



The Herald

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The Millennium Charter Academy High School

At least once per week, whether from a current parent or a prospective parent, the question arises as to whether or not MCA will ever have a high school. As a result of this demand, in October of last year, the MCA Board of Directors formed a special committee to examine the feasibility of creating a high school. Many factors had to be considered, including obvious ones like curriculum, faculty, technology, location, enrollment, and administration, as well as hundreds more items much too tedious and technical to be listed in this publication. After careful consideration and research, at their September 18 meeting the board approved for MCA to apply to the North Carolina State Board of Education for approval to extend its charter to include grades nine through twelve. This application will be submitted to the state during the first week of October 2012, and then around February 2013, the NC State Board of Education will decide whether to grant the request. If the request to extend the MCA charter to include grades nine through twelve is granted, the first year of high school is scheduled to begin in August 2014, just in time for this current year's seventh grade class to attend.

The exact location of the high school is still to be determined, although plans are to locate it in Mount Airy near the current campus. The high school will maintain the same rigorous course of academics and high standards of behavior that are currently in place. Plans for the high school also include a college counselor who will ensure that every student applies to a college that meets his or her needs.

Once approval is obtained from the state, informational meetings will be held with interested families from within the school and throughout the enrollment area, which includes Surry, Yadkin, Stokes, Forsyth, and Allegheny counties. At that same time, MCA will also launch a marketing and enrollment campaign to promote the new high school. More information will be passed on to you, our families and friends, as it is available.

Hear what some of our current 7th graders have to say about the possibility of an MCA high school:



Sarah Shepherd: "We've had such a good academic experience since elementary school, and we should extend that experience. We reach for higher goals here already, so I feel like we should extend that to high school to better prepare us for college and life."



Julia Rose Southern: "An MCA high school is a good idea because our current school is a higher level than some other schools. It is a beautiful opportunity, and it would be a shame to not have what we already have continue. Our curriculum is totally different, and I want to keep that."



Davis Wood: "I'd like to see a high school because the education here is really good, and it would be even better if we had a high school. I think this mainly because our curriculum is more advanced than other schools which would help better prepare us for college."



Joey McCormick: "Personally, I think we should have a high school because all the higher education we've received over the years might go to waste if we go to a regular high school. I want to keep a higher education so I can go to a better college when I get to that point."

MILLENNIUM CHARTER ACADEMY OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

500 Old Springs Road Mount Airy, NC 27030

336.789.7570 (p) 336.789.8445 (f) www.mcademy.com mca@mcacademy.com