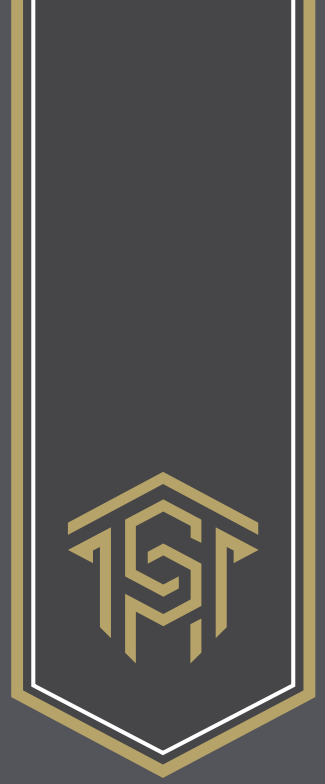




PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 13, 2026



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's time for spring commencement, and we are thrilled that so many students are about to achieve their dreams and take the next step into their future. Whether they are entering the workforce or transferring in pursuit of a bachelor's degree, it is a privilege to be a part of their journey.

Student optimism is infectious, and the future of Central Piedmont is also brighter than ever as the college continues to grow. I'm happy to share that enrollment is still breaking records. In fact, we now have more than 58,000 students enrolled annually! That is a testament to our talented faculty and staff, our many partnerships across Mecklenburg County, and to you, our Board of Trustees, for your leadership and dedication.

In April, Community College Month celebrated the unique impact of community and technical colleges, both on students' lives and the regions they serve. Throughout this report, you'll find numerous examples of the ways we are proud to make a difference.



This spring, we have seen students blossom as they attended Tech Week events, participated in the Truist Honors Scholar Expo and grew plants for the Cato Campus plant sale in support of the Horticulture Technology program.

We have also cultivated a new relationship with PSA Airlines, offering training and support for the high-growth aviation industry and strengthening our aviation programs at the college. At the same time, we value our longstanding relationships with partners such as Duke Energy, who so generously support several programs at Central Piedmont.

Our campuses continue to take shape with the expansion of the Architectural Technology program to Cato Campus, the renovation of Harris Campus to build a workforce of cosmetic arts, barbering and massage therapy professionals, and even a brand-new sculpture on Central Campus. At the same time, it is vitally important to remember where we came from. Special archival displays in the Hagemeyer Library detail both the college's theater program history and the evolution of Central Campus alongside the city of Charlotte.

Just as commencement recognizes the achievement of students, I too want to take a moment to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who makes our work possible. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to further our mission every day.

With gratitude,
Kandi W. Deitemeyer, Ed.D.



GOAL 1

Elevating student success

A LOOK BACK AT **TECH WEEK**

During the week of March 16, Central Piedmont celebrated Tech Week with a lineup of exciting events hosted by the college's Technology Division and industry partners. It's an honor to be at the forefront of preparing a skilled IT workforce for careers in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region, working hand-in-hand with local businesses and industries to align education with real-world opportunities. Events included:

Bank of America 3rd Annual Code-A-Thon

Four teams competed for a chance to participate at Bank of America's Code-A-Thon finals, hosted at Bank of America Plaza in Charlotte. This event was aimed at bridging the gap between the bank's Global Technology Organization and aspiring technology students.

Microsoft NextGenSTEAM

Underrepresented students in the technology industry attended this event and learned tips for navigating career development in the industry. The event was open only to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) high school students and Central Piedmont's Dual Enrollment students.

Would You Pull the Lever? Navigating the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence – Hosted by Central Piedmont instructor Dr. Frazier Smith

An interactive, virtual workshop, this program helped Central Piedmont students, faculty and staff understand the ethical landscape of AI in a world increasingly shaped by algorithmic decision-making.

Microsoft ALTogether AI Engineering Summit

This one-day event hosted by Microsoft Charlotte highlighted how artificial intelligence drives modern engineering and future careers.

Cybersecurity Capture the Flag with Doc St. Clair

The Technology Division hosted this interactive cybersecurity workshop where students learned how to identify vulnerabilities across several areas.





