

# DELAWARE CHARTER SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

## CHARTER SCHOOL INFORMATION

Charter School Name: The Charter School of Wilmington

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Head of School

11-26-13  
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Date

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Head of School

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Date

  
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Board President

11/26/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: December 1<sup>st</sup> (September 30<sup>th</sup> for renewing charter schools)**

**All schools submit one (1) signed copy (PDF via email preferred) to the DDOE Charter School Office.**

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**Our History**

In 1995, a group of visionary leaders from the Wilmington business community, encouraged by then Governor Thomas R. Carper, joined forces with educational leaders from the Wilmington area and from the Red Clay Consolidated School District to form Delaware’s first public charter school -The Charter School of Wilmington. The school serves students from 8 schools districts in Delaware and over 60 feeder schools.

**Mission**

The mission of The Charter School of Wilmington (CSW) is to engage highly motivated high school students with an interest in math and science by providing a challenging college preparatory curriculum in a safe, friendly and nurturing environment that integrates practical learning opportunities, sets high expectations, develops social responsibility and promotes a global perspective.

**Vision**

The vision shared by this group of leaders was to create a world-class STEM school for the state of Delaware and to share success with Delaware’s public school system. The founding companies shared time, talent, and capital in the development of CSW. The influence of the founding companies is still felt today through their representation on the Board of Directors.

**Targeted Population and Enrollment Demographics**

The school’s targeted population is students who reside in New Castle County and have an interest in math and science.

<i>Year</i>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Enrollment</i>				970	970

Enrollment Projections: 970 is our maximum enrollment number. See Appendix 1 for student demographic information.

## **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE:**

WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL'S ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES THAT WILL DEMONSTRATE STUDENT GROWTH, PROFICIENCY, AND COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS LEVELS AS MEASURED BY THE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK? PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS OF STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH IN THESE AREAS.

### **Academic Performance Review Rating:**

2010 - 2011 Summary and Overall Rating: EXCEEDS STANDARDS

2011 - 2012 Summary and Overall Rating: EXCEEDS STANDARDS

2012 - 2013 Summary and Overall Rating: EXCEEDS STANDARDS

CSW has been annually ranked #1 in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies of the Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS) and maintains an SAT average score (1894), well above the state and national average. In 2013, the Department of Education and Lt. Governor Matt Denn cited our school as a Recognition School: Highest Performing School. On Tuesday, November 19, 2013, CSW received the National Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Secretary of Education; our nation's top award given to schools based on academic performance. Charter was ranked #5 on the Best High Schools for STEM rankings (science, technology, engineering, math) by U.S. News & World Report (May, 2012) as well as a rating of 11th on the list of Top Charter Schools in the U.S. by World News & World Report (May, 2012). On April 21, 2011, CSW received a recommendation of "Full re-accreditation without stipulations" from the Middle States Association (MSA) visiting committee.

When you take a look at the performance of The Charter School of Wilmington students versus the rest of the state, CSW students perform very well on the state's DCAS test. For example, the fall of 2012 testing in reading, 99% of students in the 9th and 10th grades at CSW were "proficient" compared to the rest of DE where 47% of 9th grade students were proficient and 50% of 10th grade students were "proficient." For Math, during the same time period, 99% of CSW's 9th grade students were proficient and 100% of 10th grade students were proficient compared to the rest of DE where 42% of 9th grade students were proficient and 44% of 10th grade students were proficient. In the spring of 2013, students take the second phase of DCAS testing in reading & math. In reading, 98% of CSW 9th grade students were proficient and 100% of 10th grade students were proficient. For the rest of DE, 67% of 9th grade students were proficient and 73% of 10th grade students were proficient. In math, 100% of CSW's 9th and 10th grade 10 classes were proficient, while 70% of DE's 9th graders were proficient and 69% of 10th graders were proficient.

The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked 36 out of over 1000 schools by Newsweek Magazine (June, 2011) for the Top High Schools in the United States.

The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked #19 on the Best High Schools for Math and Science list by U.S. News & World Report (September, 2011).

**Strengths:** CSW's organizational structure and climate (culture, atmosphere, standards), support our curriculum. The roles, responsibilities, and expectation of the administration and faculty are clearly defined. Administration, faculty, and support staff are qualified to provide a top quality educational experience. The Charter School of Wilmington is very fortunate to have such involved and caring students, parents, alumni and faculty. We have a strong communications system in place to engage all stakeholders when there's a need to share news. School counselors at The Charter School of Wilmington are an integral link in the educational system. They promote educational success by enhancing the development of academic skills, interpersonal skills and self-understanding. This is achieved through a collaborative working relationship with teachers, parents, and Wellness Center staff. School counselors help students to recognize their innate talents and encourage them to share these talents with others in an increasingly diverse society. Our performance trends have stayed within a 5% margin at the highest end of the scale and results have been consistently 96% or greater in proficient and advanced categories. During the five years of testing, the state assessment has changed from DSTP to DCAS. This accounts for a small decrease in performance scores as the test went from paper and pencil to an online test delivery system. In addition to the online delivery, the new test is also adaptive. This means the questions will adjust depending on the student's skills and knowledge in an attempt to capture the highest accuracy of a student's performance.

**Challenges and Opportunities for Growth:** CSW has a history of academic excellence, but that does not mean we can afford to become complacent. We preach "excellence" at staff meetings all the time and strive to be more than just ordinary! CSW relies heavily on data, which plays a major role in our decision making. Meeting the needs of the students is vital, so teachers are required to assess the students, analyze the data, and make any adjustments they feel necessary. Parents and students are able to see the results of assessments on the Home Access Center (HAC) and are encouraged to communicate with the teacher with any/all concerns.

CSW's administration and faculty have developed and implemented a long-range strategic plan to improve its educational program. The plan is directly linked to our school's mission and operational plans and focuses on the continuous improvement of student performance and professional and organizational growth. The importance of professional development can't be overemphasized, especially in a field as vital as education. Only by continually assessing the latest research, techniques and knowledge in the profession can we hope to stay effective. It is critical for both young and veteran teachers to have ongoing and regular opportunities to learn from each other. Ongoing professional development keeps teachers up-to-date on new research on how children learn, emerging

technology tools for the classroom, new curriculum resources, and more. CSW has developed our own Professional Learning Communities (PLC) where teachers are able to work and learn together to ensure high levels of learning for all students. The addition of the Junior Research Science project as a high school requirement by CSW has been hailed and embraced by the local science community (i.e., Christiana Care, Astra Zeneca, Verizon, Delmarva Power, Ashland Inc. and DuPont). Employees from these companies are participating in learning lunches and sharing their talents, creating internships for students, volunteering as science fair judges, and mentoring Junior Research students. New partnerships are being formed and the collaboration is extraordinary, ensuring The Charter School of Wilmington remains on a steady course and remains an innovative educational force in Delaware, and a national leader in STEM initiatives. Staff members are also visiting other top STEM schools across the country to gather "best practices" to incorporate into CSW's curriculum and planning.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS THAT WILL DEMONSTRATE VIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY AS MEASURED BY THE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK? PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS OF STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH IN THESE AREAS.

### Financial Performance Framework:

2010 - 2011 Overall Rating: MEETS STANDARDS

2011 - 2012 Overall Rating: MEETS STANDARDS

2012 - 2013 Overall Rating: Ratings could not be completed as the school was waiting on the audited financial statements at the time of the report.

The Charter School of Wilmington's overall financial rating for 2012-2013 could not be completed by the Delaware Department of Education because the audited financial statements were not completed by the School's auditor nor submitted by the deadline of October 1, 2013. Therefore, the overall rating was "Does Not Meet". The audit has been completed and submitted and the overall rating would have been "Meets Standards". By 2014, our expectation is to achieve the overall rating of "Meets Standards" as measured by the Financial Performance Framework. Each year, we will be on track to demonstrate economic viability and achieve our financial performance expectation. This progress will be monitored through our annual performance review.

### Financial Performance Goals:

**Goal 1:** The Charter School of Wilmington will meet the planned enrollment of 970 students.

CSW will continue to have open house meetings, school tours and advertise to encourage students to apply for admission. Historically, CSW has over 800 applicants for 243 positions and in the past, has met its planned enrollment. This goal will be tracked and measured by our Admissions Office and ultimately the September 30 unit count.

**Goal 2:** The Charter School of Wilmington will utilize cost-saving measures to maximize instructional resources.

CSW will continue to implement a departmental budget to maximize the instructional resources in the appropriate subject areas. Input for this budget is

provided by the department chairs taking into consideration the funding constraints of a charter school.

Preliminary budgets will be prepared in April of each year with a finalized budget by the end of October each year.

**Goal 3:** The Charter School of Wilmington will meet or exceed the near term requirements of the financial performance framework.

CSW will meet or exceed the current ratio requirement of 1.1. At the end of the last fiscal year, the current ratio was 3.3. CSW will also meet or exceed the unrestricted days cash requirement of 60 days. At the end of the last fiscal year, the unrestricted days cash was 136.

CSW will use the budget process to ensure that this goal is met.

**Goal 4:** The Charter School of Wilmington will meet or exceed the sustainability requirements of the financial performance framework.

CSW will meet or exceed the margin requirements of a positive amount, the debt to asset ratio of less than .9 and to have a positive cash flow. At the end of the last fiscal year, the margin was 1.71%, debt to asset ratio of .26 and a positive cash flow.

CSW will use the budget process to ensure that this goal is met.



**ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE:**

WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL'S PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS IN MEETING ITS ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS, REPORTING, AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES AS MEASURED BY THE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK? PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS OF STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH IN THESE AREAS.

2011 - 2012 Overall Rating: MEETS STANDARDS  
2012 - 2013 Overall Rating: MEETS STANDARDS

The school's organization performance targets have been met. Additional evidence of the school's compliance with operational expectations can be found in the previous compliance monitoring reports for CSW issued by DDOE over the years: McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, Child Abuse Reporting Training, policies/procedures for students related to attendance/early dismissals, September 30th Unit Count, acceptable use policies, DIAA physicals for all student-athletes, reports made by our school nurse, DPAS II Evaluations, anti-bullying, chemical safety storage and disposal of hazardous materials (Science Dept), special education audits (IDEA), and the school receives annual financial audits.

**Strengths, Challenges, and Opportunities for Growth:** The Charter School of Wilmington (CSW) administrative leadership consists of a President and Vice President who are Delaware State certified Principals. They are complemented by team of five certified counselors, a Chief Financial Officer (CFO), a Public Relations/Development/Admissions Officer and an Athletic Director/Disciplinarian. Through weekly 2 hour "student services" meetings, all facets of school life are discussed and areas of concern identified and addressed. CSW has a waiting list of applicants every year. Our faculty/staff are committed to their profession and take great pride in delivering the best instruction and service to all stakeholders. Our parent involvement at CSW is second-to-none; their unwavering support is special and very much appreciated. The students, on the other hand, come prepared every day for the academic challenges and push themselves to be the best. Funding will continue to be our biggest challenge; always trying to find creative ways to financially support programs and meet the needs of our students. Sharing the building with Cab Calloway has been a great partnership; however, at the same time, we often find ourselves having to negotiate for space/rooms and time in the building. CSW will continue to grow by encouraging staff/faculty to take full advantage of professional development opportunities and to always share best practices with colleagues.

**STATUS OF CONDITIONS PLACED UPON THE CHARTER:**

Include:

- A status update of any conditions imposed upon the school's charter,
- Your plan to meet any conditions that are currently "not met".

**Status of Conditions Placed Upon the Charter:**

Our annual maximum student enrollment is 970 students.

**STUDENT RETENTION GOALS AND TARGETS:**

The percentage of students who have re-enrolled from the prior year according to ESEA demographic categories:

Students Retained	Students Withdrew	Total	Percentage
712	15	727	97.94%

Student Withdrawals and Reasons for Leaving – See Appendix 2.

The percentage of students who did not pass from one grade level to another: 0 students were retained.

One student is on a 5 year plan due to an IEP (Individualized Education Program).

For the 2012-2013 school year, 100% of all students passed from one grade to another.

CSW takes student and staff attendance very seriously. We have a clear policy that is strictly enforced and we communicate constant reminders to all stakeholders (via email, phone and letters to parents/guardians). CSW’s attendance policy and average daily attendance goals have been consistently higher than the state average.

	'11-'12	'10-'11	'09-'10	'09-'08	'08-'07
Daily student attendance:	97%	96%	97%	97%	97%
High school graduation rate:	99%	99%	100%	100%	99%

### **STEM Focus, Curriculum and Collaboration with Cab**

A group of visionary leaders from the Wilmington business community, encouraged by then Governor Thomas R. Carper, joined forces with educational leaders from the Wilmington area and from the Red Clay Consolidated School District to form Delaware's first public charter school -The Charter School of Wilmington. The Charter School of Wilmington believes that critical thinking, problem solving skills, and collaboration promote innovation. We also strive to develop an ethical learning environment that creates good decision making, habits and virtues. To appreciate all the unique differences within an interconnected and multicultural world community, CSW places a high priority on cultural awareness. Although our focus is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), Charter students in collaboration with Cab Calloway School of the Arts, are enrolled in art, drama, concert band, jazz band, marching band, chorus and other musical groups.

CSW's organizational structure and climate (culture, atmosphere, standards), support our curriculum. The roles, responsibilities, and expectation of the administration and faculty are clearly defined. Administration, faculty, and support staff are qualified to provide a top quality educational experience. Our instruction focuses most heavily on developing our students' higher order skills: analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. We reach our objectives through a combination of traditional and innovative instructional techniques. Our lessons and assessments include: research projects, power points, essays, and various SMARTboard presentations. Our educational objectives are: to develop students who are technologically literate and able to understand and make use of computers and laboratory instruments.

Our school offers a challenging, college preparatory curriculum. To graduate from The Charter School of Wilmington, students earn a minimum of 24.5 credits, compared to the State of DE's requirement of 24 credits.

### **Student Groupings**

Our academic programs are structured so each student is placed in a level that will challenge one without being overwhelmed. To accommodate the range of abilities at The Charter School of Wilmington, we provide three levels of ability groupings which we call "phases." A student's phase is initially determined through placement testing. Students are challenged but not overwhelmed. The English Department carefully phases each incoming student by individually examining both the student's reading and language scores on the placement test and the student's writing ability demonstrated by the placement test essay.

## **Junior Research Program and Science Fair**

The Junior Research program at The Charter School of Wilmington gives high school students with an interest in math and science an authentic, in-depth experience in scientific research. The actual process begins freshmen year with an Introduction to Science Research class that teaches basic research and laboratory skills. As sophomores, after spending time on background research, students propose a topic for investigation and create an experimental design for the investigation. During their junior year, once the proposal is polished and approved, students conduct the experiment with guidance from a mentor or science professional.

Over a twelve month period, students are matched with mentors and in some cases, practicing science professionals, as they research and actively investigate a specific scientific topic. The project can give every student at The Charter School of Wilmington the opportunity to experience long-term learning practices that build self-reliance and confidence. The addition of the Junior Research Science project as a high school requirement by CSW has been hailed and embraced by the local science community (i.e., Christiana Care, Astra Zeneca, Verizon, Delmarva Power, Ashland Inc., DuPont. etc.)

All students are also required to participate in the Science Fair during their 11th grade year.

## **Community Outreach - Signature Programs**

CSW students have engaged with the community over the past decade in several outreach programs which are having a positive and continuing impact:

- 1. The Buddy Program:** A positive impact on the lives of special-needs elementary students at Richardson Park Learning Center through regular visits and buddy mentor relationships. (established 2002)
- 2. Science Ambassadors:** Bringing positive enthusiasm to elementary students about science, with regular after-school activities at Shortlidge, Harlan, Elbert Palmer and Highlands as well as Eastside Charter, Edison Charter and Prestige Academy. (established 2005)
- 3. Science Expo:** Originally hosted at the CSW campus, this event is now hosted at the Delaware Children's Museum in order to facilitate access for students in city communities. CSW students encourage an interest in science through the use of science kits and participation. (established 2005)

## **Community Partnerships**

New partnerships are being formed and the collaboration is extraordinary, ensuring The Charter School of Wilmington remains on a steady course and remains an innovative educational force in Delaware, and a national leader in STEM initiatives. Staff members are also visiting other top STEM schools across the country to gather "best practices" to incorporate into CSW's curriculum and planning.

## **Block Schedule, Study Halls and Activity Periods**

With the introduction of block scheduling, CSW was able to provide study halls and activity periods, helping to reduce student stress and allow student participation in over 65 clubs and activities.

## **Fluid Dynamics Independent Study Course**

Charter offers a Fluid Dynamics Independent Study course with a PumpLab™ Centrifugal Pump and Process Control System modeled from a 3<sup>rd</sup> year University of Delaware class.

## **Advanced Placement Offerings and Advanced Courses**

The Charter School of Wilmington uses an Integrated Math curriculum. Students may enroll in sixteen AP classes. Post Advanced Placement courses include Calculus 3 and Differential Equations, typical college level courses.

## **Global Exchange Programs**

Student/faculty exchange programs have been initiated with high schools in Taiwan, Italy, and Spain as part of our global expansion program introducing our students and faculty to new cultures and teaching methods.

## **Academic Competitions**

CSW students have been successful in inter-scholastic and academic competitions placing at the top in state, national, and international competitions. These events are inclusive of varied disciplines; Science Olympiad, Math League, Envirothon, U.S. Physics Team, Mock Trial, Model United Nations, Academic Bowl, and World Quest. CSW writing and reading performances regularly receive State and national recognition.

## **Athletic Success**

Our growth has provided the school an opportunity to excel beyond the academic arena. The athletic programs have grown in size and scope as well. CSW enjoys the highest rate of student participation in interscholastic athletics in Delaware. CSW teams have earned several conference and state championships in a variety of sports.

## **Community Support**

As a charter school, we do not receive any capital funding. We continue to supplement our revenue stream through fundraising. Our Parent Association, Blue & White Club (sports boosters) and parent and alumni donations, generate additional funds to help offset the cost of our sports program, broaden our range of classes and extracurricular activities, provide transportation for sports, and complete minor facility improvements.

# The Charter School of Wilmington Oct 9, 2013 Enrollment

<b>Public School District</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>%</b>
Colonial (34)	6	16	12	4	38	3.9%
Christina (33)	11	47	47	48	153	15.7%
Red Clay (32)	221	150	122	130	623	64.1%
Brandywine (31)	7	17	24	30	78	8.0%
Appoquinimink (29)	5	22	29	17	73	7.5%
Smyrna (24)	0	1	1	1	3	0.3%
Capital (13)	0	0	0	1	1	0.1%
Ceasar Rodney (10)	1	1	1	0	3	0.3%
Other (99)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

  

<b>Racial Data</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>%</b>
American Indian	2	0	1	1	4	0.4%
African American	11	26	9	7	53	5.5%
Asian	60	61	66	64	251	25.8%
Hispanic	7	10	6	10	33	3.4%
Caucasian	171	156	154	149	630	64.8%
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	0	1	0	0	1	0.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

  

<b>Gender</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	122	114	128	111	475	48.9%
Female	129	140	108	120	497	51.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** The enrollment shows 972 students because we have 1 student who is a foreign exchange student and 1 student who is studying abroad. We have claimed 970 students for the Sept 30th count.



## Student Retention and Goals

Students Retained	Students Withdrew	Total	Percentage
712	15	727	97.94%

Student ID	Student Name	Grade	Withdrawal Date	Entry With Withdrawal Code
841789	Student 1	12	1/11/2013	Transferred to a School Outside the Country
150610	Student 2	9	1/25/2013	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
922768	Student 3	11	10/1/2012	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
355943	Student 4	10	11/1/2012	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
616954	Student 5	10	11/1/2012	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
561922	Student 6	11	6/7/2013	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
331413	Student 7	9	6/7/2013	TO CHARTER SCH
30190	Student 8	10	6/7/2013	TO RED CLAY
392354	Student 9	9	8/26/2013	TO CHARTER SCH
432169	Student 10	9	8/26/2013	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
446371	Student 11	12	8/26/2013	TO RED CLAY
405036	Student 12	12	8/26/2013	OTHER
642957	Student 13	10	8/26/2013	TO OUT-OF-STATE SCH
227537	Student 14	11	8/26/2013	TO BRANDYWINE
682175	Student 15	11	8/26/2013	TO CHRISTINA



## STATUS AND FOCUS OF CURRICULUM

Independently operated public school established in 1996 with a focus on mathematics and science.

## CORPORATE SPONSORS

The 1996 Consortium Member Companies include Bell Atlantic, Delmarva Power, DuPont Company, Hercules, Inc., Medical Center of Delaware, and Zeneca, Inc.

Today, employees of these companies continue to serve on the school's Board of Directors.

## ENROLLMENT (2013-2014)

970

## NATIONAL RANKINGS/AWARDS

The Charter School of Wilmington was named a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education (September, 2013).

The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked #62 on Newsweek's America's Best High Schools List (May, 2013).

The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked the #5 STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) High School in the nation by U.S. News & World Report (May, 2012).

## MISSION

The mission of The Charter School of Wilmington is to engage highly motivated high school students with an interest in math and science by providing a challenging college preparatory curriculum in a safe, friendly and nurturing environment that integrates practical learning opportunities, sets high expectations, develops social responsibility and promotes a global perspective.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Jefferson Council focuses on promoting service in the community by following the Jefferson Awards' seven goals. CSW students accumulated 36,724.5 service hours with a financial impact of \$807,939 (2012-2013). CSW was selected as the Delaware Recipient For Outstanding Service By a High School.

## OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS

24.5 credits required for graduation including: at least 10 credits in mathematics and science; 4 years of english; 3 years of social studies; 2 years of foreign language; Junior Research; health, physical education, and electives.

## STUDENT:TEACHER RATIO

20:1

## AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

22

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT RATE

99%

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- "Superior performance" rating for overall school performance in Delaware Public School accountability ratings.
- Top-scoring high school in the State on Delaware Math Assessments (1998-2013)
- Top-scoring high school in the State on Delaware Reading Assessments (1998-2013)
- Top-scoring high school in the State on Delaware Writing Assessments (1999-2013)
- Top-scoring high school in the State on Delaware Science Assessments (2000-2013)
- Top-scoring high school in the State on Delaware Social Studies Assessments (2000-2013)
- Highest average SAT scores in the State (among all public high schools) (2000-2013)
- National Merit Scholarship Winners (2002-2013)
- 209 students earned AP Scholar Awards in 2013 from the College Board
- First place in State at Delaware Science Olympiad (2000-2013) top one third in National Science Olympiad
- Academic Bowl-State Champion (2002-2009, 2011-2013) 2009 National Champion
- State and National French, Latin and Spanish contest winners (2003-2013)
- Most awards received at First State Journalism Contest (2004-2009)
- First place at Delaware Math League Invitational (both 9th grade team & 10th-12th grade teams; 2000-2013)
- Students placed first in the State individually Delaware Math League Invitational (2000, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013)
- Math League Press Team ranked 1st in the United States (2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2008)
- First Place in Regional Delaware Math League (2001-2013)
- First Place in State in Delaware Envirothon (1999, 2000, 2002-2013) (1st place in North America - 2008)
- Most awards received by a school at Delaware Science Expo (1998-2011)
- First Place "Best of Show" Award at Delaware Science Expo (1999-2013)
- First Place in Odyssey of the Mind Competition (2002-2013)
- United States Presidential Scholar Student (2002, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013)
- United States National Physics Team (2002-2013); 40 semifinalists and 11 U.S. Physics Team members
- 2003 gold medalist International Physics Olympiad; 2007, 2008 silver medalists International Physics Olympiad
- Three Davidson Fellows Scholarship Awards from the Davidson Institute for Talent Development
- Delaware Mock Trial Competition 7 Time State Champions 2006-2011, 2013 and 3rd place in Nation 2008
- World Quest State Champions 2007-2013; 4th place in Nation 2008; 9th in Nation 2009, 2013
- Delaware Chemical Olympiad State Winners (1999-2008)
- National Senate Youth Scholar 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012
- Youth in Government Best Senator and Best First Year Participant 2013
- Delaware Theater Company – DE Young Playwrights Festival (3 finalists 2012, 2 finalists 2013)
- Five Professional Publications Presented at International Computer Science Conferences since 2004
- National Boys State President 2011, Vice President 2007
- USA Biology Olympiad semifinalist & finalist – Gold Medal International Competition 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013
- FIRST Tech Robotics Regional Champion 2006, 2009, 2011 Regional participant 2005-2013; World Championships participant 2005-2007
- TEAMS Engineering Competition - Varsity: First place in State 2000, 2002-2003, 2005-2009, 2011-2013; National Champions 2003, 2006; Top 10 in Nation 2013. JV - First Place State 2000, 2011-2013; National Champions 2007; Top 10 in Nation 2013
- West Point Bridge Contest - National semifinalists 2012; National finalist 2013
- Technology Student Association - 15 medals 2013 state conference; Top 10 in Nation 2013
- USA Today All-USA Teacher 2005
- 2009 Life Sciences Educator's Award Columbus Scholar
- Delaware State Chamber of Commerce Superstars in Education teaching award
- Superstars in Education Award winner
- First place Smart Drive Program scholarship winner (2008, 2009)
- State Brain Bee Champion 2010-2013; 8th in Nation 2011, 6th in Nation 2012
- 2011 Gold Banner, 2012 Silver Banner Winner for Jefferson Council Volunteer Awards; 2013 Delaware Recipient For Outstanding Service By a High School.
- 18 out of 20 winners in 2011 Delaware Today's Best High School Essayist Contest (including first place)





### BUS TRANSPORTATION

Contracted bus transportation is provided throughout New Castle County.

### DRESS CODE

Students must wear school shirts with a visible Charter logo. Pants, shorts, slacks, and skirts must meet the CSW dress code. Athletic shoes, dress shoes, and sandals with straps may be worn. No flip-flops are permitted.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Open House:

October 12, 2013 9 a.m. to 12 noon

December 14, 2013 or

January 11, 2014

Placement Test 7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

(for 8th grade students applying for 9th grade)

### ADMISSIONS

Ms. Donna Urban

(302) 651-2727 (phone)

(302) 652-1246 (fax)

durban@charterschool.org (e-mail)

