

May 29, 2020

Dear Charter Arts Families,

On behalf of the Charter Arts Board of Directors, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the entire Charter Arts school community for its support and collaboration over the past few months. The extraordinary efforts of teachers and administrators along with your help ensured that learning continued. The Board continues to work closely with the administrative team to manage and plan for Charter Arts' operations as we move forward through the changing landscape of this unprecedented situation. We are confident that we are prepared for a variety of scenarios as we continue our commitment to the safety and welfare of our school community and the education of all of our students. We want to assure you that the academic and artistic excellence that Charter Arts is known for will continue.

As we plan for the future, we also wanted to follow up on the announcement sent out at the start of the school year, that Charter Arts' Executive Director and CEO, Diane LaBelle, will retire as CEO at the end of this school year, effective June 30, 2020. Ms. LaBelle will remain at Charter Arts as an executive consultant to the Board of Directors until December 31, 2020. After ten years of service to our school community, Ms. LaBelle displayed tireless commitment and leadership that propelled Charter Arts to become one of the most respected and accomplished high schools in our region and the nation.

As part of our school's Strategic Plan, the Charter Arts Board of Directors developed a succession plan that includes the appointment of Charter Arts' current Principal, Dr. Carise Comstock, as Superintendent and CEO beginning on July 1, 2020. Dr. Comstock earned her doctoral degree in Urban Education Leadership from the University of Illinois at Chicago, recently participated in the New Superintendent Academy hosted by the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, and is eminently qualified to lead our school into the next chapter of its success.

The current administrative team is working to support all of the needs of the school and the search to fill the Principal or similar position will continue when school resumes on-site. In the meantime the Board extends its sincere gratitude to Ms. LaBelle for her outstanding accomplishments and success, and we look forward to supporting Dr. Comstock as she leads Charter Arts through continued growth. We would also like to acknowledge their leadership through this difficult time, and we would like to assure you that their steadfast leadership will continue as we navigate this situation with hope for an imminent resolution.

Mario Acerra

President
Charter Arts Board of Directors

Mission Statement

The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts provides a unique environment that fosters a creative, rigorous academic approach to learning and a development of talents in the arts. Built on passion, discipline and a commitment to excellence, this integrative educational experience inspires all students to believe in who they are and in what they can accomplish.