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SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE AIMS TO “STUFF THE BUS”

Communities In Schools of the Northeast, REDI and Wal-Mart team up to make fall back to school a winning season

AHOSKIE/ROANOKE RAPIDS, N.C. – “Stuff the Bus!”

That’s what CISNE (Communities In Schools of the Northeast), REDI (Roanoke Economic Development, Inc.) and Wal-Mart hope to do with their upcoming Stuff the Bus School Supplies Drive.

Why? To help children in Bertie, Gates, Halifax, Hertford and Northampton counties by providing them with the necessary supplies to get them off to a successful start in school! As part of the “Stuff the Bus” drive, CISNE is challenging parents, teachers and others in the community to participate by donating school items at one of the two designated Wal-Mart locations.



Clarence “Eddie” Hall III (back), Phillip Jacobs (standing) and Darren Manley (sitting) unload some of the donated school supplies from the “Stuff the Bus” school supplies drive.

The school supplies drive pulls in at just the right time too, Tax Free Weekend! According to the North Carolina Department of Revenue website G.S. 105-164.13C provides an exemption for certain items of tangible personal property sold between 12:01 A.M. on the first Friday in August and 11:59 P.M. the following Sunday.

This year’s dates are Friday, August 3rd through Sunday, August 5th. Items can be donated throughout the month of August at The Roanoke Center – 409 N. Main Street in Rich Square. The last day for the “Stuff the Bus” donations, however, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, August 30th.

To make the most of the tax free holiday and hopefully garner more items for area youth, CISNE has set up donations locations at Wal-Mart stores in Roanoke Rapids and Ahoskie. Donations for students in Bertie, Gates and Hertford counties will be received 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, August 3rd at the Wal-Mart in Ahoskie – 1532 E. Memorial Drive while donations to support students in Halifax and Northampton counties will be received from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, August 4th at Wal-Mart Super Center in Roanoke Rapids – 251 Premier Blvd.

“We are happy to partner with Wal-Mart in this endeavor,” said REDI’s Director for The Roanoke Center Director Diana Mitchell. “The students of today are the future of tomorrow and we want to do everything we can to help them succeed.”

Volunteers, especially youth, are also being sought to support the school supplies campaign by helping to receive donations at the “Stuff the Bus” booths. Possible shifts include three hour increments from 8 a.m.-11 a.m.; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; or 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

For more information on how you can help, contact The Roanoke Center at 252-539-2236 ext. 280 or ext. 230.

About Communities In Schools of the Northeast

Communities In Schools of the Northeast (CISNE), housed in The Roanoke Center, is a state-sponsored organization that connects community resources with local schools to help young people learn, stay in school, and prepare for life. CISNE is a division of Communities In Schools, the nation’s largest stay-in school network, serving just over one million youth in 154 communities across the United States.