

Work Session Meeting | 04/23/2026 – 5:30 PM

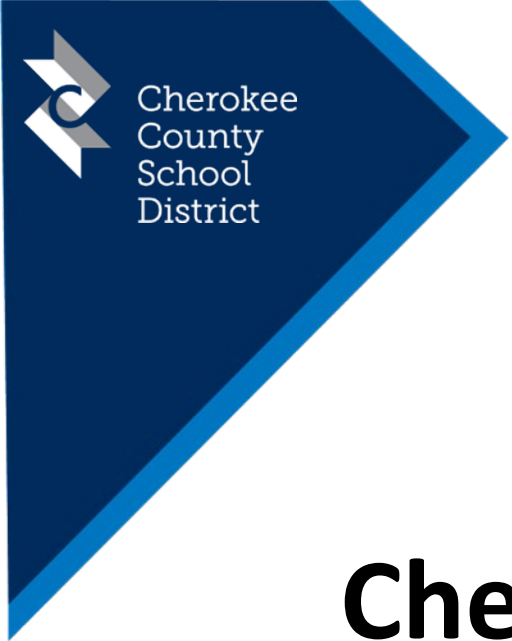
Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility | 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, GA 30114

- I. **Call to Order Work Session**

- II. **Superintendent Welcome**

- III. **Superintendent Reports**
 1. **Academics and Accountability:**
 - a. Cherokee High School Transition Planning
Tyler Gwynn, Chief of Staff
Trey Moores, Chief Support Services Officer
 - b. School Year 2026-2027 Outlook
Dr. Debra Murdock, Chief School Leadership and Operations Officer
Dr. Josh Heath, Chief Academics and Accountability Officer
 - c. Developing a Long-Range Strategic Plan
Barbara Jacoby, Chief Communications Officer
 2. **Finance:**
 - a. Monthly Finance Report
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer
 3. **Capital Outlay:**
 - a. Monthly Capital Outlay Report
Trey Moores, Chief Support Services Officer
 4. **Other:**
 - a. Legislative Update
Tyler Gwynn, Chief of Staff

- IV. **Adjournment**



Cherokee High School Transition Planning

April 23, 2026

SUPPORTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY GOVERNANCE MODEL

Core Beliefs

1. All students are highly engaged in their education and capable of reaching their full learning potential.
2. Employees are trusted and supported as professionals and provided with resources to elevate student outcomes.
3. Families and our community are involved partners in student success and can expect all students to receive the best education possible.
4. Schools are positive and welcoming environments with clear expectations and accountability in all academic and operational areas.

Core Policies

- Policy BAB: School Board Governance**
Balanced Autonomy with Supportive Accountability
Cohesive System of Teaching & Learning
- Standards, Instructional Resources, Monitoring Learning
 - Accountability & Support**
 - Superintendent Evaluation, Aligned School Goals, Intentional Support
- Policy IFAD: Literacy in CCSD**
Reading, Writing, & Communicating
- Phonics, Phonemic Awareness, Decoding, Fluency, Comprehension
 - Spelling, Vocabulary, Print, Cursive, Keyboarding, Conventions, Grammar
 - Extended Reading & Writing, Evaluate, Synthesize, Communicate

Student Achievement Goals

	READING			ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS			MATHEMATICS	
	Baseline (2024)	GOAL (2027)		Baseline (2024)	GOAL (2027)		Baseline (2024)	GOAL (2027)
3 rd Grade	72%	78%		47%	53%		57%	65%
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High School	80%	86%		56%	62%		49%	55%

Key Priorities

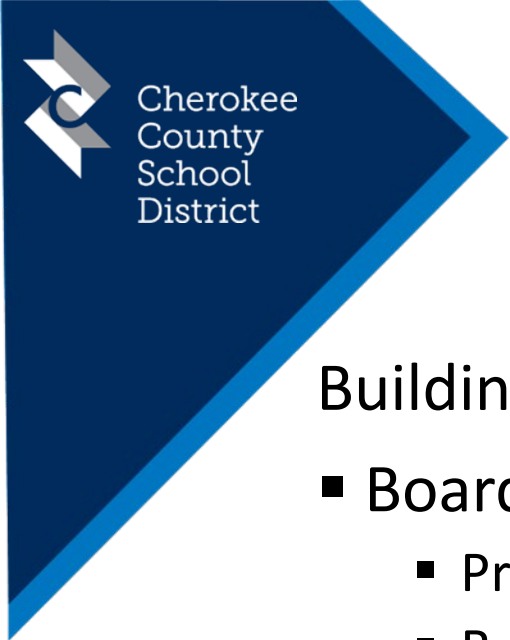
1. Elevate the Excellence in academics and achievement for all students
2. Elevate the Excellence in effective School Board-Superintendent Governance
3. Elevate the Excellence in the district's coordination of goals, systems, and processes
4. Elevate the Excellence by embracing a pervasive high-quality school environment defined by high standards, effective supports, and consistent practices

Elevate the Excellence!

Cherokee High School Replacement Construction Update

- Construction of Cherokee HS divided into site package and building package
- Board award of site package - October 2022 to NJ Wilbanks Contractor
 - Site Package Authorized Budget \$23.5M
 - Site Package Final Cost \$22.8M
 - Site package complete as scheduled



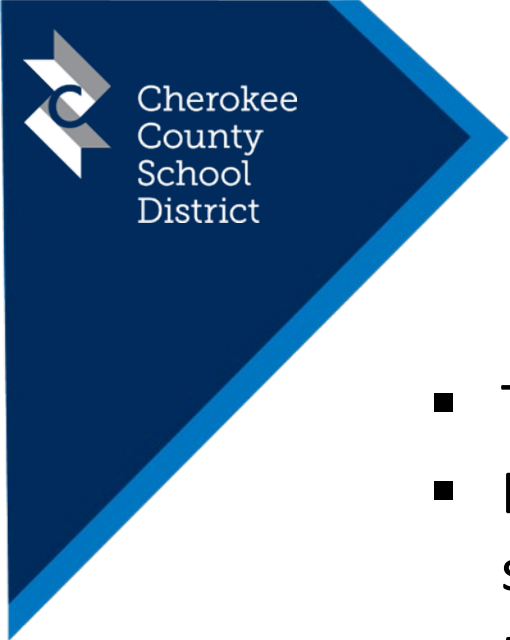


Cherokee High School Replacement Construction Update

Building Package

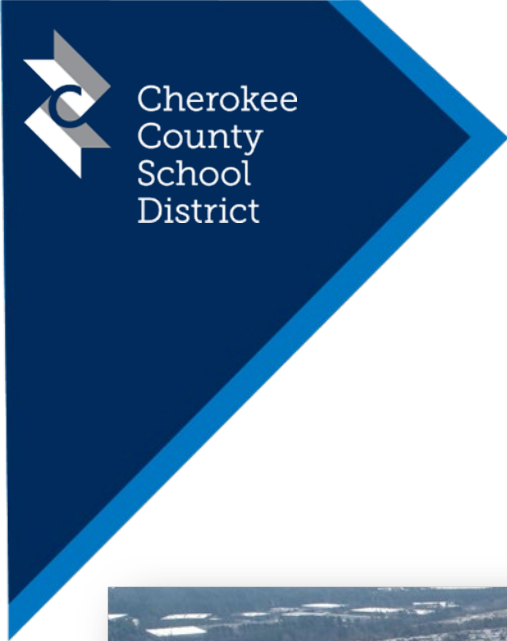
- Board award of building package – May 2023 to Carroll Daniel Construction
 - Project budget \$179,095,765 – project is currently within budget
 - Building package will be completed as scheduled
- State Capital Outlay Reimbursement
 - \$32,951,127 in total
 - \$28,383,176 received to date
 - Remaining 10% paid upon project completion – anticipated Fall 2026





