

# Bulldog Blitz

BUTLER HIGH  
SCHOOL



November 2024



## Upcoming November Events

- November 4-5: No School (Teacher Workdays)  
November 6: PreACT (10th Graders)  
November 7: Makeup Picture Day for SENIORS  
November 11: No School (Veteran's Day)  
November 27-29: No School (Thanksgiving Break)

## Get Up to the Minute News!

[Butler's Website](#)

 [facebook.com/butlerHS](https://facebook.com/butlerHS)

[School Calendar](#)

 [butlerbulldawgs](https://twitter.com/butlerbulldawgs)

[Our Athletic Page](#)

 [butler\\_high\\_school](https://www.instagram.com/butler_high_school)

[Student/Parent Handbook](#)

**Principal:**

Yolanda Blakeney

**Assistant**

**Principals:**

Melissa Booth

Last names A-Est

Michael Dodson

Last names Ev-Le

LaShaunda Pankey

Last names Li-Rit

Phil Price

Last names Riv-Z

David W. Butler High School  
1810 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(980) 343-6300  
[ButlerHigh@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:ButlerHigh@cms.k12.nc.us)

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## A Note from Nurse Beth

A few reminders as we enter the "sick" season from the CDC:

### **When you may have a respiratory virus (colds, flu, covid):**

Stay home and away from others (including people you live with who are not sick) if you have respiratory virus symptoms that aren't better explained by another cause. Symptoms may include but are not limited to chest discomfort, chills, cough, decrease in appetite, diarrhea, fatigue (tiredness), fever or feeling feverish, headache, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, vomiting, weakness, wheezing

You can go back to your normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:

- Your symptoms are getting better overall, **and**
- You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).

### **From the National Institute of Health:**

Symptoms	Cold	Flu	Airborne Allergy	COVID-19
Fever	Rare	Usual, high (100–102 °F), sometimes higher, especially in young children); lasts 3–4 days	Never	Common
Headache	Uncommon	Common	Uncommon	Common
General Aches, Pains	Slight	Usual; often severe	Never	Common
Fatigue, Weakness	Sometimes	Usual, can last up to 3 weeks	Sometimes	Common
Extreme Exhaustion	Never	Usual, at the beginning of the illness	Never	Common
Stuffy, Runny Nose	Common	Sometimes	Common	Common
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes	Usual	Rarely
Sore Throat	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
Cough	Common	Common, can become severe	Sometimes	Common, dry cough
Chest Discomfort	Mild to moderate	Common	Rare, except for those with allergic asthma	Common; can cause trouble breathing or persistent pain or pressure in the chest that calls for immediate emergency care
Loss of Taste or Smell	Rarely	Rarely	Rarely	Common

# Graduation Updates

## Mid-Year Graduation Information

- Mid-Year graduation is Thursday, February 6th, 2025 at Bojangles Coliseum.
- The time is TBD.
- Mid-year grads need to order their caps and gowns by November 4th.
- There is no rehearsal for this ceremony.

## Spring Graduation Information

- June graduation is Monday, June 16, 2025 at 3:30 PM. The graduation will take place at Bojangles Coliseum.
- Rehearsal for the June graduation will take place on Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 5:30. Rehearsal will take place at Bojangles Coliseum.
- June graduates need to order their caps and gowns by January 31st.

# A Note from Yearbook

## Yearbook - Senior Ads

Purchase our award-winning Senior Ads. to celebrate that special senior in your life. You submit the writing and the pictures, and our yearbook staff does the rest.... did we mention our ads. were award winning?! Please purchase your senior ad. along with the yearbook at [yearbooksforever.com](http://yearbooksforever.com) .

Due by 12/01.



# SENIORS!!



CAP & GOWN ORDERING  
IS NOW AVAILABLE  
ONLINE AT  
[WWW.HJCHARLOTTE.COM](http://WWW.HJCHARLOTTE.COM)

Your Senior year is a celebration of your High School career and Herff Jones is here to help you celebrate! Although your graduation isn't until June, this event takes planning and preparation by your school, Herff Jones, and You! We ask that all Cap and Gown, Class of 2025 Wearables, and Graduation Announcement orders are placed by January 31st, 2025. Orders placed after this date may not arrive in time for pictures, banquets and awards ceremonies. Late orders may also incur extra fees.



