

TO: Charlestowne Academy Parents

FROM: Dr. Nancy J. McGinley

DATE: January 30, 2009

SUBJECT: School Redesign Transition

Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent:

Board of Trustees

Toya Hampton Green, Chair

75 Calhoun Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Gregg Meyers, Vice Chair

39 Broad Street, Suite 300
Charleston, SC 29401

Chris Collins

1206 Chesterfield Road
North Charleston, SC 29405

Chris Fraser

4 Old Summer House Road
Charleston, SC 29412

Ruth Jordan

1784 Banbury Road
Charleston, SC 29414

Elizabeth Kandrac

P.O. Box 70673
North Charleston, SC 29415

Ann Oplinger

813 Duck Hawk Retreat
Charleston, SC 29412-9056

Arthur Ravenel, Jr.

109 Center Street
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Raymond Toler

4914 Foxwood Drive
North Charleston, SC 29418

I am writing to follow up on my Tuesday night phone call about the County Board's January 26th decision to close five schools—Brentwood, Schroder, McClellanville, Fraser, and Charlestowne Academy—as part of the district's *School Redesign* plan. The recommendations, designed to provide your child with improved learning opportunities, will not go into effect until next year. However, in the coming days and months, we will be working with you, constituent boards, school staff and community members to prepare for a successful transition.

As a Charlestowne Academy parent, your child will have a range of high-quality options next year. K-8 students will attend home schools and can also apply to countywide and partial magnets (for example, the new communications-themed Chicora Elementary). Existing 9th-11th grade students will stay together and move to a new high school campus over the next three years. For the Hearing Impaired program, elementary students will have a permanent new home at North Charleston Elementary, and middle and high school students will be at the School of the Arts.

I have included a "Frequently Asked Questions" page on the recommendations. Please call us at 937-6303 with any questions you have; visit www.ccsdschools.com for updates; or e-mail suggestions to schoolredesign@charleston.k12.sc.us. And be on the lookout for notice of the upcoming parent meeting that will be scheduled at Charlestowne Academy. We'd like to meet with you in person and walk you through your child's options for next year.

We are committed to working with you and your family to ensure that your child finishes the year strong and is ready for success next year. Our highest priority remains ensuring an excellent education for your child. I thank you again for your trust and involvement in our schools, and look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools