



ATLANTA
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

UPPER SCHOOL
Family Guide
2024 - 2025

Table of Contents

Calendar	1
Leadership	3
Need Help?	5
Health/Counseling	6
Lunch	8
Carpool/ Parking	9
Uniforms	11
Academics	13
Student Culture	17
School Communication	24
Useful Links	25

2024-2025 Calendar

August 14	First Day of School
September 2	School Closed - Labor Day
October 11-14	School Closed - Fall Break
October 15	Asynchronous Day/Parent Teacher Conference
November 25-29	School Closed- Thanksgiving Break
December 16-20	Semester 1 Final Exam Week
December 20	Early Dismissal (12:30 L.S./ 1:00 U.S.)
December 23-January 2	School Closed - Winter Break
January 20	School Closed- MLK Jr. Day
February 6	Early Dismissal (12:30 L.S./ 1:00 U.S.)
Febraury 17	School Closed - President's Day
March 14	Early Dismissal (12:30 L.S./ 1:00 U.S.)
March 17	School Closed
April 7-11	Spring Break School Closed
May 27-30	Semester 2 Final Exam Week
May 30	Last Day of School -Early Dismissal (12:30 L.S./ 1:00 U.S.)



Mission

The mission of Atlanta Classical Academy is to develop students in mind and character through a classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes the principles of virtuous living, traditional learning, and civic responsibility.

Vision

The vision of Atlanta Classical Academy is to be a nationally regarded K-12 classical school and serve as a local and national incubator for the growth and promotion of classical education.

Virtues

Courage, Courtesy, Honesty, Humility, Perseverance, Self-Government, Service

Pledge

"I will learn the true. I will do the good. I will love the beautiful."

UPPER SCHOOL Leadership



Mr. Josh Andrew

HEAD OF SCHOOL

jandrew@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Aaron Schepps

UPPER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

aschepps@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Ian Nugent

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

inugent@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Bryan Franklin

DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS

bfranklin@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Manny Reed

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

ireed@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Ashley Meyer

DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC RESOURCES
AND COLLEGE COUNSELING

ameyer@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Claire Marie Huff

DEAN OF STUDENT LIFE - GIRLS

cmhuff@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Garrett Holt

DEAN OF STUDENT LIFE - BOYS

gholt@atlantaclassical.org



Ms. Kristy Younker

DEAN OF CULTURE - GRADES 7-8

kyounker@atlantaclassical.org

Need help?

Name	Position	Email
Mrs. Tarra Thompson	Receptionist	tthompson@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. LaNeish Holland	Nurse	lholland@atlantaclassical.org
Dr. Carolyn Jerdan	Counselor	cjerdan@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Rachel Boyd	MTSS/504 Coordinator	rboyd@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Amy Nash	Special Education Lead Teacher	anash@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Masheed Hundley	Enrollment/Registration Coordinator	mhundley@atlantaclassical.org



Main School Line:
404-369-3500

All ACA staff can be reached through the main school line but pre-arranged phone calls are preferable in non-emergency situations.

Cavalier Health

Health History

For everyone's health and safety, it is very important for our school nurses to be aware of each student's health history. Parents should thoroughly review and complete the Health History on SchoolMint.

When To Stay Home From School

A child kept home or sent home with a fever may not return to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications like Tylenol or Motrin. Children with vomiting or diarrhea should be kept home for 24 hours after symptoms have stopped.

Medication

Students cannot receive medication (Prescription or OTC) until parents fill out the Administration of Medication/Medical Procedure (form 7) located on the school website and in SchoolMint.

Students cannot carry medication (Prescription or OTC) and it must be kept in the school clinic. There is an exception for lifesaving, emergency medications like EpiPens or rescue inhalers.

The school does not provide medication including Tylenol and Benadryl.



Mrs. LaNeish Holland

SCHOOL NURSE

lholland@atlantaclassical.org

health@atlantaclassical.org

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's health, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse by phone or email.

404-369-3500 ext. 4

Cavalier Health

Counseling

The Counseling Department is dedicated to serving the individual needs of each student.