Caps and Gowns are custom made for you specific to height and weight. It is very important that your height and weight are entered correctly on your order. If either one is inaccurate your gown will not fit.

All Senior Items including the Cap and Gown will be delivered at school in the Spring. These dates will be set by the school and announced in February.



Please email  
[hjcharlotte@herffjones.com](mailto:hjcharlotte@herffjones.com)  
with any questions.



# SENIOR CLASS OF '25

portraits & yearbook to-do's

- SCHEDULE A SENIOR PORTRAIT**, due 11/07/24
  - photo options available through Prestige Portraits, Indian Trail, NC
  - Butler tux/drape sessions (no charge; sign up online for a slot) 8/14/24 or 11/07/24
- PURCHASE A SENIOR AD. IN THE YEARBOOK**, due 12/01/24
- PURCHASE A YEARBOOK**, due 1/25/25
  - early bird special available in August
- CAP & GOWN PICTURES**, event hosted by Butler on 2/07/25
  - no fee, sign up required, more to come in January
  - CMS also takes pictures during commencement (no sign up required)

Contact Mr. Rusk via email with any senior portrait or yearbook questions.

[steven1.rusk@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:steven1.rusk@cms.k12.nc.us)

# Free Tutoring for All CMS Students

All CMS students have access to 10 hours per week of free virtual tutoring in English and Spanish, through **Tutor.com**, a digital resource available through ONE Access resources provisioned by the public library. Tutoring is available from 3-12 pm, every day of the week. Students may also upload a paper and receive feedback from a tutor within 24 hours and this may be done anytime, including during the school day. Students log into ONE Access (and Tutor.com) through the Student Portal.

Information about how to log in and how to upload a paper for feedback are included below:

- **ONE Access login information**
- **How to upload a paper to Tutor.com**

## Other Tutor.com offerings:

### Prepare for a test

- Connect with a tutor
- Prep for the SAT/ACT
  - Full length practice tests
  - Detailed score reports
  - Engaging video lessons
  - Powerful practice drills
- Prep for Advanced Placement Tests
  - AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP U.S. History, & AP World History

### Get Help Finding a Job

- Connect with a career coach
- Drop off a resume for review
- Search online job resources



October 23, 2024

# *Data For Good* Career Exploration Recap

In collaboration with the non-profit Love Beyond Walls, Butler students explored the on-site Dignity Museum to engage with interactive technology, research, story-telling, and thought-provoking activities. Students participated in data-oriented stations facilitated by Principal Foundation and EVERFI volunteers. After exploring the museum and stations, the group gathered for a fireside chat with experts and a surprise scholarship delivery to one of the students who after completing the Data Science Foundations course, applied for the Principal Foundation's "Distinguished Scholar Award" competition of \$5,000. Staff from Everfi, Principal Foundation and Love Beyond Walls drove and flew great distances so that our students could have this experience. They were blown away by the level of engagement and curiosity of the students who participated along with the essays that were submitted.



# Event Partners



Principal Foundation is the company that makes all this possible: bringing Love Beyond Walls to your school, providing access to this course, and awarding a scholarship of \$5,000 with their program, DataSetGo.



"Love Beyond Walls" is a non-profit focused on increasing empathy and education surrounding the homelessness crises in America.



EVERFI is the company that helped created the online digital course "Data Science Foundations" that you have been exploring! EVERFI has courses in financial literacy, career exploration, mental wellness, and more.



**CONGRATULATIONS to Mira Jaafar on being selected as the \$5,000 Scholarship recipient!**



**Dr. Terrance Lester and his wife, Mrs. Cecilia Lester**



**Special Thanks to Major Hillbrandt and cadets for setting up the event.**



WFAE featured interviews with Dr. Lester, Natasha Deese (educator at Butler) and the student scholarship winner.

