



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DECEMBER 2, 2014

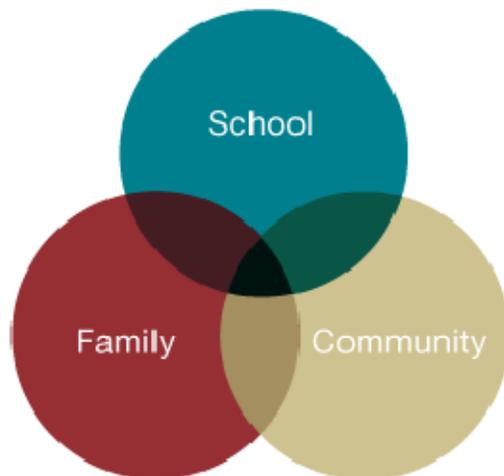
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**BILL BARNES, HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
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CHS Engages Parents and Students, and Looks to Repeat the Success with Community Members

A high school is only as strong as its connection to its students, its families, and its community. To those ends, Charlotte High School has been working hard to connect to these groups, and it is looking for ways to deepen these connections and take them from interactions to actual engagement.

To begin, students are engaging in multiple ways. From work with student council to not only bring back the homecoming parade but to take it down town, to the outstanding representation of our clubs, sports, and activities on WILX's Schools Rule, our students are acting as outstanding ambassadors for the great work that they are doing here. Our seniors are implementing school and community service projects, working to improve the high school and organizations within our community, thereby cementing their commitment to Oriole Pride and their place in our history. Furthermore, once a month, a group of students (the Student School Improvement Team, or SSIT) meets with the high school principal over lunch to discuss issues in the school, as well as how we can make CHS a better place.



As for our parents, the Parent School Improvement Team (PSIT) meets once a month to discuss a wide range of topics including Common Core State Standards, state assessments, and student programs. For example, last year, a set of guidelines were developed for teachers that helped speed up conferences and make them more meaningful for families, and each spring, a survey is developed and sent out to all parents, and then the results are analyzed. We would love to have more parents involved in these discussions; any parent is welcome to attend on the third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the high school main office. The work is important, and the meetings are a great opportunity for parents to impact change in the school.

As for community leaders, we have some work to do to engage at the same level as the students and the parents. We would love to implement a Community School Improvement Team (CSIT), following the same format as the SSIT and the PSIT, and hear the voices of our community as we look to make improvements. To those ends, if you are interested in serving on our CSIT, please call Bill Barnes, CHS

Principal, at 541-5601, or email him at barnesw@charlottenet.org. The CSIT will begin meeting on the third Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the high school main office, starting January 22, 2015.

As said in the beginning, a school is only as strong as its students, families, and community, and we are excited about the opportunities that we already have in place, and are looking forward to continuing to grow our partnerships long into the future.