



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019





## **SYSTEM THEME 2018-2019**

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**"LEADING THE WAY"**



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# HOME OF THE TROJAN



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome to Carrollton City Schools! With the 2018-2019 school year now behind us, it is with great pride to present to you this annual report. There is much to celebrate as we reflect on the past year, yet even more to anticipate as we move forward. There is not a day that goes by without an intentional focus on how Carrollton City Schools can best serve the children in our community. It is what is expected of us, and we take this charge very seriously.

Included in this report are achievement highlights, financial summaries and plans for the future. Our Board of Education and district leadership have one common goal that is three-fold – to provide the best education possible with the resources at hand, to be responsible stewards of these resources, and to produce results to make our stakeholders – our community – proud.

Please feel free to reach out to share your thoughts about how we are doing. After all, you are our customers and your opinions are important to us.

***Dr. Mark Albertus***



# OUR LEADERSHIP

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



The Carrollton Board of Education is an elected body of six board members, four elected by wards and two at large, or citywide. The board has been recognized by the Georgia School Board Association as an Exemplary Board of Achievement for the fourth consecutive time. This recognition program is considered GSBA’s highest honor.



**Jimmy Pope**  
Chairman | Ward Four



**Katie Williams**  
Vice Chair | Ward Two



**Greg Dothard**  
Ward One



**David Godwin**  
Treasurer | At-Large



**Melanie McLendon**  
At-Large



**Jason Mount**  
Ward Three





LEADING THE WAY

# ACCOUNTABILITY

## SYSTEM PRIORITIES

### OUR VISION

The Carrollton City Schools and community nurture and empower individuals to be life-long learners who take personal responsibility for improving our world.

### OUR MISSION

The Carrollton City Schools will meet or exceed the expectations of the people we serve by providing:

- a plan for developing and supporting school and community partnerships
- a safe, healthy environment for students, teachers and staff
- the best prepared teachers, administrators and staff
- a challenging curriculum and learning opportunities
- the highest quality instructional resources and tools
- a plan of continuous improvement

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Carrollton City Schools has developed the following goals for its Strategic Plan. Each school in the district has developed its own strategic plan that is aligned with the district plan in order to further support academic success.

- Goal I: Classroom Instruction for Improving Student Achievement
- Goal II: Professional Development for Improving Student Achievement
- Goal III: Financial Operations for Improving Student Achievement
- Goal IV: Community Partnerships for Improving Student Achievement



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

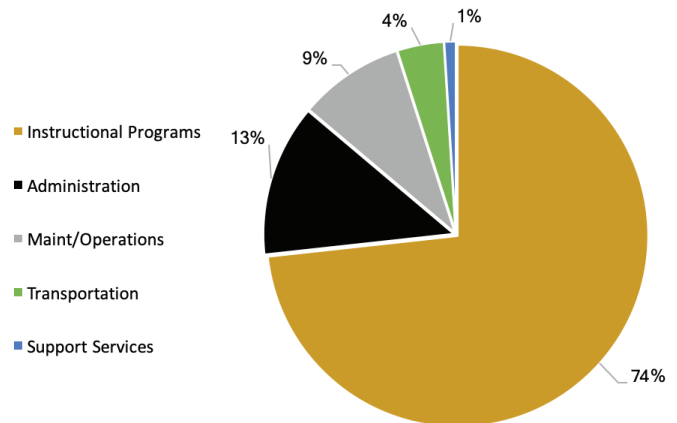
## REVENUES FY18

Property taxes	15,105,937.00
State funds	27,519,418.00
Federal funds	6,698,258.00
Charges for services	1,311,981.00
Investment earnings	24,076.00
Miscellaneous	1,661,474.00
	<u>52,321,144.00</u>

## EXPENDITURES FY18

Instruction	33,085,748.00
Pupil services	991,032.00
Improvement of instruct. svcs	1,273,700.00
Educational media svcs	459,478.00
Federal grant administration	249,399.00
General administration	1,034,318.00
School administration	3,423,451.00
Business administration	473,792.00
Maint./Operations of facilities	4,138,853.00
Student transportation svcs	1,812,184.00
Central support svcs	446,853.00
Other support svcs	202,086.00
Food services operations	3,278,515.00
Debt service interest and fees	410,000.00
	<u>51,279,409.00</u>

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY19



## PER STUDENT EXPENDITURES FY18

**\$8,739.85**





LEADING THE WAY

# PERFORMANCE

## MILESTONES PERFORMANCES EXCEED STATE

### ENGLISH/LANG. ARTS

Students Scoring Proficient and Distinguished

*Grade Level Comparison*

#### 3RD GRADE:

Improved by 14 pts.  
(45% increase)

#### 5TH GRADE:

Improved by 7 pts.  
(17% increase)

#### 6TH GRADE:

Improved by 15 pts.  
(43% increase)

#### 8TH GRADE

Improved by 5 pts.  
(12% increase)

### ENGLISH/LANG. ARTS

Students Scoring Proficient and Distinguished

*Cohort Comparison*

#### 4TH GRADE:

Improved by 7 pts.  
(23% increase)

#### 5TH GRADE:

Improved by 4 pts.  
(9% increase)

#### 6TH GRADE:

Improved by 8 pts.  
(19% increase)

#### 8TH GRADE

Improved by 7 pts.  
(18% increase)





## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

### CHS GRADUATION RATE INCREASES TO 92%

- CES First Grader Orrin Maggiano, won the PBS Kids Writers Contest.
- CHS International Baccalaureate earns re-certification award.
- CHS Band members, Andrew Stagliano, Kelley Ozier, and Taylor Berry achieved GMEA All-State.
- Twelve CHS band members committed to continue band playing at the collegiate level.
- CHS added eSports to the athletic competition schedule.
- CHS students, Eva Hobson and Mason Dill were named to the GaDOE State Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.
- Fifty-seven percent of CHS graduates earned credit for accelerated enrollment via Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement, or International Baccalaureate courses.
- Sixty-seven percent of graduates committed to attending a four-year college.
- Twelve percent of graduates committed to attending a two-year school.
- CHS graduates received almost \$13 million in private scholarship offers.
- Hope/Zell Miller awards were given to 196 graduating students totalling \$1 million.
- Three percent of graduates committed to the military.
- Eighteen percent of graduates plan to enter the workforce upon graduation.



# LEADING THE WAY ACHIEVEMENTS

## ABC BEST PLACES TO WORK



Carrollton City Schools was named a first place finalist in the Atlanta Business Chronicle's Best Places to Work program at a recognition ceremony held in Atlanta. The school district captured the top honor in the extra large business category, edging out many prestigious organizations in the Atlanta area.

The district was named one of the top 100 Best Places to Work in the first phase of the recognition program. From that list, three organizations from each size category were honored as finalists. In the extra large category behind Carrollton City Schools were Brasfield and Gorrie, one of the country's largest privately-held construction companies, followed by the Shepherd Center, the renowned medical/rehabilitation center specializing in spinal cord and brain injury treatment.

“

We are very pleased to be honored as a Best Places to Work. We are humbled to be among the incredible finalists in the Atlanta area and are very proud that this recognition validates our Board of Education's focus on employee wellbeing and our child-centered culture. While we work hard to recruit the best teachers and staff and have high expectations, we also strive to create a true family atmosphere.

# TEACHERS OF THE YEAR



**JESSICA DIETSCH**  
DISTRICT AND  
CARROLLTON ELEMENTARY  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**ALLISON AKINS**  
CARROLLTON UPPER ELEMENTARY  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



**JENNIFER SCHELP**  
CARROLLTON JR. HIGH  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR



**KIMBERLY COOPER**  
CARROLLTON HIGH SCHOOL  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR





# CARROLLTON CITY SCHOOLS RANKED 8th BY NICHE

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Carrollton City Schools ranked 8th in the 2018-2019 Niche.com rankings of the best public school districts in Georgia. This is the fifth consecutive year that Niche has released K-12 rankings with Carrollton City Schools included in the top tier in Georgia all years.

"We are honored to once again be near the top in this prestigious ranking system," said Dr. Mark Albertus, superintendent of Carrollton City Schools. "While there are other tools available to gauge the effectiveness of schools, this is another one parents should consider in their deliberate search for the best place to educate their children. We are humbled once again to be a part of this list."

