

## School District of the Chathams

# 2016/2017 Future-Focused Education Series

We are proud to mark our fourth year of the Future-Focused Education Series! This fall we will host our TENTH event with a very special speaker (see below). The series began in the 2013/2014 school year with the goal of inviting accomplished individuals to our school district to share with parents and students their beliefs about what skills and attributes are most critical for future success. You can find the full catalogue of previous speakers [here on our website](#). Our speakers have ranged from computer scientists to professional authors to accomplished athletes. All community members are invited to attend these special events and engage in the conversation about fulfillment and success in life.

This program is made possible through the generosity and support of the **CHATHAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION**.

### NOVEMBER 30: MAGGIE DOYNE

**Our keynote speaker this year is Ms. Maggie Doyne, the 2015 CNN Hero of the Year.**

Ms. Doyne grew up in Mendham. She was a three-sport athlete, an excellent student, and editor of the yearbook. Feeling “burned out” by the end of high school, she decided to take a gap year and volunteer at a children’s school in an impoverished area in northern India. While there, she met a number of refugees from Nepal, one of whom she decided to accompany back to her war-torn village during a school break. In Nepal, Ms. Doyne encountered orphans who had little access to food and water, let alone schooling. She decided she had to do something. After convincing her parents to wire her the money she had saved over a lifetime of babysitting, she purchased a plot of land and set to work constructing a shelter.



She returned to the States to raise more money and soon opened the Kopila Valley Children’s Home. Ms. Doyne has lived at this children’s home ever since, expanding its operations and becoming the legal guardian of over 40 children! Ms. Doyne is the founder of the [BlinkNow Foundation](#), a nonprofit organization committed to supporting the Kopila Valley Children’s Home and School. Ms. Doyne will be in the U.S. for the Thanksgiving Holiday and will make a visit to Chatham to share her story. Parents, students, and community members are welcome to attend!

(see these [Wikipedia](#), [New York Times](#), and [CNN](#) pages for more information about Maggie Doyne)

### May 22: MIKE LASUSA

**7:00 PM at the Chatham Middle School Library-Media Center**



Dr. LaSusa has served as the district’s superintendent for the past five years, and prior to that held positions as a teacher and building administrator. His presentation this year will focus on key district trends in the areas of student demographics, wellness, and achievement, as well as how the district is seeking to instill a sense of balance in students and staff alike. All parents and community members are welcome to attend his presentation, which will take place in the middle school LMC.