CATO CAMPUS PLANT SALE BENEFITS HORTICULTURE TECHNOLOGY

Central Piedmont's annual spring plant sale returned to Cato Campus on the third weekend in April, offering a wide selection of vegetables, herbs, flowers and houseplants grown by students in the Horticulture Technology program.

More than just a plant sale, this event highlighted real-world learning in action. Students applied what they learned in plant science, greenhouse operations and landscaping to cultivate and prepare plants for sale, building skills that will translate directly into careers across the horticulture industry.

Every purchase supported student learning and program growth.

DUKE ENERGY EMPLOYEES SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING CLOSET

Duke Energy recently donated attire to Central Piedmont's Professional Clothing Closet, continuing a partnership that helps students prepare for academic, professional and workforce success. This marked the third clothing drive that the Duke Energy Foundation has spearheaded for employees in support of the college's initiative, which has served students since 2021.



The Professional Clothing Closet provides free professional clothing to Central Piedmont students, helping remove a financial barrier many face when preparing for interviews, internships, classroom presentations and career-connected events. Over the past year alone, nearly 350 students have registered to shop, while countless others have dropped in, underscoring the growing need for and impact of the resource.

Student Na Nian noted how the closet provides both practical support and confidence. "It helps students feel more confident when they go to interviews or professional events," Na said. "Not every student can afford to buy formal clothes, so this program gives everyone a fair chance."

Through partnerships like Duke Energy's, Central Piedmont's Professional Clothing Closet continues to empower students and ensure access to opportunity and confidence as they pursue their goals.



TRUIST HONORS SCHOLAR EXPO RECOGNIZES STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Truist Honors Scholar Expo is a spring signature event showcasing the program’s scholarly work and leadership. Since 2024, the expo has evolved from highlighting the “fruits of our labor” across the Honors Program to a broader celebration of scholar excellence.

This year, the expo was positioned as a professional-style symposium for the wider community, Truist sponsors and visiting regional faculty. The evening featured a keynote by Dr. Jade “JV” Morman-Lyerly — dynamic leader, scholar and strategist — on Social Courage, offering a framework for grit and resilience,

followed by scholar certificate and award recognition. Highlights from the event included 3D models of Truist Bank innovation and the Levine Campus honors space, alumni participation, support from Honors-to-Honors partners, a 100% graduation rate and a 92% transfer rate. More than 3,300 students have been impacted since fall 2023.



CAMPUS STORE RELOCATES TO CENTRAL HIGH

The Campus Store at Central Campus moved to the Central High Building in January and celebrated its grand opening on March 6. The store was previously located in the Hall Professional Development Building. The new Central High location offers an updated space and provides easier, more central access for students picking up course materials, tech supplies and Central Piedmont gear.

Campus Stores are located on all six campuses and carry drinks, snacks, grab-and-go food and everyday essentials.

PEOPLE WITH

DEBBIE RILEY

When Debbie Riley began the Nondestructive Examination Technology program at Central Piedmont, she became the fourth generation in her family to pursue a career in the field. She is following in the footsteps of her great-grandfather, grandmother and mother.

“It’s really cool to be able to continue this family legacy and not just in the way of, my family did it, so I need to do it, too,” Debbie said. “I’m really interested in this stuff.”

Debbie has been working in a restaurant for the last handful of years. But she always wanted to go back to school and pursue something with more financial and scheduling stability. She chose Central Piedmont for its renowned NDE program and affordability.

Debbie’s dream is to work in a lab in the nuclear industry, explaining it is the next generation of energy as natural resources diminish. However, NDE opens a world of possibilities.

“It’s a lucrative, growing field,” Debbie said. “You will always have a job, and it’s not just in nuclear, like what I want to do. It’s in aerospace, it’s in infrastructure. You can work anywhere.”



NATHAN NICOLAU

As an English instructor at Central Piedmont, Nathan Nicolau reaches a broad cross-section of the student body, including nursing students, automotive students and those who want to make a career out of writing. For Nathan, communication is at the heart of both every job and the entire human experience.

“Writing teaches us how to be human,” he said. “We connect with other people, and in turn, we connect with ourselves.”

Nathan, a full-time faculty member at Central Piedmont since 2023, has published works ranging from poetry to fiction, non-fiction and essays. He also serves as editor-in-chief of The Hammer, the English department’s award-winning, student-only official arts and literature magazine.

