

## Cox/Chamblee Charter HS Mentoring Program

Mission Statement: To engage in meaningful interactions that foster trust and positively impact student's lives through mentoring

## **About our Program:**

Over 15 years ago, Cox Enterprises, Inc. and its entities created a partnership with the DeKalb County School System through the Cox Partnership In Education ("PIE") Program. Chamblee Charter High was chosen based on the need for adults to support "at risk" teens who need a positive adult role model. Mentors meet with their Mentees once a week during their half-hour lunch hour. Throughout the year there are planned activities to develop and enhance the Mentor/Mentee relationship. (i.e., ice-breaker sessions, holiday celebrations, field trips (tours,) feedback sessions. end of year celebration). The program has evolved tremendously and operates today under the "Cox Cares" umbrella of Cox initiatives, which is dedicated to community service. Through mentoring, Cox aims to engage in healthy discussions and role-playing, provide helpful guidance, and expose the students to Cox's businesses.

## How Mentees are Selected:

Student Mentees are nominated by teachers or counselors. The Chamblee Coordinator is: Candace Steadman, Counselor (678-676-6928).

## What the Mentor/Mentees are Saying:

The Mentor Program is a great experience for students to have and something that Chamblee students should take advantage of – Chelsea Johnson/Mentee – Chamblee Charter HS

Mentoring is about being a friend who is listening without negative judgment, questioning with respect to provide thoughtful & caring guidance. I enjoy and value my mentoring relationship & am grateful to the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a young adult" - Anitha Mathews/Mentor - Manheim Automotive Financial Services, Inc.



My name is Darrell Johnson; this is my second year participating in the Cox /Chamblee Charter High School Mentoring Program. I have found the program to be rich and rewarding; I am committed to the program because mentoring programs can provide students with emotional support, encourage them to be more involved in schooling, and help as they transition from school to work. The impact of mentoring programs designed to encourage students to complete high school has been well documented. Mentors offer friendship, guidance and positive role models while instilling the social skills needed in the workplace. Research has shown that students with the highest risk of dropping out benefited the most from mentoring. Their grades improved and they were more likely to pursue postsecondary education. The more positive the perception of the mentoring relationship, the better the outcome for the students involved. The Cox /Chamblee Charter High School mentoring program is successful because it is highly structured, driven by the needs of the students involved, and provide its mentors with in-depth training. - Darryl Johnson/Mentor – Cox Communications, Inc.

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