

Charleston excellence is our standard
County SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENTS ARE
THE HEART
OF OUR WORK!



2020-2021

North Charleston High School SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT TO PARENTS



MR. HENRY E. DARBY
Principal

REV. THOMAS RAVENELL
Chairperson, School Improvement Council

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IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2020-2021 academic school year has been a year full of adjustments for not only North Charleston High School but the world. North Charleston High School (NCHS) however continued improving the academic and cultural environment for each student by reducing class sizes to ensure the safety of all stakeholders, offering students the opportunity to choose from various Advanced Placement (AP) courses, continuously improving the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support program (PBIS) and aiding in building peer relationships. Our focal point remains the same here at NCHS which is "To Graduate 100% of Our Students."

In an effort to assist our scholars that were experiencing academic challenges we conducted two Saturday home visit sessions to check on the scholars and their families to include both ESL and English speaking scholars. These visits provided support and resources for our families which received a welcoming reception from the families.

A major highlight for our school was the tremendous generosity of the local community and our new partners from around the world. A private endeavor that I took on working at Walmart to assist my families and the community took on a life of its own. The outpour of love and financial support given to our school was overwhelming. This generosity will greatly assist our current students/families, former students/families, aid with teacher/staff moral and scholarship opportunities for our Seniors. North Charleston High School has become more than just a community school supported by local businesses. We are a global school that is loved and supported worldwide. Visit our school's website or the North Charleston High School Facebook page for more information.

Due to the financial support of various donors, we were afforded the opportunity to award the following: 32 of our scholars a \$100 gift



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card for receiving all A's for the first semester as a Principal's Honor Scholar 88 of our scholars received a \$50 gift card for A/B Honor Roll. We will offer this great opportunity to our scholars for the second semester.

Although COVID-19 has put a damper on athletics for the district, NCHS's athletic department again for the second year in a row is the home of the AAA State Wrestling Champion as well as state and regional winners. The track team will participate in the Region VIII-AAA track meet in May.

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

At North Charleston High School, instruction is centered around the three R's-rigor, relevance, and relationships. To support teachers with the implementation of the three R's, the NCHS Instructional Team has developed a system of support for our educators. Educators engage in personalized professional development, professional learning communities, coaching cycles, and data conversations to build collective efficacy. NCHS educators are using these supports to embed student-centered strategies such as personalized student trackers, small group instruction, and authentic assessments. These best practices help our students to own their own learning and become life-long learners.

North Charleston High School values its relationships with families and the community. To build upon these relationships, we have hosted numerous opportunities for parents, students, and families to interact with our faculty and staff. For example, the NCHS faculty and staff have organized and executed Neighborhood Walks in partnership with the community with the intention of strengthening relationships with students and families. A task force is being formed to develop additional strategies for community involvement.

During the 2021 Spring Semester, the NCHS Team has held teacher and student think tanks in order to elicit feedback to reimagine what school could look like, feel like, and sound like to meet the needs of our students. From these Think Tanks, we have developed task force teams that will include students, faculty and staff, families, and community members. These teams will help to drive the work of creating a more student-centered environment where our students can thrive and be passionate about learning.



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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 Ms. Whitley Richardson:

- ◆ 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 home- less 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

Provides various in school serviced such as conducting mental health assessments, developing individualized treatment plans, leading individual or group therapy sessions, running preventative mental wellness classes or workshops and making treatment referrals.



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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 and management of the Title I, Priority Improvement budgetary plans and other special revenue allocated for North Charleston High School. Assist with graduation rate improvement through tracking, re-engaging students in diploma granting programs, assisting with truancy and numerous other tasks that aid in the students' academic success.

COMBINED INTERVENTION

Combined Intervention (CI) is a company which implements a systematic process of conflict resolution and mentoring intervention for students who are identified to be suspended or expelled. Based upon the discipline needs of the students, CI will collaborate with parents, students, teachers and administrators to resolve academic and social problems of identified students. Each student will be assigned a mentor for the period of the semester; there will be home dialog with students and parents; the hosting of community forums with major stakeholders of the community such as Ministers, business men and women, retired teachers and other professionals. Teachers and administrators will be provided with methodologies and strategies to assist students in the prevention of discipline problems within the classroom. SIC meetings will be attended to discuss strategies to assist with student achievement. Students will be assisted (tutored) in subjects of deficiencies; students will be instructed in financial literacy and multiculturalism. Parents and students will be assisted with transportation only as an imperative. Students will be trained in the etiquette of manners, character, and self-respect.



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NEXT LEVEL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Next Level Educational Services, LLC (hereinafter referred to as NLES) is an experienced educational consulting company providing comprehensive services in educational support services, training, facilitation, assessment, testing, coaching and research. NLES is focused on organizational development, performance improvement, leadership and change management. NLES has the proven expertise in serving diverse markets. They bring their lifelong experiences and educational knowledge to provide innovative and effective educational solutions to students, schools and organizations.

Next Level Educational Services, LLC (NLES) provides educational support services to Charleston County School District (CCSD) at North Charleston High School, to include training, assessment, coaching and data analysis. NLES works with respective stakeholders at the District level and school level to accomplish its goals.



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
Antoinette Green, STEM Career Specialist



COUGAR SPORTS

**NEW HEAD MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH
TONY EADY**



**NEW HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH
QUANSETRENIA ROBERTS**



**AAA LOWER-STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONS
& SC AAA WRESTLING CHAMPIONS**

**195 POUND CHAMPION
JOSEPH LAWSON**

**160 POUND CHAMPION
PARKER GRAHAM**



AAA LOWER-STATE WRESTLING QUALIFIERS:

PARKER GRAHAM
(160 pounds)

BRYSON KEY
(182 pounds)

JOSEPH LAWSON
(195 pounds)

KEYSHAWN WARING
(220 pounds)

REGION VIII-AAA TRACK QUALIFIERS:

BRAXTON FLUDD

MIKYAH QUARLES

KA'MYA GRANT

KHARIN SIMMONS

EVANDER JONES

DASHAWN WILLIAMS



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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

Ya'Nek Grant
Idaija Seabrook
Brooklyn Key
St. Clair Jenkins, Jr.

Parents

Georgetta Brown
Chinequa Seabrook
Laquetta Murphy
St. Clair Jenkins, Sr.
Tiffany Edwards

Teachers

Cindy Welsh
Carla Clark

Ex-Officio Members

Principal Henry Darby
Elizabeth Bowens
Brenda Sweat

Community Members

Rev. Thomas Ravenell
Whitley Richardson
Cheryl Walden
Michele White
Kimberly Wise

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.