Niche.com's release includes new rankings for all types of K-12 schools nationwide, including more than 10,000 public school districts. The rankings combine rigorous analysis of data from the U.S. and state Departments of Education for factors like academics, teachers, culture & diversity and more with millions of reviews from students and parents about their local schools.





## BORDERS NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Jim Borders became the 16th recipient of the Carrollton High School Distinguished Alumni Award at the school's annual Honors Night.

Borders is a 1979 graduate of Carrollton High School and a second-generation Trojan. Borders first demonstrated his leadership ability as a Carrollton High School student and continued down a deliberate path that included significant stops along the way – first as a mechanical engineering graduate from Georgia Tech, to the University of Georgia where he simultaneously earned a juris doctor degree and MBA that prepped him for a career with the prestigious Atlanta law firm King & Spalding.

Borders is president and CEO of Novare Group, a firm that has evolved from investing in self-storage facilities and office buildings when it was founded in 1992 to the development of apartments and condominiums and adaptive reuse of existing buildings. In 2002, the company entered a partnership to develop its first high-rise project, Metropolis, which has been widely credited with sparking residential demand that helped transform Midtown Atlanta. The company has continued to focus its activity on high-rise mixed-use communities and has developed more than 12,900 multifamily units in 39 high-rise buildings in major markets across the country.

Borders serves on several business and development boards, including Brand Properties, the Buckhead Coalition, Midtown Alliance, Central Atlanta Progress, Georgia Advanced Technology Ventures, Tanner Medical Foundation, and is a trustee of the Georgia Tech Foundation. He has been recognized three times with lifetime achievement awards, most recently by the Urban Land Institute in 2015. Under Borders' leadership, Novare Group has been recognized with two ULI Project of the Year Awards and three Projects of Excellence.



# CHS STUDENTS TAKE STATE



**CHS CHEERLEADING  
AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONS**

**PAYTON PHILLIPS  
AAAAA STATE CHAMPION  
POLE VAULT**



**STATE LITERARY  
AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONS  
GIRLS TRIO**

**JROTC CyberPatriots  
STATE CHAMPIONS**





# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS PROTECT & BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

They're out and about every school day canvassing the campus, executing their duties with professional skill and diligence. As official patrol officers with the Carrollton Police Department, they are charged not only to protect and serve, but to build relationships with students.

"Carrollton City Schools is fortunate to have these three public safety professionals as full-time school resource officers," said Dr. Mark Albertus, superintendent.

"Our commitment to safety is paramount," he said. "We are grateful to the Carrollton Police Department and the Carrollton City Council for joining our Board of Education in supporting this important safety initiative."

Albertus noted it is difficult for school systems to experience the depth of SRO support realized in Carrollton, primarily because of distance between school campuses. Since all Carrollton City Schools are on one contiguous campus, within seconds, all three SROs could be at a site in the case of an emergency.

The three officers, Justin Cardell, Jerric Gilbert and Amanda Moore, are assigned to specific schools during the school day. The veteran SRO, Moore, serves Carrollton Middle School and Carrollton Junior High. Cardell is the SRO for Carrollton High School. Gilbert has become somewhat of a celebrity at Carrollton Elementary School, where he has even been seen playing tag with students and reading to classrooms.

Cardell, and the other SROs, see their roles as critical mission.

"Society tells us to fear the police," said Cardell. "We want to show these kids that we love and support them. We want to be able to be a resource to whatever they may need and to let them know they can come to us with any problem they may be facing in life."



