

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

---

**Contact:** Alicia Hawk  
Co-Director of Development  
The Oakwood School  
4000 MacGregor Downs Rd  
Greenville, NC 27834

**Phone:** (252) 931-0760 x 1302

**Email:** [alhawk@theoakwoodschoo.org](mailto:alhawk@theoakwoodschoo.org)

**Date:** December 1, 2015

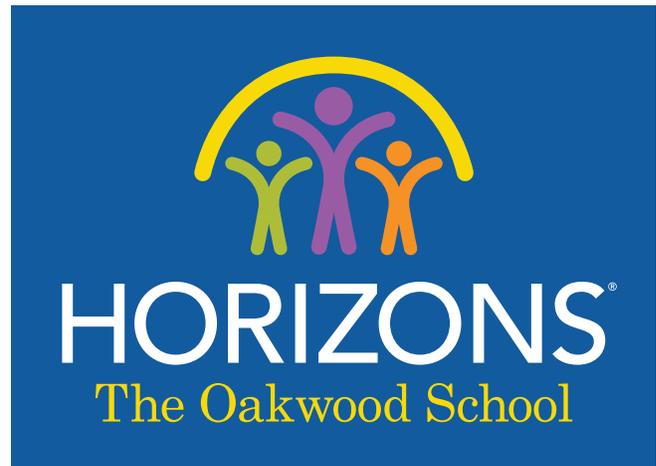
---

## **OAKWOOD TO LAUNCH NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST HORIZONS PROGRAM**

Program designed to reduce achievement gap in low-income Pitt County public school students

### **GREENVILLE, N.C – DECEMBER 1, 2015**

The Oakwood School, in partnership with HorizonsNational.org, announced today it will launch the first Horizons program in North Carolina. *Horizons at The Oakwood School* will serve Pitt County public school students in grades K-8 from low-income families, providing swimming, academic and arts enrichment to improve educational outcomes and narrow the achievement gap. The program will begin with 15 kindergarten students starting summer 2016 and add a new kindergarten class each year.



Head of The Oakwood School, Rob Peterson, said, "We are thrilled and proud that *Horizons at The Oakwood School* will enable dozens of children to learn and lead with the integrity, courage, confidence and conviction that are hallmarks of an Oakwood education. This program aligns perfectly with Oakwood's mission to provide exceptional educational

opportunities and make a difference in the world and underscores our belief that private schools must have a public purpose.”

Horizons at The Oakwood School is a transformative educational summer enrichment program during which students will spend six weeks on Oakwood’s campus engaged in high-quality academics, cultural enrichment, and confidence-building activities. Students are given an opportunity to attend for nine consecutive summers, helping them to grow in skills and confidence, and return to their own schools better prepared each fall. Days at Horizons include academics with an emphasis on literacy and 21st century learning, including STEM and art. Swimming and other confidence-boosting activities break down barriers to success and expose students to new opportunities.

Horizons was founded in New Canaan, Conn. 51 years ago and has since grown to 45 programs at affiliate independent schools and colleges in 15 states. Kris Arnold, Executive Director of *Horizons at The Oakwood School*, said, “As a firm believer that potential is universal while opportunity is not, it is an honor to be leading *Horizons at The Oakwood School*. Oakwood has made a powerful commitment to the community with this program, which is the first of its kind in North Carolina. I feel very fortunate to be a part of it and look forward to working with many wonderful young students and their families for years to come as they, and this program, grow and flourish.”

The Oakwood School is a dually accredited, college preparatory, independent day school serving grades PreK through 12 in Greenville, NC. For more information contact Kris Arnold (pictured), Executive Director, Horizons at The Oakwood School, 4000 MacGregor Downs Road, Greenville, NC 27834 or call (252) 931-0760 ext. 2106 or email [karnold@theoakwoodschoool.org](mailto:karnold@theoakwoodschoool.org). Learn more at [www.TheOakwoodSchool.org](http://www.TheOakwoodSchool.org).



Kris Arnold, Executive Director