“What I love most about the students is that a lot of them come here because they are driven,” he said. “I think that really speaks to the community college model, where we are open-door and make things affordable. It’s true that this college is here for the community.”



A PURPOSE

NANCY GREEN

For 38 years, Nancy Green has been a part of the fabric at Central Piedmont. Today she is the Director of Campus Printing and Signs, but nearly four decades ago, she was simply trying to find her way.

A high school dropout and mother, Nancy attended Central Piedmont after a case worker encouraged her to return to school.

At first, Nancy was employed as a student worker in the print shop while earning her high school diploma and taking graphic arts classes. She eventually learned of an available part-time press operator position, which led to a lifetime of campus printing work.

“Every project has a purpose, and every deadline matters,” she said. “It is hands-on work where I can see my results, and I feel valued for what I contribute to our staff and students.”

In August, Nancy is planning to retire after nearly four decades of service. In that time, she has been part of an untold number of special moments at the college and made a difference in countless students’ lives.



PATSY MONTESINOS

Patsy Montesinos was intrigued by the stories unfolding on Spanish-language newscasts she watched with her parents as a child.

Now a multimedia reporter at CBS affiliate NewsChannel 5 in Nashville, Tennessee, Patsy is making her mark, recently earning three MidSouth Regional Emmy Award nominations.

“I’ve always wanted to tell stories and be able to highlight those that maybe aren’t often told,” said the Central Piedmont alum.

When attending a four-year university wasn’t an option financially, she chose to start her college journey at Central Piedmont.

“It’s definitely a community that you become a part of,” she said.

Patsy worked at the advising front desk and was an honor society president, among other leadership and academic endeavors. She was also the first student commencement speaker in school history.

She transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was part of the school’s renowned journalism program. Her career path took her to Nashville, and she and her colleagues were honored with the three Emmy nominations at this past February’s ceremony.

“I felt really proud just to be in that room,” she said.





GOAL 2

Maximizing academic excellence and innovation through community engagement and partnerships

COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH SHOWCASES COMMITMENT TO AFFORDABLE, CAREER-DRIVEN EDUCATION

Central Piedmont celebrated Community College Month throughout April, spotlighting the college's role as a gateway to opportunity, a driver of the region's workforce and a pillar of support for students and the broader community.

Powering the region's workforce

As one of the largest community colleges in North Carolina, Central Piedmont serves as a critical workforce engine for the Charlotte region. The college collaborates with businesses and industry partners to offer:

- 20+ apprenticeship programs
- 250+ work-based learning opportunities
- 60+ customized training solutions

In addition, continuing education and accelerated training programs allow individuals to reskill or upskill quickly in high-growth fields — from artificial intelligence and transportation to health care and skilled trades.

Affordable education with real value

Central Piedmont is committed to keeping higher education within reach, offering education options to meet the needs of students and their budget.

- \$46,000+ in potential savings by starting at Central Piedmont and transferring to a four-year institution
- More than 50% of students receive financial aid
- \$4+ million provided in scholarships annually

Students can further reduce costs through Dual Enrollment, which allows eligible high school students to earn tuition-free college credit, and apprenticeships allow students to gain paid, hands-on experience while covering tuition costs.

More than a college

Beyond the classroom, Central Piedmont serves as a vital community resource, offering affordable services, cultural events and more for residents of Mecklenburg County and beyond.

- The college's Small Business Center helps more than 350 entrepreneurs and small business owners launch and grow



- The community dental clinic serves nearly 1,000 patients annually
- English as a Second Language (ESL) and adult literacy programs empower residents to build skills, expand opportunities and participate fully in community life
- More than 90,000 community members attend performances or lectures and visit our art galleries across our campuses each year



HARRIS CAMPUS TO BECOME A HUB FOR COSMETIC ARTS, BARBERING AND MASSAGE THERAPY TRAINING

Facilities at Harris Campus are transforming and expanding into Mecklenburg County's go-to-spot for hands-on learning in cosmetic arts, barbering and massage therapy.