# CHS CODING TEAM EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

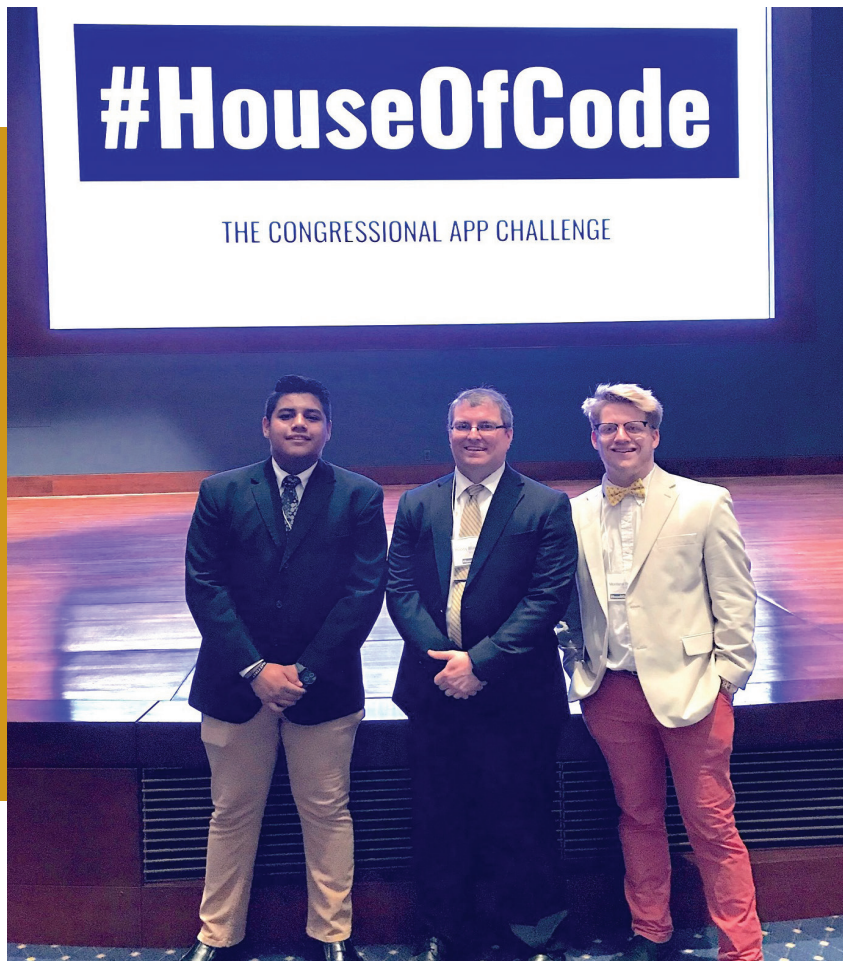
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A team of two Carrollton High School students were among 90 teams selected nationwide as winners in the 2018 Congressional App Challenge, an initiative of the U.S. House of Representatives to encourage middle and high school students to learn to code and consider pursuing careers in computer science.

Senior Montana Freeman and junior Michael Mendez created an app called CHS Exam Hub, a tool designed to help high school students study for college entrance exams with a focus on vocabulary. The duo created both iOS and Android versions of the app.

Michael said the informational portion of the app gives students quick access to testing dates and deadlines for the SAT and the ACT. "This part of the coding was relatively easy," he said. "Creating the vocabulary functionality was the harder part."

Michael initially created the app for Android products, but Montana saw the need for Apple devices, too. "A large part of the student body uses iPhones," said Montana. "This way, everyone can use it." Both are available for free on Google Play for the Android and the App Store for the iOS versions.





# SPREADING KINDNESS LIKE CONFETTI

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CJHS engaged parents and students during the school year when eighth grader Gracey Whipple approached the school's leadership with a mission to spread love and kindness every day. Parents and students began discussing plans to launch the idea which soon transformed into a school-wide initiative named "Project Kindness." Students painted motivational sayings on the walls of CJHS and surprised students when they returned to school on a Monday morning to halls of color and words of encouragement. Gracey's Project Kindness team then distributed bracelets to classmates that said "You matter" and "#ProjectKindness." Students, parents, and staff have embraced the mission and continue to encourage kindness within the halls of the school and beyond.



# LEADING THE WAY COMMUNITY



## CREEK WEEK 2019

The Carrollton City Schools unique partnership with stream restoration engineering firm C.S. Britton Inc. and the University of West Georgia was featured in a national publication highlighting the district creek project and its impact on student learning. Students participated in a two-day expo in the Spring to explore Buffalo Creek and learn about the ongoing project.

## CES LEMONADE STAND-OFF

CES held the 2nd annual Lemonade Stand-off at the Carrollton AMP. Community Businesses provided lessons to students on stand design, marketing, and pricing prior to the event. Ms. Nancy Smith's class won the contest with their lemonade concoction named "Spaceonade".



## HOMECOMING 2019

Homecoming 2018 left all who participated in the various festivities with immense pride in the Trojan Nation. Thousands of spectators joined together on campus for the Homecoming parade and over 52,000 watched the Trojan Marching Band's iconic performance of "Battle Hymn of the Republic" go viral after Friday night's game.