<https://www.wfae.org/education/2024-10-24/dignity-museum-teaches-butler-high-students-about-homelessness-and-data>



WSOC interview with Jo Christine. <https://muckrack.com/broadcast/savedclips/view/YaDfgZHTeQ>



**Recap: Data For Good Career Exploration Event at Butler High School**

# Special Guests

DataSetGo Career Exploration  
DATA FOR GOOD

## Dr. Terence Lester

Founder and Executive Director of Love Beyond Walls

Dr. Terence Lester is a storyteller, public scholar, speaker, community activist, and author. He is the Founder and Executive Director of Love Beyond Walls, a nonprofit organization focused on raising awareness about poverty and homelessness and on community mobilization. Additionally, he serves as the Director of Public Policy and Social Change and as a professor at Simmons College of Kentucky (HBCU).

His campaigns on behalf of the unhoused and those facing poverty, have been featured in USA Today, CNN, Black Enterprise, Essence, and Reader's Digest. They have been viewed by millions of people globally on The Today Show, Good Morning America, CBS News, NBC, Upworthy, and "The Bright Side" with Katie Couric. He was named by Coca-Cola as one of their History Shakers.

His forthcoming book with InterVarsity Press is set to release Spring of 2025, tentatively entitled, "From Dropout to Doctorate: What it Takes to Break the Chains of Systemic Injustice."



Kira Jersild

Event Lead



Chelsea Nelson

Event Support



Danny Pruitt

Event Support



Heather Miller

Event Support

## Jo Christine Miles

Director of Principal® Foundation and Principal Community Relations

As the Director of Principal® Foundation and Principal Community Relations, Jo Christine oversees the philanthropic investment of Principal Foundation and community initiatives of Principal Financial Group®. With 18+ years of experience in public policy, legal, and nonprofit sectors, her expertise advances the company's social impact and corporate responsibility goals.

Jo Christine is passionate about community development with a particular focus on the use of partnerships across the philanthropic, private, and public sectors to connect people to resources, promote collective action, and ensure inclusive growth.



Recap: Data For Good Career Exploration Event at Butler High School

# Data For Good Career Exploration Moments

Photos below were taken by Everfi Photographer



Recap: Data For Good Career Exploration Event at Butler High School

# Data For Good Career Exploration Moments



### MYTH VS FACT

**MYTH: PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE LAZY AND DON'T WANT TO WORK.**  
In California, 9% of families experiencing homelessness are employed. For women and high school seniors, the employment rate is even higher. Research shows that a lack of transportation and the absence of a job are major barriers to employment.

**MYTH: PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE ADDICTED TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL.**  
Only 10% of people experiencing homelessness are addicted to drugs and alcohol. Many people experiencing homelessness are struggling to cope with the health effects of COVID-19, which may lead to substance use.

**MYTH: ALL PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGE.**  
Only 10% of people experiencing homelessness have a mental health challenge. Many people experiencing homelessness are struggling with mental health issues, but many are not seeking treatment.

**MYTH: HOMELESSNESS IS A PERMANENT PROBLEM THAT CANNOT BE SOLVED.**  
Homelessness is a complex problem that can be solved. Many people experiencing homelessness are able to find housing and employment with the right support and resources.

**MYTH: HOMELESSNESS IS ONLY A PROBLEM FOR CITY-DWELLERS.**  
Homelessness is a problem that affects people in all areas of the state. Many people experiencing homelessness are living in rural areas, where there are fewer resources available.

## DIGNITY BELONGS TO ALL

LOVE US + @LOVE

Three people are standing in front of a large sign that reads 'DIGNITY BELONGS TO ALL'. The sign also features the text 'LOVE US + @LOVE'. The people are dressed in casual attire, and the background shows an outdoor event setting.

"LIFE IS A MOVIE, FILM DRUG FREE"



# Red Ribbon Week

## October 28–November 1



"The nation's largest and longest-running drug-use prevention campaign"

### THE START OF THE RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN

In response to the murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena, thousands of individuals from across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in America.

### RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN TODAY

Since 1988, Red Ribbon Week has become a national movement. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a reminder to communities to educate the youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.



