

Jasper County Charter System C. Kenny Garland, Ed. S., Superintendent 1411 College Street 706.468.6350 Monticello, GA 31064 706.468.0045 fax

The Jasper County Charter School System will provide superior and innovative learning experiences to prepare every student for life beyond school.

September 5, 2024

Dear Jasper County Charter System Families and Stakeholders:

Yesterday, a tragic event occurred in Winder, Georgia which has left us all in shock and mourning with the loss of life that occurred at Apalachee High School. Our deepest sympathies go out to the victims and families affected by this terrible event.

I want to take this opportunity to share what our district is doing to ensure the safety of our students and staff. In collaboration with our Board, we have focused on aligning resources to strengthen the security of our facilities. We have invested in multiple measures to address issues.

First and foremost, the Jasper County Charter System has had a long-standing partnership with the Jasper County Sheriff's Office. There has been and will continue to be an increased presence of law enforcement on all of our campuses. Additionally, we have invested in cameras on each of our school campuses. Recognizing the rising need for mental health support, we employ two full-time mental health counselors who serve the entire district providing a critical layer of support to students and staff in addition to the school guidance counselors in each building. We have a full-time District Safety Coordinator who partners closely with local law enforcement and school-level safety teams. We communicate regularly to develop and implement safety measures at all campuses. Safety walks with local and state law enforcement officers are completed to support the implementation of critical safety measures.

The safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. We ask for your assistance and patience as we work together with the local authorities to take the necessary precautionary measures to keep our students safe. Our goal each day and every day is to ensure a safe environment conducive for student learning to generate student success.

Sincerely,

Charles K. Garland Superintendent