

STUDENTS ARE
THE HEART



OF OUR WORK!

North Charleston High School SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT TO PARENTS



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Principal

MRS. CONNIE LINDSEY
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IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT

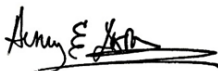
North Charleston High School (NCHS) has improved the academic and cultural environment for each student by reducing class sizes, offering students the opportunity to choose from various Advanced Placement (AP) courses, implementing a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support program (PBIS), and student clubs to build peer relationships. We have incorporated a new motto which is a vital focal point for NCHS which is “To Graduate 100% of Our Students.”

NCHS has partnered with Mercedes Benz Vans to better assist our students and their families with jobs in their new manufacturing plant. The candidates for these jobs will be given all the tools necessary to obtain a job upon graduation. Various summer job opportunities by means of Charleston County Council and other business partners are made readily available for students. In addition, a number of local businesses hire our students upon graduation as well as making sizable financial donations for student achievement.

As of the present year, over fifteen (15) college acceptance letters were offered to our students to attend the following colleges and universities.

NCHS’s athletic department has also had a fantastic year in the spotlight. The men’s basketball, baseball and soccer teams had an exemplary season leading them to the playoffs; some students were afforded the opportunity to participate in all region football, basketball and won state titles in wrestling.

The faculty, staff, and School Improvement Council assure sending your child to NCHS is one of the best decision one can make. There are outstanding teachers, an environment which is conducive to learning, and a qualified support staff. NCHS remains the right choice to educate students and is committed “To Graduating 100% of Our Students.”



Henry Darby
Principal



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PROGRAMS FOR SUCCESS

COUGAR ACADEMICS

The graduation rate for North Charleston High School increased from 59.6% to 67% in one school year. We are moving closer to our mission of graduating 100% of our students.

Over 15 college acceptance letters have been received by the guidance office and more come in every day for the Class of 2019.

Partnerships with Trident Tech afforded 16 students from North Charleston High School to enroll in dual credit courses at Trident Technical College campus.

Our shining 9th grader, Diana Varela Ortiz is an accomplished essay writer and North Charleston High School is excited to have her as apart of the Cougar family.

SCHOOL VISITS

The Class of 2019 had the opportunity to make campus visits to seven different schools at no cost to the student.

P3 - THE PEN PAL'S PROJECT

AP Language students were paired with 3rd graders at North Charleston Elementary. We visited with students at least once a month to improve reading and critical thinking skills, to build relationships with our younger Cougars, and to help them set and achieve academic goals. Since we realized the literacy gap among our own students, we wanted to start with younger students to build a stronger literacy foundation.

INCORPORATING THE ARTS AND WRITING

In partnership with the Gibbes Museum and Poet Laureate Marcus Amaker, students participated in two writing workshops in which they composed poetry and narratives paired with artwork from a well known art studio in Harlem, NY. The exhibit is called Black Refractions and will be on display in late May. Students will travel to the Gibbes Museum to see the exhibit firsthand along with their own work on display. Each participating student will also receive a copy of Amaker's collection of poems, Empath. The following outside or-



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ganizations were involved in the project: the Gibbes Museum's Art Access Grant/Program, Poet Laureate Marcus Amaker, Benny Starr, and our business partners: Orange Spot Coffee Shop, Itinerant Literate Bookstop, Perkins Eyecare and Eyewear.

CULINARY ARTS COMPETITION

Our culinary team participated and represented North Charleston in a fantastic manner at the Quest Culinary Competition held at Trident Technical College.

YEARBOOK CLUB

Sofia served as the yearbook editor for the 2018-2019 school year. She interviewed teachers and peers, and photographed portraits, group shots, and action shots. She worked to design yearbook spreads and to draft and revise body copy. She also partnered with sponsors in the community to raise funds for the program. Without Sofia, the production of this year's book would not have been possible. The following organizations were involved in this project, Herff Jones Inc. and Lifetouch Inc.

HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM

The Health Science students, under the leadership of Dr. Tawnya Cox, hosted 2 successful blood drives (Feb 2018 and April 2019). Earning us a \$250 scholarship for Senior of our choice. The American Red Cross along with Laura Zagby were involved with this project.

CTE

Skyler Davis received an internship at the Embassy Suites hotel for the next school year. This opportunity was made available by Project SEARCH and DDSN.

Aaliyah Rivers, Jade Reyes, A'Laiza Graham, Taylor Clark, Aaliyah Truesdale, McKayla Drayton, Justine Mizell and Egypt Clayton passed the Red Cross exam and became certified in Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers (includes CPR & AED).



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COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (CIS)

CIS surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Facilitated by Mr. Jean Rebecca.

