Message from the Athletic Director

The Fall of 2020 has finally arrived and it is time for the Chesnee Eagles to begin competitions in the various sports venues in the Upstate. Needless to say, the 2020 year has been a most difficult and challenging year for our athletes, coaches, school and community due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our student athletes began summer workouts with the coaches and strength trainers on June 8th and dutifully followed the plethora of COVID-19 protocols to remain healthy while getting ready for fall sports season.

Now that the summer is over, our students are back in school...our teams are ready to compete. With careful observance of COVID-19 protocols and an abundance of luck, Chesnee High School has suffered minimal instances of COVID-19 infection. Hopefully, we will continue to be vigilant against an opponent that is not going away without a fight.

The girls sport teams should be among the best in the state and will be the source of pride for Eagle fans this year and in years to come! The Varsity Competitive Cheer team is the defending State 3A champions and should be the team to beat even with the loss of 10 graduated seniors. Coaches Allie Tyner and Ashlyn Campbell should not be counted out and do not be surprised if the Chesnee Cheer team brings home another title.

The girls golf team is rated #1 in the State of South Carolina and a strong favorite to bring home the Gold Medal in 2020. Isabella Britt and Sidney Roberts are two of the State’s top golfers at any level and are expected to lead Coach Kyle Scruggs out of the runner-up finish in 3-A golf in 2019 to State Champions in 2020!

The girls volleyball team has lost to the eventual state champions the last two seasons in the State Quarterfinals. However, with several returning players and a year’s worth of hard work behind them, do not be surprised to see Coach Katie Jolley’s girls bring home some hardware in 2020. The team will be led by hitters A. C. Yelton (North Greenville signee), Kaitlyn Barrett and middle hitter Jessa Beach in 2020.

Girl’s tennis hopes to bring home a Region title in 2020 and make a deeper run in the playoffs in 2020. New coach Kunagee Cohen-Nesbitt brings back 9 players from the 2019 team.

Finally, girls cross-country has six girls running this year and should be vastly improved led by Tanner Jones.

On the boys side of things, look for the 2020 football team led by Coach Clay Lewis to make some noise. The team has 25 seniors and has worked extremely hard in the off season to prepare for improvement on the 2019 year when the Eagles went 5-7 before losing in the second round to Union.
There are so many players to watch in football for me to mention in a short space without leaving someone out.

Finally, boys cross-country should be very competitive in 2020 with many runners in the 20 minute range for the 3.1 mile course. Coach Joseph D. Brooks continues to build up our cross-country program and expectations continue to build under his leadership.

I am honored to serve as the Athletic Director of Chesnee High School. We have so many quality young people that make me proud to just be a small part of what they accomplish. My best days are spent following the girls golf team around the course and watching our powerful volleyball teams compete ...catching a tennis match or a boys and girls cross country competition. And...everyone knows how exciting the competitive cheer team is...can’t get much better than a state champion performance!

Of course being a “retired” football coach, I can’t begin to tell you how much I love watching high school football especially Chesnee Eagles. They are getting ready to bring top quality football back for all of Chesnee to enjoy!

The ability to watch great young people combined with working with outstanding coaches, the best administrative team in the state, led by Principal Angela Ramsey, in the best school district in South Carolina makes me a blessed person. In closing, I want to thank our district Board of Trustees, district administration, school administration, teachers, coaches, community volunteers and business partners for their contributions in making Chesnee High School a great place to be!

GO EAGLES!

Jim Hyatt, Athletic Director
FOOTBALL

Chesnee is heading into the 2020 season with a year under head coach Clay Lewis and three returning All-Region members: Corey Seay, Cole Hoskyns, and Ian Harris.

The Eagles have the task of replacing two year starter Jacob Kimbrell at quarterback, who is now a member of the Wofford Terriers. They will hand over the reins of the offense to senior Nyquille O’Fair. O’Fair was two of three passing for eleven yards while gaining forty-eight yards on sixteen carries in limited action as the backup last season. Lewis is excited about the athleticism O’Fair brings but also his understanding of the game.

"He is an athletic kid but he is very smart,” said Lewis. “He understands where everyone should be and how it works. He is going to step in and have a big season for us.”

There will be some new faces at running back for the Eagles as they lost Rodney Alexander, Avery Fogle, and Jacob Aparis to graduation. Bryson Thompson and Camden Burns are the Eagles top two returning backs as Thompson will play the A-Back position along with Praise Edrington, Trevor Blankenship, and Michael Paslawski while Burns will play the B-Back position along with Brandon Mills and Adam Parks.