## WE WISH UPON A CURE

Employees showed their support for Relay for Life in April raising over \$10,000 for the cause. More than 100 staff volunteered at the event and helped raise awareness throughout the year at their schools.





# SOUTHWIRE FOOD PANTRY DONATION



Last summer, Southwire's Carrollton facilities collected more than 2,500 food items for the Carrollton City Schools' food pantry, which is dedicated to providing food for the students living in poverty throughout the Carrollton community.

According to Carrollton City Schools, more than 300 children in the city of Carrollton were identified as homeless throughout the 2017-2018 school year, and more than 60 percent of Carrollton Elementary and Middle School students qualified for free or reduced lunch. Understanding the need in the Carrollton community, the food pantry is especially focused on meeting the needs of students on extended holidays and during summer vacation. The collection was led by Southwire's Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) initiative as a partnership with Southwire's Project GIFT®.

**Members of the CJHS BROTHERS club collected over 1,000 items to support families in need during the holidays.**





# LITERACY WITHOUT LIMITS

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Seven literacy initiatives under way at Carrollton City Schools are ramping up the school system's priority of putting literacy at the forefront of school improvement efforts. "Literacy Without Limits" is an initiative funded through grant resources earmarked for innovative efforts to boost literacy beyond classroom instruction. Karen Wild, director of School Improvement, applied for the grant funding to bring to fruition creative approaches to try to reach students – and their parents – on their own home turf.

"The ability to read and write provides limitless opportunities, but lacking those skills greatly hinders a person's potential and prospects," said Wild. "Low literacy has individual consequences such as lower quality of life and societal consequences such as slow economic growth. Knowing this, we are determined to do something about it here in our hometown. Wild said community partnerships are essential in this effort. Each of the seven programs are led by school literacy specialists and teachers in the Aspiring Leaders program, and receive support from appropriate community partners for particular programs. One of these programs is Barbers, Beauticians & BOOKS! CES and CMS teachers provide three sessions of support for families over three months, meeting at a unique venue – barber and beauty shops. Teacher leaders provide information and modeling with parents of CCS students in making conversations count and enhancing the reading experience. Children are provided free haircuts and styling as well as support from school staff with literacy games and activities that promote literacy growth. Books and materials are distributed to participants.

Partnering with the school system is Jacqueline Bridges of Elaine's Styles & More and Darrell Gamble of D'Styles Barbershop.





## A TROJAN TALE

A book celebrating the “City of Dreams” had a fairytale journey of its own, produced through a collaborative effort of children – and a few adults – who call Carrollton home.

The book collaboration began last school year to develop and ultimately publish a children’s book to distribute free to Carrollton children to promote literacy efforts in the home, said Karen Wild, director of School Improvement.

The book focuses on the adventures of Troy, the Carrollton City Schools pet dog, as he travels to the key places in Carrollton looking for his friends in a playful game of hide-and-seek.

The book was the brainchild of Ian Lyle, an assistant principal at Carrollton High School. Carrollton Elementary teacher Chaleen Sceals led the team in authoring the story, and students at each of the schools played a role in writing the book: CES students wrote information captions for the photos; Carrollton Upper Elementary students provided sketches for the dog character; Carrollton Junior High students provided sketches for the human characters and photos of the key places in Carrollton; and CHS art and graphic design students finalized character sketches, created a map of Carrollton, and coordinated the digital design of the book.

The book will be distributed to parents of newborn children via Tanner Health System and to prekindergarten students in Carrollton City Schools. Other copies will be provided in literacy initiative giveaways.

Assisting in the development of the book were teachers Jake Richardson, Abbie Driver, Jamie Tuggle, Mandy Maierhofer, Kaley Blankinship, Sceals, Kristina Bivins, and John Megathlin.

“Being a part of the Tiny Trojans Project has been quite rewarding,” said Sceals. “It is not very often you get to work on a project where teachers and students from all levels, even all the way down to our tiniest Trojans, get to collaborate on a project that will benefit our community.”



