



Greetings, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Families!

As the clock winds down on the 2024-2025 school year, we are excited to celebrate the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Class of 2025! Ceremonies began last month for graduates of our early and middle college high schools, and ceremonies for our traditional high schools will begin on June 12 and continue through June 17. You can find a complete schedule of ceremony dates and times, feature stories about our senior class, along with the live stream links to each ceremony on our district website by selecting the *Graduation Information* icon just below the photo banner.

I am excited to share that 12 of our schools have been recognized by Capturing Kids' Hearts as National Showcase Schools. Capturing Kids' Hearts is a nationally recognized program that equips educators with strategies to build relationally connected and emotionally safe learning environments. The program empowers schools to create cultures where students feel seen, heard and valued through professional development, coaching and a focus on character development and student wellness.

This honor is awarded to schools that demonstrate exceptional implementation of the Capturing Kids' Hearts process, leading to significant improvements in school culture, student behavior and academic performance. The selection process involves a rigorous evaluation, including data analysis, stakeholder surveys and site visits by Capturing Kids' Hearts evaluators.

Our 12 National Showcase Schools are:

- Albemarle Road Elementary
- Berewick Elementary
- Eastover Elementary
- Elon Park Elementary
- Highland Creek Elementary
- Huntingtowne Farms Elementary
- Joseph W. Grier Academy
- Martin Luther King Jr. Middle
- Mint Hill Elementary
- Paw Creek Elementary
- Selwyn Elementary
- Westerly Hills Academy

We also have 20 schools that were named Rising Star Schools, acknowledging the remarkable progress they have made in their first year of Capturing Kids' Hearts implementation. Ensuring that our students are learning in a warm, welcoming environment where they can learn and grow is extremely important to us and aligns with our Guardrail #3 – Attending to the Whole Child,

which focuses on well-being and engagement. You can learn more about our Goals and Guardrails in our [Strategic Plan](#).

In closing, I'd like to thank you for your cooperation, support and collaboration throughout the school year. But most importantly, thank you for entrusting us with your children. Your involvement in our students' education has made a profound impact on their success and growth, and your partnership has been invaluable.

I wish you a joyous, restful and safe summer break, and I eagerly anticipate all the greatness we will achieve in the coming year.

In service and partnership,

Crystal

Crystal L. Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent