



He has Wings

Why? That's what everyone asked 14-year-old Cole Huey when he and three friends rose before dawn last week and hiked 13 miles to school from Sullivan's Island. "Why do people climb Mount Everest?" said Cole, who relished the challenge. As the WINGS Creed says – "The choices you make should be what you want to do."

An eighth-grader at Porter-Gaud school in Charleston at Albemarle Point near the Ashley River, Cole said he was riding home from school one day when he started wondering what it would be like to walk the whole way. "It somehow popped into my head – and then it turned into a plan," he said.

He enlisted his friend Andrew Cranny, and together they persuaded Carson

Finch and William Byrd. "We said, 'It's an adventure. Imagine how much hype we'll stir up at school. We'll be the first to do it – we'll be paving the way!'"

They needed all their powers of persuasion to convince their parents it was a good idea. But they hatched a plan, mapped their route, pledged to reach school before the start of classes at 8 am, and fortified themselves with beef jerky after their 3:30 am wakeup call. They arrived at school 15 minutes ahead of schedule – bedraggled and triumphant.

"The first 30 minutes I was wondering how much of a good idea it really was," conceded Cole. "When it's dark, it's amazing how things change and seem much more freaky. But we were careful. And we were having fun."

The boys videotaped their trek for the skeptics among their friends. Some of the adults in their lives also expressed surprise – "I think our parents will think a little differently about us now. That's definitely a result," he said. "We made it happen," Cole said. "A lot of people said it was a terrible idea and that we would never do it. I was slightly surprised that we made it work,

we walked that far, and the plan got us to school on time. I said to myself, 'We actually walked to school!'"

Cole Huey has WINGS.

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Billionaires Making a Dent

A new generation of donors is transforming education philanthropy with controversial ideas about learning and new approaches to giving their money away. In an article entitled "How Many Billionaires Does It Take to Fix a School System?" The New York Times discusses their efforts.

- [Click here to read article](#)

Hot Wings

Don't Become Human Volcano

If You're About to Erupt:

- Think – what happened?
- Feel – name the emotion
- Respond – choose appropriate reaction

At WINGS we tell the kids that sometimes people are like volcanoes. We can feel our emotions so strongly, it's like an eruption. When your emotions erupt, you lose control – and that can get you into trouble.

What we teach them is a three-step process for regaining control.

- First you need to think about the situation: what happened, what did you do, what is going on?
- Then you need to realize how you feel: name your emotions, what's going on inside of you?
- Lastly, you need to use the information you came up with while thinking and feeling to choose the most appropriate reaction.

Learning to control our emotions is an ongoing effort, and we help the kids think about and practice making better choices. We tell them that when they are choosing how to react, they need to make the decision that is appropriate for the particular situation and will lead to having a better day. It's useful to

get them to think about these situations in advance, so we ask them to think of a time when they didn't manage their emotions very well and let the volcano erupt. How could they have handled the situation differently and had a better day as a result?

We tell them: Don't let yourself become a human volcanic eruption! Try your best to think before you react so you can control your emotions.



Meet Michayla

Kindergarten student Michayla Brisco strives to live the WINGS Creed. She understands that everyone is different, as the Creed says, and she declares that what makes her unique is her missing front teeth. That unique and shining smile of hers greets WINGS Leaders every day.

In her first year of WINGS, Michayla shows great pride in herself and says her greatest strength is being able to “make it all the way across” the monkey bars on the playground. She recognizes what her

strengths are, and what she needs some help with. A member of the Hummingbirds Nest led by Heather, Michayla is a team player who works hard to help others as well as herself.

Michayla is the true definition of a WINGS kid and she strives to live the Creed. She is a team player and works to help her nest work together. She is proud of herself and is able to recognize both what she is good at doing and what she needs a little help with. She states her greatest strength as “being able to make it all the way across the monkey bars”.

- [Listen to the Creed](#)



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