Duct tape is useful for fixing things and for craft projects, but recently students at Trindale Elementary School found another creative use for the sticky substance. After raising money for supplies for special activities, they used it to fasten Principal Todd Henderson to the wall in front of the school office.

Principal’s back against the wall (literally)

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

Students at Trindale Elementary School recently demonstrated how special their “specials” are to them through a successful fundraiser that yielded more than $7,000 for art, music and physical education supplies.

North Carolina legislators have reduced class size in grades kindergarten through third grade for the 2017-2018 school year but the move may mean school administrators will have to operate with a smaller budget for non-core curriculum classes and activities.

Principal Todd Henderson only intended to have one fundraiser during the school year but when the student council backed him up to the wall he couldn’t turn them down.

“The student council came up with the idea to have a Track-a-Thon,” said Henderson. “On May 15 students had 30 minutes to run or walk as many laps as they could. They collected sponsors who agreed to pay them so much per lap or a flat donation.”

Monies collected from the fundraiser will be divided between media, art, P.E., guidance and music classes.

Henderson was so impressed by their hard work he let students tape him to the wall. Each student contributed one piece of duct tape, leaving a tape-covered Henderson stuck to the wall in front of the school office.
Members of the Trindale Elementary School student council came up with the idea for a Track-a-Thon to raise money for art, music, physical education and the media center. The fundraiser was successful in raising more than $7,000 and Principal Todd Henderson, a man of his word, let students tape him to the wall.

Trindale Elementary Principal Todd Henderson will go to great lengths for his students — even agreeing to be taped to the wall with miles of duct tape. After being encased in the tape by each member of the student body, a Trindale Elementary School staff member begins the process to set him free.

Trindale Elementary holds DARE graduation

By Debbie Hightower

ARCHDALE — A confident Lucy Lockwood stood in front of a gymnasium full of Trindale Elementary students and parents as a testimony of the value of the DARE program — Drug Abuse Resistance Education. After spending 12 weeks working with Officer Freida Neece of Randolph County Sheriff’s Office, she and other fifth-graders wrote an essay summarizing what they had learned.

“DARE has taught us not to do drugs,” said Lucy, the essay winner in Donna Moser’s fifth-grade class. “We know not to do drugs or drink alcohol. Also to be a good citizen and to help others in need. To help people who are being bullied and to not be bystanders.”

“One of the most important things is to not do drugs or smoke tobacco,” said Tristan Hensley, winner in Christy Hutchins’ class. “It puts harmful chemicals in your body that could possibly
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kill you at any time. If you do drugs you could end up in a bad situation that you don’t want to be in. I, Tristan Hensley, pledge to never do drugs and try to convince people to stop doing them.”

DARE Chaplain Riley Puckett urged the students to choose their friends wisely and, “If you know something is bad, leave it alone.”

“If you show me your friends, I’ll show you your future,” he added.

Randolph County Sheriff’s Office has been providing the DARE program to students since 1987.

“Project DARE teaches the children how to weigh negative and positive consequences, how to build good self-esteem, recognize and deal with peer pressure and much more,” said Sheriff Robert Graves. “As the saying goes, our young people of today will be our leaders of tomorrow.”

During the morning, Trindale students were also recognized for Gold and Silver Presidential Awards, Perfect Attendance, A-B and A Honor Roll, Safety Patrol Award, Go FAR and Battle of the Books.

Motivational speaker and DARE Chaplain Riley Puckett shared with the fifth-graders the stories of consequences of bad decisions he encountered during his years as an officer with High Point Police Department.

Sheriff Robert Graves praised DARE graduates for their decision to make pledges to stay away from drugs, alcohol and smoking. He also cautioned them to make friends who share their values and goals.