

TECH TEAM & DIGITAL AMBASSADORS NEWSLETTER

OCT 2025



WELCOME BACK!

Happy Fall, folks! During our October 1st drop-in meeting, we heard from Hyde County School's Chief Technology Officer, Shelby Gibbs, who manages the district's Tech Team program. She shared the impressive work her team of interns accomplished over the summer break, the only time the team operates.

The team, launched during the 2021–2022 school year, included five student interns this summer, each gaining hands-on experience by working alongside the county's two-person IT department.

Students applied for their internship positions through a formal process that mirrors a real-world job application, giving them valuable professional experience before the internship even began.

This past summer, Hyde County braided funds from NCBCE and the CTE department to support the interns' wages. The team took on a wide range of projects from repairing Chromebooks and laptops, setting up new computers, and installing smart boards, to network wiring, delivering supplies, and even moving furniture for school renovations.

**NEXT MEETING:
NOVEMBER 5 AT
3PM**

NC
TECH WORKS

Their efforts provided critical support to the district's technology operations while giving students meaningful, career-relevant experience in IT.

Thank you, Ms. Gibbs!

Our next drop-in meeting will be held November 5th at 3pm.

**CLICK THE COMPUTER
FOR THE LINK TO THE
DROP-IN MEETING!**



The recording of October's meeting can be viewed [here](#).

ALAMANCE DIGITAL AMBASSADORS

This month, the VALORES Digital Ambassadors team in Alamance County have taken a creative detour from their usual digital literacy classes to participate in a month-long art project.

These sessions have given Ambassadors a chance to be creative and practice patience and teamwork through hands-on artistic expression. This special project, the Paper Hand Puppet Project, has been a wonderful way for students to connect art and technology in new ways.



You can check out a video showcasing their work on TikTok at [@valoresdigitalambassador](#)

OCTOBER CAREER SPOTLIGHT WEBINAR RECAP

This month's NC Tech Works Career Spotlight webinar featured Dr. Melissa Nysewander, Head of the AI Center of Excellence, Workplace Investing at Fidelity Investments. Dr. Nysewander shared her journey from earning a Ph.D. in Physics and Astronomy at UNC Chapel Hill to building a successful career in data science and artificial intelligence.

Driven by her passion for understanding data and using it to help others, Dr. Nysewander offered valuable insights into how AI and data science are shaping the future of work. She encouraged students to experiment with data languages and, most importantly, to have fun exploring and learning through data. Her top language recommendations for beginners are SQL and Python, two of the most versatile and widely used languages in the field.

You can watch the full webinar [here](#). Thank you, Dr. Nysewander, for sharing your time and expertise with our students!



OCTOBER IS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

Each October, the National Cybersecurity Alliance (NCA), together with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), leads Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a global campaign to raise awareness about online safety and empower individuals and organizations to protect against cybercrime.

The 2025 campaign theme is “Stay Safe Online,” which focuses on four simple but powerful steps anyone can take to boost their digital security:

- **Use strong passwords and a password manager**
- **Turn on multifactor authentication (MFA)**
- **Recognize and report scams (e.g. phishing)**
- **Keep software updated**

Because kids and teens spend much of their lives online, making cybersecurity resonate with them is crucial. NCA suggests using interactive games, hands-on projects, and gamified challenges to teach core cybersecurity habits such as building strong passwords or spotting phishing attempts – in a way that feels fun and engaging.

They also emphasize the importance of open conversations: allowing young people to bring their online questions and concerns to trusted adults fosters a responsible and empowered mindset. Visit staysafeonline.org to learn more about cybersecurity and access resources for students.



FEATURED RESOURCE: DR. ANDREW NG

This month's featured resource highlights Dr. Andrew Ng, a globally recognized leader in artificial intelligence and one of the most influential voices shaping the field today.

Dr. Ng is the Founder of DeepLearning.AI, Executive Chairman of LandingAI, General Partner at AI Fund, Chairman and Co-Founder of Coursera, and an Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University. A pioneer in both machine learning and online education, he has authored or co-authored more than 200 research papers in machine learning, robotics, and related areas. In 2023, TIME named him to its Time100 AI list of the world's most influential figures in artificial intelligence.

Through his website, [AndrewNg.org](https://andrewng.org), Dr. Ng offers a variety of accessible courses on AI and related topics. As someone working at the forefront of the industry, he is often among the first to release educational content on emerging technologies. In a field evolving as rapidly as AI, learning from leaders like Dr. Ng can help students and professionals alike stay current. His blog is also an excellent resource for staying up to date on industry breakthroughs.