The renovated facility — formerly the Harris I Building that will now be called the Cosmetic Arts Building — will welcome students beginning with the 2026 fall semester. Features will include modern, professional salon and massage therapy spaces designed to mirror real-world industry environments. Students will train by serving real clients, gaining practical experience while providing accessible, low-cost beauty and wellness services to the community.

The upgraded Harris Campus will support a wide range of curriculum and continuing education

programs designed to meet Mecklenburg County's growing demand for licensed cosmetic arts and massage therapy professionals across salons, spas, clinics and independent businesses.

Clinic capacity will expand by 40%, increasing from 50 chairs to 70, unlocking more access for students seeking careers and community members seeking affordable services.

Students can complete a cosmetology, barbering or massage therapy education at a fraction of the cost compared to private schools. Private school costs range from \$22,000-\$31,000, while Central Piedmont students can obtain an associate degree for just over \$7,000, while continuing education costs range from approximately \$600-\$1,700.

PSA AIRLINES PARTNERSHIP STRENGTHENS AVIATION WORKFORCE PIPELINE

Central Piedmont and PSA Airlines announced a new partnership on March 19 to prepare more students for high-demand, high-wage careers in the aviation sector in the Charlotte region and beyond.

Nationally and regionally, the aviation industry faces rising demand for pilots, aviation maintenance technicians, drone operators, air traffic control specialists and other skilled roles. As an American Airlines hub serving 13 other carriers and home to one of the world's busiest airports, Mecklenburg County is uniquely positioned to develop the skilled talent needed to fuel the region's growing aviation sector.



With support from PSA Airlines, Central Piedmont is expanding its investment in modern equipment and curriculum that will strengthen the pipeline of trained aviation professionals to sustain regional employers. Through the collaboration, Central Piedmont students will gain access to internships and PSA facilities to support hands-on learning. PSA will also provide technical expertise and

SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC RAISES RECORD \$328,500 FOR U.S. VETERAN, FIRST RESPONDER STUDENTS

Central Piedmont brought together sponsors, participants and volunteers for its 22nd Annual Sporting Clays Classic on April 24 at Meadow Wood Farms. The event raised a record \$328,500 in support of U.S. military veteran, military-connected, and first responder students and programs at the college. Nearly 350 people attended the annual event, which continues to grow in both participation and impact.



Central Piedmont serves nearly 1,000 U.S. military veterans or dependents, many of whom are pursuing a wide range of academic and career pathways aligned with their personal and professional goals. Through Military Families and Veterans Services, students receive holistic support, including academic advising, counseling, GI Bill assistance, scholarships and connections to community partners.

In addition, Central Piedmont educates more than 4,600 first responder students and is a trusted regional resource for public safety education. Public safety and officer training courses, criminal justice programs, and innovative offerings such as an associate degree in Public Safety Administration prepare students for critical roles in business and government. Workforce partnerships, including one with MEDIC that guarantees graduates employment upon completion, help students launch and advance their careers.

“This event reflects our community’s respect for service in all its forms,” said Lisa Schlachter, chief philanthropy officer at Central Piedmont. “The generosity shown by Coca-Cola Consolidated, our presenting sponsor, and from our many generous donors directly supports students who bring leadership, resilience and real-world experience into our classrooms. Thanks to this support, we can continue removing barriers for those who have already given so much.”

professional development opportunities for college faculty.

“This partnership reflects our commitment to strengthening the aviation workforce in one of the fastest growing regions in the country,” said Christine Hollanshead, vice president of people of PSA Airlines. “We’re excited to help develop the next generation of aviation professionals by expanding access to hands-on training, modern equipment and scholarship support.”

Through this new partnership, PSA Airlines will establish the PSA Airlines Scholarship Fund to support students pursuing aviation-related fields, as well as the PSA Airlines Program Fund, which will provide resources to strengthen academic programs at the college. These funds will complement the airline’s broader efforts to enhance and expand Central Piedmont’s aviation programs.

“PSA’s investment in student success is clear, and we’re proud to partner with them to develop talent for one of our region’s most essential and fastest-growing industries,” said Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, president of Central Piedmont. “Together, we are creating new opportunities for our students while strengthening the aviation workforce that keeps our community moving.”

