



Greetings, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Families!

We are kicking off the month celebrating the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools magnet schools recently named National Merit Award winners by Magnet Schools of America, the national association for magnet and theme-based schools. These awards are given to schools that demonstrate outstanding dedication to academic standards, curricular innovation, and diversity. Congratulations to:

- **Merit Award of Excellence**
 - Idlewild Elementary School (*Learning Immersion and Talent Development*)
 - Rea Farms STEAM Academy (*STEAM*)
 - South Academy of International Languages (*Language Immersion*)

- **Merit Award of Distinction**
 - Billingsville-Cotswold Elementary School (*International Baccalaureate*)
 - Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School (*Leadership*)
 - Piedmont Middle School (*International Baccalaureate*)
 - McClintock Middle School (*STEAM*)
 - Paw Creek Elementary School (*Computer Science and STEM Immersion*)
 - Tuckasegee Elementary School (*Learning Immersion and Talent Development*)

Congratulations to the 73 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools educators who recently earned their National Board Certification and to the 136 educators who renewed their certification. National Board Certification is the most respected professional certification available in K-12 education. Educators must be able to display a deep understanding of their students, content, data and assessments. They also must show that they participate in learning communities and provide evidence of ongoing reflection and continuous learning. We are proud of their commitment to excellence in education.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools has begun gathering input to shape a vision for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in education. You are invited to complete our [AI Survey](#), which explores key areas such as enhancing classroom instruction, improving administrative efficiency, and addressing ethical considerations surrounding AI use. AI is quickly becoming a larger part of our lives, so we must work together now to create a vision for how we can best utilize this emerging technology responsibly to support students and schools.

February is Black History Month, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is proud to celebrate Black excellence and the richness and reach of Black culture and contributions to our community and our nation. Not only during the month of February, but all year long, we honor the legacies and heritage, celebrate the achievements and contributions, and respect the sacrifices and resilient spirit of Black Americans past and present.

We also are celebrating Career and Technical Education (CTE) this month. CTE helps students explore possibilities, discover passions and prepare for success. Students enrolled in CTE classes develop technical, academic, and employability skills. Through partnerships with business and industry, they also can participate in valuable work-based learning experiences. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools CTE program is top-notch, and our CTE leaders and educators are committed to helping our students reach their potential.

The district will celebrate mid-year graduates on Feb. 6 at Bojangles Coliseum with ceremonies at 4 and 7 p.m. You can find more information about the mid-year graduation [here](#).

Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

- Feb. 11 & Feb. 25 – Board of Education Meetings
- Feb. 17 – Teacher Workday (*no school for students*)
- Feb. 26 – Early Release Day for Students

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to the children, families, and staff of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

In service and partnership,

Crystal

Crystal L. Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent