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Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

## Covid Update for Anson County

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Tuesday, March 15, there were 6,546 total Covid-19 cases, with 66 active and 98 deaths. On March 8 there were 69 active cases.

Covid Vaccines are available for everyone 5 years old and older, including walk-in clinics. (Children 5-11 by appointment only.) Vaccine boosters are available. They are free, and all you have to do is call the Health Department at 704-694-5188 for more information. Walk-in clinics are held on Thursdays, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m.

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

**Covid Testing** Free testing is available Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. without an appointment. They are closed for lunch 12 noon to 1 p.m. Testing takes place in the old hospital parking lot at 500 Morven Road in Wadesboro. No appointment is needed and there is no charge. They will test anyone over the age of 1.

The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) reported that statewide as of Tuesday, March 15 there were 649 new cases of Covid, with 22,966 deaths and 832 hospitalized. 76% of NC adults had at least one dose of vaccine, 71% were fully vaccinated. The case numbers are down from March 8 when there were 894.



Pictured above are Interact Advisor Brittany Price, Assistant District Governor Caroline Goins, and Wadesboro Rotary Club President Stephanie Wilson with the newly inducted Rotary International Interact officers.

## Anson High School Interact Club Inducts New Officers After the Pandemic

On February 24 Anson High School inducted a new board of officers to lead their Rotary International Interact Club. The Interact Club at Anson High School has a long-standing history of serving the community. Past service projects include but are not limited to canned food drives, feeding families in need at Thanksgiving, winter coat drives, and school clean-up days. The Anson High Interact club members volunteer at community events such as United Way's Day of Caring and the Partnership's Barn Blast fundraiser.

Unfortunately the pandemic made it difficult for the club to meet on a regular basis or volunteer in the community safely. Now the Anson High School Interact Club is reconvening and determined to be stronger than ever.

The induction began with an invocation by Anson High School Principal Chris Stinson, followed by guest speaker Chipper Long who spoke on the importance of service. "Look at your hands and tell me what kind of hands they will be," said Long. "How will you use your hands to benefit others?"

Long encouraged the students to search within themselves to find their talents and use those talents to strengthen their club and their community.

Wadesboro Rotary Club President Stephanie Wilson spoke on the history of Rotary International and Interact. "More than 100 years ago one man had the vision of creating a club where professionals from different backgrounds could form relationships, exchange ideas, and serve their community. Now there are more than 1 million Rotarians around the world and 450,000 Interactors who strive for the same level of integrity and service," said Wilson.

The Anson High School Interact Club is sponsored by the Wadesboro Rotary Club. Established in 1927, Wadesboro Rotary Club has an enduring history of serving the community. The Wadesboro Rotary Club invests approximately \$40,000 a year to support local organizations. Wadesboro Rotary Club founded the Rotary Science Center and Henry H. "Punky" Morton Planetarium in 2005 as a centennial Rotary International project.

"These dedicated students have a passion for giving back to their community. I am extremely impressed by their determination to help others and grow the Anson High Interact Club," said Wilson.

The following students were inducted as officers: Jamara Willoughby as Club President, Alora Hasty as Vice President, Jaliyah Hamilton as Secretary, Samiyah Sellers as Treasurer, Mallory Sikes as Community Service Director, Rebecca Huntley as Club Service Director, Nakira McClendon as Public Relations Director and Jon'Nora Hall as Fundraising Director. Brittany Price will serve as the faculty advisor.

## Shamrock Shuffle 5K Run/Walk & Vendor Event in Uptown Wadesboro

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day this Saturday!

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce invites you to join them on Saturday, March 19 for their Shamrock Shuffle 5K Run/Walk & Vendor Event. This event will take place in uptown Wadesboro on the Town Square and West Wade Street, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come enjoy the run/walk, food, music by Al G & Friends Band, Wheels on Wade Cruise In, shop in town, and, if you like, visit the beer and wine garden.

**Would you like to sponsor this fun community event?** Contact Shelby Emrich at 704-694-4181 or [semrich@ansoncountychamber.org](mailto:semrich@ansoncountychamber.org) for more information.

**Runners/walkers can pre-register or register on race day.** Visit: [form.jotform.com/ansonchamber/5k-run-registration-form](http://form.jotform.com/ansonchamber/5k-run-registration-form) to register. The race will begin at 11 a.m., registration opens at 10 a.m. Timing will be provided by Vac and Dash. T-shirts only guaranteed for those who pre-register. Each adult runner/walker over 21 years of age (with proof of ID) will receive a coupon for one free beer.

**Want to be a vendor?** Visit: [form.jotform.com/ansonchamber/vendor-registration](http://form.jotform.com/ansonchamber/vendor-registration) to register. Call 704-694-4181 for information.

## Open House at Anson High School and Anson County Early College

The second of two Open Houses for Anson High School and Anson County Early College will be held this Thursday, March 17. Rising 9th graders and families are invited. High school is on the horizon! Drop in anytime between 4 and 6 p.m. at either school.

- Anson County Early College is located at 680 Highway 74 West in Polkton, on the SPCC campus. 704-272-5396 [acc.ansonschools.org](http://acc.ansonschools.org), @ansoncountyearlycollege
- Anson High School is located at 96 Anson High School Road in Wadesboro. 704-694-9301 [ansonschools.org/ahs](http://ansonschools.org/ahs), @ansonhsbearcats

## High School Selection Timeline

Important dates are listed below for the graduating Class of 2026 as they prepare to complete the process for high school placement for the 2022-2023 school year. For more detailed information on this process, please visit Anson Schools website: [www.ansonschools.org](http://www.ansonschools.org) and click on the "High School Selection" link on the homepage.