### ADDRESS

The Charter School of Wilmington

100 N. Dupont Road

Wilmington, Delaware 19807

www.charterschool.org



### SPORTS, CLUBS, ACTIVITIES

- A Cappella Club
- Academic Bowl
- Alex's Lemonade Club
- American Society of Highway Engineers
- Anime Club
- Art Club
- Asian Culture Club
- Association for Computing Machinery
- Bible Club
- Blue-Gold Club
- Bollywood Dance Club
- Calm Club
- Chemistry Olympiad
- Chess Club
- Chess Team
- CHUB (Children's Hospital under Benefit)
- Concert Band
- Cure Club
- Dream Catchers Foundation
- Engineering Club
- Environmental Club
- Envirothon
- Fencing Club
- Film Club
- FIRST Tech Robotics Club
- French Club
- Future Educators of America
- Gaming Guild
- Gender Sexuality Alliance
- Global Health Outreach
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hiking Club
- Hope for Haiti
- HUG (Helping Underprivileged Globally)
- Improv Club
- Indie Gaming/Design Club
- Integrated Mobile App Development Club
- Italian Club
- Jazz Band
- Jefferson Council
- Junior Council
- Key Club
- Learning Lunches
- Linguistics Club
- Literary Magazine
- MAC (Music for A Cause)
- Marathon Club
- Marching Band
- Math League
- Math Modeling Teams
- MED Club
- Mentoring Buddy Program
- Mock Trial
- Model UN
- National History Day
- National Honor Society
- Neurocurrents Brain Sciences Magazine
- Next Generation Science Club
- Ocean Awareness Club
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Patriots Club
- Peer Leaders
- PAW (People for Animal Welfare)
- Physics/Astronomy Club
- Ping Pong Team
- Red Clay Secondary Orchestra, Select Orchestra & String Quartet
- Red Cross Club
- SAGE Club
- Science Ambassadors
- Science Olympiad
- Sewing Service Club
- Senior Council
- Ski Club
- Sophomore Council
- Spanish Honor Society
- Support Our Soldiers
- Sustainability- Looking Towards the Future
- Table Tennis Club
- TEA Club
- TEAMS Engineering
- Technology Student Assn. (TSA)
- Tennis Club
- Theater Club
- Triathlon Club
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Under-Represented Minority Club
- Water for Africa
- West Point Bridge Contest
- World Quest
- Writing Systems/Creative Writing Club
- Yearbook
- YELL (Youth to Eliminate Loss of Life)
- Youth 4 Youth
- Youth in Government
- Baseball (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Boys & Girls Cross Country
- Boys & Girls Lacrosse (varsity, junior varsity)
- Boys Basketball (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Boys Soccer (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Boys Volleyball (club)
- Crew (club)
- Fall Cheerleading (varsity, junior varsity)
- Field Hockey (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Football (varsity, junior varsity)
- Girls Basketball (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Girls Soccer (varsity, junior varsity)
- Girls Volleyball (varsity, junior varsity, freshman)
- Golf
- Indoor track (boys & girls)
- Outdoor track (boys & girls)
- Softball (varsity, junior varsity)
- Swimming (boys & girls)
- Tennis (boys & girls)
- Varsity Dance Team
- Wrestling (varsity, junior varsity)

**SCAN ME FOR ADMISSIONS INFORMATION!**



# The Charter School of Wilmington

100 N. DuPont Rd.  
Wilmington, DE 19807  
Main Office (302) 651-2727  
Main Office FAX (302) 652-1246  
Web site: www.charterschool.org

## Member of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology

**The Charter School of Wilmington:** The school opened its doors in September of 1996 as one of the most significant initiatives for improving public education in Delaware. A consortium of six local companies, together with teachers, parents, and community leaders, organized Delaware's first *independently operated public school with an emphasis on the study of math and science*. Our school represents a "quantum leap" in the way public schools operate. **CSW is regionally accredited by the Middle States Association.**

The Charter School of Wilmington has an ethnically diverse student body of 970 students reflecting the community we serve. Our students represent eight different public school districts and multiple Catholic and Independent schools.

**Corporate Sponsors:** The school is sponsored and governed by a consortium of six companies including DuPont, Ashland Incorporated, Christiana Care Health System, Delmarva Power, AstraZeneca, and Verizon.

**Mission:** The mission of The Charter School of Wilmington is to engage highly motivated high school students with an interest in math and science by providing a challenging college preparatory curriculum in a safe, friendly and nurturing environment that integrates practical learning opportunities, sets high expectations, develops social responsibility and promotes a global perspective.

**Focus:** The special focus of The Charter School of Wilmington is math, science and computer education. At least 10.5 of the required 24.5 credits must be earned in these areas.

**Curriculum:** The program offers a challenging, college preparatory curriculum. To graduate from The Charter School of Wilmington, students earn a minimum of 24.5 credits, which includes an experimentally designed research project.

Math	4.0	Science	4.5
Computer Science	.5	Social Science	3.0
Math/Science/Computer	1.0	Physical Ed.	1.0
English	4.0	Electives	3.5
Foreign Language	2.0	Health	.5
Junior Research Project	.5		

CSW now operates on a **modified block schedule** over a two day period. Students still may attempt seven course credits if scheduling permits, although fewer elective courses are now offered. For that reason, we have some online courses with the University of Delaware.

**Advanced Placement Courses:** This year AP courses are offered in Calculus (AB & BC), Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics C, Environmental Science, Computer Science A, English Literature, English Language, Latin, Spanish Language, French Language, Psychology, U. S. History, U. S. Government and Economics. A few students may schedule AP Studio Art or AP European History with a neighboring school. There is no limit to the number of AP courses requested. Post AP courses include Calculus 3 and Differential Equations.

