



# ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



**Columbia**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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1818 W. Worley Street  
Columbia, MO 65203

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POSTAL CUSTOMER**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



**Dr. Jeff Klein**

I am honored to serve as your superintendent as we celebrate another year of excellence in Columbia Public Schools. Our district's long-standing traditions of academic achievement, innovation, and community engagement continue to inspire and unite us as we mark our progress and look forward to an exciting future.

This past year, CPS scored 86.5% on the Missouri Annual Performance Report, placing us in the top 20 percent of all districts statewide and marking a 16-point increase over last year's results. These gains reflect the hard work of our students, educators, and community partners, and underscore our commitment to provide an excellent education for all students.

Our students also earn state and national accolades across academics, art, athletics, and beyond.

At CPS, every member of our community plays a crucial role in providing a high-quality education that prepares our students for success in college, careers, and life. To live our mission to be the best school district in the state also means being a district where professionals feel supported, students feel challenged, and families feel connected.

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments and the meaningful collaborations that have defined our work, I am deeply grateful for your trust and commitment to our shared vision. I truly believe CPS is the best place to learn and the best place to work.

Sincerely,

**“ I truly believe CPS  
is the best place to  
learn and the best  
place to work. ”**

*Superintendent*  
**Jeff Klein, Ph.D**

**GROWTH  
INNOVATION  
ACHIEVEMENT**

# ABOUT THE DISTRICT

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### PRESIDENT

John Lyman

### VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Harper

### MEMBERS

Alvin Cobbins

Erica Dickson

April Ferrao

Jeanne Snodgrass

Suzette Waters

Columbia Public Schools is the fourth largest school district in Missouri. It includes 21 elementary, seven middle, and four high schools, plus the Columbia Area Career Center, an early childhood education program, and the Boone County Nature School. Total enrollment is 18,779 students.

The school district is accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, citing such educational advantages as:

Comprehensive curriculum and services at all grade levels, preschool and adult

Exceptional programs for at-risk students and students with special needs

Extensive middle school and high school course offerings

Award-winning career education programs designed for all students

Successful community partnerships and volunteer programs

Significant emphasis on staff development and school improvement efforts

Student performance on the ACT and SAT exams exceed state and national averages. In 2024, 84 percent of graduates took the ACT. Additionally, of the 1,113 students taking advanced placement courses in 2024, more than 82 percent earned college credit.

Our district's teachers represent the primary reason Columbia's schools and students are so successful. While 68.1 percent of teachers hold a master's degree, 280 staff hold a professional certification, and educators average 13.2 years of professional experience.

The community understands the importance of maintaining a high-quality educational program. Most recently, bond issues were passed in 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020 and 2022. A tax levy increase received voter approval in 1999, 2003, 2012 and 2016.

Columbia Public Schools is also ranked as a top 10 district for exemplary and innovative use of technology by the National School Boards Association and continually receives national recognition for financial reporting excellence and transparency.



Columbia's students excel in the classroom and in their post-secondary education careers. Approximately 85-90 percent of Columbia students extend their education beyond high school, with 70.9 percent attending a college, university or post-secondary program. Our career and technical education students have a 96.9 percent placement rate.

**The district's focus, from preschool to adult career education, is excellence.**

# ENROLLMENT, STAFF and FACULTY FACTS

**41.8%**

Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

**8.47%**

English Learners

**11.46%**

Special Education

**18,779**

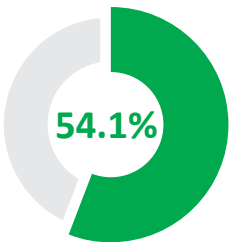
**STUDENTS**

**PK – 12**

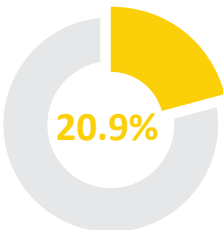
**51.2%**



**48.8%**



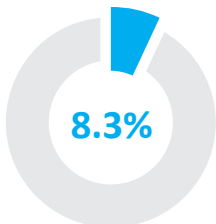
White



Black



Multi-Race



Hispanic



Asian



American Indian  
Alaska Native  
Pacific Islander  
Hawaiian



16

students to classroom teachers

4<sup>th</sup>

Largest  
School  
District  
in Missouri

192

students to administrators



43  
BUILDINGS

139

(FTE)

#### Administration

principals  
assistant principals  
directors  
supervisors  
coordinators  
central office

1,493

(FTE)

#### Teachers

classroom teachers  
special services  
instructional coaches

2,995

(TOTAL)

#### Employees

1,351

(FTE)

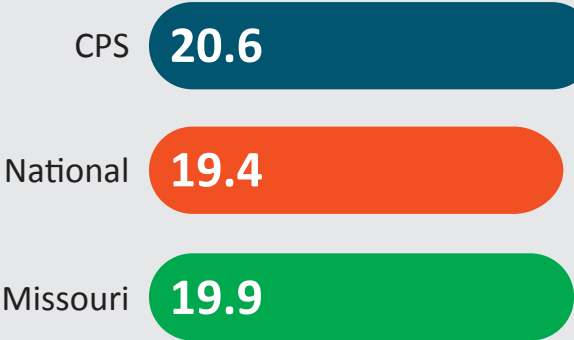
#### Student Support

secretaries  
aides  
food service  
school counseling  
security  
parent educators  
nurses  
transportation  
custodians  
technology  
permanent subs  
AVID tutors



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## ACT COMPOSITE SCORES FOR 2024



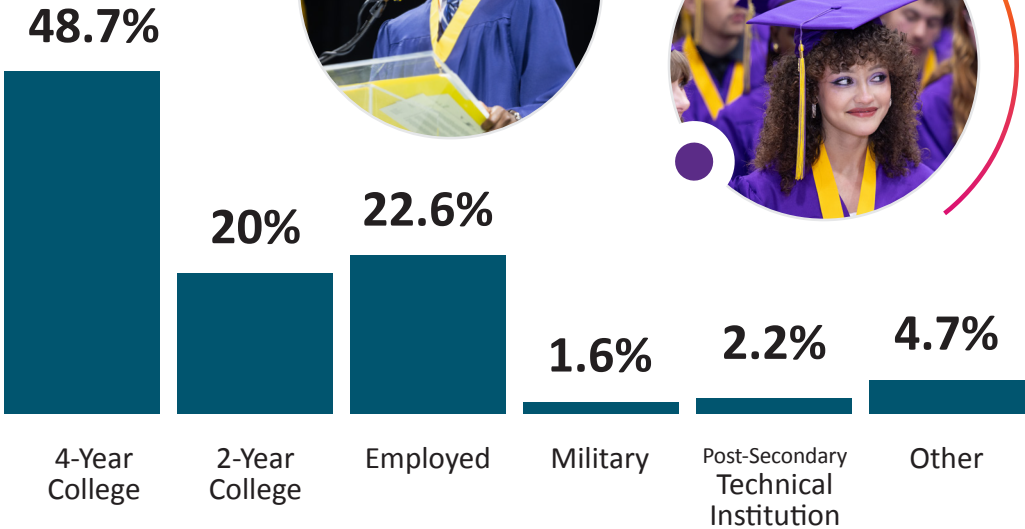
84%

In 2024, 84 percent of Columbia Public Schools graduates took the ACT compared to 63 percent of Missouri graduates.



## 2024 GRADUATE FOLLOW-UP

All students graduate college-, career-, and life-ready. 9% achieve an industry recognized credential in an occupational area. 70.9% of the district's students attend college or a post-secondary program.