# LEADING THE WAY TO THE FUTURE

## FOUNDATION LAUNCHES GOLDEN GIVING CAMPAIGN

Carrollton City Schools families and supporters have a golden opportunity to support the school district in a way that has never been pursued before through the launch of the Carrollton City Schools Education Foundation Golden Giving Campaign. The campaign is an Annual Fund effort to grow the foundation's general endowment that supports a variety of initiatives to promote student success, such as instructional grants for teachers, other programs not supported through state or local funding, and a new enrichment initiative that currently provides more field trip experiences for students with a long-term goal to support potential study abroad opportunities in the future.

The Golden Giving Campaign has three tiers of support: Golden Givers, supporters who give to the foundation and its programs on an annual basis through the Golden Giving Campaign; Golden Investors, donors who support the foundation through legacy giving such as estate planning and other planned and endowed giving opportunities; and Golden Ambassadors, district employees who support the foundation through the Employee Giving Program. Currently, 65 percent of employees invest a portion of their salary to the foundation annually.

"Over the past year, our Board of Directors has been focused on strengthening our strategic plan and developing long-term goals," said Chuck Harper, president. "As an annual campaign, Golden Giving will become the foundation of support that will sustain us for generations." To learn more, visit [www.cfwg.net/ccs/](http://www.cfwg.net/ccs/).







## LOOKING AHEAD

The third phase of the construction plan for Carrollton High School, which includes the new cafeteria, performance learning center, and additional classrooms, including state-of-the-art career labs, opened for the 2019-2020 school year. The rest of the project is expected to be complete in the Fall of 2019 with the opening of the auxiliary gym and indoor facility. All is part of a three-phase project budgeted at \$35 million. In March 2015, voters cast their ballots on whether the school system should issue \$25 million worth of bonds in order to construct a new school building for Carrollton High, among other projects. Nearly 87 percent of voters said yes. Voters then approved continuing the education special purpose local option sales tax referendum that provided relief from the property tax bond which allowed the new high school to be built without a property tax increase on local residents.





**79% of Carrollton High School 2019 graduates  
are attending college at the following institutions:**

Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University  
Alabama State University  
Albany State University  
Andrew College  
Art Institute of Atlanta  
ASA Miami  
Atlanta Institute of Music and Media  
Auburn University  
Auburn University at Montgomery  
Augusta University  
Belmont University  
Benedict College  
Berry College  
Boston University  
Brenau University  
Brewton-Parker College  
Brigham Young University  
Bryan College  
Clark Atlanta University  
Clemson University  
College of Charleston  
College of Coastal Georgia  
Columbus State University  
Dalton State College  
East Georgia State College  
Emerson College  
Emmanuel College  
Erwin Technical School  
Faithful Guardian Training Center  
Florida State University  
Fort Valley State University  
George Washington University  
Georgia College and State University  
Georgia Gwinnett College  
Georgia Highlands College  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Georgia Southern University  
Georgia Southwestern State University  
Georgia State University

Gordon State College  
Hampton University  
Hiram College  
Hollins University  
Howard University  
Hutchinson Community College  
Ithaca College  
Jacksonville State University  
Kennesaw State University  
LaGrange College  
Louisiana State University  
Marymount Manhattan College  
Mercer University  
Methodist University  
Middle Georgia State University  
Mississippi State University  
Morehouse College  
Murray State University  
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University  
North Carolina Central University  
Oglethorpe University  
Oxford College of Emory University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Piedmont College  
Point University  
Presbyterian College  
Regent University  
Reinhardt University  
Rhodes College  
Samford University  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Savannah State University  
Shorter University  
Southern Adventist University  
Southern Union State Community College  
Spelman College  
Sweet Briar College  
Syracuse University

Tennessee Wesleyan University  
The Citadel  
Truett - McConnell College  
Tuskegee University  
University of Alabama  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
University of Alabama at Huntsville  
University of Coastal Georgia  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Dayton  
University of East London  
University of Georgia  
University of Kentucky  
University of Miami  
University of Mississippi  
University of Missouri  
University of Montevallo  
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill  
University of North Georgia  
University of Pikeville  
University of Portland  
University of San Francisco  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
University of Tampa  
University of Tennessee  
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga  
University of West Alabama  
University of West Georgia  
Utah State University  
Valdosta State University  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington and Lee University  
West Georgia Technical College  
Western Carolina University  
Wingate University  
Wofford College  
Xavier University of Louisiana