



MIDDLE SCHOOL
INFO SESSION

12.6.2016

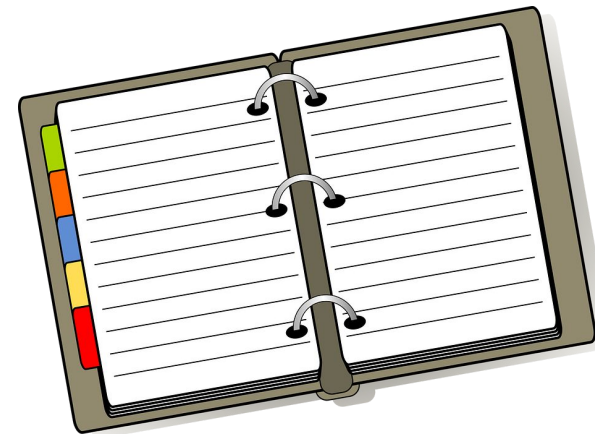
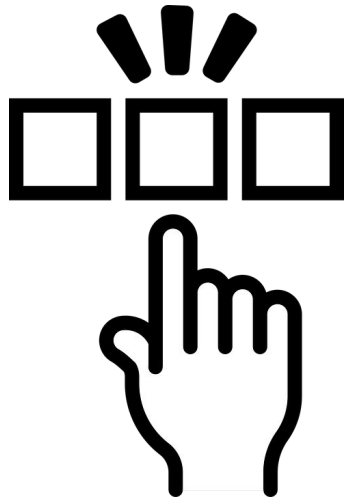


OUR VISION

Charlotte Lab School uses the **community as our classroom** to provide a **personalized, engaging, and authentic** learning experience designed to prepare students for **success and wellness** in **college and a global workplace.**



OUR VISION for MS





COMMUNITY as CLASSROOM

- Social studies *and* science taught through **Quest** - historical, global and cultural context combined with problem-solving
- **Field trips** and use of field **experts** and **partnerships**
- **Service learning** integration in Quest & Advisory
- **Internships** in 8th grade
- **Leadership** opportunities with elementary



PERSONALIZATION of LEARNING

Individualized schedules:

- **Flexibly leveled** math and language groups
- Quest “team” and work time
- **Small groups** for reading, writing & ss seminars
- **Study Hall** environment for independent practice
builds work habits; individualized brain breaks
- **Technology** enhances learning
- **Choice** - opportunities to develop passions



ACADEMIC FOUNDATION

- Content aligned with **HS & college-prep** standards
 - Algebra I EOC test by 8th grade (preferably in 7th)
 - Workshop model in reading/writing, integrating grammar, spelling and vocabulary (in alignment with SAT/ACT prep)
 - Literature choices will include both traditional & multicultural selections
 - School-wide writing rubric and expectations
 - Annual EOGs in Reading, Math; 8th grade Science EOG
 - MAP testing, grades 6-8



ACADEMIC FOUNDATION

- **Rigor** defined by depth and level of critical thinking - NOT quantity, memorization, or emphasis on content
- **Growth Mindset:** mastery-based conferences & progress reports (with limited parent-access)
- **Study Skills & Organization** incorporated into Advisory
- Progressively more **homework** from 5th-8th grades
- HS transcripts, selection **guidance** and **prep**
- Annual **college visits**



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

- Single-gender **advisory** groups stay together 6th-8th
- Advisory meets AM/PM daily; curriculum includes:
 - Continued emphasis on **character development**
 - **Decision-making** and social/developmental support
 - **Mindfulness** practices
 - **Service** learning
- Tracking of **SEL** and **student agency** (NSVF)
 - **Student-led conferences** to promote self-advocacy growth mindset development



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

- **Social, play** and **outdoor time** remain critical
 - Daily recess time with options
 - Collaborative projects and work time
 - Non-silent hallways
 - Student “break” area
 - Student Council & leadership opportunities
 - Dances, social events, spirit weeks, etc.
 - Extracurricular programs to keep students connected to school



GLOBAL AWARENESS

- **Conversational fluency** in Spanish or Mandarin by the end of 8th grade & preparation for advanced study
- Integrated **cultural studies curriculum**
- **Global studies** curriculum integration and **multi-cultural** approach to literature & US history
- Continue to build **diverse and inclusive community**
- 8th grade **international trip**
- Monitor development of **cultural competencies**



WORKPLACE SUCCESS

- Defined **skills and competencies** - Survival Skills
 - Read Tony Wagner's *Most Likely to Succeed*
- **Authentic learning experiences** enable students to *explore career options* through Quest & internships and develop *expertise* in **passion areas** culminating in 8th grade **capstone** experience
- Integration of life skills - money management



