

The Cherokee County School District (CCSD) is recognized as one of the top school districts in Georgia; its students, schools and staff routinely receive state and national recognition for programs and performance. While the majority of students (more than 90%) attend a neighborhood school, there are many opportunities for school choice in Cherokee County.

School Reassignment within CCSD

Parents in Cherokee County can apply for school reassignment between February 1 and March 1 each year. Information is posted on the CCSD website February 1 of each year, with all necessary documents and the list of schools with space available (18 schools are open for the 2025-26 school year) to accommodate additional students. Transportation is not provided for students who receive a reassignment. Parents should be aware that high school students may lose eligibility under Georgia High School Association rules for Varsity-level athletics under this type of transfer.

Cherokee Academies

CCSD currently operates five STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Academies, one Fine Arts Academy and one STEAM (STEM + Arts) Academy. Students at these schools have a more integrated curriculum focused on STEM or Fine Arts, or both; openings for reassignment at a STEM, STEAM or Fine Arts Academy vary annually. Parents will follow the same reassignment procedures for the Academies as noted above, with the same forms and same window of February 1–March 1. Academy assignments are subject to space availability. Please check the Open Schools list for reassignments.

OPEN FOR 2025-26 REASSIGNMENT REQUESTS

ELEMENTARY

- Arnold Mill ES
- Ball Ground ES STEM Academy
- Bascomb ES
- Boston ES
- Carmel ES
- Free Home ES
- Holly Springs ES STEM Academy
- Indian Knoll ES
- Knox ES STEM Academy
- Liberty ES
- Macedonia ES
- Mountain Road ES
- Oak Grove ES STEAM Academy
- Sixes ES

MIDDLE

- Freedom MS
- Woodstock MS

HIGH

- River Ridge HS
- Sequoyah HS

For additional information, please see the Reassignment documents located on the CCSD website at <https://www.cherokeek12.net/forms-updates>

Almost 2,200 CCSD students are utilizing a school reassignment choice for 2024-25.



i-Grad

Virtual Academy

CCSD's i-Grad Virtual Academy launched in 2021 for Grades 9-12. Enrollment in i-Grad Virtual Academy is application based, and students are selected based on their ability to succeed in digital learning.

i-Grad students mostly work remotely, but are expected to attend some in-person assessments and learning activities. Families must provide their own transportation for these occasions. The in-person site is the i-Grad campus, which is part of the ACTIVE Academies campus in Canton.

The curriculum is a blend of Edgenuity lessons and teacher-developed lessons delivered through Canvas and Teams. Schedules will include core academics as well as non-core subjects. Students will need to have access at home to the internet and a laptop computer with camera and microphone.

Additional information, including daily learning expectations and applications, which require teacher recommendations, can be found online at <https://igrad.cherokeek12.net/application-and-enrollment>.

The application period for 2025-26 opens in April. Learn more about i-Grad at <https://igrad.cherokeek12.net/about>.




Additional High School Options

While the majority of high school students complete diploma requirements in a traditional setting, CCSD offers multiple avenues and settings to earn credit toward graduation and/or industry certifications:

- **C3: Cherokee College & Career Academy**— CCSD launched Cherokee College & Career Academy (C3) in 2022, offering high school students the opportunity to participate in unique Career Pathway

programs not offered on their school's campus. The program, which is housed at the ACTIVE Academies campus, currently offers classes in cybersecurity and aviation (unmanned aircraft systems and flight operations, with opportunities for students to earn FAA certification in small unmanned aircraft systems and pilot ground operations). Students travel to C3 for morning or afternoon career classes and spend the remainder of the day at their school's campus attending core classes. Find more information online at <https://igrad.cherokeek12.net/c3-academy>



- **ACE Academy**— an alternative learning environment for middle and high school students to work at their own pace. ACE operates during regular school hours; transportation is provided. 
- **Dual Enrollment**— Qualified high school students can earn high school and college credit simultaneously on a college campus through the Dual Enrollment program. Chattahoochee Technical College, Kennesaw State University and Reinhardt University are among the participating colleges. Find out more [here](#). CCSD deadline for fall semester 2025 is March 28, 2025.
- **Mountain Ed Charter High School**— CCSD partners with Mountain Education Charter High School to offer an evening high school program, which is housed on the Etowah High School campus. Mountain Ed offers students nightly meals, mentors and other supports to help them graduate as soon as possible. For information, [please visit the school website](#).



Consult your child's school counseling office for more information on any of these options.

Other Options

- **Home School:** the State Department of Education handles Home School enrollment and related paperwork. For information, please see the [GADOE website](#). About 2,680 Cherokee County students are registered as home schooled for 2024-25.
- **Private School:** there are a number of private schools located in and near Cherokee County. An estimated 2,500 Cherokee County students attend a private school, according to state data. No CCSD schools are on the state's low performing list that would qualify for families to use the My Georgia Promise voucher program.
- **Charter School:** There currently are no in-person charter schools operating in Cherokee County, with the exception of Mountain Ed Charter High School (which operates an evening program for high school students on the Etowah campus). There are several virtual options, and some schools in neighboring counties offer an attendance zone that includes Cherokee County.

