



BUDDY MCKEEL SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF FIRST RESPONDERS

BMS Newsletter

July 2025

Scholarship Update

This has been another amazing year for The Buddy McKeel Scholarship. We have been blessed with the opportunity to award \$40,000 to eleven (11) very special graduating seniors—all children of Carteret County First Responders.

We are thrilled to share with you that since the inception of BMS we have awarded \$150,000 to thirty-five (35) graduates. Congratulations to our 2025 recipients and best of luck to you in your future endeavors!



As Buddy's aunt, I am dedicated to continuing the work of BMS. This scholarship honors his legacy by helping the children of our first responders continue their education—those who share Buddy's spirit of sacrifice and community commitment.

It's our way of ensuring his values live on, supporting future generations in a way he would have been proud to champion."

*Lisa McKeel Bair
BMS Board Member*

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2025 BMS Scholarship Recipients

Kaiden Atchinson –
Croatan High School

Madeline Cunningham–
Croatan High School

Donavon Hunnings -
East Carteret High
School

Braydon Johnson– East
Carteret High School

Hailey Pittman– East
Carteret High School

Samantha Tucker–
Truth and Faith High
School (Homeschool)

Lauren Tucker- Truth
and Faith High School
(Homeschool)

Samuel Weaver - South
Brunswick High School

Jovanni Burdette -
West Carteret High
School

Aleksandra Baker-West
Carteret High School

Katelyn Lewis-West
Carteret High School





Thank you to our amazing supporters and donors! This is only possible because of your generosity.

Fins and Feathers

We are excited to announce that plans have begun for our 4th Annual Fins and Feathers fundraiser. Once again we will be partnering with Matt and Mindy Fitzpatrick and The Friendly Market for the event.

This year's event will have another amazing venue! It will be held at the Crystal Coast Civic Center on **Saturday, October 18th, 2025**.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for what promises to be another awesome event. Additional information to come!!