Our school counselors are available for one-on-one or small group meetings to address specific needs. Topics addressed include effective communication skills, decision-making, self-control, conflict resolution, empathy and goal setting.



Dr. Carolyn Jerdan

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

cjerdan@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Rachael Boyd

MTSS/504 COORDINATOR

rboyd@atlantaclassical.org

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's health, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jerdan or Mrs. Boyd by phone or email. To meet with one or both in person, please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

404-369-3500 ext. 4

School Lunch



Ordering Lunch

Atlanta Classical Academy provides school lunches through Chef Advantage. Please note that orders must be placed by 9:00 a.m. the day before lunch service in order to ensure your child receives their lunch.



Visit chefadvantage.boonli.com/login to order.
School ordering code: ACALunch9

NEW PARENTS:

1. Visit chefadvantage.boonli.com/login
2. Click on "Register"
3. School Password is: acalunch9

Guidelines

Students are not required to order lunch through the school and are welcome to bring their own lunches from home each day.

Please note that students are not permitted to order food through meal delivery services such as UberEats or DoorDash.



For more information about school lunches or to place lunch orders, **scan the QR code.**

Carpool

DROPOFF

Morning drop-off **begins at 7:30 a.m.** Please do not drop off your child before this time.

PICKUP

Upper School Pickup begins at **3:25 p.m.**

Upper school students and their siblings should be picked up by **3:50 p.m**

EARLY CHECK-OUT NOTE

Students may not be checked out after **2:15 p.m.**



All cars in the afternoon carpool line must have an Atlanta Classical Academy carpool hangtag visible on the rearview mirror. Please contact **transportation@atlantaclassical.org** if you did not receive a hangtag.

11th and 12th-grade licensed student drivers may apply for parking by contacting Mr. Nugent, assistant principal **inugent@atlantaclassical.org**. Parking for student drivers is located off campus. A registered bus driver will drive students to campus each morning and bring them back to their cars in the afternoon.



Enter the car line by heading eastbound on Moors Mill Road and making a right turn into campus. Join the carpool line by pulling as far to the right as possible and turning on your hazard lights.

Carpool Contacts

Topic	Email
Carpool Hangtag	transportation@atlantaclassical.org
Riding Home with Someone Else	transportation@atlantaclassical.org
Pickup Child Early	dismissal@atlantaclassical.org
Parking Inquiries	inugent@atlantaclassical.org

Uniforms

Educational Outfitters

Purchase uniform and Spirit Wear items through our uniform supplier, Educational Outfitters. Items may be purchased online or in-store. We encourage families to try on uniform items in-store before purchasing.

7th-8th Grade School Day Uniform



9th-12th Grade School Day Uniform



9th-10th Grade Formal Uniform



11th-12th Grade Formal Uniform



Used Uniform Sale

The used uniform store will be open periodically throughout the year. During these sales, families can purchase used uniform items at a discount. Donations for the store are accepted at the front office, through donation drives, and during the sales. Donors can choose a voucher to use in the used uniform store or a donation receipt.

Grades 7-8		Grades 9-12	Notes
School Day Attire	<p>Boys: Khaki pants, ACA polo, khaki shorts*</p> <p>Girls: Navy box pleat skirt OR Navy flat front pants, ACA polo</p>	<p>Boys: Khaki Pants, ACA navy logo polo shirt</p> <p>Girls: Plaid box pleat skirt OR Navy/Gray flat front pants, ACA polo</p>	<p>Leggings or tights are optional under skirts</p> <p>Brown leather belt (solid or braided) must be worn with pants</p> <p>7th and 8th grade boys may wear shorts during August-September and April-May</p> <p>Shorts are not permitted for boys in grades 9-12</p>
Formal Day Attire	N/A	<p>Boys: Khaki pants, White long-sleeved Oxford shirt, ACA tie</p> <p>Girls: Plaid box pleat skirt, Fitted white long-sleeved Oxford shirt with ACA logo</p> <p>Grades 11-12 ONLY: Navy blazer with ACA logo</p>	<p>Required every Wednesday and at some school events</p> <p>Students may not wear Cavalier hoodies on formal uniform days</p>
Physical Education	Branded PE Uniform	Branded PE Uniform	Purchase at Educational Outfitters



To view all uniform boards, including guidelines regarding outerwear and footwear, scan the QR code.

High School Courses

	9th	10th
English	Composition Classical Literature	British Literature
Mathematics	Algebra I Geometry	Geometry Algebra II
Science	Biology	Chemistry AP Biology
History	Western Civilization I	Western Civilization II
World Languages	Latin III Spanish I	Latin IV Spanish II
Other	Personal Fitness/Health	Moral Philosophy Art Appreciation

	11th	12th
English	American Literature	Modern European Literature
Mathematics	Algebra II Precalculus	Precalculus, Calculus, AP Calculus BC
Science	AP Chemistry Physics	AP Physics Anatomy & Physiology AP CS Principles AP CSA
History	American History	Modern European History
World Languages	Latin V AP Latin	Latin VI Spanish IV
Other	American Government Political Philosophy	Economics Lessons in Wonder

Electives & AP Offerings

Below is a sample of elective and AP offerings for students in grades 9-12. If you have any questions about the course selection process, please direct them to Ms. Holley at dholley@atlantaclassical.org.

ELECTIVES

- Personal Finance
- Examining The Teaching Profession
- Pre-Columbian History of Georgia
- Creative Writing
- Existentialist Philosophy
- Yearbook
- Problems in/Principles of Engineering
- The Art of Public Speaking
- Other Voices
- Introduction to Film
- Applied Philosophy
- Introduction to Linguistics

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Calculus BC
- Computer Science Principles (Independent Study)
- Computer Science A (Independent Study)
- Latin

Notes on the ACA Course Catalog

The AP sequence:

AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, and AP Latin

Though we have not elected to offer all of our core curriculum in AP format, we have created a sequence of AP courses that students may begin to take in their sophomore year of high school. The six 'AP' offerings are a robust sequence for students who begin pursuing this route in 10th grade.

ACA's unique 0.5 credit requirements:

Composition (9th grade), Moral Philosophy (10th), A Survey of the Fine Arts (10th), Political Philosophy (11th), American Government (11th), and Lessons in Wonder (12th)

Humanities courses have historically been a strength at Atlanta Classical and we have recruited talented teachers in corresponding fields. This sequence of unique required courses ensures that students are close readers, nuanced thinkers, and excellent writers. These courses are essential to our aim of ordering the affections of our students.

College Counseling

Faculty



Mrs. Ashley Meyer

DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC RESOURCES
AND COLLEGE COUNSELING
ameyer@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Sarah Dollacker

COLLEGE ADVISOR
sdollacker@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Kayla Beth Moore

COLLEGE WRITING ADVISOR
kmoore@atlantaclassical.org

College Counseling

Timeline

9th Grade

- 9th Grade College Night
- 10th Grade Parent Coffees
- Administer MAP Tests

10th Grade

- 10th Grade College Night
- 10th Grade Parent Coffee
- Administer PSAT 10
- College visits at ACA (30+)

11th Grade

- PSAT/NMSQT at ACA (Fall)
- 11th Grade College Night
- Mock Admissions Night
- College Fairs: KIPP/Marist, North Atlanta
- College Visits at ACA (30+)
- 1:1 Meetings with College Advisor
- SAT at ACA (Spring)
- ACT at ACA (Spring)
- Family College Counseling Meeting (Spring)
- Weekly newsletters: Scholarship Spotlight, College Corner, News
- Junior Workshops:
 - Match & Fit: Creating a College List
 - Naviance, Common App, Teacher Recommendations
 - Career + Major Discernment
 - Personal Statement: What is it?
 - Personal Statement: Refinement
 - Scholarships + Summer Checklist

12th Grade

- Common Application Boot Camp in August
- College Kickoff Day
- 12th Grade College Night
- KIPP/Marist Fair (invitation only)
- Financial Aid Night / FAFSA Fest
- College Visits at ACA
- College Workshops (Fall)
- Weekly newsletters
- College Lab
- Individual Senior/Parent Meetings with Advisor (ongoing)
- Scholarship Challenge
- "Decision Day" Celebration
- Graduation!

