



Greetings, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Families!

This time of year is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our achievements and the memories we've created.

This year, we celebrated [historic gains for our students in academic progress](#), as well as significant improvements in school letter grades. We also celebrated outstanding participation and results for our high school students taking [Advanced Placement \(AP\) exams](#). Throughout the year, our students and staff continued to shine in the classroom and beyond, earning numerous awards and accolades, and I am confident even more exciting opportunities await us in the new year.

This month, we will officially welcome new Board of Education members – Charlitta Hatch, Shamaie Haynes, Anna London and Cynthia Stone – who were elected to the board in November. Additionally, we offer our congratulations to Board Chair Stephanie Sneed and Board Vice Chair Dee Rankin, who were both reelected to the Board. We are grateful to [former Board Members Thelma Byers-Bailey, Lisa Cline, Melissa Easley and Summer Nunn](#) for their dedication and service to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. [Board Member Byers-Bailey](#) served on the Board for 12 years, making her one of the longest-serving board members in CMS history.

The year has not been without its challenges. As a community, we have had to navigate situations that affected our friends and neighbors. But we faced those challenges together – just as a community that cares deeply for our students, families and staff would.

There is still time for you to make your [school choice](#) selections for the 2026-27 school year; our School Choice Lottery closes on Dec. 5. These programs connect student interests to theme-based learning experiences. We've also begun [accepting applications for PreK programs](#).

Before we head out for the winter break, there is still more teaching, learning, engagement and enrichment ahead. Please be mindful of several important dates that will impact school calendars this month. Visit our district website to access [academic calendars](#) for our traditional schools and early colleges.

I hope your holiday season is filled with joy, peace and meaningful moments. Whether you're embracing cherished traditions, spending time with friends, or simply pausing to recharge, may this holiday bring warmth and happiness to your heart.

Thank you for being an integral part of our school community. We look forward to returning in January refreshed and ready to create even more endless possibilities for our students.

Wishing you and yours a joyous holiday and a happy new year!

In service and partnership,

Crystal

Crystal L. Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent