

We Want You

Over the 4th of July holiday, I was lucky to enjoy time with family and friends at the beach. As we gathered to watch fireworks, I noticed several folks wearing patriotic t-shirts featuring Uncle Sam and the phrase “We Want You.” The image was used on US Army recruiting posters during World War II, but I thought to myself that the message really rings true for our schools, students, parents and communities today. Our message in Thomasville is that “We Want You” to be part of our school community. We want students in our schools as we feel public schools remain the best option for education in our community. We want parents/guardians in our schools as we know the support at home benefits students and builds a better village to grow our students into successful adults and contributing community members. We want the community involved with our schools so our students and staff know they are supported beyond the walls of the school. In short, We Want You to be part of Bulldog Nation!

So, what does that mean? Our district, Bulldog Nation, is built around four key principles – we call them our pillars:

- **Unity** - representing our one school, one community mentality.
- **Diversity** - respecting the unique attributes of each student and staff member.
- **Excellence** - our way forward to success with the goal to be better each day than the day before.
- **Pride** - our respect for tradition and commitment to continued growth.

Our students bring diversity to our buildings everyday and we hope to build on that to help them achieve excellence, build pride, and create unity.

Our parents/guardians have pride in their students and community. They look to us to respect the diversity of the community and unify with them to bring out the excellence that lives within each of their students.

Our community is diverse and full of long-standing and proud traditions. Our schools and community are unified to create excellent opportunities that enhance and build both the town and the schools.

This is Bulldog Nation and We Want You! Over the next few weeks, we challenge our parents/guardians and community to look for ways they can become even more integral parts of Bulldog Nation. Beyond PTA and Booster opportunities, we need mentors and volunteers. We also understand time is important, so simply signing up for parent portal to track student progress or checking social media and website feeds are important commitments to make for our students. Be on the lookout for opportunities to become part of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) or Community Advisory Board / Faith in Action groups. We also challenge our students to engage and become involved. Students in grades 7-12 are invited to be part of the Student Advisory Council (SAC) and we hope you will practice UNITY, DIVERSITY EXCELLENCE and PRIDE in your classes and school activities. Let’s make it a great year!

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