Student Culture



Trips & Retreats

- 7th/8th Grade Retreat to Camp Highland
- 9th Grade Retreat to North Georgia
- 10th Grade Mercer Tour and Arcade Trip
- Annual Cav Choir Trip
- 11th Grade Washington DC Trip
- 12th Grade Savannah Trip
- Senior Week Trip to Chattanooga

Friday Cav Period

7th and 8th Grade: House Events and Competitions

9th and 10th Grade: Cav Choir

11th Grade: Community Building with Faculty and College Application Work

12th Grade: College Application Work and Senior Thesis

Field Trips

9th Grade: Biology Field Trip to Blue Heron Nature Preserve

10th Grade: Architectural Tour of Christ the King Cathedral, Play at Shakespeare Tavern

11th Grade: Trip to Flannery O'Connor's House & Georgia College Tour

12th Grade: Hiking Kennesaw Mountain with the Principals



R&R Weekends



Once per quarter, we mark a weekend on which we do not give homework to high school students. Scan the QR code to view the ACA calendar which includes the R&R schedule.

Student Clubs

The Upper School activities program includes a diverse and dynamic array of clubs, student organizations and extracurricular activities.

Students can initiate new clubs with a faculty sponsor.



Selection of current clubs:

Banned Books Club	Dead Poets Society	Chess Club
Quiz Bowl	Croquet Club	Pickelball Club
Airplane and Rocketry Club	History Day Club	Grill Club
Girl Talk	Fit Club	Mock Trial Club

Student Government Association



Atlanta Classical Academy's Student Government Association (SGA) is an institution of student leadership for students in 9th-12th grade. SGA exists "to foster our school culture, represent student sentiment, cultivate the school virtues, serve the local and school community, and promote school morale and camaraderie" (SGA Constitution Preamble).

Students vote their representatives and leaders into office after which they are responsible for representing student needs, concerns, and petitions to the school leadership. They are further responsible for organizing and hosting major school events such as Homecoming, Prom, service projects, and school-wide fundraisers.

Serving on student government is an honor as much as it is a weighty responsibility and a unique opportunity for students to grow their skill in leadership.

Fine Arts



Atlanta Classical's Fine Arts department is committed to ensuring that every ACA student has the opportunity to appreciate, perform, and create art of all kinds.

Students in grades 7-8 have a daily Fine Arts period built into their schedule and participate in their grade-level choir one day a week. The Cav Choir, made up of the entire 9th-10th grade classes, meet weekly during Cav Period. As a graduation requirement, students must take a Fine Arts connection class in 10th grade. All Upper School students may participate in a Fine Arts elective. This year, ACA is relaunching the Visual Arts Scholar Program for high school students desiring to dive deeper into specific areas of art instruction.

Upper School Fine Arts elective offerings:

- Middle School and High School Studio Art Elective
- Visual Arts Scholars Program (9th - 12th grades)
- Middle and High School Theatre
- 9th-12th Grade Select Choir
- Choir Ensemble
- Strings Ensemble



Athletics



Athletics at ACA provide opportunities for student-athletes to become virtuous citizens. Students and coaches set goals and adhere to them even when faced with obstacles. Students learn that sport requires courage. The spirit of sport is challenge: the greater the challenge, the greater the victory.

7th and 8th grade competes in the Metro Atlanta Athletic Conference (MAAC). 6th grade students may be invited to participate in select sports each year.



High School teams compete within Georgia High School Association (GHSA) in Region 5 Class A.

Fall

Cross Country
Boys Soccer (6-8)
Girls Volleyball
Competitive Cheer

Winter

Cross Country
Boys Soccer (6-8)
Girls Volleyball
Competitive Cheer

Spring

Track
Girls Soccer
Boys Soccer (9-12)
Boys Baseball
Golf

In order to try out for any sport at ACA, students must go through the following process:

- **Register through MyPaymentsPlus** to receive all relevant information and updates about tryouts. To create an account for MyPaymentsPlus visit mypaymentsplus.com/welcome
- Before tryouts, parents must complete **all forms and waivers** and have an **updated GHSA physical on file** through PRIVIT. For PRIVIT access, scan the QR code to the right. No hard copies of physicals will be accepted.
- NEW Policy: Physicals that expire during the season must be updated **within 7 days of the expiration date**. Players must have current physicals for the length of the season. Athletes will be pulled from practices and games if their physicals are not updated.



