured)).

The New James A Whitted Building



The Old Hillside High School on Concord Street



The New Hillside High School



In 1887, the Whitted School existed as the James A. Whitted High School, in honor of its first principal. The school, which was located on the corner of Blackwell and Pettigrew Streets, burned in 1888 and was located in a Bull Factory warehouse. In 1890, 161 pupils attended the school's six grades. Whitted taught the upper grades, William G. Pearson taught the middle grades, and two female teachers taught the first and second grades.

The "Park" was dropped from the name Hillside High School in 1943. In 1950, because of overcrowding in the high school, the Hillside High School students moved into what was then called Whitted Junior High School, located near the campus of North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and now the site of an NCCU science classroom building, and the Whitted Junior High School students moved into the old Hillside Park High School building closer to downtown Durham. The schools' buildings also swapped names. Hillside High School at this time only enrolled grades 10, 11 and 12 and Whitted Junior High School enrolled 7, 8 and 9.

Hillside was relocated to a new building in 1995. Eunice Sanders was Hillside's principal from 2002 to 2006, resigning after the 2005-2006 school year to move to an administrative position within the Durham Public Schools Central Office. Earl Pappy was the principal of Hillside from 2006 to 2009. He was followed by Hans Lassiter who served as principal from 2009-2012. The current Principal is Dr. William Logan.

HORNET COMPUTERS PATRONS

Hornet Patron: up to \$49.00

Silver Hornet Patron: \$50.00 to \$99.00

Gold Hornet Patron: \$100.00 to \$199.00

Blue & White Hornet Patron: \$200.00 to \$499.00

Platinum Patron: \$500 or Greater

PLATINUM PATRONS

Frederick S. & Gloria Brown

Edward Fulbright

HHS Class of 1964

NAAHHS

Blue & White Patrons

C. Ray & Beverly Washington Jones

GOLD PATRONS

Alfred A. Brown

Claudine Lewis



HORNET BAND UNIFORM PATRONS

Hornet Patron: up to \$49.00

Silver Hornet Patron: \$50.00 to \$99.00

Gold Hornet Patron: \$100.00 to \$199.00

Blue & White Hornet Patron: \$200.00 to \$499.00

Platinum Patron: \$500 or Greater



PLATINUM PATRONS

Arthur Johnson
HHS Class of 1964
NAAHHS

Blue & White Patrons

Frederick S. & Gloria Brown
Edward Fulbright
Atty. Thomas G. Sampson

GOLD PATRONS

Melvin Clayton
Dennis Mathews
H. Eugene Tatum II
Mary Rogers Taylor

SILVER PATRONS

James Geer
Eleanor "Cookie" Harris
C. Ray & Beverly Washington Jones
Bonnie Logan
Veta McNeill-Best

2020 NAAHHS Hall of Fame Inductees

James Blue, III, Class of 1987, was one of the main contributors for the school's monthly story in the Saturday edition of the Durham Morning Herald Newspaper. He is a seasoned and award-winning television production executive. He is currently senior content and special projects producer for *PBS NewsHour*. In addition to overseeing tape production, breaking news features, and special series, Blue serves as executive producer of the broadcast's town hall meetings anchored by the late Gwen Ifill.

Blue previously served as Washington Bureau Chief and White House correspondent for ARISE News, a UK-based 24-hour news channel. Blue organized the channel's Washington coverage, and oversaw the production and development of brand-defining broadcasts as the network's director of special events. He oversaw productions across the world including supervising the channel's coverage of Nelson Mandela's funeral in South Africa.

During the 2012 election year, Blue executive produced BET Networks' political broadcasts. Blue oversaw several elements of the election coverage including exclusive interviews with President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, and extensive coverage of Republican nominee Mitt Romney. The USC Annenberg School of Communications awarded the 2013 Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence in Television Political Journalism to Blue and the entire BET News team for this coverage.

Barbara Fields Hibbert, Class of 1959, has enjoyed a remarkable professional and civic career that began after her graduation from NCCU in 1963. She assumed her first position at the United Nations in New York and later transitioned to IBM where she performed outstandingly both in the United States and abroad. (Please see the attachment which depicts her background over the years of her employment.)

After retirement, Barbara returned from New York to her hometown, Durham and immediately became involved in her community in the midst of facing a medical challenges (kidney transplant). She quickly became involved in her church, White Rock Baptist, supporting the many church initiatives and programs. As a previous member of her New York chapter of the LINKS, she became involved with the Triangle Park Chapter of the LINKS and has worked with a number of programs sponsored by the chapter. She was one of the chapter members who partnered with the Arts Committee of the Alpha Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in bringing students to the Ivy Community Center for a workshop with a professional ballerina and lunch.

2020 NAAHHS Hall of Fine Inductees

Arthur E. Johnson, Class of 1964, also known as Art, served as a Senior Vice President of Corporate Strategic Development at Lockheed Martin Corporation from 1999 to 2009. Mr. Johnson was responsible for corporate and business strategy development, strategic partnerships and joint ventures. He served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Lockheed Martin Information and Services Sector of Lockheed Martin Corp. from 1997 to 1999. He served as the President of Lockheed Martin's ... Systems Integration Group from January 1997 to August 1997 and President of Lockheed Martin's Federal Systems from January 1996 to January 1997. He joined Lockheed Martin in January 1996.