Chesnee will be young at wide receiver as they will be replacing the top three players from last season at the position but are expecting big things from KJ Valentine, Blake Scruggs, Ryan Walker, Matthew Froemel, Daveon Stradford and Lorenzo Duren. They will be returning tight end Cole Hoskyns to once again help out the passing game as Hoskyns had eleven catches for 206 yards and a pair of scores last season.

The offensive line will return all five starters from last season as Corey Seay, Brayden Sprinkle, Caleb Rentz, Parker Robinson, and Jose Guzman. Seay, and Sprinkle will lead the group as both averaged a grade of 75 or better last season. Lewis is excited about the offensive line heading into the season.

"Our strength offensively should be up front with our offensive line with the experience they gained last year,” said Lewis.
Chesnee will be returning nine starters on the defensive side of the ball including on the defensive line where the Eagles will be returning defensive ends Cole Hoskyns and Colby Davis who combined for 100.5 tackles, 29.5 tackles for loss, 14 sacks, and forced 7 turnovers last season.

“Cole is an All-Region player and Colby was right behind him,” said Lewis. “Those two have been in the battles and we expect great things out of them this season.”

The Eagles graduated their two primary defensive tackles to graduation last season but have Jacob Ingle, Parker Robinson, and Jaden Gossett battling for playing time. Ingle has 16.5 tackles last season with three tackles for loss with a pair of sacks while Robinson had 4.5 tackles and a sack last season.

Linebacker is another key group for the Eagles as they return Corey Seay, Camden Burns, Brandon Mills, and Dylan Bennett. Bennett finished last season with 55 tackles and seven of them for loss while Seay finished third on the team in sacks with 4.5 to add to his 38.5 tackles. Mills had 42.5 tackles while Burns had 41 tackles and two sacks. Both Burns and Bennett scored defensive touchdowns last season.

In the secondary Chesnee will return Nyquille O’Fair, Lorenzo Duren, and Bryson Thompson while KJ Valentine will be coming up from the JV team to help out this season. Duren led the team with six pass breakups and two interceptions last season. The Eagles key focus for this season in the secondary is developing depth.

"We can put two good corners and two good safeties but we have to develop some depth behind them," said Lewis.

One place the Eagles didn’t have a question mark this offseason was in the kicking game as they return punter Cole Hoskyns and kicker Ian Harris. Coach Lewis said it was big to have both of them back this season.

“It means a lot having both of them back,” said Lewis. “The kicking game is one third of the game.”

Harris was 37 out of 40 on PATs and made four field goals with his season long being from 42 yards out while Hoskyns averaged over 33 yards per punt last season.

“He is kind of invaluable kicking wise,” said Lewis about Harris. “He works at it, not just at practice, but in the offseason and on the weekends.”

The Eagles will kick off the season in a home matchup against Legion Collegiate on September 25th.
**GOLF**

**Coach:** Kyle Scruggs, Aaron Jolley, and Colton Grant

**Last Year’s Record:** 8-1 with 5 Tournament wins

**Last Year’s Region Finish and Postseason/Playoff Result:** 1st in the Region, Upper-State Champs, and State Championship runner-up

**Number of Starter’s Returning:** 5

**Returning All-Region/All State Players:** 2
Sydney Roberts and Isabella Britt

**Top Returners:**
Sydney Roberts, Isabella Britt, Becca Watson, Olivia Roberts, and Paige Scruggs

**Top Newcomers:**
Addy Parker and Olivia Shields

**Season Outlook:** The Lady Eagles are coming off a strong 2019 Season. Five out of six starters return from a team that went 8-1 in 9-Hole Matches and won 5 18-Hole Tournaments including an Upperstate Championship and Runner-Up finish in the State Tournament. The Lady Eagles also have 8th graders Addy Parker and Olivia Shields who will compete for Varsity events as well as lead the JV Team. We look forward to competing in the Palmetto Preview and WSCGA High School Invitational to prepare to make a run in the post season. Our ultimate goal this year is to improve on last year’s finish at the State Tournament and bring a title back home to Chesnee.
Volleyball

Last Year’s Record: 19-5
Last Year’s Region Finish and Postseason/Playoff Result: Region Champions, Lost to Powdersville in the 3rd round

We are returning two All-Region players AC Yelton, Sr, and Kaitlyn Barrett, Jr. AC Yelton has committed to play at North Greenville University. Both players are looking to dominate at the outside position.