Percent of students with at least  
90% attendance in 2024

Attendance Rate

80.1%

Graduation Rate

91.6%

1,953

AP EXAMS  
WERE TAKEN

2024-25

1,113

AP STUDENTS  
ENROLLED

2024-25

82.2%

EARNED A  
3 OR HIGHER

2024-25

4,633

EARLY COLLEGE  
CREDITS EARNED

2024-25

446

SENIORS GRADUATED  
WITH ACADEMIC  
HONORS

2025

COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM STATISTICS

Students earn 10-12 college hours per  
semester while concurrently satisfying high  
school graduation requirements.

45

Students made  
the fall MACC  
President's List  
*GPA of 4.0*

39

Students made  
the fall MACC  
Dean's List  
*GPA of 3.5 to 3.99*

198

Students  
started  
fall semester  
2024-25

239

Students  
accepted for  
the 2025-26  
school year

46

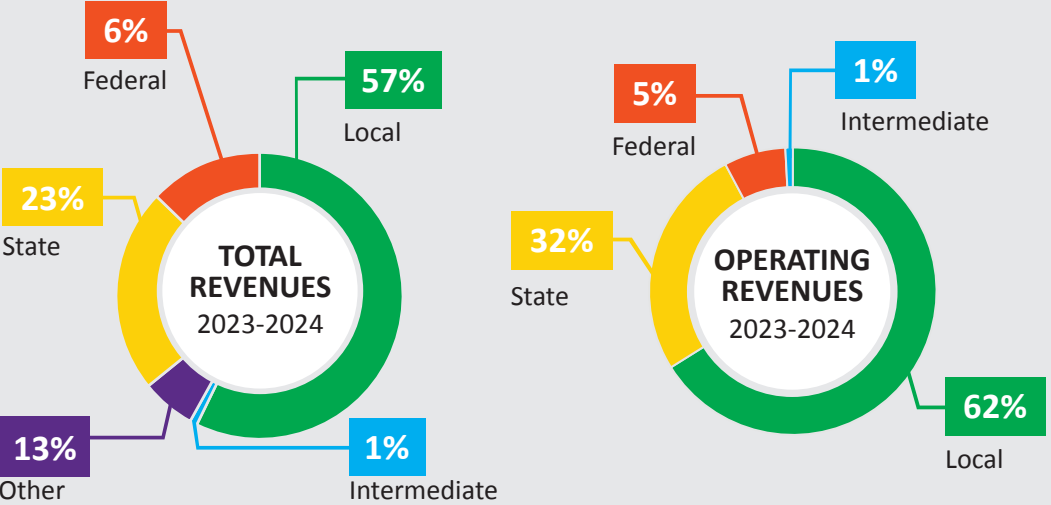
Students eligible for  
an associate degree  
during 2024-25  
school year

54%

Students competed in a MSHSAA activity.



FINANCES 2024 – 2025



2024-2025 Revenue Projected Actual	TOTAL	OPERATING
Property Taxes	\$183,227,185	\$148,998,415
Sales Taxes	\$27,581,990	\$27,581,990
Foundation Formula	\$77,837,567	\$77,754,869
Other - State	\$17,172,429	\$17,032,429
Federal	\$23,699,440	\$14,405,864
Sale of Bonds	\$40,300,000	-
Other	\$36,914,635	\$12,185,750
	\$406,733,246	\$297,959,317

\$3.252  
BILLION

Final  
assessed  
valuation of  
the district

\$15,494

Average  
per pupil  
expenses  
2023-2024

\$16,296

Projected  
per pupil  
expenses  
2024-2025

Adjusted TAX RATE of the District

2024

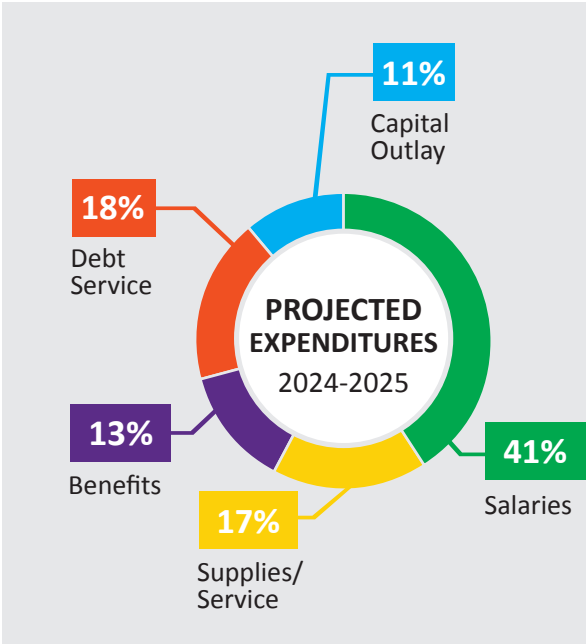
TOTAL TAX RATE \$5.7195 per \$100 of assessed valuation	Incidental/General	\$1.4969
	Teachers	\$3.1507
	Debt Service	\$0.9719
	Capital Projects	\$0.1000

2024-2025 Expenditures by Fund Comparison	2025-26	2024-25
	BUDGETED	PROJECTED ACTUAL
General	\$121,005,024	\$114,556,047
Special Revenue (teachers)	\$186,695,838	\$179,094,320
Debt Service	\$34,456,420	\$77,018,708
Capital Projects	\$35,489,659	\$47,405,139
Other	\$17,533,969	\$16,480,643
	<b>\$395,180,910</b>	<b>\$434,554,857</b>

**Columbia Public Schools** maintains a balanced budget, guided by a long-range financial plan and planning parameters focused on growth, innovation, and achievement.

**Total expenditures** by object show how CPS actually spends the dollars budgeted. Salaries and benefits account for 54 percent of total expenditures and 80 percent of operating expenditures.

The school district continues 100% fully-funded benefits for all full-time staff.



2024-2025 Expenditures by Object	2025-26	2024-25
	BUDGETED	PROJECTED ACTUAL
Salaries	\$188,621,971	\$179,918,789
Services/ Supplies/ Capital Outlay	\$111,719,445	\$113,273,373
Employee Benefits	\$57,509,561	\$55,853,772
Debt Service/ Lease Purchase	\$34,456,420	\$77,018,708
Other Financing Uses	\$2,823,513	\$8,490,215
	<b>\$395,180,910</b>	<b>\$434,554,857</b>

# HIGHLIGHTS

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

### MISSOURI SCHOLARS 100

Four Columbia Public Schools students have earned recognition by the Missouri Scholars 100 program: **Adam Banks** (Hickman High School), **Sofia Heredia** (Hickman High School), **Jillian Lybeck-Brown** (Rock Bridge High School) and **Olivery Ni** (Rock Bridge High School). **Amin Gozal** of Battle High School received Honorable Mention.

### 2025 NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

**Max Angle** (Hickman High School)  
**Adam Banks** (Hickman High School)  
**Kennedy Lucas** (Hickman High School)  
**Mika Angelovici** (Rock Bridge High School)  
**Jillian Lybeck-Brown** (Rock Bridge High School)  
**Olivery Ni** (Rock Bridge High School)  
**Jiya Shetty** (Rock Bridge High School)  
**Theo Volz** (Rock Bridge High School)

### CPS STUDENT EARNS PERFECT ACT SCORE

**Mehdi Aliakbarpour** of Rock Bridge High School earned a perfect ACT score.

### PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

Rock Bridge High School student **Theo Wen Volz** has been selected as a semifinalist in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. CPS has one of the highest numbers of Presidential Scholars in the nation, with 24 students selected for this honor to date.

### VALEDICTORIANS

Battle High School - **Precious Nicole Ignacio**, **Emily Lee**, **Jack Putnam**; Rock Bridge High School - **Addison Adams**, **Hayden Barnes**, **Makenna Gortmaker**, **Danielle Hecht**, **Nahian Ilham**, **Zijie Jiang**, **Noah Lee**, **Jillian Lybeck-Brown**, **Donovan Metz**, **Jiya Shetty**, **Jessie Sullivan**, **Jackson Tiemeyer**, **Theo Volz**; Hickman High School - **Marcela Arce**, **Adam Banks**, **Isabelle Domeier**, **Sofia Heredia**, **Wilson Laird**, **Kennedy Lucas**, **Isabella Peterson**

### COUGAR HEART OF GOLD AWARD

Douglass High School students **De'Tavio** and **Anita James** were awarded the Cougar Heart of Gold Award, presented by Columbia College.

## STAFF & SCHOOL RECOGNITION

### MEDIA SPECIALIST NAMED AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EMERGING LEADER

The American Library Association has selected Hickman High School Media Specialist **Julie Ryan** as a 2025 Emerging Leader.

### NUTRITION SERVICES RECEIVES FOOD SAFETY AWARDS

Nutrition services staff members **Sharon Gibson Barksdale**, **Shannon Brown**, **Sonia Ballew** and **Veda Ham** were recognized by the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point. School kitchens receiving this recognition have perfect food safety inspections from

the Department of Health. Additionally, **Battle High School** received the Reach for the Stars award for kitchens that engage well with students.

### MISSOURI SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER OF THE YEAR

School psychologist **Amy Jolly** of Douglass and Hickman high schools has been named the 2025 Missouri Association of School Psychologists (MASP) School Psychological Examiner of the Year.

### CPS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Association of School Business Officials International awarded **Columbia Public Schools** the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for its FY2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The Association also recognized Columbia Public Schools for excellence in budget presentation with the Meritorious Budget Award for FY2024.

### CPS PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Columbia Public Schools' School Psychological Services program was named an emerging program by the National Association of School Psychologists.

### PRINCIPAL EARNS SCIENCE EDUCATION CITATION

The Science Teachers of Missouri awarded Two Mile Prairie Elementary School Principal **Amanda Bruckerhoff** with the President's Citation for her efforts to support science education.

### SPEECH AND DEBATE COACH OF THE YEAR

The Eastern Missouri District Committee of the National Speech and Debate Association named Columbia Public Schools Debate Coach **Danielle Johnson** as the 2025 Speech and Debate Coach of the Year.

### OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Columbia Public Schools Behavior Support Coach **Valerie Broderick** is a recipient of the 2025 Outstanding Educator from the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders.

### OUTSTANDING BEGINNING TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education has honored Rock Bridge High School Health Teacher **Ross Barelli** as the 2024-2025 Outstanding Beginning Teacher.

### NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

Hickman High School Boys' Track & Field Coach **Stewart Johnson** has been recognized as the National Federation of State High School Association Coach of the Year.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Physical Education Teacher **Amanda Spry-Bazat** has

been awarded the Missouri Society of Health & Physical Educators District Teacher of the Year Award for 2024 for the state and east central district.

## ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES ACHIEVEMENT

### CULINARY ARTS STUDENTS TAKE TOP NATIONAL HONORS

**Amelie Crane**, a 2025 Rock Bridge High School graduate, placed first in Baking and Pastry Arts at the National SkillsUSA competition. Crane is the fourth student from CACC to win the SkillsUSA national baking competition. **Jessie Arnett**, a 2025 Rock Bridge High School graduate, placed third in Culinary Arts.

### HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Hickman High School graduates **Rowan Arant** and **Karli Jones** placed second at the national HOSA Forensic Science competition. The Columbia Area Career Center HOSA chapter also received a Certificate of Recognition, and the Hickman HOSA chapter received a Certificate of Merit for outstanding fundraising contributions to the National Marrow Donor Program.