Choice of **PE**:

- During-the-day classes
- School sports team participation

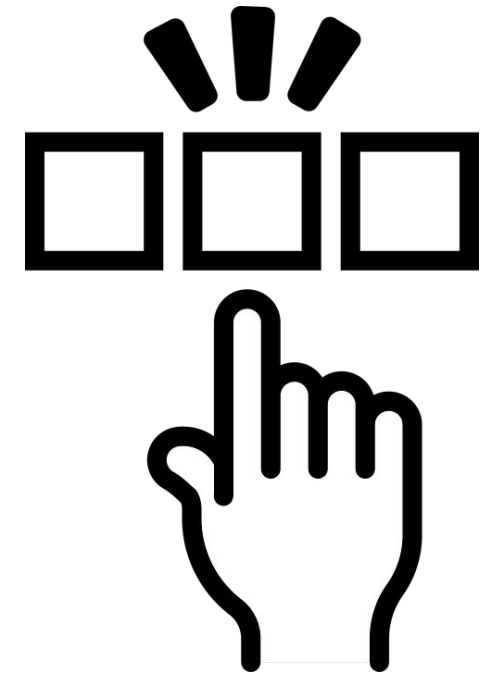
Choice of **Enrichment**:

- Art, music, theater, coding, maker

Passion projects - "20% time"

Weekly student-driven **electives/clubs**

CHOICE





SERVICES & SUPPORT

After School Programs:

- CLS After Care includes tutoring, tech classes, play time, and activities such as baking and arts & crafts
- Program include: Yoga, Taekwondo, Private Music Lessons, Soccer Shots, Intramural sports, Girls on the Run, Play Spanish, Children's Theater, Chess

Special Education Services:

- As a public school, Lab School provides all services required by a student's IEP or 504

Charlotte Lab School is committed to ensuring access to these supports and for ANY/ALL students/families who wish to attend our school!



LOGISTICS

School size:

- About 300, grades 6-8

Class size:

- Largest classes each day will have about 25 students
- Learning Groups ~15 and Advisories ~12

Staffing:

- Continuity of staff and advisors, where possible



DAILY LIFE

Uniform School:

- Any solid color shirt with a collar; khaki or navy bottoms
- Dress-up and dress-down days

School calendar:

- Closely mirrors CMS calendar; same as CLS ES

Daily schedule: *THIS IS STILL TENTATIVE*

- 9:00 am to 3:45pm, with extended hours from 7:45am (early drop off) to 5:45pm (after school care)



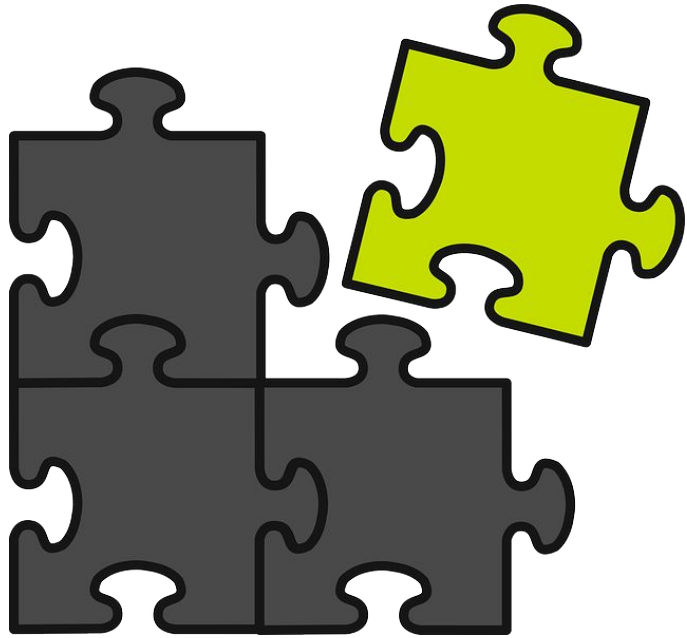
LOCATION

600 Siegle Avenue:

1. 14,100 sq feet
2. Outdoor learning areas and student gardens
3. Full kitchen
4. Traditional classrooms
5. Flexible multi-purpose spaces
6. Proximity to Uptown, CLS, and Piedmont



JUST RIGHT FIT



- Multiple teachers/changing classes daily
- Communication from Advisors
- A different definition of rigor
- Open space - more “walled” break-out rooms and classrooms
- Start-up life will continue!
- More limited sports options than larger middle schools
- Small learning community