Cherokee High School Replacement Construction Update

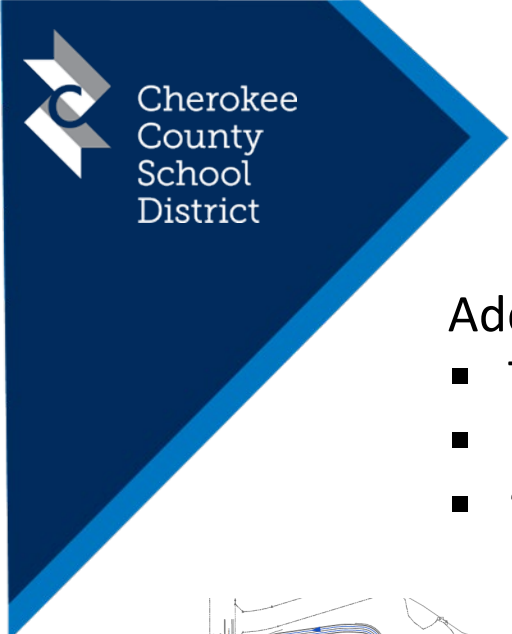
- Temporary Certificates of Occupancy (TCO) were received in March 2026
- Building package will be completed as scheduled, with occupancy by students in August
- Punch list continues
- Landscaping beginning
- Technology department continues installation
- Installation of safety and security items continues, including security film and interior cameras
- Administrative staff will begin relocation in June, with remaining staff members transferring in July
- Relocation of athletics will occur from June-July



Cherokee
County
School
District

Cherokee High School Replacement Construction Update

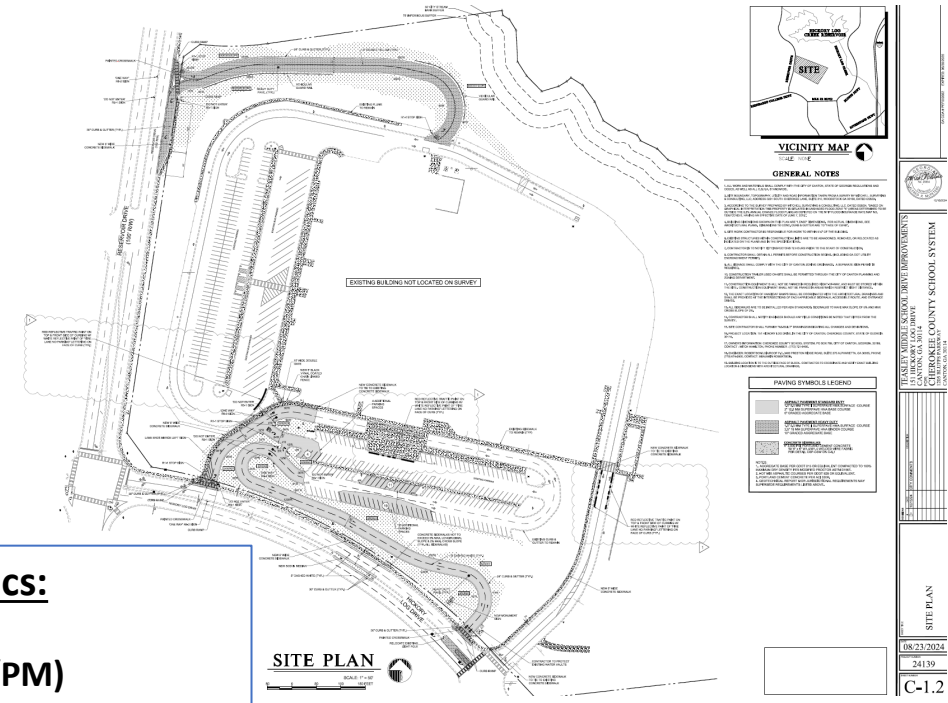
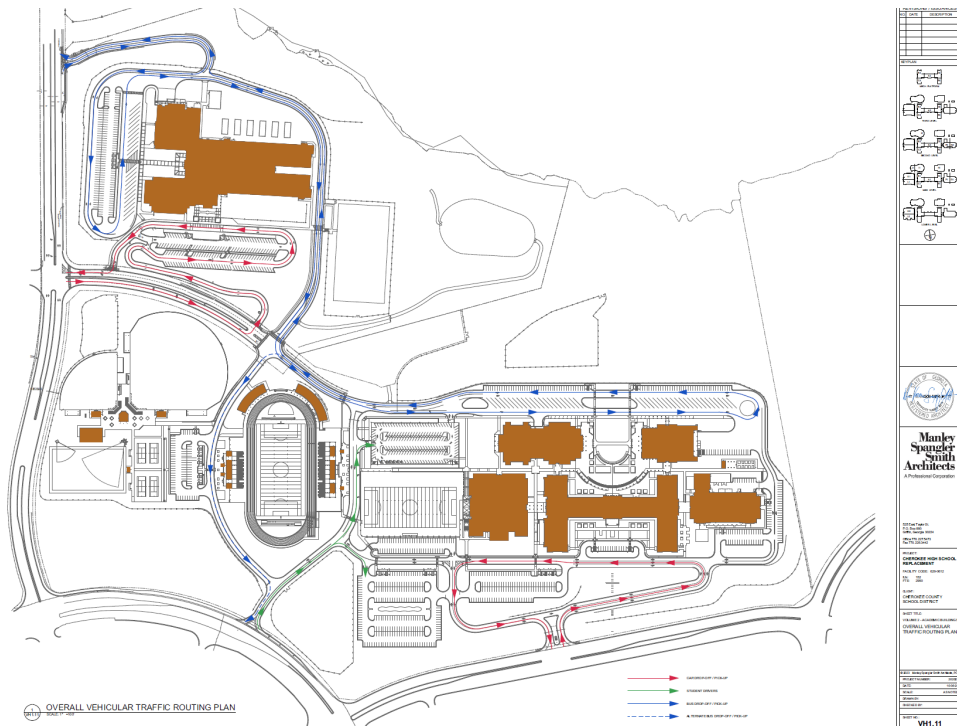




Site Plans – Traffic Studies

Additional Traffic Studies Conducted:

- Traffic Impact Study (RLR)
- Reservoir Drive Planning Study (City of Canton)
- “Dry Run” of buses on 03-10-26



Transportation Statistics:

Cherokee HS:

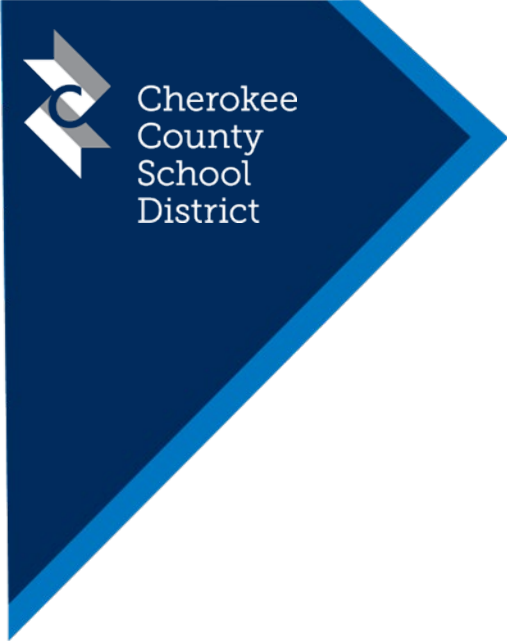
- Car Riders - 178 (AM/PM)
- Employee Drivers - 250
- Student Drivers – 580

Teasley MS:

- Car Riders – 323 (AM); 174 (PM)
- Employee Drivers – 170

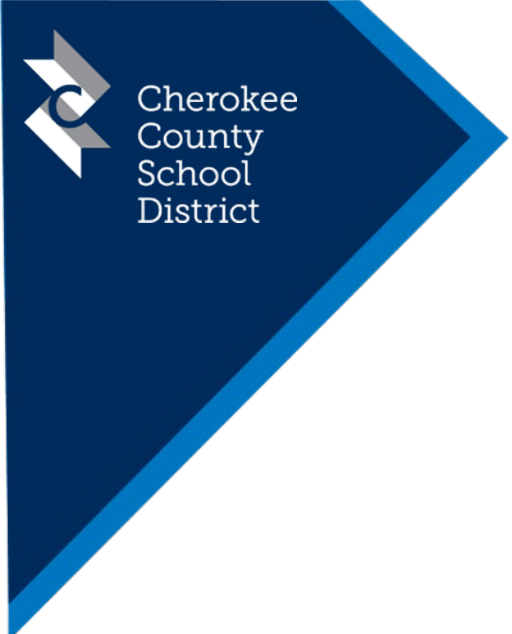
Total Buses:

- General Ed – 88
- Special Ed - 10



Cherokee High School Replacement Transition Timeline

Milestone	Date
Staff Preview	April 21
Ribbon Cutting and Community Open House	April 28
Relocate Administrative Staff	June 1– 5
Open for Parent Visitor/Office Operational	June 8
Relocate Athletics	June 1 – 12
Onsite Practices/Camps	June 15
Relocate Teachers	June 8 – 26
Staff Occupancy	July 8
Student Occupancy	August 3



Cherokee
County
School
District

April 28 Ribbon Cutting



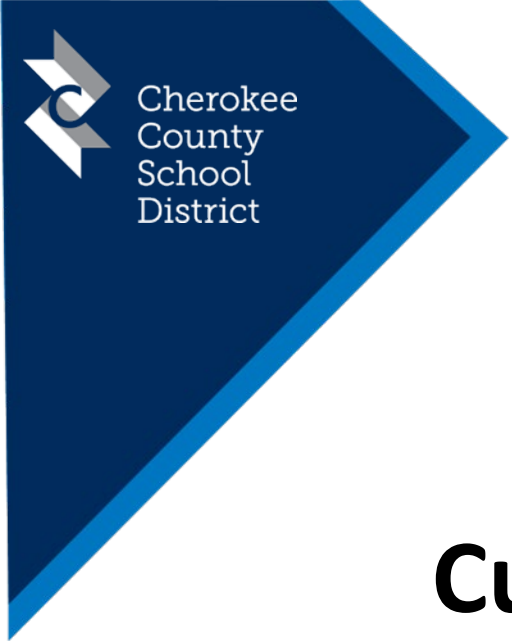
**Cherokee County
Board of Education**
Janet Read Welch, Chair
Patsy Jordan, Vice Chair, District 2
Kelly Poole, District 1
Chance Beam, District 3
Robert Rechsteiner, District 4
Erin Ragsdale, District 5
Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, District 6
Superintendent
Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD

**Cherokee High School
Administration**
Principal
Andy Hall
Assistant Principals
Jeremy Adams
Connie Ard
Casey Belli
Kim Boehman
Dr. Christian Kirby
Carol Saladzius
Elizabeth Spell

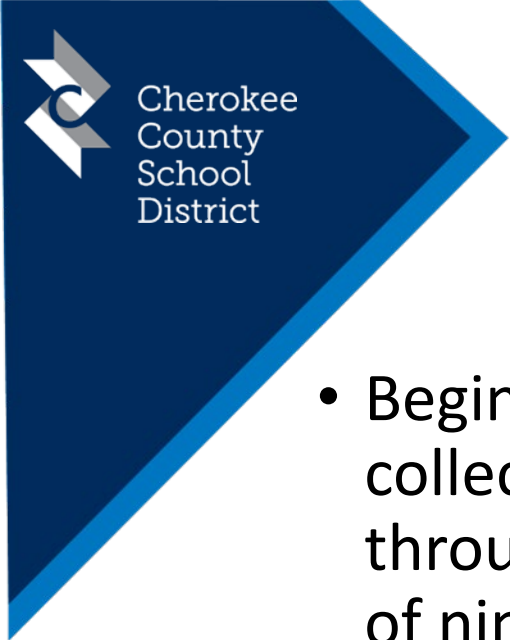
**CHEROKEE HIGH SCHOOL
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

APRIL 28, 2026

The construction of this new high school was made possible by community support of the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (Ed SPLOST). Thank you to the School Board and the community for their commitment to providing excellent facilities for teaching and learning!

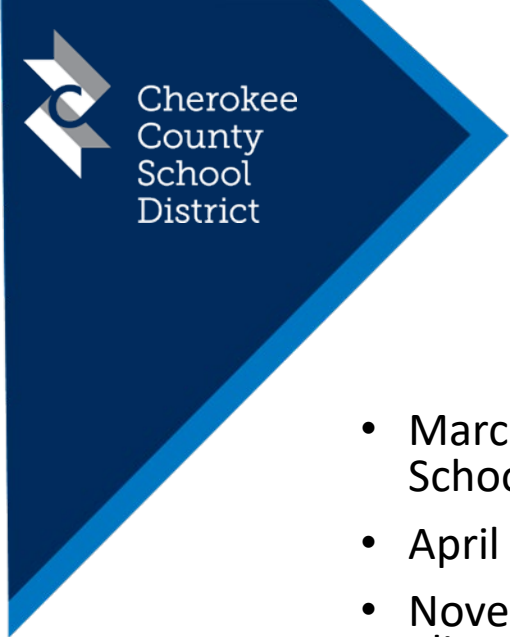


Current Cherokee High School Campus Next Steps



Reconstitute Canton Elementary School

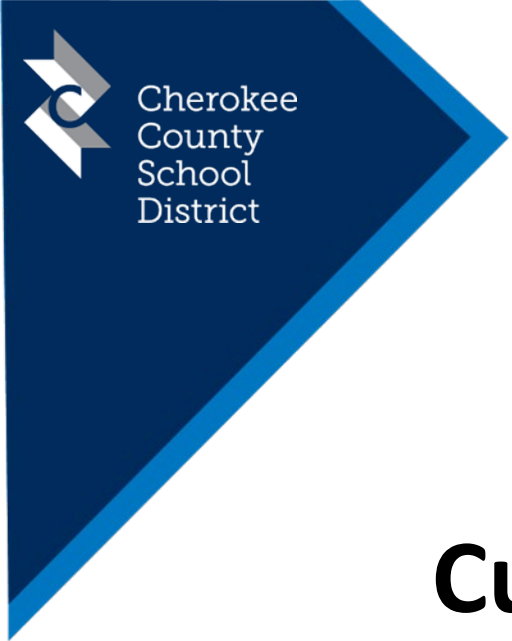
- Beginning in Fall 2025 and continuing through February 2026, the district collected thousands of data points from community members and staff through surveys and focus groups. This input resulted in the identification of nine key themes, with a strong and consistent interest in reconstituting Canton Elementary School emerging as a priority.
- From February through March 2026, each of the nine themes underwent a feasibility review using the following criteria:
 - Positively impacts student learning & achievement
 - Addresses an identified need or mitigates an organizational risk
 - Financially acceptable & sustainable
- At the March 19, 2026, Board meeting, the Board of Education unanimously approved the reconstitution of Canton ES for SY 2028-29.



