



The Herald

November 2014
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A Publication of the MCA Office of
Advancement and Development

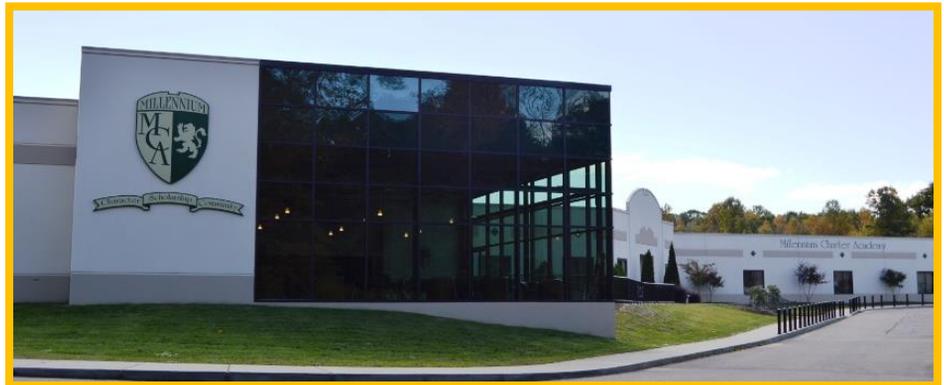


A Season of Thankfulness and Giving

On this Thanksgiving holiday, Millennium Charter Academy wants you to know how grateful we are to our friends and families, as without you we would not exist. Each day, our students amaze us with their newly acquired knowledge and insightful statements as they grow towards young adulthood. Sometimes, as a class performs, an academic team competes, a student creates a masterpiece of music or art, or even a single student finds the courage to speak up presenting his or her thoughts to the class, one is struck and filled with hope for the future knowing that there will continue to be virtuous, intelligent citizens to take us forward into the coming decades. Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

As we enter this season of thankfulness and giving, we would like to reach out for your support as we grow. This school year, we added a fourth section of kindergarten, and next school year, this expansion of our lower school will continue into first grade, and so on for several years to come until we have four sections of all grades. Also, this school year, we have grown at the other end of our age spectrum by adding our very first high school class. How exciting it is to address our "freshman class" and talk about topics such as college counseling and credit hours!

Our expansion, both in lower school and upper school, has meant that we needed more space, and our new building is a result of that need. However, at our current rate of growth, this new building will be full by the 2016 school year, and to accommodate our new sections in our elementary grades and our new classes in high school grades, we will need to expand again beginning next summer so we can be ready by fall 2016! What a wonderful time to be a part of this great institution!



One of the greatest challenges with our expansion is funding. Currently in North Carolina, unlike traditional public schools, charter schools receive no funding for any kind of building and growth expansion. This means that costs incurred for setting up new sections of our elementary grades and building new classrooms must come directly out of our operating budget, the same funds that pay utility bills and teacher salaries. In terms of sheer numbers, this discrepancy means that charter schools only receive about eighty-three percent of what a traditional public school gets. So, just like a family might, Millennium Charter Academy acquired a loan to help fund our growth. At our current rate, some of our present students will actually be retired before the loan is paid back. We are actively looking for ways to help pay back our loan more quickly. Every period that we can pay off before the termination date means more money that we can put directly to our students' education rather than to interest payments.

We certainly appreciate all those who contributed to our capital campaign last fall and spring, and all together you raised over \$18,000 to help fund our growth. Your generous donations help make sure our students from kindergarten through high school have a safe and modern facility and the proper learning materials such as books and computers. We can also keep our classroom sizes small. Although the amount given to our capital campaign is certainly substantial and VERY helpful to our school, this amounts to less than \$30 per student.

MILLENNIUM CHARTER ACADEMY OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

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Would you be able to help us maintain our high quality teaching staff, our small classrooms, and our great programs by considering Millennium Charter Academy as part of your giving for the year? There are many ways you can help:

- one time donation
- annual giving
- specific donations for programs or materials
- planned giving (wills or estate giving)

All donations are tax deductible as MCA is an IRS registered non-profit organization. Every contribution, from a quarter to a quarter of a million can make a difference for our students. If you have questions or if you'd like more information, please call the school, or contact Kirby McCrary (kirbymccrary@mcacademy.com) or Lu Ann Browne (luannbrowne@mcacademy.com).

May your lives be filled with good things for which to be thankful, as ours are filled with thankfulness for you as part of our school family. We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving.



**Happy
Thanksgiving!**