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CHARLEROI

AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Publication of Charleroi Area School District

WINTER 2023-24



WE ARE PROUD OF THE HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE OF ALL OF OUR STUDENTS AND WISH THEM THE BEST IN THE FUTURE.



CHARLEROI AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Charleroi Community,

As we close the chapter on the first semester of this academic year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the extraordinary achievements of our students, the dedication of our staff and the unwavering support of our families and community members. This period has been a testament to our collective resilience, adaptability and commitment to excellence.

Our students have excelled in various academic fields, showcasing their talents and hard work. The implementation of new learning technologies and methodologies has not only enhanced the educational experience but also prepared our students for a rapidly evolving world. Our focus on interdisciplinary learning has encouraged students to connect concepts across subjects, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the interconnectedness of knowledge.

The first semester was also a time of thriving extracurricular activities. From sports teams clinching victories to our arts programs receiving accolades, our students have demonstrated that dedication and teamwork lead to remarkable achievements. These programs play a crucial role in developing well-rounded individuals, and we are committed to continuing our support for these vital aspects of education.

Our community's involvement has been a cornerstone of our success. Parental engagement in school events, volunteer initiatives and constructive feedback has strengthened the bond between our schools and the community we serve. The collaboration between parents, teachers and staff is a powerful force that drives our district towards excellence.

As we look forward to the second semester, we are excited about the opportunities that await. Our commitment to continuous improvement means we are always exploring ways to enhance our curriculum, teaching methods and learning environments. We remain dedicated to providing a safe, inclusive and stimulating learning experience for all our students.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each member of our school district — our diligent staff, our enthusiastic students and our supportive families and community partners. Your contributions have been invaluable and are the foundation of our district's success.

Let's carry the momentum of this successful first semester into the rest of the academic year. Together, we will continue to navigate challenges, celebrate successes and build a brighter future for all our students.

*Edward J. Zelich Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Charleroi Area School District*



CAHS SENIOR INTERVIEW DAY 2023 WAS A SUCCESS

Since 2007, Charleroi Area High School has been hosting its annual Senior Interview Day, providing students with a unique opportunity to hone their interview skills with volunteers from various careers. In November 2023, the seniors of the class of 2024 sat with these outstanding volunteers practicing their communication skills as well as learning about the professionals' experience in their respective careers spanning from engineers, medical professionals, iron workers, educators and more. This year's event saw an extraordinary success story, as volunteer and business owner Mark Alterici found a standout candidate in senior Ritchensky Charleus, affectionately known as Cha-Cha.

Alterici has been a dedicated volunteer since the inception of Senior Interview Day and shares that he has encountered many impressive students over the years. However, Cha-Cha's interview left an indelible mark on him. According to Alterici, Cha-Cha's personal presentation, engaging demeanor and excellent conversational skills set him apart from the rest.

What particularly caught Alterici's attention was Cha-Cha's multilingual proficiency. Impressed by Cha-Cha's linguistic skills, Alterici offered him a job on the spot, recognizing the value such a person would bring to his business, Dee's Cricket in Charleroi.

"Cha-Cha is a total asset to our store," Alterici remarked. He emphasized Cha-Cha's respectful attitude, initiative-taking nature and the positive feedback received from both fellow employees and customers. The offer of immediate employment is a testament to the exceptional impression Cha-Cha made during the interview.

Cha-Cha enrolled in Charleroi Area High School in July 2023. Despite his recent arrival, he has already made a significant impact. Beyond his success at Senior Interview Day, Cha-Cha has become a role model for other students, embodying qualities of respect, initiative and effective communication. He was an instant leader on the soccer field as a member of the boys soccer team.

In addition to his immediate job offer, Alterici spoke highly of Cha-Cha as an exemplary individual. "Cha-Cha is a good example of what we want our kids to be," he said, highlighting the qualities that make Cha-Cha not only an outstanding employee but also a promising student.