We are also returning starters Jessa Beach, Sr, Karlee Swaney, Sr, and Holly Hines, Jr. All three players are more experienced this year and plan to be major contributors this year. Senior Shenandoah Bishop will be playing Libero. She has four years of varsity that will help solidify the backrow play of the Eagles.

We are looking to have a strong team again this year. The seniors are showing great leadership and the girls are ready to play!! We will be in a new division and region and are looking forward to the new challenges. The team has been working hard in the weight room to improve on strength and speed.

Katie Jolley is returning as the head coach for her 3rd season at Chesnee and 14th year of coaching high school volleyball. Derek Byars will be the assistant Varsity coach. He has coached volleyball previously in district 2 and is in his 13th year of coaching high school sports. Meredith Foy is returning as the Junior Varsity coach. She will be beginning her 6th year of coaching. Amanda Boyd is our new JV assistant coach as is excited to learn this year.
Cross Country

**Coach:** Chief Brooks and Terrance Hamilton

**Number of Starter’s Returning:** 7

**Top Returners:** Omarion Ocampo-Rios, Andrew Blanton, Collin White, Lorenzo Ocampo-Rios

**Season Outlook:**
This season is looking great so far for our cross country team. We have several returning athletes, and our top runner Omarion Ocampo-Rios is off to a great 9th grade year. Seniors returning this season are Lorenzo Ocampo-Rios the current team captain, Collin White, Christian Briggs, and Annabelle Copeland. We have several first year runners this season and look forward to working with them as they run and enjoy the sport. I’ve heard it said by Olympic runners that it takes a special kind of crazy to run for sport. We do for fun what most other sports use for punishment. We have 11 boys on the team with 6 on our Varsity team and 6 girls on the team only 2 are returning from last year. Our runners are up to the challenge of a not so normal cross country season and they have already excelled at the challenges of social distancing and wearing the mask.
Coach: Mr. Kunagee Cohen-Nesbitt

Last Year's Region Finish and Postseason/Playoff Result: 2nd in Region/ 2nd Round of Playoffs

Number of Starter's Returning: 8

Returning All-Region/All State Players: 2

Top Returners: Trista Gaffney, Mattie Martin, Ansley Mossburg, Faith Stewart, Eva Vaca, and Lanie Arrowood

Season Outlook: We are extremely excited about this year. Even in a pandemic, we believe that tennis should still be played! Looking forward to a great season with lots of wins, and a drive to be Region Champs!
**Competitive Cheer**

**Coaches:** Allie Tyner & Ashlyn Campbell

**Last Year’s Record:** 1 third place finish, 3 second place finishes, and 2 first place finishes

**Last Year’s Region Finish and Postseason/Playoff Result:** Region Champs, Upper State Champs, and 3A State Champions

**Number of Starter’s Returning:** 13

**Returning All-Region/All State Players:** 0—All graduated last year

**Top Returners:** Our returners are ready and coming off a State Championship! They know the work it takes to get the job done. We have some awesome seniors this year who have stepped into the shoes of our seniors from last year: Destiny Dawkins, Callie Gray, Prenciss Jefferies, and Trinity Rhymer.

**Top Newcomers:** We have some experienced cheerleaders coming up from the middle school. Therefore, we are starting where we left off in November, which is really exciting!

**Season Outlook:** Although our season looks a little different this year, we are working hard to catch up on the time we usually have. We are keeping our practices consistent and hard and are going for our 5th State Championship!
Hello Eagles Sports Fans!

We are so grateful for the support our Community shows our Student-Athletes and Coaches! Seeing the familiar faces in the stands and hearing the cheers that come after an exciting moment means the world to our teams and players.

You are the edge that pushes our Eagles to be the best!

All of us at Chesnee High School are thankful for the work that our coaches and student-athletes have done to follow safety protocols and make the fall sports season a reality! We ask for your support in this endeavor as you visit our school. Together, we can provide a safe environment for our students to play the sports they love so much!

Finally, on behalf of our CHS Administrative Team, I want to thank all of the Parents and Guardians, Family Members, Coaches, Teachers, and Support Staff that pour into our Student-Athletes. Without you, they could not succeed in the classroom and the field of competition!

Angie Ramsey
Principal
VISIT

chs.spart2.org/athletics
for schedules, pictures, and much more!