

Proclamation  
"Make a Choice Week"  
Cumberland County Schools  
January 24 – January 30, 2016

**Whereas**, an alarming number of Cumberland County students drop out of high school or fail to graduate; and

**Whereas**, students who drop out of school are more likely to experience higher levels of unemployment, poverty, incarceration, and poorer health than those who stay in school and graduate; and

**Whereas**, we recognize that our future depends on helping every child succeed in school and reach their full potential in life; and

**Whereas**, a college graduate will make \$1 million more over a lifetime than a high school drop-out; and

**Whereas**, empowering young people to stay in school gives them the best chance to succeed and that dropping out is a choice; and

**Whereas**, all citizens should become involved in supporting students by giving them the opportunity to grow up to be caring, contributing members of the community; and

**Whereas**, effective drop out prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among faith communities, social service agencies, civic organizations, the business community, law enforcement agencies; and schools;

**Therefore**, the Cumberland County Board of Education does hereby proclaim

**January 24-January 30, 2016** as "Make a Choice Week", a community wide initiative designed to help young people stay in and succeed in school.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2016

  
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Chairman  
Cumberland County Board of Education