

# Success Story

## Four Oaks Elementary, "Jaylen's Journey" Walk to School Day Event, Johnston County

### The Scoop

- Four Oaks Elementary School participated in its first International Walk to School Day with a themed event titled, "Jaylen's Journey." Students walked to school in honor of Jaylen, an eight year old student diagnosed with Batten disease, and to bring awareness to this condition.

### The event resulted in:

- Commitment to participate in future International Walk to School Day and National Bike to School Day events.
- Incorporation of a walk event during Field Day in the spring.
- Student encouragement to walk to school to help build endurance for Four Oaks Elementary Annual 5K race.

### The event reached:

- An average of 500 participants (students, parents, teachers and community volunteers).



### About

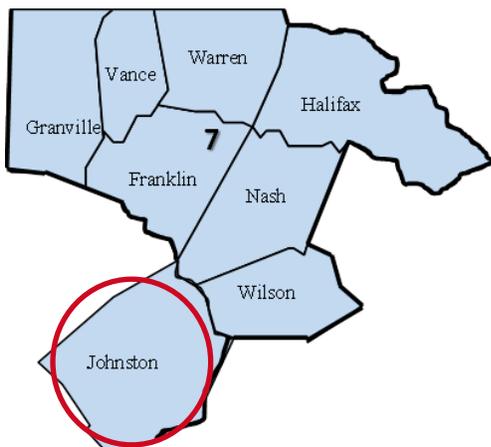
Four Oaks Elementary School organized "Jaylen's Journey" as its first ever International Walk to School Day event in honor of eight year old Jaylen Stanley who was diagnosed with Batten disease. "Jaylen's Journey," a themed Walk to School Day event, organized for Jaylen's family to share his story and bring awareness to the disease. Some students walked and biked from their homes, while the majority of the 500 participants began the ¼ mile walk at the First Baptist Church in Four Oaks. Upon arrival, participants were greeted with music, mascots from the local middle and high schools, an opportunity to sign Walk to School Day banners and health and safety information. In all, Four Oaks students and family members celebrated a very meaningful Walk to School Day as they honored Jaylen and brought more awareness to Batten disease. The successful event led to a commitment to participate in future Walk/Bike to School Day activities.

### Partners

Four Oaks Elementary Administration and Staff, Parent Teacher Association, School Health Advisory Council, Community/Faith Based Organizations, Local Businesses, Johnston County Health Department, Law Enforcement, Fire Department, Four Oaks Town Mayor, Johnston County Manager, Johnston County Clerk of Court

### For more information contact

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*"The Four Oaks community really pulls together and supports our school and each other."*  
 - Four Oaks community member