

Dear North Central High School Parents;

It is the mission of North Central High School to work with our community to empower our students to become responsible, life-long learners, by establishing and maintaining a safe and positive environment and implementing a challenging curriculum. It is with great pleasure that I inform you this mission is being accomplished through the hard work and collaboration of teachers, students, parents, and administration. Through these efforts, our school has made great strides in implementing the High Schools That Work reform model, received academic notoriety, and performed admirably in many extracurricular and competitive events statewide.

The High Schools That Work Model is in its third year of implementation at North Central High School. Through this initiative we have implemented or are in the process of implementing programs we feel are making an important positive impact on the students of North Central High School. Examples of these initiatives include; an advisor/advisee period for all students, incorporating literacy across the curriculum, common syllabi and common assessments for all subject areas, teacher led focus teams, built-in remediation during the school day, a school data team, a volunteer of the month program, and student/teacher incentive programs. We believe these programs are having a positive impact on our students both from an academic and personal standpoint.

Some of the notoriety our school has received due these efforts include receiving a Cum Laude Award from the State Department of Education for high performance on the SAT and being showcased in September 2010 on ETV for our achievements in the Palmetto Gold/Silver achievement awards program. In addition, the class of 2010 consisting of 109 students had a class graduation rate of 73% and received over 1.2 million dollars in scholarships. Our High School Assessment scores for first time test takers increased over 10 percentage points to 77.6%, EOC test scores increased for the third consecutive year, and our ACT participation increased by 30%. While improving our schools overall performance, our Hospitality and Tourism Academic Team won the state championship, competing against the top schools in the state. On the playing fields our school was extremely competitive within Region 3A. Both volleyball and boys cross country teams won the region title. This was our volleyball team's 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive 3A title. The wrestling team had three region champions while two qualified for the state competition. Our band program finished 6<sup>th</sup> in state competition, the highest ever for the North Central Marching Knights. The band program also was invited to perform at the Epcot Center in Disney World this past February. Lastly, North Central High School was recognized by the South Carolina General Assembly for its efforts in fielding the first ever public school sporting clay team.

It is also very important for me to recognize the commitment our student body and teachers have made to community service this year. Our volleyball team sponsored their first Dig Pink event to raise awareness of Breast Cancer. North Central High School Student Government raised over \$4000 to benefit the United Way of Kershaw County. Our Relay for Life team and ROTC program raised over \$500 for cancer research. The ROTC program also raised \$200 for our local animal shelter, and sponsored a charity blood drive for Red Cross.

As you can see North Central High School is committed to making sure that all students have the chance to gain the needed skills to leave our beloved school and compete in the global workforce. We believe that through continued collaboration with all stakeholders we will continue to meet these demands and fulfill our mission.

Worth Thomasson, Principal

Tammy Tollison, SIC Chairperson