

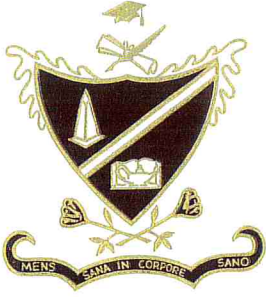
# *Buford High School*

*4290 Tabernacle Road  
Lancaster, South Carolina 29720  
(803) 286-7068*

To Whom It May Concern,

Buford High School, home of the Yellow Jackets, works to create an environment that builds world class knowledge, skills, and character in all of our students. We believe that it is our charge to provide students with a variety of experiences that allow for them to grow in these three areas. We believe that this comes as a result of being exposed to high-quality opportunities in the areas of academics, athletics, fine arts, and a variety of extra and co-curricular opportunities. We strongly believe that character is equally as important as one's academic, athletic, and artistic pursuits. Therefore, we believe that it is our charge to instill Jacket P.R.I.D.E. in each and every one of our students. P.R.I.D.E. is the term that represents our five core values: Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence. It is through these collective efforts that we hope to build "The Ideal Buford Graduate," one that is equipped with the knowledge, skills, and character necessary to be successful in life beyond the walls of BHS. We believe that our vision aligns directly with that of our district, which states that "Putting Our Children First" is at the forefront of all that we do!

We are proud to have worked with the BHS School Improvement Council to continue to support our school-wide efforts and vision. Prior to the impact of COVID, we continued to meet on the first Monday of each month in an effort to increase the level of communication that takes place between our staff, students, parents, and community members. This partnership has continued to reap dividends for our students as the SIC has found several ways over the last three years to support our students for exhibiting Jacket P.R.I.D.E. We are excited about the work that will come from our commitment to collaboration and problem-solving as we maintain our focus on continuous school improvement and growth. In addition, our students achieved excellence in academics, athletics, and arts. In the 2018-19 school year, the last year the WIN Career Assessment was administered, 90% of Buford High students received a Ready to Work certificate at either a Platinum Gold, Silver, or Bronze level. Members of the Class of 2020 (147 students) were offered over \$1,512,400 in scholarships to various post-secondary institutions. From an athletic standpoint, we are very proud of the efforts of all of our student-athletes and coaches. Every athletic team at Buford High School (Boys and Girls teams) qualified for the AA State Playoffs during the 2018-19 athletic year. We look to continue that same level of success throughout this school year as well. Our fine arts program continues to grow as we seek to provide even further opportunities for our students in the visual and performing arts. We held our second musical last year, Disney's High School Musical, which was very well attended over



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the course of several days. Our marching band competed in several local and regional competitions. Our visual arts program continues to participate in our annual LCSD arts festival and competition. On the extracurricular side of things, we have a variety of clubs and organizations that work to provide students with a well-rounded high school experience. We have many student-led service organizations, such as the National Honor Society, National Beta Club, Educators Rising, and the Future Farmers of America, that each work to provide students with the opportunity to lead while positively impacting our local, regional, national, and international communities. We are very proud of the hard work, dedication, and leadership of these groups and the impact that they have made through the variety of service-learning projects that they take part in throughout the year. In recognition of their efforts, our National Beta Club was recognized as a School of Merit each of the last three years while our Future Farmers of America was recognized as a National Gold Start Chapter for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. In addition, the FFA received the South Carolina 2017-18 Governor's Citation for Growing Leaders. Our JROTC program also received a perfect score in their Gold Star Accreditation report for the 2020-2021 school year! We are very proud of the work that has been done, and will be done, as we grow in our efforts to show Jacket P.R.I.D.E. in all that we do here at BHS!

We are also committed to keeping our students and staff safe at Buford High School. Our Safety and Security Committee, made up of key stakeholders at Buford High School, meets on a quarterly basis to review our policies and procedures for keeping everyone safe. This group provides valuable information and assists in communicating the need for changes where they see fit. In addition, BHS conducts monthly fire drills and completes all other drills, such as our quarterly intruder drills, and annual dangerous weather drills. Our district's efforts and expectations for drills continues to exceed the requirements that are mandated by the state.

We are very proud of all the great things that our students, staff, and community have accomplished here at Buford High School. The work that has taken place both inside and outside of the classroom continues to make us proud. It is further proof that we just "Can't Hide That Jacket P.R.I.D.E.! Go Jackets!

Sincerely,

Michael Belk  
Principal  
Buford High School