*Red Ribbon Week was hosted by Butler's DREAM Team, a group of senior athletes & scholars who have made the commitment to live drug, tobacco, alcohol, and violence FREE! To find out more, follow @dream\_team\_bhs on Instagram*

### DID YOU KNOW?

Common consequences of substance abuse include: mental health disorders, impaired driving, and illegal activity.

Source: <https://www.addictioncenter.com/community/what-do-teens-need-to-know-about-substance-abuse/>

Overall, drug overdose deaths rose from 2019 to 2022 with 107,941 drug overdose deaths reported in 2022. Deaths involving synthetic opioids other than methadone (primarily illicitly manufactured fentanyl) continued to rise with 73,838 overdose deaths reported in 2022.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse

Misuse of alcohol and illicit drugs affects society through costs incurred secondary to crime, reduced productivity at work, and health care expenses. DRUG ABUSE FACTS - can have far-reaching consequences that affect family, employment, personal health, health care systems, local communities, and society as a whole. Drug abuse costs the health care system about \$11 billion, with overall costs reaching \$193 billion.

[https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/246329/Red\\_Ribbon\\_Week\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_-\\_3\\_.pdf](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/246329/Red_Ribbon_Week_Fact_Sheet_-_3_.pdf)



"LIFE IS A MOVIE, FILM DRUG FREE"

# Red Ribbon Week

## October 28–November 1



### MONDAY: RED OUT!

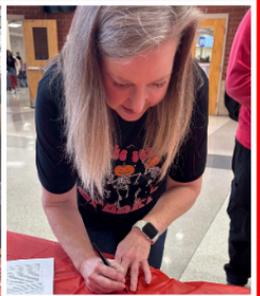
Staff and students wore RED in support and awareness of the impact of substance abuse. The color red shows our intolerance towards drugs in schools, workplaces, and communities.



DREAM Team promoted the 2024 national theme of "Life is a Movie, Film Drug Free" during Trunk or Treat by dressing as a favorite movie character and passing out candy to student in the community.

### THURSDAY: PLEDGE DAY!

Students and Staff joined together in dressing as their favorite movie character! During lunches, students were able to learn more about effects of substance abuse/misuse, and pledge to live a healthy lifestyle.





"LIFE IS A MOVIE, FILM DRUG FREE"

# Red Ribbon Week

## October 28–November 1



### TUNE IN TO DREAM TEAM'S RED RIBBON TEAM TALK!

### DRESS LIKE YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE CHARACTER!



## BIT.LY/RRWTEAMTALK

DREAM Team would like to thank everyone who anonymously submitted a story about how substances have impacted them. We hope that these stories cause our peers to think twice and to make healthy choices. Check out this month's Team Talk to hear more.

## REAL STORY ABOUT THE IMPACT OF SUBSTANCES!

Several years ago, my spouse was diagnosed with a chronic illness dealing with multiple systems but was having difficulty with pain management. They had several prescribed medications but instead of discussing their difficulties with their doctor they started taking CBD products with small traces of THC. Based on their genetic make-up the CBD medications had negative effects because it was interfering with the medications changing their mood to constant irritability, agitation, and worse irrational rage. My spouse had become more suspicious and physically harmful to the family because they couldn't think clearly. At their lowest point we had to seek medical help which included rehab and therapy. After multiple tests and three different doctor examinations, we learned that there has been plenty of research into the link between CBD products with THC that when used with prescription drugs can cause psychosis associated with schizophrenia, and the effect it can have on a person's mental health, anxiety and aggressive tendencies. The result of which can adversely alter their behavior. One in three Americans over 18 years of age use CBD products with traces of THC, 4% of those users have had negative side effects causing irritability, agitation, and irrational rage. That means of the 20% of Americans over the age 18 who use CBD with THC are experiencing mental health issues from the products that many claim to be helpful, leaving many families at risk of a hidden danger.

RED RIBBON WEEK AT BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL



Daring to Role Model Excellence As Mentors



"LIFE IS A MOVIE, FILM DRUG FREE"

# Red Ribbon Week

## October 28–November 1



### PHOTOS OF STAFF AND STUDENTS SUPPORTING RED RIBBON WEEK BY PLEDGING TO LIVE DRUG FREE!



# MeckHope Virtual Groups for Kids, Tweens, & Teens



## November 2024 Schedule

We invite Charlotte Mecklenburg Students to join one or more of our FREE Virtual Events by clicking /scanning the links below to register.