**CEEB SCHOOL CODE:** 080164

**President:** Dr. Samuel D. Paoli

**Vice President:** Eric M. Anderson

**College Counselors:** Mary E. Maslar  
Ryan Mitchell

**Guidance Counselors:** Sharon Bryant  
Jon Gillespie (Dept. Chair)  
Holly Gosser

**College Counseling Assistant:** Maria Fiscella

**Ability Groupings:** Our academic programs are structured so each student is placed in a level that will challenge one without being overwhelmed. To accommodate the range of abilities at The Charter School of Wilmington, we provide three levels of ability groupings which we call **phases**. Each student's phase is initially determined through an assessment process required for acceptance and entrance into Charter.

**Phase 3** College prep; average to above average ability - **75<sup>th</sup> to 84<sup>th</sup>** percentile nationally

**Phase 4** College prep; above average ability - **85<sup>th</sup> to 92<sup>rd</sup>** percentile nationally

**Phase 5** College prep; highest ability - **HONORS 93<sup>rd</sup> to 99<sup>th</sup>** percentile nationally

**Grade Point Average:** Three phases exist prior to the AP level of courses (levels 3, 4, and 5) with Phase 5 designated as Honors. Grade point average is determined on a 4.0 scale with slight weight given to higher phases. Phase 4 receives .1 weight, phase 5 receives .2 weight and AP classes receive a .3 weight. All graded classes are counted in the weighted GPA. All GPAs listed are either interim or final GPAs for the year listed. Unweighted GPA's are available upon request.

**Class Rank:** Because our admissions process evaluates aptitude, achievement, and interest in the study of mathematics, science, and technology, class rank is not published except for scholarship requirements. Percentile ranking is available upon request.

### GRADING SCALE

<b>A</b>	=	93-100
<b>B</b>	=	85-92
<b>C</b>	=	76-84
<b>D</b>	=	70-75
<b>F</b>	=	69 and below

Numerical grades are not weighted on the transcript.

### G. P. A. Distribution (Class of 2014) Number of Students = 231

	<u>Weighted</u>	<u>Unweighted</u>
4.01 – 4.25	22%	0%
3.76 – 4.00	18%	25%
3.51 – 3.75	17%	20%
3.26 – 3.50	14%	20%
3.01 – 3.25	16%	12%
2.76 – 3.00	9%	15%
2.51 – 2.75	3%	5%
2.26 – 2.50	<1%	2%
2.00 – 2.25	<1%	1%
Below 2.00	0%	0%

