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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

**BILL BARNES, HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

**517-541-5601**

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### **Charlotte High School Students Take Advantage of Collegiate Opportunities**



In today's competitive post high school educational environment, nothing is more important for student success than having the skills needed to thrive in college. To those ends, Charlotte High School is making a concerted effort to provide opportunities for its students to experience college level classes while still at the high school. In particular, a partnership with Ferris State University and a purposeful focus on advanced placement courses have created outstanding and unique opportunities for CHS students.

This year marks the first year that Charlotte High School has teamed up with Ferris State University to offer FSU classes on the CHS campus. Currently, 33 seniors are enrolled in either the Woodbridge College Preparation Program or a concurrent enrollment political science class, and are set to earn a combined 231 direct college credits this year, at no cost to them! These classes, taught by adjunct FSU faculty (including CHS teacher Mr. John Moran, whose qualifications allow him to award high school and college credit at the same time in political science) are full college classes, and the students enrolled in them are considered Ferris State students, complete with student ID's and access to the same benefits as on campus students. CHS is the only place in the state where the Woodbridge College Preparation Program is taught off of FSU's campus, and the students enrolled in it are poised to earn up to 14 college credits while they are still in high school. The concurrent enrollment course is the same PolySci 121 class taught to freshmen at Ferris, and its students will earn 3 credits upon successful completion.

Aside from these direct credit opportunities, Charlotte High School students have the chance to participate in its robust Advanced Placement program. Offering up to eight AP classes per year (Literature and Composition, Calculus, Government, US History, European History, Studio Art, Physics, and Music Theory), CHS has more than quadrupled its number of students enrolled in AP courses over the last five years, and its students took nearly ten times as many tests last year as they did five years

ago. And, these numbers are growing as there are more sections of AP courses offered in the 2014-2015 school year than there were in 2013-2014. Although not college classes in and of themselves, these AP courses mirror the college experience, providing another great opportunity for CHS students to prepare themselves for the rigors of post secondary education.

These two outstanding opportunities will certainly provide CHS students with the skills they need to be successful at the next level, because they will go into their freshmen years at their respective colleges and universities with a true understanding of what it means to be a college student. After all, for those that take advantage of these programs, they will enter those classes armed with a set of college credits and experiences that are already firmly in place.