Central Piedmont currently offers a range of industry-recognized aviation training opportunities, including a Private Pilot Ground School and drone instruction, with additional coursework in development. Collaboration with PSA Airlines is an important part of the college’s strategy to further invest in the future of aviation education. The college is also pursuing resources to establish a comprehensive aviation maintenance program aligned with regional workforce and economic development needs.



CENTRAL PIEDMONT, UNC PEMBROKE LAUNCH GUARANTEED ADMISSION TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP

Central Piedmont and The University of North Carolina at Pembroke announced a new guaranteed admission transfer partnership designed to make the path from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree clearer, more coordinated and more affordable for students.



ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM CAPACITY DOUBLES

Central Piedmont recently expanded its growing Architectural Technology program to a second location at its Cato Campus, doubling capacity and increasing access for students across the Charlotte region. The expansion, made possible by the support of an anonymous donor, reflects growing student demand, the region's construction and development boom, and the college's deepening investment in hands-on, design-focused education.

With this second studio, the program can serve up to 200 students. The expansion complements ongoing partnerships in the area, including a 2+2 transfer agreement with UNC Charlotte's David R. Ravin School of Architecture. This agreement

launched in 2022 and gives qualified students a direct pathway to complete a four-year pre-professional architecture degree — students spend two years with Central Piedmont and then two years at the four-year institution.

The new Cato studio, converted from a former law library, features:

- An open layout with mobile furniture
- Abundant natural light
- High-tech fabrication tools, including 3D printers, plotters and laser cutters

These tools complement the program's emphasis on industry-standard production workflows, including Building Information Modeling (BIM) and computer-aided drafting (CAD).

Students in the program also learn industry-relevant software such as SketchUp, Rhino, AutoCAD and Revit, ensuring they graduate with real-world technical proficiency.

The new agreement, known as “BraveNation Advantage,” creates a defined, student-centered transfer pathway that aligns academic advising, course planning and support services between the two institutions. Through this partnership, eligible Central Piedmont students who complete designated coursework will be guaranteed admission to UNC Pembroke, reducing uncertainty and helping them stay on track to earning a four-year degree.

The agreement builds on Central Piedmont’s long-standing commitment to transfer

excellence. The college maintains partnerships with more than 30 four-year colleges and universities, including:

- Statewide transfer agreements to UNC System universities
- Nearly 20 guaranteed admission agreements
- Twenty “2+2” programs for Associate in Applied Science graduates
- Five honors transfer agreements
- Two additional specialized transfer opportunities

LINEWORKER TRAINING PROGRAM SEES EXPANSION WITH SUPPORT FROM DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION GRANT

Central Piedmont received a \$25,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation to strengthen hands-on training for students preparing for careers as electrical lineworkers, an essential and in-demand role in North Carolina.

The funding is part of Duke Energy’s broader \$600,000 statewide investment to help train the state’s future energy workforce through community colleges and regional partners. The initiative will support programs aligned with high-demand energy careers, including electrical systems and linework, advanced manufacturing, HVAC and welding.

At Central Piedmont, the grant will be used to purchase a third extendable pole trailer — a specialized piece of equipment that carries full-length utility poles — dedicated to the college’s Lineworker Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) course. The additional equipment will significantly expand hands-on training capacity and reduce downtime as students complete federally required entry-level driver training for lineworker vehicles.

The college’s accelerated electrical linework training program provides a fast, affordable pathway into a high-wage career while meeting the region’s workforce needs. The program combines classroom instruction with intensive, hands-on learning that emphasizes safety, technical proficiency and real-world experience.



A woman with long dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a grey plaid blazer over a white blouse with a black bow, is gesturing with her hands while speaking. She is standing in front of a blurred audience. The image has a semi-transparent dark overlay.

GOAL 3

Advancing our organizational culture

NEW ARCHIVES DISPLAYS

EXPLORE CENTRAL PIEDMONT'S HISTORY

As Central Piedmont continues to grow and evolve, the Archives preserve the people, programs and places that built its foundation. The 2026 displays, now open on the third floor of the Hagemeyer Library in the Parr Center, explore the history of the college's theater program and the transformation of Central Campus.

This year's exhibits explore two distinct chapters of the college's story, offering a closer look at the individuals and landmarks that helped shape Central Piedmont's identity.