Canton Elementary School

Proposed Timeline and Scope of Work

- March 2026 – School Board unanimously Authorized a resolution to reconstitute Canton Elementary School for 2028-2029
- April 2026—Design phase begins
- November 2026—Education-SPLOST referendum to include cost of renovations and modifications aligned with design.
- December 2026—School board recommendation of general contractor award; notice to proceed
- September 2027—Attendance area focus group meetings
- November 2027—Principal named
- December 2027—School board votes to establish attendance zone
- January 2028 – Employee Transfer Requests Begin
- April 2028 – Ribbon Cutting and Community Open House
- June 2028—Completion of Canton ES renovations
- July 2028 – Staff Occupancy of Canton ES
- August 2028—Student occupancy of Canton ES



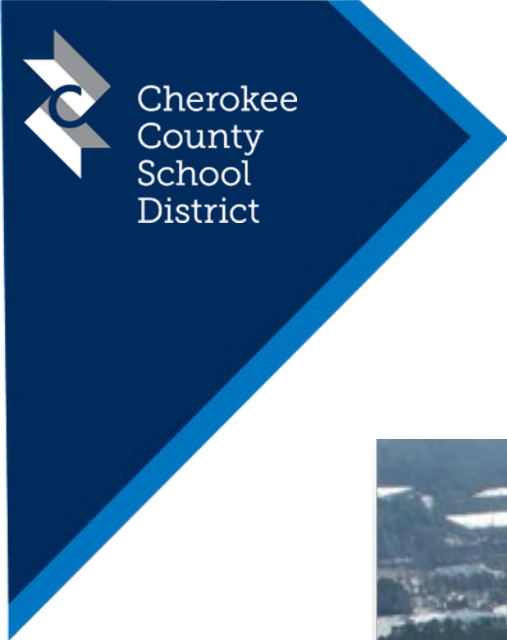
Current Cherokee High School Campus Timeline



Current Cherokee High School (Main Campus)

Proposed Surplus/Sale Timeline and Scope of Work

- March 2026 – School Board unanimously authorized a resolution to surplus CHS (Main Campus)
- April – June 2026 – Update appraisal and produce new survey
- May – July 2026 – Relocation of assets to CHS (Replacement Campus)
- August – September 2026 – Inventory of remaining assets at current CHS campus
- October 2026 – Surplus auction of assets (Round 1) on-site at current CHS for public (according to Policy DO – School Properties Disposal Procedures)
- November 2026 – Surplus auction of assets (Round 2) on-site at current CHS for public (according to Policy DO)
- January 2027 – School Board Attorney facilitated advertisement of property sale (according to Policy DO and O.C.G.A. 10-06-0085, O.C.G.A. 10-06-0088, O.C.G.A. 20-02-0520, O.C.G.A. 20-02-0600, O.C.G.A. 36-09-0002, O.C.G.A. 40-08-0110, O.C.G.A. 40-08-0116), announce deadline for sealed bids
- Spring 2027 – Proceed with sale of property



Cherokee High School Honoring 70 Years of Excellence





SUPPORTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY GOVERNANCE MODEL

Core Beliefs

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Elevate the Excellence!



Looking Ahead to School Year 2026 – 2027

Key Priority 1: Elevate the Excellence in Academics & Achievement

- K-2 Reading skills progression and assessment
- K-12 Balanced Assessment System
- Reading intervention plan developed by each school
- Middle School 1:1 student devices
- Acquire a customized learning tool for reading and math intervention and enrichment



Key Priority 2: Elevate the Excellence in School Board Governance

- Advance teacher and employee compensation
- New policy for grading and placement (promotion/retention)
- New policy for 1:1 student devices (Chromebook) in classroom instruction
- Third-Party personnel survey
- Develop a long-range strategic plan

Key Priority 3: Elevate the Excellence in the District's Coordination

- Improve clarity in ES code of conduct and behavior supports
- Consolidation of communication tools
- Update school safety maps for agency coordination as required by law
- Deploy school bus stop-arm cameras



Key Priority 4: Elevate the Excellence of a High Quality School Environment

- Publish Key Performance Indicators for district operations
- Finalize standard asset manual
- Acquire a new transportation routing software and bus locator app (18-24 months)

Looking Ahead to School Year 2026 – 2027

Key Priority 1: Elevate the Excellence in Academics & Achievement

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Key Priority 1

- **K-2 Reading skills progression and assessment**
 - Apply expectations from School Board Policy IFAD, Literacy and IHE, Placement/Promotion/Retention
 - Identify developmental skills by quarter for literacy instruction
 - Implement checkpoints to gauge literacy development by quarter

New for K-2 Teachers

- New pacing guide for literacy skills
- New literacy skills checkpoints to measure literacy performance for students
- Aligned interventions for students showing gaps

New for K-2 Students and Families

- Clarity on what skills should be achieved and by when
- Clarity on child's progress toward achieving developmentally appropriate literacy milestones
- Aligned interventions for students showing gaps

Key Priority 1

- **Reading Intervention Plan for Every School**
 - Apply expectations from School Board Policy IFAD, Literacy and IHE, Placement/Promotion/Retention
 - Monitor student performance on literacy skills at every grade K-10 (CCSD Reading and Early Literacy Screener)
 - Provide additional opportunities for students showing gaps in literacy skills

New for Teachers and Schools

- Enhanced use of time to provide instructional interventions based on specific skill gaps for students reading below grade level (i.e., class time, before school, after school, ELT, lunch, etc.)

New for Students and Families

- Clarity on child's progress toward achieving developmentally appropriate literacy milestones
- Focused communication for identified students detailing time for interventions aligned to specific reading gaps

Key Priority 1

- **K-12 Balanced Assessment System**
 - Apply expectations from School Board Policy BAB; specific to the cohesive system of teaching and learning and define our district's tools to assess student learning
 - Screeners, Formative Assessments, Summative Assessments, Standardized Assessments
 - Create Data and Assessment Literacy professional development for teachers and leaders in CCSD
 - Implement new CCSD assessment platform with standards-aligned questions

New for Teachers and Schools

- K-12 access to standards-aligned questions in the four core content areas
- Access to District created exemplar summative assessments – beginning with K-2 Reading, 3-5 Math, 6-8 ELA, and HS Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra

New for Students and Families

- Ongoing communication from CCSD Screeners and standardized assessments on progress towards student mastery

Key Priority 1

- MS 1:1 Student Learning Device
 - Apply expectations from School Board Policy IFB; Instructional Role of Student Learning Devices
 - Acquire additional Student Learning Devices to supplement current inventory for all MS students
 - Eliminate all personal cell phone use during school day and at school activities
 - Sunset Bring Your Own Device program

New for MS Teachers and Schools

- Students issued a student learning device for balanced use, along with print resources in classroom instruction
- Planned and strategic role of student learning device in overall instructional plan

New for MS Students and Families

- Access to student learning device during school day
- Option to “check-out” student learning device for home
- Eliminating all personal cell phone use during school day and at school activities
- Sunset Bring Your Own Device (incl. personal laptops)

Key Priority 2: Elevate the Excellence in School Board Governance

- Advance teacher and employee compensation
- New policy for grading and placement (promotion/retention)
- New policy for 1:1 student devices (Chromebook) in classroom instruction
- Third-Party personnel survey
- Develop a long-range strategic plan

Key Priority 2

- New policy for grading and placement (promotion/retention)
 - Focus on strengthening student responsibility and academic ownership
 - Improve communication to students and families regarding grades and academic performance
 - Introduce 2 conference days as opportunities for teachers and families in January

New for HS Teachers and High Schools

- Standard gradebook set-up
- Pass-through of grades from Canvas to Synergy
- Communication to students and parents regarding work completion and grades
- District Task Force review to research and design unit recovery procedures for students
- Print report cards and unofficial transcripts each semester

New for HS Students and Families

- Assigned work submitted within unit of study
- Phased sunset of course extension, for 2026-27:
 - Grade of 65-69 and fewer than 10 unexcused days
- Define credit recovery:
 - Grade of 55-69 and fewer than 10 unexcused days
- Define course re-enrollment: Required if score below 55 and/or absent 10 or more unexcused days
- Receive printed report cards and unofficial transcripts each semester

Key Priority 2

- **New policy for grading and placement (promotion/retention)**
 - Focus on strengthening student responsibility and academic ownership
 - Improve communication to students and families regarding grades and academic performance
 - Introduce 2 conference days as opportunities for teachers and families in January

New for MS Teachers and Middle Schools

- Standard gradebook set-up
- Pass-through of grades from Canvas to Synergy
- Communication to students and parents regarding work completion and grades
- District Task Force research and design unit recovery procedures for students
- Print report cards quarterly

New for MS Students and Families

- Assigned work submitted within unit of study
- Introduce course recovery; Eligible if score 55-69 and absent fewer than 10 unexcused days
- Introduce course re-enrollment/Summer School: Required if score below 55 and/or absent 10 or more unexcused days
- Introduce promotion criteria
- Receive printed report cards quarterly

Key Priority 2

- **New policy for grading and placement (promotion/retention)**
 - Focus on strengthening student responsibility and academic ownership
 - Improve communication to students and families regarding grades and academic performance
 - Introduce Conference Week in October and 2 conference days in January as opportunities for teachers and families

New for ES Teachers and Elementary Schools

- Numeric grades for 3rd grade
- Standard gradebook set-up for 3rd, 4th, and 5th
- Pass-through of grades from Canvas to Synergy
- Communication to students and parents regarding work completion and grades
- Provide Parent-Teacher Conferences in October/January
- Print report cards quarterly

New for ES Students and Families

- Assigned work submitted within unit of study
- Introduce promotion criteria
- Introduce standard communication for those at-risk of retention
- Receive printed report cards quarterly

Key Priority 3: Elevate the Excellence in the District's Coordination

- Improve clarity in ES code of conduct and behavior supports
- Consolidation of communication tools
- Update school safety maps for agency coordination as required by law
- Deploy school bus stop-arm cameras

Key Priority 3

- Improve clarity in the ES Code of Conduct and Behavior Support

New for Teachers and School Staff

- Enhanced consequences in the Code of Conduct for student conduct violations
- Behavior intervention and support guidance
- Defined role of administrator support

New for Students and Families

- Clear schoolwide and classroom expectations, consistent behavior practices, and defined consequences for disruptive and disrespectful behavior

Key Priority 3

- Consolidation of communication tools

New for Teachers and School Staff

- Defined communication channels through provided and authorized tools
- Better efficiency in communication efforts

New for Students and Families

- Defined communication tools
- Better efficiency and streamlined communication

Key Priority 3

- Deploy Stop-Arm Cameras
 - External cameras added
 - Interior cameras updated

New for Bus Drivers

- Enhance safety measures for drivers and students
- Improved interior cameras for behavior management and response
- Live camera access in event of emergency

New for Students and Families

- Better safety measures for students and reassurance for families



Looking Ahead to School Year 2026 – 2027

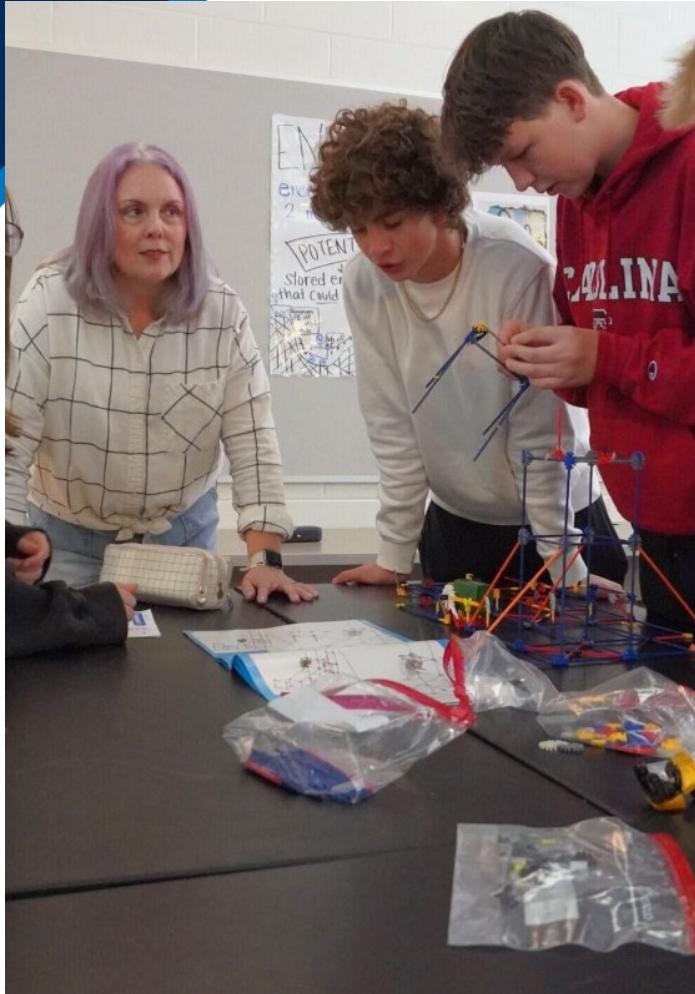
Mission Critical



- Complete construction and open Cherokee High School replacement
- Confirm future-use of current CHS and CHS-North
- Complete construction and open Woodstock HS classroom addition
- Relocate C3 (cybersecurity and aviation pathways) to WHS
- Complete construction and open River Ridge HS gymnasium addition
- Complete construction and open Sequoyah athletic improvements (January 2027)
- Update Enterprise Resource Platform (ERP)
- Complete HB845 internal audit requirements
- Complete long-range student enrollment projections, classroom utilization study, and age/condition study in preparation for Education-SPLOST referendum in November 2026.