**2014 Class National Merit Semifinalists – 23**

**2014 Class National Achievement Semifinalists - 1**

**2014 Class National Merit Commended Students – 35**

**2014 Class National Hispanic Scholar - 5**

**2014 Class PSAT median: CR-62.8, M-62.6, WR-61**

**2013 Class SAT average (1888): Cr-627, M-645, Wr-616**

**2013 Class: 98% (4 yr.), 2 % (2 yr.) college matriculation**

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2012/2013

Albright College · Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences · Allegheny College · American University · Amherst College · Appalachian State University · Arcadia University · Arizona State University · Auburn University · Austin College · **B**arnard College · Barry University · Barton County Community College · Bates College · Belmont Abbey College · Bloomsburg University · Boston College · Boston University · Bowdoin College · Bowling Green University · Brandeis University · Brigham Young University · Brown University · Bryn Mawr College · Bucknell University · Butler University · California Institute of Technology · California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo · Carleton College · Carnegie Mellon University · Case Western Reserve University · Catawba College · Cedar Crest College · Champlain College · Chestnut Hill College · Christopher Newport University · Clark University · Clarkson University · Clemson University · Coast Guard University · Coastal Carolina University · Coe College · Colby College · College of Charleston · Columbia College Chicago · Columbia University · Converse College · Cornell University · **D**artmouth College · Davis & Elkins College · Delaware State University · Delaware Technical & Community College · DeSales University · Dickinson College · Drexel University · Duke University · Duquesne University · **E**astern University · East Carolina University · Eckerd College · Elizabethtown College · Elon University · Embry Riddle Aeronautical University · Emerson College · Emory University · Fairleigh Dickinson University · Fashion Institute of Design · Fashion Institute of Technology · Flagler College · Florida Atlantic University · Florida Gulf Coast University · Florida Institute of Technology · Florida Southern College · Florida State University · Fordham University · Fort Lewis College · Franklin & Marshall College · Frostburg State University · **G**annon University · George Mason University · George Washington University · Georgetown University · Georgia Institute of Technology · Georgia State University · Gettysburg College · Goldey Beacom College · Gordon College · Goucher College · Grinnell College · Guilford College · Gwynedd-Mercy College · **H**amilton College · Hampton University · Hartwick College · Harvard University · Haverford College · High Point University · Hobart and William Smith Colleges · Hofstra University · Hood College · Howard University · Illinois Wesleyan University · Immaculata University · Indiana University at Bloomington · Indiana University of Pennsylvania · Ithaca College · **J**ackson State University · James Madison University · Johns Hopkins University · Johnson and Wales University · Juniata College · **K**enyon College · King's College · Lafayette College · LaSalle University · Lebanon Valley College · Lehigh University · Liberty University · Lincoln University · Lock Haven University · Louisiana State University · Loyola University of Maryland · Lynchburg College · **M**acalester College · Mansfield University of Pennsylvania · Marist College · Marquette University · Marymount Manhattan College · Marymount University · Massachusetts College of Art and Design · Massachusetts Institute of Pharmacy · Massachusetts Institute of Technology · McDaniel College · McGill University · Mercyhurst College · Messiah College · Miami University (OH) · Michigan State University · Middlebury College · Millersville University · Mississippi State University · Monmouth University · Montclair State University · Moravian College · Morgan State University · Mount St. Mary's University · Muhlenberg College · Nazareth College · Neumann University · New College of Florida · New Jersey Institute of Technology · New York Institute of Technology · New York University · North Carolina A&T State University · North Carolina State University · Northeastern University · Northwestern University · Norwich University · **O**berlin College · Ohio State University · Ohio University · Ohio Wesleyan University · Old Dominion University · Oxford College of Emory University · **P**ace University · Parsons New School for Design · Pennsylvania College of Art and Design · Pennsylvania College of Technology · Pennsylvania State University (Altoona, Berks, Brandywine, Erie, Harrisburg, Mount Alto, University Park) · Pfeiffer University · Philadelphia University · Polytechnic Institute of New York University · Pratt Institute of Art · Princeton University · Providence College · Purdue University · **Q**ueens University of Charlotte · Quinnipiac University · **R**adford University · Regent University · Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute · Rice University · Rider University · Roanoke College · Rochester Institute of Technology · Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology · Rosemont University · Rowan University · Rutgers University · Saint Joseph's University · Saint Louis University · Salisbury University · Savannah College of Art and Design · School of Visual Arts · Seton Hall University · Shippensburg University · Siena College · Skidmore College · Smith College · Southwestern University · Spellman College · St. John's University · St. Mary's College of Maryland · State University of New York: (Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, ESF, Maritime, Stony Brook) · Stevens Institute of Technology · Stevenson University · Susquehanna University · Swarthmore College · Syracuse University · **T**emple University · Texas Christian University · The Catholic University of America · The College of New Jersey · The College of William and Mary · The College of Wooster · Thiel College · Thomas Jefferson University · Towson University · Trinity College · Tufts University · Tulane University · Union College · United States Air Force Academy · United States Merchant Marine Academy · University of Advancing Technology · University of Alabama · University of Arizona · University of British Columbia · University of California (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara) · University of Chicago · University of Colorado at Boulder · University of Connecticut · University of Dayton · University of Delaware · University of Findlay · University of Florida · University of Guelph · University of Hawaii at Hilo · University of Illinois · University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign · University of Indiana at Bloomington · University of Kansas · University of Kentucky · University of Maine · University of Mary Washington · University of Maryland · University of Maryland Baltimore County · University of Massachusetts Amherst · University of Massachusetts Boston · University of Massachusetts Dartmouth · University of Miami · University of Michigan Ann Arbor · University of Minnesota Twin Cities · University of Mississippi · University of Montana · University of New Hampshire · University of New Haven · University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Greensboro, Wilmington) · University of North Florida · University of Notre Dame · University of Oregon · University of Pennsylvania · University of Pittsburgh · University of Rhode Island · University of Richmond · University of Rochester · University of Scranton · University of South Carolina · University of South Carolina Upstate · University of South Florida · University of Southern California · University of Tampa · University of Tennessee · University of Texas at Austin · University of the Sciences · University of Toronto · University of Vermont · University of Virginia · University of Washington · University of Waterloo · University of Wisconsin – Madison · Ursinus College · Utah State University · **V**alencia College · Valley Forge Military Academy · Vanderbilt University · Vassar College · Villanova University · Virginia Commonwealth University · Virginia Polytechnic Institute · Virginia Wesleyan College · **W**agner College · Washington College · Washington and Jefferson College · Washington and Lee University · Washington University in St. Louis · Waynesburg University · Wellesley College · Wesley College · West Chester University · West Virginia University · Western State College of Colorado · Westminster College · Widener University · Williams College · Wilmington University · Worcester Polytechnic Institute · Wright State University · **X**avier University · **Y**ale University · York College of Pennsylvania

# **The Charter School of Wilmington Academic Award Summary 2012-2013 School Year**

## **General Academic Performance**

- The Charter School of Wilmington was named a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education (September, 2013).
- The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked #62 on Newsweek's America's Best High Schools List (May, 2013).
- The Charter School of Wilmington was named a Recognition School by the Delaware Department of Education for exceptional performance and received a \$50,000 Award (October, 2013).
- The Charter School of Wilmington was ranked the #5 STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) High School in the nation by U.S. World News & World Report (May, 2012).
- The Charter School of Wilmington continues to have the highest high school scores on every Delaware State Assessment Test.
- The Charter School of Wilmington continues to have the highest SAT scores in the State among all public high schools.

## **Team Awards**

- First in the state at the 2013 Delaware Science Olympiad
- First in the state at the 2013 World Quest Competition
- First Place in Delaware TEAMS Engineering Competition 2013
- First Place in Regional Delaware Math League 2013
- First Place Delaware 2013 Odyssey of the Mind Competition
- First Place Delaware 2013 Envirothon Competition
- First in the state at the 2013 Mock Trial Competition
- Gold Banner Winner for Jefferson Council Volunteer Awards

## **Individual Student Achievements**

- 25 students selected as National Merit Semifinalists
- 24 students selected as National Merit Finalists
- 31 students selected as National Merit Commended Students
- One student honored as 2013 Presidential Scholar
- Two students awarded 2012-2013 Siemens Award for Advanced Placement in Delaware
- One student finalist for 2013 USA Biology Olympiad
- Two Delaware Secretary of Education 2013 Scholars

## **Sports Achievements**

- Girls Swimming and Diving Team won 2013 State Championship (their 6<sup>th</sup> state championship in a row)
- Girls Cross Country Team won 2013 State Championship (4th year in a row)
- Many teams advanced to the state finals during the 2012-2013 school year.
- Many CSW athletes received post-season All-Conference and All-State Honors