

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:** Stephanie Duffey  
Office: 252-539-3039  
[sduffey@roanokeelectric.com](mailto:sduffey@roanokeelectric.com)

**BAKERS ELEMENTARY WELCOMES CISNE'S PASS PROGRAM**  
*Tutoring to help third graders with End of Grade exams*



STAFF PHOTO/ Stephanie Duffey  
Bakers Elementary School Parent Volunteer Yvonne Powell (left) stands alongside CISNE's Executive Director Diana Mitchell (right) as she displays a copy of the Partnership for School Success training manual the school will use as a result of an MOA signed earlier this month that focuses on helping third graders pass their EOG's. Also celebrating the partnership are (Back row: l-r) Bakers Elementary School Principal Edna Williams, CISNE's Program Coordinator Rosetta Smith and Reading Coach Gloria Harris.

SCOTLAND NECK, N.C. – A Memorandum of Agreement between Communities In Schools of the Northeast and Bakers Elementary School in Scotland Neck makes the school the second in Halifax County to engage the Partnership for School Success (PaSS) program.

“PaSS provides mentoring in support of third graders who are preparing to take End Of Grade (EOG) exams with support they need to be successful,” said Communities In Schools of the Northeast Program Coordinator, Rosetta Smith. Mrs. Smith and Diana Mitchell, CISNE's Executive Director, met recently with Bakers Elementary School officials to discuss programs which could enhance the school's learning curriculum.

How does it work? Communities In Schools solicits volunteers from the community who must pass a criminal background check and complete a tutor training course. The training material provides the volunteers with tools and techniques that help engage students in 10-weeks of one-on-one tutoring to achieve greater levels of learning. Teachers and principals identify the students who are most likely to benefit from the program.

The school then carefully matches the students with a tutor to provide the best possible tutoring experience as he/she prepares for the statewide EOG exams.

“My experience working with young people in the area helped me to see the need that is reflected in literacy statistics,” said Bakers' reading coach Gloria Harris. Harris believes the partnership with CISNE will provide additional ways to engage students in extensive knowledge based learning.

“Our goal goes beyond taking advantage of the opportunity available through the PaSS program to developing student confidence and motivating students to read and comprehend,” she said, admitting that there aren't any quick solutions. “We embrace PaSS as an extension to learning through community resources and partnering which aids us in grasping the challenge of helping every child to succeed.”

The mission of Communities In Schools of the Northeast is to champion the connection of needed community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn and stay in school and prepare for life.

For more information about CISNE or to volunteer, contact Rosetta Smith at 252-539-2236 ext. 280.