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Smiles Are Contagious at Charlotte High School

Inspired by his daily smiles, Charlotte High School insurance/business teacher Monique Colizzi, recently recognized Christian Stone, senior at CHS, as the most smiley and positive student around. “At the end of each day, I reflect on the students who continually make a positive difference through their happiness and especially smiles,” stated Colizzi. “I’ve had Christian in class for the past two years, and I can honestly say, I’ve never seen him without a smile. He’s always laughing, and making others feel great about life and school.”

In November, Stone and Colizzi decided to form a CHS Smile Club, then naming Stone as the President. Pictures hang on a dedicated wall outside Colizzi’s room, showcasing students and staff. “I spend my days in search of full time smilers; people who don’t fake their happiness and truly enjoy their life,” stated Stone. “As a teen, there’s a lot to worry about, like academics, sports, decisions, friends, relationships and more. I feel this club helps people to be happy and realize smiling is contagious. Even on the bad days, putting a smile on, helps lighten the mood” said Stone. “I wholeheartedly care about people and try to find ways to make everyone happy...The first week of the club’s formation, we started out with a handful of pictures, which sparked the interest of the student body; they wanted to know what it took to be part of the club.”

Prior to Christmas break, Stone and Colizzi decided to design Smile Club shirts, with plans to sell them to the student body, and proceeds going to The Smile Train, an organization that funds cleft palate surgery in developing nations. Soliciting the help of Charlotte Optimist Club, funds were acquired to purchase the shirts. The Optimist Club has invited members of the Smile Club to attend their February meeting to talk about making a positive difference in the lives of teens.



To date, there are more than 50 members of the loosely formed club. Senior, Armando Pellegrino, stated, "I think the Smile Club reminds people to be happy." "It's the best club in school because it brings people together," stated senior Greg Dornbos. The goal is to continue adding to the wall and getting the entire student body to realize being happy is key.

"It makes me happy to see so many smiles during the day. So much greatness happens at school, and it should be celebrated and visible! It definitely creates a closeness and strong unity across all grade levels," stated Colizzi.