Looking Ahead to School Year 2026 – 2027

Third-Party Personnel Survey Results: Action Steps



- **Improve Access to Technology**
 - Implement 1:1 in MS
 - Design Grade Pass-Through for Grade Entry
 - Consolidate communication tools
- **Advance Academic Ownership and Student Responsibility**
 - Introduce new policy for grading, promotion/retention
 - ES: Move 3rd grade to numeric report card and introduce promotion criteria in K-5
 - MS: introduce unit recovery and course recovery for students with failing grade
 - HS: Define a phased sunset of course extension and introduce defined eligibility requirements for credit recovery and course re-enrollment
 - Re-establish Summer School for MS and HS and additional learning opportunities for ES
- **Improve Quality Teacher Planning Time**
 - Refine lesson plan requirements
 - Improved instructional systems and support for Pre-K learning
 - Introduce Conference Days on School Calendar
 - Reduce Assessment Days (CogAT and PSAT 9)
 - Standardize New Teacher Training
- **Improve Competitive Compensation**
 - Two consecutive years of salary improvements (totaling 6%)
 - Calibrate Georgia Pre-K and Head Start teacher and paraprofessional pay
 - Improve hourly rate for bus drivers and paraprofessionals for self-contained units



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Developing a Long-Range Strategic Plan

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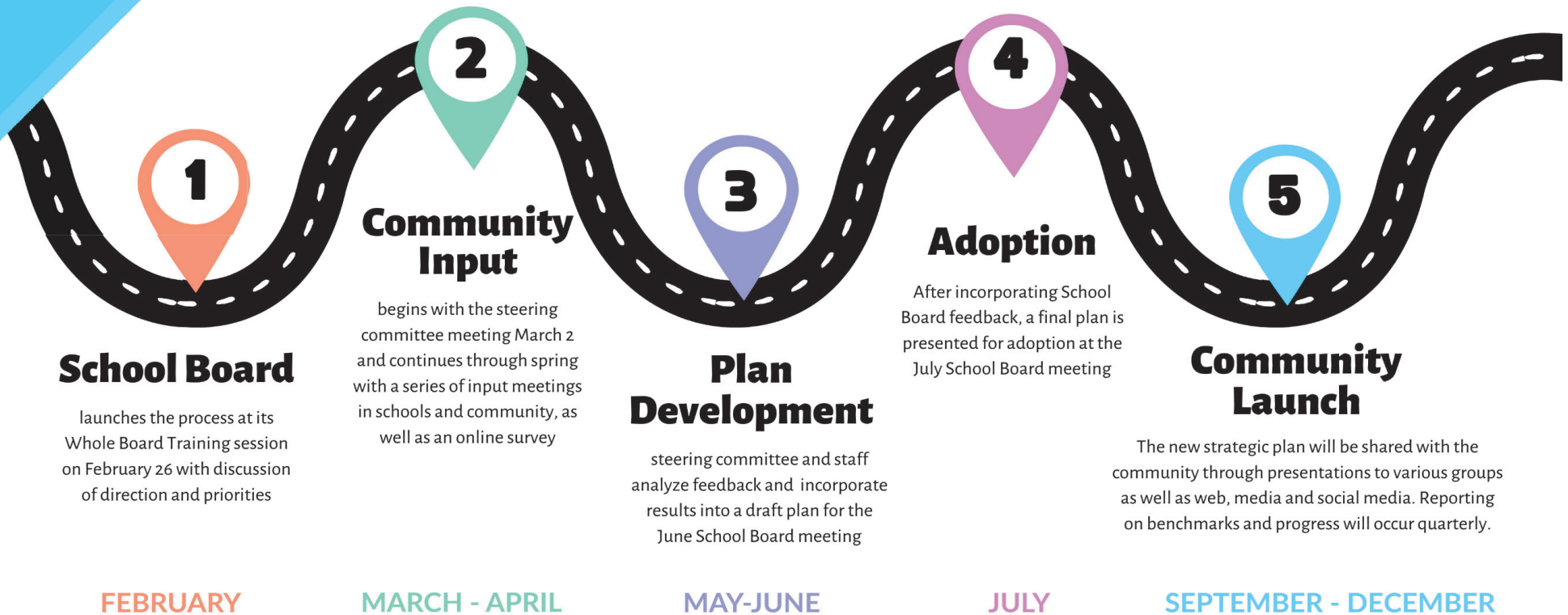
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Elevate the Excellence!

ELEVATE 2032 TIMELINE



On the road to our next strategic plan!



School Board

What should our strategic plan include?

- Action steps, SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) goals, timeline
- Budget/costs
- Balanced facilities
- Consideration of other community strategic plans

How should we measure success?

- College & Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) state accountability system
- Graduation rate

Who should we ask for community input?

- Students
- Teachers and employees
- Parents
- PTA
- County, city and state elected officials, civic leaders
- Industry and business leaders, Realtors



How should we gather community input?

- In-person community forums
- School board meetings
- Survey
- Activities at established events



Community Input

Strategic Plan Steering Committee, March 2

NEXT MEETINGS: April 27, May/June

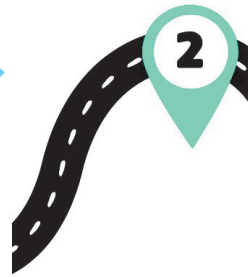




Community Input

Community Forum
and Civic Groups,
March - April





Community Input

Parent/Partner Zone Meetings, March 5-26



- ☑ CHEROKEE, 3/5
- ☑ CREEKVIEW, 3/6
- ☑ ETOWAH, 3/9
- ☑ RIVER RIDGE, 3/23
- ☑ SEQUOYAH, 3/26
- ☑ WOODSTOCK, 3/24



Community Input

Faculty and Staff
Meetings,
March - April





Community Input

**Student Delegates,
Advisory Council
Meetings,
March - April**





Community Input

From words to actions ... our community's feedback is designing our journey

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELEVATE 2032

	STUDENTS	EMPLOYEES	FAMILIES	SCHOOLS
	Core Belief 1: All students are highly engaged in their education and capable of reaching their full learning potential?	Core Belief 2: Employees are trusted and supported as professionals and provided with resources to elevate student outcomes?	Core Belief 3: Families and our community are involved partners in student success and can expect all students to receive the best education possible?	Core Belief 4: Schools are positive and welcoming environments with clear expectations and accountability in all academic and operational areas?
What are we proud of that we do well in CCSD that we should continue?	Through PLCs, we collaborate & implement highly effective activities that increase student engagement	Teachers have a level of autonomy consistent with the level of trust from the administration	high test scores & graduation rates	The physical school environment is exceptional due to the excellent custodial staff

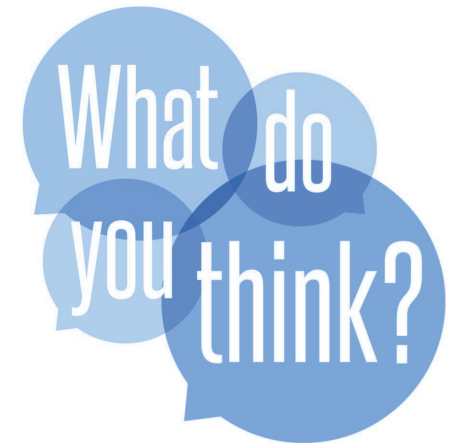
CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELEVATE 2032

	STUDENTS	EMPLOYEES	FAMILIES	EMPLOYEES	FAMILIES
	Core Belief 1: All students are highly engaged in their education and capable of reaching their full learning potential?	Core Belief 2: Employees are trusted and supported as professionals and provided with resources to elevate student outcomes?	Core Belief 3: Families and our community are involved partners in student success and can expect all students to receive the best education possible?	Core Belief 2: Employees are trusted and supported as professionals and provided with resources to elevate student outcomes?	Core Belief 3: Families and our community are involved partners in student success and can expect all students to receive the best education possible?
What are we proud of that we do well in CCSD that we should continue?	Variety of specials to keep class sizes lower to further enrich/enhance their education	materials, resources equipment /supplies	parent communication i.e. newsletters	See how they relate	the new survey which is more reflective of teachers' feelings and beliefs.
What do we want to do more of or be known for that helps us continue the process of getting better?	providing as many opportunities for developing ownership & autonomy	WHAT do we do well & SHOULD continue? Offering various class types and levels - AP, CTAE, etc. Growing and promoting all offerings Counseling support /Teacher support Club offerings and flexibility (Sports as well) Inter-school connections Well maintained, high quality environment /materials	How TO GET THERE? - More counselors - Semester meetings - Scheduling - Dual Enrollment Info - College Rec. - More Informed	who stay in...	Excellent job trying to be competitive with pay from other counties. Great job with communication across the county.

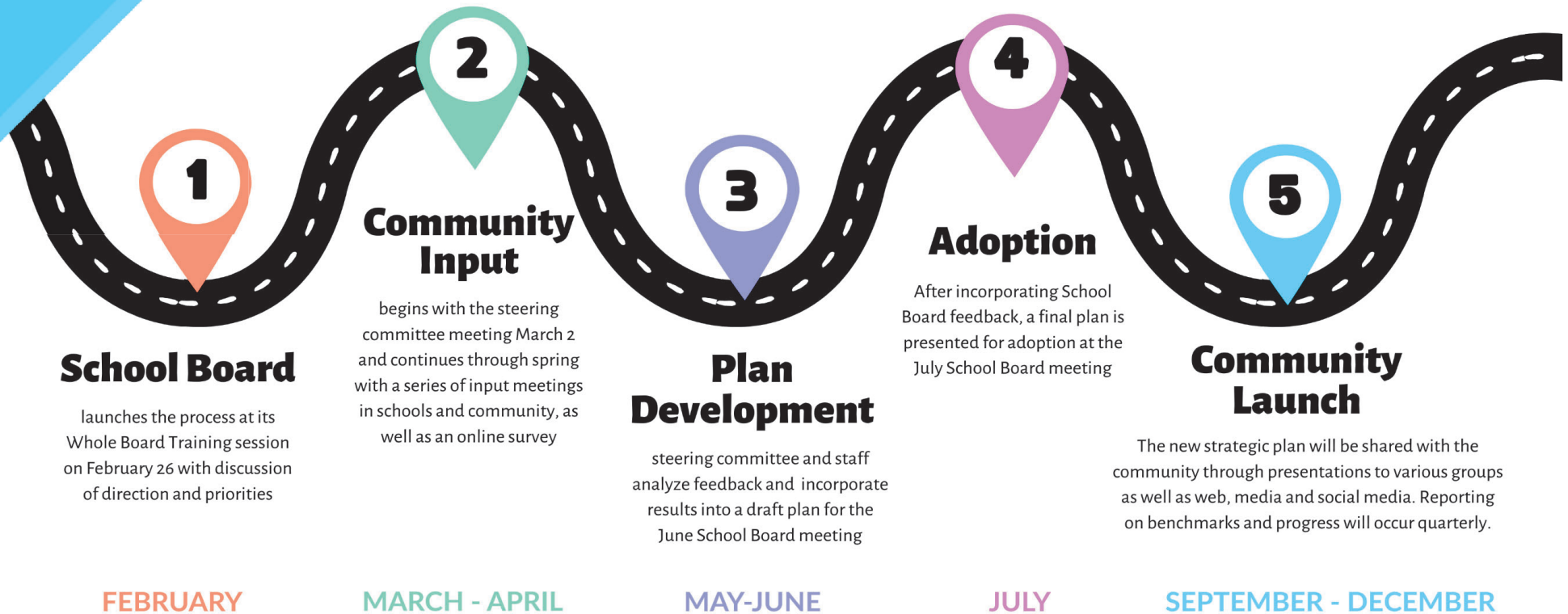


Community Input

Stakeholder
Survey



ELEVATE 2032 TIMELINE



On the road to our next strategic plan!



Cherokee County
School District

Developing a Long-Range Strategic Plan



Cherokee
County
School
District

Monthly Financial Report

Work Session | 04.23.26



Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Mary Elizabeth Davis PhD, Superintendent
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer

FINANCIAL REPORT
MARCH 2026

General Fund

For the month ending March 31, 2026, the ninth month of the 2025-26 Fiscal Year, the School District's Operating Account (General Fund) has received \$492,593,503 in revenue (year-to-date) consisting of state funds of \$193,770,045 (68% of budget), \$294,909,069 local revenues (90% of budget), and other funds of \$3,914,389 (133% of budget). All operating expenditures of \$418,279,688 (69% of budget) are within the Board of Education's approved 2025-26 budget.

Building Fund/Ed-SPLOST Collections

The Capital Outlay Fund balance of \$74,900,735 as of March 31, 2026 reflects Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for Education (Ed-SPLOST) collections, proceeds of bond sales for capital outlay purposes, and transfers from the General Fund less bond refundings, bond issuance costs, transfers of Ed-SPLOST to the Debt Service Fund and capital outlay expenses paid.

Cherokee County School District received \$5,192,766 for sales tax collections received in March 2026, for the month of February 2026, the 41st month of 60 monthly sales tax collections for the 2022-2027 SPLOST. Collections received were above projections for the month by \$881,886 and above cumulative projections by \$35,697,817.

Ed-SPLOST collections are accumulated within the Building Fund to be used for specified capital outlay purchases (limited pay-as-you-go) and transferred to the Debt Service Fund at the appropriate time to meet annual bond obligations (January and July). Excess Ed-SPLOST collections above projections are used to meet critical capital outlay needs and/or transferred to the Debt Service Fund as a safeguard against future negative economic conditions, assuring the School District can meet future bond payments.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund balance as March 31, 2026 is \$43,130,889 representing funds accumulated from Ed-SPLOST collections, collections from the 1.5 mills of property tax approved by the School Board, interest earned from investments and Invested Sinking Fund earnings. The Invested Sinking Fund is attached to the Series 2010B Bond issuance and is structured to fully pay the annual debt service on the Series 2010B bonds through August 2028. Annual Debt Service payments are made in February and August of each year, according to the Debt Service Schedule published annually in the Cherokee County School District Budget Book.

Federal/State/Competitive Grants and School Nutrition Funds

The School Nutrition Fund Balance as of March 31, 2026 is \$15,546,998 and represents the difference between revenues from all sources and all expenditures. This amount is held in reserve to cover potential funding shortfalls or unexpected expenses.

Federal, State and Competitive grant funds are annually awarded to the School District based on funding formulas (Federal Title Programs) and/or program applications (State and competitive grants). As funds are expended, reimbursements are sought from the various programs. Local funds are not intended to cover shortfalls within grant programs nor are grants intended to carry a fund balance.