Looking ahead, Cha-Cha has expressed a desire to attend college and pursue a successful career. When asked about the interview and his job working for Alterici, Cha-Cha shared that it was an invaluable learning opportunity. Cha-Cha expressed, "My boss is so, so smart. I am learning so much from him. I am genuinely grateful for this experience."

CHARLEROI WRESTLER EARNS 100TH WIN

On Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, Charleroi senior wrestler Chris Vargo earned his 100th career win at the Powerade Tournament at Canon McMillan High School. Chris became the 13th person in Bentworth wrestling history to achieve this great feat. He is the second wrestler from Charleroi since the co-operative with Bentworth for wrestling began in 2016, next to his brother John who achieved this in 2019.

CAMPUS RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT BY STATE POLICE

As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and well-being of our students, staff and faculty, our campus underwent a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) by the Pennsylvania State Police.

This comprehensive assessment was an important step in our continuous efforts to enhance our school's safety measures and protocols. The Pennsylvania State Police, in collaboration with our School Resource Officer, Safety Team and Administrators, thoroughly examined various aspects of our campus, including physical security, emergency response procedures and crisis management plans.

KEY FINDINGS:

Physical Security

The assessment identified areas where we can improve the physical security of our buildings. This includes enhancements to access control systems, surveillance equipment and perimeter security.

Emergency Preparedness

The State Police provided valuable insights into our emergency response plans. They emphasized the importance of regular drills and staff training to ensure preparedness for various scenarios.

Communication Systems

Effective communication during a crisis is crucial. The assessment highlighted the need for a robust and reliable communication system to keep our community informed during emergencies.



Following the assessment, we are committed to implementing the recommendations provided. Some immediate actions include:

- Upgrading security infrastructure.
- Conducting regular emergency drills.
- Enhancing our communication systems for better coordination during emergencies.

We understand that the safety of our students and staff is a community effort. As such, we encourage parents, students and community members to remain engaged in our safety initiatives. Your feedback and cooperation are invaluable as we work together to create a secure and nurturing educational environment.

Please be assured that we are dedicated to taking all necessary steps to ensure the safety and security of our school. We will inform you of our progress in implementing these improvements and welcome your input in this ongoing process.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Should you have any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact our Administration Office.



EARN A SCHOLARSHIP TO HELP PAY FOR COLLEGE

Did you know there are thousands of dollars in scholarship money available to Charleroi Area High School students? Scholarships are available for students based on their career path, college major, GPA, cultural background and college selection, just to name a few.

The Charleroi High School counselors post scholarships as they become available under the "Scholarships" tab in Naviance, where they are updated on a regular basis.

Complete details including how to apply, primary contact information and due dates can be found in the scholarship description section in Naviance. Students are encouraged to review the scholarship list weekly to stay informed of what scholarships are available.

Students are also encouraged to talk with their counselor about their future plans so that their counselor may assist them with the post-secondary process including scholarships.



Please contact your student's counselor with any questions.

In addition, the Charleroi High School counselors have made available a scholarship handbook to serve as a guide for families to learn what scholarships are "typically" available through their office. All seniors are given a copy of the handbook.

YOU'RE INVITED!

The Charleroi Area School District Board of Education meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Community Room, unless otherwise posted. You are invited to attend these open public meetings.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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CONTACT US

District Office (724) 483-3509
Charleroi Area High School..... (724) 483-3573
Charleroi Area Middle School (724) 483-3600
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OUR WEBSITE

www.charleroisd.org



**OUR 2023-24
SCHOOL CALENDAR
CAN BE FOUND ON
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Charleroi, PA 15022

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CHARLEROI SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS PRODUCTION OF

Book & Lyrics by **David Lindsay-Abaire** Music by **Jeanine Tesori**
Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Sunday, March 3, 2024 - 2:00 PM
Charleroi Area High School Auditorium

Tickets: \$15

Tickets will be on sale in the Charleroi High School Auditorium lobby on:

Saturday, February 24th
from Noon - 3:00pm

Monday, February 26th
from 5:00-6:00 PM

Thursday, February 29th
from 5:00-6:00 PM

Tickets will also be available 2 hours prior to each performance

"Shrek the Musical" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

