

August 13, 2012

Dear Student and Parent(s):

As the summer draws to a close, we are approaching the time for West Charlotte High School students and parents to look towards beginning an exciting new school year. Our staff is busy making preparations for the start of the 2013-2014 school year and we are excited about all of our new students as they join the *Lion Family*. Our staff is committed to making this a successful school year as we implement new strategies that will help us to achieve the mission of our school- *To equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to become productive citizens and leaders who foster change within the global community*. Academic achievement is essential to the success of our students and West Charlotte; to this, we invite students and parents to make their own special contributions towards this success.

Important items for your attention as we prepare to open school are listed below:

1. Open-house is scheduled for Thursday, August 22nd. Freshman orientation is from 4:00-5:30 pm. All freshman and their parents are encouraged to attend. General Open house will be from 5:30-7:00 pm for all grade levels. In addition, there will be a Title I/Open House in the auditorium from 6:30-7:00 pm.
2. On Saturday, August 24th there will be a “West Fest” back to school celebration held on the campus of West Charlotte from 12:00 – 6:00 pm. There will be food, music, and giveaways to the entire West Charlotte community.
3. School begins Monday, August 26th at 7:15 a.m. **Students must be in attendance the first ten days of school to be enrolled.** Make every effort to be at school each day. Students will report to their homeroom class at 7:15 a.m. It is important that students report to homeroom as schedules and other important documents and information, will be given to them during this homeroom period.
4. Administration will enforce all policies listed in the *CMS Student Code of Conduct: Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and the West Charlotte Parent Student Handbook during the 2013-2014 school year.*

Special attention will be given to dress code, electronic device violations, and the new CMS ID Badge Policy.

- Per policy, head coverings (i.e. hats, wearing of hoods, doo-rags, bandanas, etc.) and electronic devices **will not be allowed inside any building/classroom during the school day. If students wear head coverings and or have electronic devices visible during class time, they will be confiscated and returned only to the parent/guardian.** All items

should be stored away in a book bag, etc., before students enter any building/classroom.

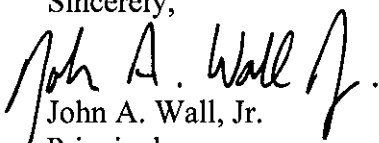
- The new CMS ID Policy requires students to have their ID visible at all times. Students will be issued an ID and lanyard so that they can display their ID. **Failure to wear a CMS ID may result in out of school suspension.** In addition, all school activities, including lunch, will use the ID system to identify students. All students will have their picture taken during the first ten days of school and this policy will be fully enforced effective **September 16** so as to give everybody adequate time to become accustomed to the new system.
5. Please review and discuss the entire *CMS Student Code of Conduct: Rights and Responsibilities Handbook* that will be provided to each student during the first few days of school. Additionally, an administrative orientation will be held for each grade level the second week of school to explain academic and discipline expectations for the 2013-2014 school year.
 6. Students and parents are encouraged to participate in the “Lion Pride- Give us 5!” campaign. The campaign asks that all students and parents participate each semester in improving our school in the following ways:
 - 5...Positive comments (about West Charlotte High School in the community)
 - 5...Professional contacts (businesses, individuals who could help West Charlotte High School)
 - 5...Donations (White copy paper donations are encouraged)
 - 5...Volunteer hours
 - 5...Dollars (collected money would be applied to the graduating class gift by year)

Parents, I encourage you to take an active role in your child’s education and to take advantage of the many opportunities to volunteer in our school.

We will use our website, Connect Ed (*automated phone system*), school website and in-house announcements, as the major means of communication and keeping students and parents informed about school events. Please visit our website regularly. If you contact information or address changes; please notify our main office. This will ensure all parents are able to be informed of all important information about West Charlotte High School.

We look forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,


John A. Wall, Jr.
Principal