He worked at Federal-Mogul Holdings Corporation (formerly, Federal-Mogul Corporation). He served as Vice President of Federal Systems Group at Loral Federal Corp., from 1994 to 1996 and President and Chief Operating Officer of IBM Federal Systems Division from 1992 to 1994 and various positions with IBM since 1969. He also served as Group Vice President of Lockheed Martin Tactical Systems, Inc. since November 1994. He has over 20 years of senior leadership experience in the information technology and defense businesses. He had profit and loss responsibility covering avionics integration, defense electronic systems, postal information systems, air traffic management systems, submarine combat systems, federal IT systems and services and command, control, communications and intelligence at IBM.

He served as Chairman of the Board of Calcomp Technology, Inc. since August 1997. He serves as a Trustee of various Fidelity Funds. He serves as a Member of the Advisory Board at Fidelity Management & Research Company. He has been an Independent Director of Eaton Corporation PLC since January 2009. He has been an Independent Trustee of Variable Insurance Products Fund V - Strategic Income Portfolio since 2008. He has been a Director of Booz Allen Hamilton Holding Corporation since November 9, 2011 and Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. since 2011. He served as a Director of AGL Resources Inc. since February 2002 until July 4, 2016 and also served as its Lead Director from April 29, 2009 to November 14, 2015. He served as Director of Calcomp Technology, Inc. since 1997 and Trend Mining Co., since June 1998. Mr. Johnson served as a Director of Ikon Office Solutions Inc., from 1999 to 2008. He served as Director of Ricoh USA, Inc. from 1999 to October 2008 and Delta Air Lines Inc., from March 22, 2005 to April 30, 2007. He served as a Member of the Advisory Board at Fidelity funds in the fund complex. He served as a Member of the Advisory Board at Fidelity Congress Street Fund and Fidelity Exchange Fund and Fidelity Devonshire Trust - Fidelity Mid Cap Value Fund since 2008. He was the founding Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA).

2020 NAAHHS Hall of Fine Inductees

George Scott, Class of 1957, has been committed to the school's success. He served as set builder for Mr. John H. Gattis' productions of "Mr. G's Swing School" as a student at Hillside. He attended A&T State University and returned to work on the sets each year. Upon graduation from A&T, and assuming a professional position at IBM, he returned to work with Mr. Gattis on sets. He has been a consistent and active member of his high school class for which he has great pride. He has held a number of leadership roles for his class including president for a number of years. He is diligent in supporting his class and classmates whether it is hosting parties for the class, organizing special activities, and even insuring that classmates who are no longer able to be actively involved are kept informed so that they maintain connection with the class.

Not only is he a dynamic leader of SS Renaissance Inc., but he has demonstrated tremendous leadership in his church, Covenant Presbyterian Church. He has served in a number of capacities and is currently a deacon. When the church needs something, George is there to respond. He has received a number of awards and recognitions for his outstanding service to Covenant. As the husband of a member of the Alpha Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, he has responded to the chapter's call for assistance in a variety of ways. It is difficult to pin him down to provide financial compensation for his many hours of work. He graduated from North Carolina A&T State University, and was employed at IBM and upon retirement, he started a business, Bluestone Recreation, Inc. where he serves as president. He is a dedicated member of the Beta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Deacon at Covenant Presbyterian Church, past president of the Hillside High School Class of 1957 and he is the current treasurer of SS Renaissance, Inc.

Ellis H. Smith, Class of 1957, graduated from North Carolina College, which later became North Carolina Central University, in 1961 with a Bachelor's Degree in Art. Smith returned for his Masters in Education Media and completed that degree in 1964. He started his career as the Art teacher at Whitted Junior High School in Durham, then moved to Mercer County Community College until the family relocated to Levittown, Pennsylvania.

Later in his career, Smith was Assistant to the Chancellor at Elizabeth City State University from 1973 until 1985. Smith then served his alma mater, North Carolina Central University, in various leadership roles and finished his career as Director of Alumni Affairs. While in that role, he founded the Society of the Golden Eagles including their pledge and continued to be an avid supporter of NCCU in his retirement.