Scan to access PRIVIT

House System



The House System at ACA is for students in grades 6-8. Upon entering 6th grade, each student is sorted into one of four houses: Alexandria, Carthage, Constantinople, or Damascus. The House System is designed to create a sense of community, foster camaraderie, and provide opportunities for leadership and growth.

Each house seeks to win the house cup at the end of the year by accumulating the most house points. House points are awarded for acts of virtue to individual students and to houses for winning weekly competitions. Not only does the winning house receive a prize for being victorious, but the student with the most individual points at the end of the year also receives a prize.

Get Involved



Parent Teacher Community Association

The Parent Teacher Community Association (PTCA) exists to support school leadership in carrying out the mission of our school. It is an integral part of the life of the school.

The PTCA is involved in many aspects of our school, from classroom-level support to school-wide events. It is led by two co-presidents who support each volunteer team and facilitate communications between volunteer teams and school administration.

Through the PTCA, committed parents and community members help our school flourish!

If you would like to serve on a PTCA team, please email ptca@atlantaclassical.org



Volunteer Clearance

Whether you volunteer as a mystery reader, a field trip chaperone, or anything in between, all volunteers must clear Level 2 training in order to engage with volunteering at Atlanta Classical. To gain clearance, volunteers must watch two training videos and complete a Google form about what you learned. The process should take 15 minutes or fewer to complete.

Once you have watched both videos and completed the form, you will be cleared to perform supervised volunteering on and off campus.

NOTE: If you sign up for unsupervised volunteer opportunities, you must complete additional steps.



To access the training package,
scan the QR code.

Communications Channels

Channel	Description
Infinite Campus	Parents can access their student's class schedules, attendance records and grades; and update their contact information through Infinite Campus, Atlanta Public School's (APS) student information and communication system.
SchoolMint	SchoolMint is the online enrollment platform the school uses for the lottery application and the annual re-enrollment process for all students. It is also where medical forms and health history forms are found.
ParentSquare	A communications app where teachers communicate with their class and parents. The school will send reminders and communicate grade-specific information.
MyPaymentsPlus	Payment system for meals, fees and activities.
PRIVIT	Prior to athletic tryouts, parents must complete all forms and waivers, and have an updated physical on file through PRIVIT. No hard copies will be accepted.
Mr. Andrew's Weekly Zoom Call	Head of School, Mr. Andrew, hosts a weekly Zoom call relaying important updates in the life of the school.
Direct Email	Direct school correspondence in the form of email from school personnel to parents.
Legenda and Chronicle	The Legenda is a weekly, forward looking email highlighting all- school news and upcoming events. The Chronicle is a monthly email that reflects on significant events and stories from our school community.
TeamSnap	Once a student-athlete joins an ACA team, parents will be added to TeamSnap for communication regarding practices, schedules, and more.
Social Media	Find ACA on Facebook and Instagram @atlantaclassicalacademy for a look inside a day of an ACA student.

Useful Links

Topic	Website Link
Faculty and Staff Directory	www.atlantaclassical.org/home/faculty-staff-directory
Nurse and Counselor Forms	www.atlantaclassical.org/school-nurse
Academic, Athletic and School Calendars	www.atlantaclassical.org/calendars
Arrival, Dismissal and Car Pool	www.atlantaclassical.org/arrival-dismissal
School Forms	www.atlantaclassical.org/enrollment/school-forms
Uniforms	www.atlantaclassical.org/uniforms
School Lunch	www.atlantaclassical.org/school-lunch
Infinite Campus Information	www.atlantaclassical.org/infinite-campus
School Mint Information	www.atlantaclassical.org/schoolmint
PTCA	www.atlantaclassical.org/who-we-are
Cavalier Fund	www.atlantaclassical.org/cavalier-fund
College Counseling	www.atlantaclassical.org/academics/college-counseling



404.369.3500 | atlantaclassical.org