11/5 @ 5:30pm Mindfulness and Emotions

Targeted Audience: Elementary School Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/4hloKif>



11/7 @ 5:30pm Mindfulness and Emotions

Targeted Audience: Middle Schoolers Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/3YAEJWY>



11/12 @ 5:30pm Mindfulness and Emotions

Targeted Audience: High Schoolers Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/3UoSUXR>



11/14 @ 5:30pm Creating a Calming Space

Targeted Audience: Elementary School Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/3UfGdOT>



11/19 @ 5:30pm Creating a calming Space

Targeted Audience: Middle Schoolers Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/4dWYNCl>



11/21 @5:30pm Creating a Calming Space

Targeted Audience: High Schoolers Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/3Yzwwxl>



11/26 @5:30pm Mindfulness Moments

Targeted Audience: Elementary School Link to Register: <https://bit.ly/40lW6rf>



SPARC is pleased to present these virtual trainings through the support of MeckHope. These groups are open to any school aged youth in Mecklenburg County.

- Registration is required. The groups are limited to 8 individuals.
- Click on the link to register to register to attend any event you're interested in. Registration closes 2 hours prior to an event beginning.
- Parent/Guardian consent is required for any youth to participate. The link to the consent form is included with the registration. You only need to complete the consent one time, not for each group attended.
- If you register for an event and we do not have the completed consent form 2 hours prior to the event, you will be contacted by the facilitator and will not be allowed to join the event.
- Each month, there will be a new series of group topics to choose from.
- You can participate in as many groups as you wish
- Contact [sparcreferrals@thesparcnetwork.net](mailto:sparcreferrals@thesparcnetwork.net) with any questions

## Healthy Habits aren't Always AUTUMN-ATIC

Join us at MeckHope Groups



# Student Services Resources



Senior Appointment  
Calendar



Common Black College  
Application



Common Application



Federal Student Aid



Senior Brag Sheet



Student Services  
Website



Residency  
Determination Service



Herff Jones : Cap&Gown



Khan Academy



College Board SAT  
Practice



Free ACT Practice Test &  
Resources



Parent Power School



StudentSquare



ParentSquare

**Charlotte Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated**



# **TurnUp** *for College*

***College Prep Event for High  
School Students and Parents***

**Saturday, November 16, 2024  
9a.m. - 1p.m.**

**FREE and Open To The Public**



***Open to 9th - 12th Grade  
Students and their Parents***

***Colleges, Universities,  
Military, and Trade  
Organizations will be  
present.***

**Hosted In Partnership with:  
Harding University High School  
2001 Alleghany St. Charlotte, NC 28208**

***Register at:  
<https://bit.ly/DSTCLTturnupregistration>***



# Support Butler PTSO



Please re-link your Harris Teeter VIC Cards!

Cards are not automatically re-linked. Program runs August 1st—May 31st .

By linking your Harris Teeter VIC card to **Butler High School PTSO (#1243)**, we will earn a percentage of your Harris Teeter purchases.

There are three ways to link your card:

1. Go directly to the Harris Teeter website and follow their instructions:

Click here: [Harris Teeter VIC Link](#).

2. Ask a cashier at Harris Teeter to link your VIC number to #1243

3. Go to **Pay4SchoolStuff.com** , *Login to your account/Click on your student name/select VIC-card/Enter your information.*

Click here: [Pay4SchoolStuff](#)

The Publix Partner program has changed!!

You do not need to carry the card.

Click here to sign up: <https://www.publix.com>



- Click on Sign Up to create an account.
- After your email address is confirmed, scroll down to Select a School
- Enter *Butler High School PTS*
- When you shop, mention your phone number to the cashier at checkout.



Amazon Smile

**Only purchases at smile.Amazon.com (not Amazon.com or the mobile app) support charity.**

When you first log onto [Smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), select David W. Butler High School PTSO in Matthews as your charity. A percentage of your purchase is donated to Butler.