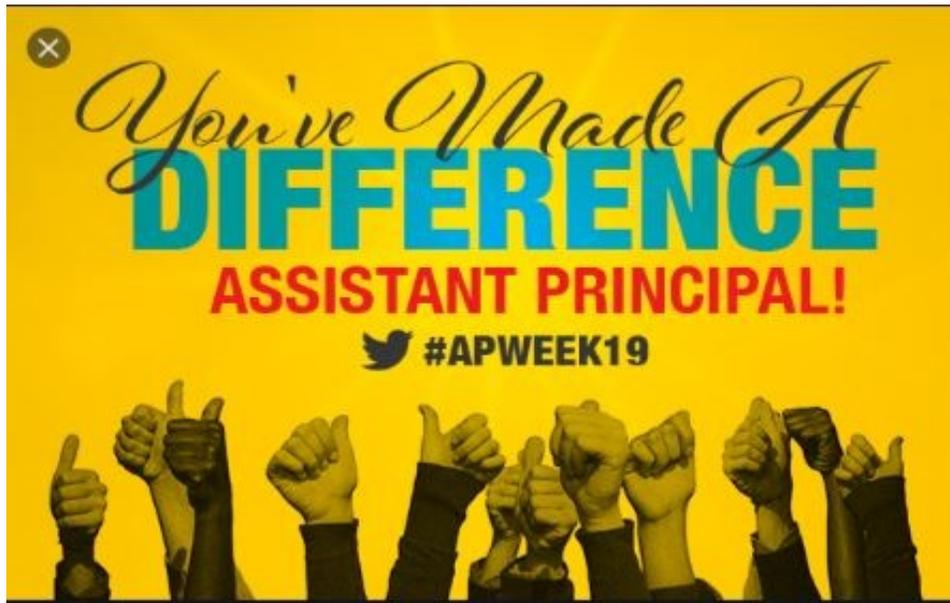
Smith was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Tau Psi Chapter on the campus of North Carolina College in 1958. Upon his graduation, he faithfully served Omega Psi Phi in various graduate chapters. However, he considered the Beta Phi Chapter his home, where he was honored as Man of the Year on numerous occasions and awarded his 50 Year Pin in 2008. Smith held ever position in his high school class. He made sure that his class was active in supporting Hillside in any way they could. After returning to Durham, he made sure that his youngest 3 children graduated from Hillside. He also enjoyed hosting family and friends for gatherings, tailgates and bus trips for NCCU sporting events, hunting, fishing and bowling.

2020 NAAHHS Friend of HHS Service Awardees

Roy Alston—Triangle Trophy



Nathan Curry—HHS Assistant Principal



2020 NAAHHS Executive Board



Left—Right: William Turner, Sr. (President Emeritus); Mary Rogers Taylor (Former Ms. NAAHHS Alumnae); Jessie Giles (Scholarship-Chair); Veta McNeill-Best (At-Large Board Member); Frederick S. Brown (President); Cora Bryant (Treasurer); Teresia Parker (Assistant-Secretary); and Elder Allen Gattis (Chaplain).

Not pictured: Dr. F. Vincent Allison (Immediate Past President), Julia Fairley (Vice President), Melodie Scarborough (Secretary), C. Ray Jones (Assistant Treasurer), Rev. Tim Faison (Parliamentarian), Mike Spears (Membership-Chair), Dr. Kenneth Brown (Public Relations-Chair), Ernestine Turner (Community Involvement-Chair), Carol Nixon (At-Large Board Member) Audrey Boykin (At-Large Board Member), and Barbara Hibbert (At-Large Board Member).

History (cont.)

The first class graduated from the ninth grade of Whitted School in 1896. Also in 1896, a permanent brick building was constructed on Proctor and Ramsey Street for Black children at a cost of \$8000. In 1899, the building was destroyed and reconstructed, but students were housed in churches during that school year. In 1901, another Black school, West End, was built. At this time 707 students were enrolled in the Durham Black graded schools. In 1909, the East End School was constructed. Only nine grades existed at Whitted from 1896 until 1911, but in 1911 a tenth grade was added. The 11th grade was added in 1918. From 1919 until 1920, first graders were housed in "dog houses," which were temporary shacks near the brick school building.

The Whitted School, which was in poor condition, burned in 1921, and students had to attend double sessions at East End and West End Schools. John Sprunt Hill, a leading Durham citizen, donated land for a new building on Pine and Umstead Street, which was named Hillside Park High School in honor of the donor and due to the fact that the school was located next to Hillside Park, a public city-owned Black Park. The class of 1944 was the first to graduate under the 12-year system. A public address system was installed in the school in 1943 at a cost of \$150.

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Additions of an auditorium, cafeteria, auto shop, classroom, and gymnasium were made to accommodate a large number of transferred high school students in 1949. A classroom annex was added to the Hillside building in 1962. John H. Lucas became Hillside's principal in 1963. In 1966 a new library was added. A new band room was constructed in 1975. Hillside was relocated to a new building in 1995.

Eunice Sanders was Hillside's principal from 2002 to 2006, resigning after the 2005-2006 school year to move to an administrative position within the Durham Public Schools Central Office. Earl Pappy was the principal of Hillside from 2006 to 2009. He was followed by Hans Lassiter, who served as principal from 2009-2012. The current Principal is Dr. William Logan.

National Alumni Association of Hillside High School

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facebook.com/naahhs



The National Alumni Association of Hillside High School

Presents

The Hornet Cabaret

NAAHHS Hall of Fame Induction

2019 Inductees

Virginia Watson Adams '63

Audrey Fairley Boykin '59

Willie "Ricky" Brown '67

Ferne Thorpe Dixon '64

Claudine Daye Lewis '61

James Sanders, Jr. '64

Friends of Hillside Service Award Honorees

Grover C. Burtney, Jr.

Rep. H. M. "Mickey" Michaux, Jr.

Saturday, October 12, 2019 6:00pm

Hilton Durham - 3800 Hillsborough Road - Durham, NC 27705