### STUDENT COUNCILS EARN STATE RECOGNITION

**Battle High School** student council received the Missouri Association of Student Councils Honor Council Silver Award and **Hickman High School** student council received the Missouri Association of Student Councils Honor Council Gold Award.

### FFA STUDENTS STATE CHAMPIONS

**Christian Siegel** placed first in Employment Skills (Leadership Development) at the Missouri Future Farmers of America competition. **Hudson Murray** placed first in Forest Management & Products (Proficiency).

### FBLA STUDENTS STATE CHAMPIONS

**Mike Angelovici** placed first in International Business at the state FBLA competition. **Jack Brothers**, **Nathaniel Brothers**, and **Rhea Jha** placed first in the Public Service Announcement category.

### SPORTS STATE CHAMPIONS

**Xavier Wandrey** (Sophomore, Battle High School) – State Champion in the Class 5 Boys High Jump  
**Vernell Holt** (Senior, Battle High School) – State Champion in the Class 5 Boys Long Jump. Vernell is now a 2-time back-to-back state champion in the event having also won it last year.

**Athena Peterson** (Senior, Hickman High School) – State Champion in the Class 5 Girls Triple Jump  
**John Moss** (Sophomore, Hickman High School) – State Champion in the Class 5 Boys 200 Meter Dash

**Riley Rolwing** (Senior, Rock Bridge High School), **Carter Atkinson** (Junior, Rock Bridge High School), **Brennan Scott** (Junior, Rock Bridge High School), and **Drevyn Seamon** (Senior, Rock Bridge High School) –

State Champions in the Class 5 Boys 4x200 Meter Relay

**Hank Benter** (Hickman High School) – State Wrestling Champion in the 126 lb. weight class. Hank is one of just 44 Missouri wrestlers and the second CPS wrestler to be a four-time state champion.

**Luke Hayden** (Hickman High School) – State Wrestling Champion in the 165 lb. weight class. Luke is now a two-time back-to-back state champion.

**Jacinda Espinosa** (Rock Bridge High School) – State Wrestling Champion in the 135 lb. weight class. Jacinda is the first-ever state champion in Girls Wrestling in Rock Bridge school history and the second ever in girls' wrestling in CPS history.

Rock Bridge High School girls' tennis players freshman **Katherine Kimes** and junior **Rebecca Stamose** claimed first place in the MSHAA Class 3 doubles tournament.

**Trey Clervi** (Senior, Rock Bridge High School) – State Champion in the Class 2 100m Breaststroke. Trey is a two-time back-to-back state champion in the event.

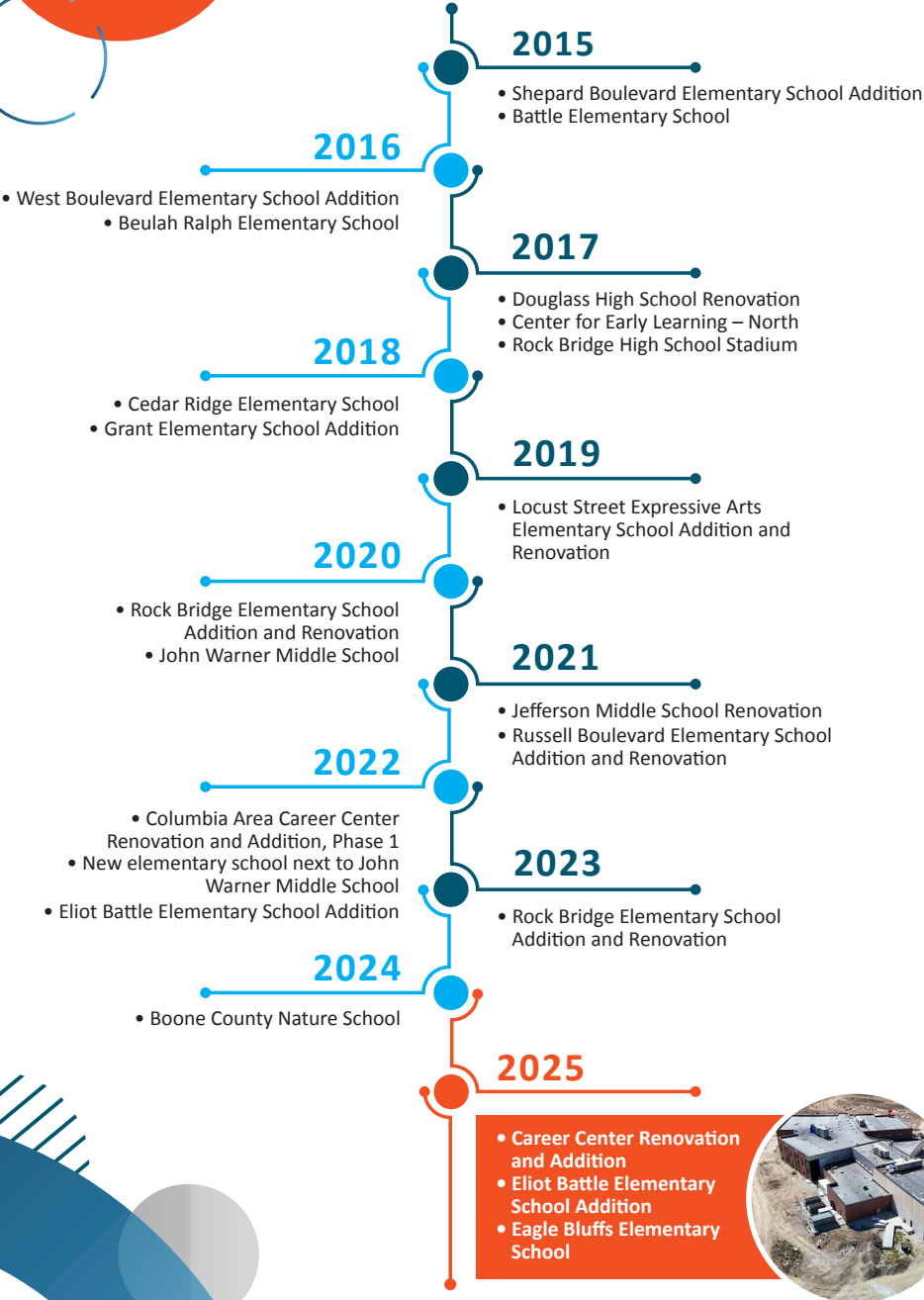


# BOND PROJECTS THROUGH THE YEARS

## FUNDING PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

### GROWTH

In a growing community like Columbia, public support is essential to fund projects and improvements. Columbians consistently rise to the challenge, voting on ballot measures so our children can have the best educational experiences possible. Columbia Public Schools is committed to high-quality facilities and learning environments.



# DISTRICT STATS & FACTS

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

- Replacement of older roof sections at Benton Elementary School
- Improved pavement on the playground and sidewalks at the Gifted Education Center
- Mitigated storm water and improvements to the bus loop pavement on the west of the building at Hickman High School and replaced steps and the ramp at the north circle drive
- Completed an interior renovation at Roseta Learning Center, including replacement of floors and ceilings and a new building-wide HVAC system
- Replaced older roofing sections at West Boulevard Elementary School and added a new multi-unit play structure to the current playground
- Replaced flooring on the upper level of West Middle School and remodeled the FACS kitchen, classrooms and media center



**3,708,635**  
SQUARE FEET  
OF BUILDING  
SPACE



West Middle  
School



**922**  
ACRES  
MAINTAINED



Gifted Education  
Center



Eagle Bluffs  
Elementary school

**2,493,275**  
SQUARE FEET  
OF ROOFS





# SCHOOL DIRECTORY



Alpha Hart Lewis  
Elementary School  
5801 Arbor Pointe Pkwy.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3200  
ahl.cpsk12.org



