



The Community Education department for Charlotte Public Schools has a long rich history of programming for, primarily Charlotte residents, dating back to the 1950's. Programming began with swim lessons at the Natatorium on Horatio Street, summer enrichment for youth including summer ball leagues, swimming trips to Duck Lake and the summer playground program as well as adult enrichment classes. The torch of leadership has changes hands only four times during this, close to 60 year tradition; most recently in January 2008.

Through the history of Community Education in Charlotte, although the "players" have changed, the basic premise or goal of providing quality recreational and enrichment opportunities for the community's residents has not changed.

In 2003, Charlotte Public Schools opened a new Middle School building, which included a large main gymnasium, an auxiliary gym and an activity room. These new facilities gave the Community Education department additional program space to increase offerings.

In June, 2004 the new six million dollar, state of the art Aquatic Center was dedicated. This new facility replaced the old Natatorium and opened the door for a wider variety of program offerings for both the students of Charlotte Public Schools as well as the Charlotte community as a whole.

In 2008 the Community Education Program went under a complete restructuring and reorganization. Under new leadership, the Community Education department created a new position of Recreation / Aquatic Supervisor to handle all recreation and aquatic programming for Eaton County residents of all ages, and had a primary focus on increasing customer service and program offerings. The third component of Community Education is the Enrichment program offerings, which continue to expand based on community participants requests.

Community involvement and relationships are vital to the health and continued building of the Community Education department. The members of the Community Education management team, our support staff in the office, lifeguards and instructors of all of our classes and programs as front line members of the team, actively communicate with the local media, businesses and community members to ensure quality and variety in our offerings.

Welcome and we hope you enjoy our programs and facilities.

Laurie Newland  
Community Education Director