The displays will remain open through December 2026. Employees and students are encouraged to stop by to experience this visual journey through the college's history.

Behind the curtains: Exploring the history of theater at Central Piedmont

This display features the origins of the Central Piedmont drama program, including the work of Tom Vance, program creator.

Then & now: Central Campus

This exhibit showcases locations in and around Central Campus that no longer exist, including Van Every Hall, Jimmie's Restaurant, the Double Door Inn and other familiar landmarks from decades past.



LOCAL ARTIST'S SCULPTURE TAKES ROOT ON CENTRAL CAMPUS

A striking 15-foot stainless steel sculpture now greets students, employees and visitors outside Central Piedmont's Parr Arts Building, facing E. 4th Street — an eye-catching addition made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor and the vision of local artist Tom Risser.

Risser, a Charlotte-area engineer and sculptor, began work on the abstract, untitled work decades ago when it was a small, two-dimensional sketch. Over time, it evolved into a large-scale, three-dimensional form fabricated from stainless steel, featuring sweeping curves and layered elements that catch and reflect light throughout the day — and especially at night as headlights and campus lighting bring the surface to life.

Designed without a prescribed meaning, the sculpture invites individual interpretation — whether as a figurative form, a floral shape or even a musical instrument. Now firmly rooted on campus, the piece fulfills Risser's ultimate goal: sharing art in a public space where it can inspire curiosity, conversation and connection every day.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PARTNERSHIP HELPS CREATE EMPLOYEE FINANCIAL WELLNESS

Central Piedmont is launching a new partnership with Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region to provide employees with access to “Money Matters,” a free financial education program designed to build financial confidence and support the path toward home ownership.

Up to 50 employees can participate in each three-hour session. The practical and interactive workshops help participants build financial

confidence and better understand the steps involved in home ownership.

The program offers practical guidance on budgeting, credit, savings strategies and understanding the homebuying process. It is designed to help employees strengthen their financial knowledge and make informed long-term financial decisions.

BRAGG SWAIN WELCOMED AS NEW AVP OF MARKETING AND CREATIVE SERVICES

Bragg Swain joined Central Piedmont on Feb. 23 as the associate vice president (AVP) of marketing and creative services, bringing more than 20 years of marketing leadership experience. He will oversee brand strategy and marketing, creative services and marketing operations.

Most recently, he served as vice president of marketing at Positec-USA, where he launched and scaled six brands using digital-first strategies and strong visual storytelling. Earlier in his career, he led in-house design teams at Newell Rubbermaid across multiple product lines.

A people-first leader, Bragg is known for empowering teams, adaptive leadership and collaborating with stakeholders to meet evolving organizational needs. He is also an avid traveler and a champion of family-themed Halloween costumes.



JANET LABAR APPOINTED TO CENTRAL PIEDMONT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Central Piedmont announced the appointment of Janet LaBar to its Board of Trustees. The Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners appointed LaBar to complete the term vacated by Jim Dunn. LaBar will serve two years, through June 2028.

LaBar is a longtime supporter of Central Piedmont and previously served on the Board of Trustees from 2021-24. During her tenure, she provided strategic guidance as the college navigated the post-pandemic environment and strengthened its role as the region’s primary workforce development engine. She has consistently advocated for deeper connections between the college and the business community to ensure Charlotte-Mecklenburg employers have access to the skilled talent they need.

In addition to her board service, LaBar volunteered as a mentor in Central Piedmont’s Ruth G. Shaw Women’s Leadership Program from 2020-21, offering coaching and career guidance to students selected for the program. LaBar serves as the executive director of the Women’s Impact Fund, a Charlotte-based nonprofit with more than 500 members. Under its collaborative giving model, the Fund has awarded more than \$8.5 million in grants to more than 110 local nonprofit organizations.



FOUNDATION BOARD PROFILE: JOYE BLOUNT

When Joye Blount speaks about Central Piedmont, her voice carries the unmistakable tone of admiration — and purpose. A retired banking executive, lifelong educator and passionate philanthropist, Joye brings a rare blend of strategic insight and heartfelt commitment to her role on the Central Piedmont Foundation Board.