**March 11 Orientation Video and Application Window Opened.** The High School Selection video can be viewed using the QR code at right. Digital orientation packets including the application link will be shared on student Canvas pages through ELA classes. In the video, high school principals share school specific details related to their campuses, educational offerings and extra-curricular opportunities. Non-AMS students may pick up a packet from the district office located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

**March 15 & 17 High School Open House.** 4:00 - 6:00 at both campus locations.

**March 18 Deadline for AMS students to submit electronic applications.** Hard copies of the applications should be dropped off at AMS between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Non-AMS students should also plan to drop off their applications at the district office on or before this same date.

**March 22 - 25** AMS guidance counselor and school leadership will review applications and submit to the district office.

**April 4 - 6** The High School Selection Committee will meet to determine student high school placement.

**June 8** High School Student Placement letters will be mailed to parent/guardian(s) and students.

**June 20** Parents/Guardian(s) and students may request a reconsideration of high school placement by following the Appeals process.

Appeal letter due by Thursday, June 20 at 3:00pm

**June 22 - 23** The High School Selection Appeals Committee will meet to determine student high school placement based on appeal information.

**June 27** A decision letter for student high school placement will be mailed to those who requested an appeal.



## Governor Cooper Reminds North Carolinians to Prepare for Severe Weather

Governor Roy Cooper is urging North Carolinians to prepare for severe weather that's common during spring months.

"North Carolina is no stranger to severe weather, and while spring is typically the most active season for thunderstorms and tornadoes, they can happen any time," Governor Cooper said. "Help protect your family by being prepared for severe weather. Make sure you have an up to date emergency kit, a way to receive alerts about dangerous weather, and a preparedness plan to review with everyone your household."

Tornadoes form during severe thunderstorms when winds change direction and increase in speed. These storms can produce large hail and damaging winds that can reach 300 miles per hour. A tornado can develop rapidly with little warning, so having a plan in place will allow you to respond quickly. At home or at work, that means seeking shelter on the lowest floor of your home or building, in an interior room away from doors or windows.

"I encourage everyone to have a plan and know your designated safe place to help you survive an actual tornado," said Emergency Management Director Will Ray.

Across the state in 2021, North Carolina recorded 21 tornado touchdowns, 101 large hail storms, 344 damaging thunderstorm wind events, 109 flood or flash flood events, which includes the remnants from Tropical Storm Fred that caused deadly flooding in Western North Carolina.

Emergency Management officials recommend the following safety tips:

- Develop a family emergency plan so each member knows what to do, where to go and who to call during an emergency.
- If thunder roars, go indoors! Lightning is close enough to strike you.
- Know where the nearest safe room is, such as a basement or interior room away from windows.
- Know the terms: WATCH means severe weather is possible. WARNING means severe weather is occurring; take shelter immediately.
- Assemble an emergency supply kit for use at home or in your vehicle. Make sure to include a 3-day supply of non-perishable food and bottled water.
- If driving, leave your vehicle immediately to seek shelter in a safe structure. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your vehicle and do not stop under an overpass or bridge.
- If there is no shelter available, take cover in a low-lying flat area.

Find more information on tornadoes and emergency preparedness online at [ReadyNC.gov](http://ReadyNC.gov).

## Community Outreach Offers Household Items on Saturday

The Lamb of God Church in Wadesboro will hold a Community Outreach Event on Saturday, March 19. They will be giving out free household items and paper products on a first come, first served basis.

The event will begin with words of inspiration from Pastor Antonio Patterson at 10:00 a.m. The giveaway will follow at 10:30 a.m. Attendees are asked to please park in the back lot or the front lot. Please remain in your cars.

The location is 118 West Wade Street in Wadesboro. If you would like to donate or volunteer for the event, please call 843-623-3777. The website is: [www.logomchurch.com](http://www.logomchurch.com).

## Holla Community Development Center Providing Free Education

The Holla Center in partnership with Sandhills Area NC Geriatric Adult Mental Health Specialty Team will provide classes to the community on the third Thursday of each month, from 1 to 2 p.m. Trainings are designed to bring awareness and information related to a number of topics, including mental health and dementia.

First class: Thursday, March 17 at 1 p.m.  
Title: Managing Stress  
Instructor: Shelia Bryant-Ray, BS, QP, CDP  
Address: Holla Community Center, 229 East Main Street in Morven

Door prizes and light refreshments will be provided. Registration at the door.

## No Reported Covid Among Students and Staff at Anson Schools

Location/Site	Quarantined Students	Quarantined Employees	Positive Cases Students	Positive Cases Employees
Anson Early College High School	0	0	0	0
Anson High School	0	0	0	0
Anson Middle School	0	0	0	0
Ansonville Elementary	0	0	0	0
Lilesville Elementary	0	0	0	0
Morven Elementary	0	0	0	0
Peachland-Polkton Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Primary	0	0	0	0
District Office	N/A	0	N/A	0
Transportation	N/A	0	N/A	0
Maintenance	N/A	0	N/A	0
Child Nutrition/Cafeteria Employees	N/A	0	N/A	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Students + Employees</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	

\*Student Enrollment as of 03/11/22 2,959  
\*Enrollment changes daily  
% of Students Positive 0.00%

# of Employees 513  
% of Employees Positive 0.00%

A link to the dashboard is on the Anson County Schools Facebook page.

## Anson Airport Public Information Open House Scheduled for March 29

The public is invited to the Anson County Airport for an information open house. The Airport Master Plan update for 2021-2022 will be featured. It takes place on Tuesday, March 29, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Anson County Airport Terminal, located at 2980 Airport Road in Wadesboro.

The Express is on the web at [www.TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://www.TheExpressNewspaper.com)