- ◆ Raise up: a life skills and scholarship program
- ◆ College Sage: Provided free college counseling to NCHS students who are interested in exploring and preparing for post high school opportunities.
- ◆ Volunteer Program: an average of 25 volunteers provides in school one-on-one tutoring and mentorship to NCHS students; volunteers also provide classroom assistance.
- ◆ CCSD McKinney Vento: This incentive provides non-perishable food items and other basic needs to homeless and displaced students.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Ms. Nates works with selected students by which the school Psychologists listens to concerns about academic, emotional or social problems. Help students process their problems and plan goals and action.

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

Ms. Mazyck conducts mental health assessments, developing individualized treatment plans, leading individual or group therapy sessions, running preventative mental wellness classes or workshops and making treatment referrals.

PARENT ADVOCATE

Facilitated by Ms. Bowens, Maintains contact with school families through telephone calls, workshops and home visits. Provides specific outreach to parents in various forms. Participates in the development of the Title I plan and other required documents.



STEM is more than just the acronym, a curriculum or the stuff that is normally associated with the activities. Students use principles from the associate disciplines from the STEM acronym to problem solve. This allows students to use all of the disciplines that they normally learn in isolation to be applied in a variety of combinations. For example some problems will require the application of principles from the Science and Engineering discipline but nothing from Technology and Mathematics. A byproduct of using a STEM approach to educational instruction, (a derivative of project based learning) also builds a core set of competencies that I believe are the essential transferable skills (soft skills) that student need to be success. They are able to collaborate through a development process with a team of students which requires them to analyze a problem, decide what is needed to solve that problem, develop a solution, evaluate that solution and present it to groups or individuals. Additionally it allows students to solve real problems for real people that can be collected into a portfolio of work that prove that they can do what they say they can do. It is in these authentic experiences that students will find their passion and become the valued asset to the citizenry that every human being inherently strives to be.

North Charleston High School is excited to have a full-time STEM support team on campus to expose our students and the community to various STEM career opportunities.

Lynn Clegg, STEM Coordinator—North Charleston
Cheryl Walden, STEM Community Engagement Specialist
Darwin Shorter, STEM Career Specialist



COUGAR SPORTS



COACHING HIGHLIGHTS: CHRIS BROWN

*North Charleston High School Coach of the Year
2018 & 2019 School Years*

AA ALL-STATE SELECTIONS:

CA'VASHIA JOHNSON
Women's Basketball

DARJAWUAN BROWN
Men's Basketball

POST AND COURIER'S ALL-LOWCOUNTRY BASKETBALL:

CA'VASHIA JOHNSON
Women's 2nd team

SOPHIA SIMMONS
Women's honorable mention

DARJAWUAN BROWN
Men's 1st team

MARQUEZ TERRY
Men's honorable mention

HARRY SEABROOK, JR.
Men's honorable mention

COLLEGE ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS:

MARQUEZ TERRY
Garden City Community College

MATTHEW SIMMONS
Morris College

HARRY SEABROOK, JR.
Morris College

REGION VI-AA ALL-REGION SELECTIONS:

LUMIN GRAHAM
Football

CA'VASHIA JOHNSON
*Women's basketball
(also Region VI-AA women's player of the year)*

SOPHIA SIMMONS
Women's basketball

TRENALL MITCHELL-SMALLS
Women's basketball

DARJAWUAN BROWN
*Men's basketball
(also Region VI-AA men's player of the year)*

MARQUEZ TERRY
Men's basketball

HARRY SEABROOK, JR.
Men's basketball



A-AA STATE WRESTLING QUALIFIERS:

LUMIN GRAHAM

(4th place finish)

WILL BOGSTAD

(2nd place finish)

PARKER GRAHAM

(4th place finish)

JOSEPH LAWSON

(3rd place finish)

ANTWAIN HOSKINS

NORTH-SOUTH WRESTLING SELECTION:

LUMIN GRAHAM

OTHER NOTABLES:

Loss of Attaway-Heinsohn Stadium

Men's baseball advanced to the playoffs for the 1st time in nearly a decade

Cross country hosted and won their first ever home meet at Riverfront Park.

Significant increase in school pride around the main entrance
of the school (doors, signs, banners, etc).

Launching of an official website for athletics www.northcharlestonathletics.com.





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SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

South Carolina initiated School Improvement Councils through legislation as a means of restoring the influential voice of parents and community members in public education.

The Council has focused on coordinating a time and a place where students and parents could come to the school and learn more about applying for college and receive assistance in completing applications.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Students

Bryson Key
 Idaija Seabrook
 Juanna Lopez

Parents

Georgetta Brown
 Chinequa Seabrook
 Laquetta Murphy

Teachers

Connie Lindsey
 Merlen Mills
 Carla Clark

Community Members

Brenda Sweat
 Moses Sandino
 Teddie Pryor

Ex-Officio Members

Henry Darby
 Kathleen Luciano
 Jean Rebecca

ABOUT THE REPORT TO PARENTS

This report is issued by the North Charleston High School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.