How Do Cherokee County Schools Perform?

Cherokee County Schools enroll more than 41,700 students and consistently perform above State and National averages on all assessments. *Note: CCSD assessment information is posted on the [CCSD website](#) for the public to review and is updated throughout the year.*

- **2024 four-year graduation rate: 93.5%**
- **2024 HOPE eligible graduates: 59%**
- **2024 Advanced Placement (AP) pass rate: 82%**
- **CCSD graduates requiring remedial classes at University System of Georgia schools: 3%**

CCSD's district average SAT and ACT scores routinely rank it within the Top 10% of school districts in GA

2024-25 CCSD SCHOOL YEAR SNAPSHOT

41,811

Total number of CCSD students

Elementary	18,097
Middle	9,783
High	13,414
Preschool	517

SCHOOLS

Elementary	23
Middle	7
High	6
Virtual	1

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

American Indian	0.1%
Asian	3.0%
Black	8.1%
Hispanic	23.5%
Multi-Racial	5.8%

25,000

Students ride a CCSD bus each day

93.5% Class of 2024 HOPE Eligible
59% Class of 2024 Graduation Rate

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

5,790

Special Education Students

5,691

Gifted Students

3,959

English Language Learners

15,051

Receiving Free/Reduced Meals

3,557

Students with a 504 Plan

2,184

Students Utilizing School Choice

5,530

Employees

2,902

Certified Teachers

15

Average Years of Teaching Experience

\$76,500

Average Teaching Salary

2024 National Exams

	CCSD	GA	U.S.
ACT	22.5	21.2	19.4
SAT	1083	1030	995

82%

Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Pass Rate, CCSD Class of 2024

44

Career Pathways offered for students

% of CCSD graduates requiring remedial college classes

1.0% English **5.5%** Math

State average is 5.2% for English, 15.9% for Math

CCSD Public Schools Offer:

- ◇ Award-winning, high-achieving schools that consistently win region, state and national recognition and awards
- ◇ Cognia accreditation, and recognition as a District of Distinction— one of 38 in the world in 2022
- ◇ Cognia STEM accreditation for all seven middle schools, one high school and three elementary schools
- ◇ School Choice within the District; more than 2,200 students take advantage of school reassignment annually
- ◇ Elementary STEM, STEAM and Fine Arts Academies
- ◇ Professionally staffed and trained School Nurses
- ◇ Counselors at every school
- ◇ Certified School Police Department with 35 officers
- ◇ High school credit courses for advanced 8th graders, along with middle school world language
- ◇ Middle school band and chorus, plus intramural sports, basketball teams and cheer programs
- ◇ Affordable lunches and After School programs
- ◇ Nationally recognized classroom technology integration and teacher training
- ◇ Kindergarten paraprofessionals
- ◇ School-based Pre-K at select sites
- ◇ Full range of high school athletics, fine arts and academic competition teams/programs
- ◇ 33 AP courses offered; 82% of CCSD students achieved AP scores in 2024 to qualify for college credit
- ◇ AP STEM and STEM Achievement high schools
- ◇ Two state-certified STEM schools and one state-certified STEAM school
- ◇ Evening and online high school credit options
- ◇ Elected School Board members for fiscal/policy transparency, accountability and local control; accessible open meetings of the Board
- ◇ School Councils and PTAs at every school for parent input and participation
- ◇ Comprehensive website for parents and community, including online access to School Board agenda materials, financial reports, budget documents & test scores
- ◇ Access to 21st century technology in every CCSD school. . . including desktops, tablets, laptops and mobile devices, student response devices, interactive whiteboards, high speed and filtered internet access, research and curricular digital resources
- ◇ Opportunities for students to explore technology-enriched careers and/or fields of study including video broadcast, robotics, engineering, 3-D modeling, architecture and design, computer programming, as well as app and game development
- ◇ Teachers who have had and continue to have extensive and ongoing professional development experiences and opportunities that enrich student learning, innovation and creativity
- ◇ Canvas family portal for online access to student grades and assignments
- ◇ Student Portal for online access, e-mail accounts, free software programs and Cloud storage
- ◇ Online payment programs to check lunch account balances, apply funds and monitor purchases
- ◇ Active, open social media outlets for news and information, including Facebook, X and Instagram
- ◇ General Administration costs that rank among the lowest in Georgia
- ◇ High school world language options include French, German, Spanish and Latin. Additional offerings include Honors/AP French, Spanish and Latin. American Sign Language is an additional option in some schools.
- ◇ Average classroom teaching experience: 15 years; 73% of CCSD teachers have earned a master's, specialist or doctoral degree; annual teacher turnover of less than 10%.
- ◇ STEM elective for eighth-graders in robotics and design; STEM partnership with Georgia Institute of Technology
- ◇ Award-winning Farm to School program with fresh fruits and vegetables on school menus daily.