Joye's journey to Charlotte began in education, where she spent 12 years as a middle school teacher and principal. Her transition into banking was sparked by a community of parents who saw her leadership potential and encouraged her to bring her talents to corporate America. Over the next two decades, she built a distinguished career in banking, holding senior roles at Nations Bank, Bank of America and U.S. Bank Corporation, where she retired in 2016 as a senior vice president and wealth management advisor.

But retirement didn't slow her down. Today, Joye serves as President of Knight Angels, a Charlotte-based private equity fund focused on anonymous philanthropy and grassroots leadership. Her passion for service is evident in her extensive board work, from the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra to the American Nutrition Association.

It was a chance encounter at a holiday event that brought Joye back into the Central Piedmont orbit. Seated next to Central Piedmont President Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, she discovered a kindred spirit and was immediately drawn into the college's mission and momentum. "I was amazed," she recalled. "The pride, the excellence, the impact — it was all there."

Since joining the Foundation Board two years ago, Joye has become a driving force behind board engagement and strategic growth. She currently chairs the Fundraising Committee, where she's leading a three-pronged initiative to deepen internal board relationships, strengthen ties with community stakeholders and leverage board members' networks to amplify Central Piedmont's reach. "We're building a culture of connection," she explained. "When board members are informed, inspired and united, they become powerful advocates."

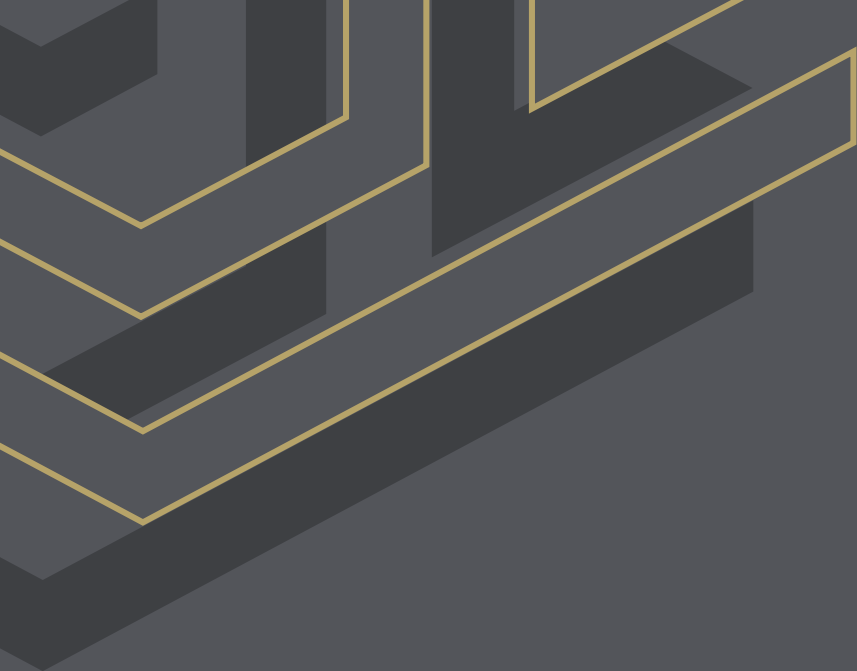
Joye's leadership is rooted in a deep belief in the transformative power of education — especially the kind that Central Piedmont delivers. "Not every student's path is the same," she said. "Community colleges like Central Piedmont are meeting students where they are and preparing them for real opportunities."

Looking ahead, Joye sees Central Piedmont poised for even greater national recognition. Across the country, four-year colleges are struggling to grow due to declining demographics, poor fiscal management, and often, commitment to inappropriate and irrelevant academic and cultural standards.

"We're blessed to proudly stand as a respected model to be emulated," she said. "But I want to see us become the No. 1 gold standard for technical and community colleges across the country. Our fast-approaching generation of young people who will take the reins of all facets of our communities deserve no less."

For Joye Blount, serving Central Piedmont isn't just about giving back — it's about building forward. With her leadership, vision and steadfast belief in the college's mission, she's helping shape a future where opportunity is not just promised, but delivered.





1 MISSION
VISION
COLLEGE
STUDENT
AT A TIME