Fairview  
Elementary School  
909 Fairview Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3590  
fve.cpsk12.org



Paxton Keeley  
Elementary School  
201 Park DeVille Dr.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3570  
pax.cpsk12.org



Benton STEM  
Elementary School  
1410 Hinkson Ave.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3610  
ben.cpsk12.org



Grant  
Elementary School  
10 E. Broadway  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3520  
gre.cpsk12.org



Ridgeway  
Elementary School  
107 E. Sexton Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3550  
rwe.cpsk12.org



Beulah Ralph  
Elementary School  
5801 S. Highway KK  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3840  
beu.cpsk12.org



Locust Street Expressive  
Arts Elementary School  
1208 Locust St.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3530  
lse.cpsk12.org



Rock Bridge  
Elementary School  
5151 S. Highway 163  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3290  
rbe.cpsk12.org



Blue Ridge  
Elementary School  
3700 Woodland Dr.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3580  
bre.cpsk12.org



Midway Heights  
Elementary School  
8130 W. Highway 40  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3540  
mwe.cpsk12.org



Russell Boulevard  
Elementary School  
1800 W. Rollins Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3650  
rus.cpsk12.org



Cedar Ridge  
Elementary School  
2345 Howell Mountain Dr.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3880  
cre.cpsk12.org



Mill Creek  
Elementary School  
2200 W. Nifong Blvd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3280  
mce.cpsk12.org



Shepard Boulevard  
Elementary School  
2616 Shepard Blvd.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3660  
she.cpsk12.org



Derby Ridge  
Elementary School  
4400 Derby Ridge Dr.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3270  
dre.cpsk12.org



New Haven  
Elementary School  
3301 New Haven Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3640  
nhe.cpsk12.org



Two Mile Prairie  
Elementary School  
5450 N. Route Z  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3560  
tmp.cpsk12.org



Eliot Battle  
Elementary School  
2600 Battle Ave.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3790  
bes.cpsk12.org



Parkade  
Elementary School  
111 Parkade Blvd.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3630  
pke.cpsk12.org



West Boulevard  
Elementary School  
319 West Boulevard N.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3670  
wbe.cpsk12.org



Gentry  
Middle School  
4200 Bethel St.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3240  
gms.cpsk12.org



Battle  
High School  
7575 E. St. Charles Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3300  
bhs.cpsk12.org



Park Avenue  
403 Park Ave.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-449-1575



Jefferson  
Middle School  
713 Rogers St.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3210  
jms.cpsk12.org



Douglass  
High School  
301 N. Providence Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3680  
dhs.cpsk12.org



A.C.E. (Alternative  
Continuing Education)  
1200 N. 7th St.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-825-7769



John Warner  
Middle School  
5550 Sinclair Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3890  
jwms.cpsk12.org



Hickman  
High School  
1104 N. Providence Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3000  
hhs.cpsk12.org



Roseta Avenue Center  
1100 Roseta Ave.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3510



Lange  
Middle School  
2201 Smiley Ln.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3250  
lms.cpsk12.org



Rock Bridge  
High School  
4303 S. Providence Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3100  
rbhs.cpsk12.org



Eugene Field Center  
1010 Rangeline St.  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-214-3750



Oakland  
Middle School  
3405 Oakland Pl.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3220  
oms.cpsk12.org



Columbia Area  
Career Center  
4203 S. Providence Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3800  
career-center.org



Bethel Street Center  
4600 Bethel St.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3740



Smithton  
Middle School  
3600 W. Worley St.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3260  
sms.cpsk12.org



Center for Early  
Learning - North  
2191 Smiley Ln.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3950  
cpsk12.org/preschool



West  
Middle School  
401 Clinkscates Rd.  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-214-3230  
wms.cpsk12.org



Early Childhood  
Discovery Center  
901 Rainforest Pkwy.  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-214-3430  
cpsk12.org/ecse