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF MARCH 31, 2026**

BALANCE SHEET	GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	BUILDING FUND	FED FUNDS/ SCHOOL NUTRITION	TOTAL
ASSETS					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 233,488,843	\$ 6,040,778	\$ 76,099,619	\$ 10,189,185	\$ 325,818,425
Investments	-	35,581,486	-	-	35,581,486
Receivables	1,200,524	1,508,625	-	5,733,168	8,442,317
Inventories	1,392,172	-	-	1,700,002	3,092,174
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 236,081,539	\$ 43,130,889	\$ 76,099,619	\$ 17,622,355	\$ 372,934,402
LIABILITIES					
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,156,646	\$ -	\$ 1,198,884	\$ 796,821	\$ 3,152,351
Salaries and Benefits Payable	19,841,369	-	-	1,278,536	21,119,905
FUND BALANCE	215,083,524	43,130,889	74,900,735	15,546,998	348,662,146
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 236,081,539	\$ 43,130,889	\$ 76,099,619	\$ 17,622,355	\$ 372,934,402
REVENUE AND EXPENSE					
REVENUE	\$ 492,593,503	\$ 26,304,384	\$ 52,050,910	\$ 33,770,644	\$ 604,719,441
EXPENDITURES	418,279,688	60,203,571	84,921,609	36,252,586	599,657,454
EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	74,313,815	(33,899,187)	(32,870,699)	(2,481,942)	5,061,987
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	96,100	26,258,758	(26,258,758)	-	96,100
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	140,673,609	50,771,318	134,030,192	18,028,940	343,504,059
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 215,083,524	\$ 43,130,889	\$ 74,900,735	\$ 15,546,998	\$ 348,662,146

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2025 - MARCH 31, 2026**

	2025-2026			
	APPROVED BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	\$ 326,596,116	\$ 294,909,069		\$ 31,687,047
State Revenue	286,744,640	193,770,045		92,974,595
Federal Revenue	217,661	330,649		(112,988)
Investment Earnings	2,715,621	3,583,740		(868,119)
TOTAL REVENUE	616,274,038	492,593,503		123,680,535
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	424,777,151	270,655,870	\$ 1,274,439	152,846,842
Pupil Services	30,220,016	29,721,365	13,323	485,328
Improvement of Instructional Services	24,235,795	18,319,777	139,097	5,776,921
Instructional Staff Training	847,197	585,085	6,984	255,128
Educational Media Services	6,671,727	4,409,925	49,669	2,212,133
General Administration	4,245,046	3,216,632	-	1,028,414
School Administration	38,130,899	28,778,124	21,888	9,330,887
Support Services-Business	4,427,851	3,721,369	179,823	526,659
Maintenance & Operation of Plant Services	36,607,577	26,707,531	210,574	9,689,472
School Safety and Security	4,271,369	4,062,573	438,841	(230,045)
Student Transportation Services	32,788,836	22,178,583	1,859,724	8,750,529
Support Services-Central	7,626,101	5,922,854	7,141	1,696,106
School Nutrition Program	213,618	-	-	213,618
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	615,063,183	418,279,688	4,201,503	192,581,992
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	492,803	974,100		(481,297)
Accounts Transfers Out	(2,694,833)	(878,000)		(1,816,833)
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	(2,202,030)	96,100		(2,298,130)
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	\$ (991,175)	\$ 74,409,915	\$ (4,201,503)	\$ (71,199,587)

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEBT SERVICE FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2025 - MARCH 31, 2026**

	2025-2026		
	APPROVED BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE			
Local Revenue	\$ 25,086,767	\$ 24,829,652	\$ 257,115
Investment Earnings	1,606,513	1,223,295	383,218
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,548,750	251,437	2,297,313
TOTAL REVENUE	29,242,030	26,304,384	2,937,646
EXPENDITURES			
Debt Service	60,860,650	60,203,571	657,079
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	60,860,650	60,203,571	657,079
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Accounts Transfers In	26,258,758	26,258,758	-
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	26,258,758	26,258,758	-
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	\$ (5,359,862)	\$ (7,640,429)	\$ 2,280,567

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUILDING FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2025 - MARCH 31, 2026**

	2025-2026			
	APPROVED BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	\$ 59,572,740	\$ 47,610,442		\$ 11,962,298
State Revenue	3,153,686	-		3,153,686
Investment Earnings	4,495,548	4,440,468		55,080
TOTAL REVENUE	67,221,974	52,050,910		15,171,064
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	39,241,914	20,060,563	2,512,749	16,668,602
Support Services-Business	467,676	-	-	467,676
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Svs.	136,336,456	64,861,046	4,883,707	66,591,703
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	176,046,046	84,921,609	7,396,456	83,727,981
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Bond Issuance	90,000,000	-		90,000,000
Premiums on Bonds Sold	7,830,000	-		7,830,000
Deposit with Escrow Agent	-	-		-
Accounts Transfers In	-	-		-
Accounts Transfers Out	(26,258,758)	(26,258,758)		-
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	71,571,242	(26,258,758)		97,830,000
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	\$ (37,252,830)	\$ (59,129,457)	\$ (7,396,456)	\$ 29,273,083

**CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
FEDERAL FUNDS AND SCHOOL NUTRITION COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2025 - MARCH 31, 2026**

	2025-2026			
	APPROVED BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	\$ 8,519,957	\$ 6,466,441		\$ 2,053,516
State Revenue	1,912,725	1,651,991		260,734
Federal Revenue	31,593,978	25,280,703		6,313,275
Investment Earnings	650,240	371,509		278,731
TOTAL REVENUE	42,676,900	33,770,644		8,906,256
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	10,966,490	8,852,439	\$ 111,166	2,002,885
Pupil Services	5,447,173	4,563,548	50,841	832,784
Improvement of Instructional Services	783,910	429,180	-	354,730
Instructional Staff Training	2,025,555	1,022,081	1,519	1,001,955
Maintenance & Operation of Plant Services	-	-	-	-
Student Transportation Services	522,735	316,879	-	205,856
Support Services-Central	179,051	135,155	-	43,896
School Nutrition Program	24,843,008	20,933,304	1,241,503	2,668,201
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	44,767,922	36,252,586	1,405,029	7,110,307
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Accounts Transfers In	2,091,022	-		2,091,022
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	2,091,022	-		2,091,022
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	\$ -	\$ (2,481,942)	\$ (1,405,029)	\$ 3,886,971

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (2022-2027)
COMPARISON OF COLLECTIONS
THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026

REPORTING MONTH	60 MONTH COLLECTION MONTH	PERIOD	PROJECTED COLLECTIONS	ACTUAL COLLECTIONS	DIFFERENCE ACTUAL AND PROJECTED COLLECTIONS
November 2022	October 2022	1	\$ 4,636,009	\$ 5,328,786	\$ 692,777
December 2022	November 2022	2	4,807,242	5,405,654	598,412
January 2023	December 2022	3	5,104,524	6,617,076	1,512,552
February 2023	January 2023	4	4,824,820	4,852,679	27,859
March 2023	February 2023	5	4,062,238	4,697,475	635,237
April 2023	March 2023	6	4,325,376	5,419,587	1,094,211
May 2023	April 2023	7	4,448,443	5,296,122	847,679
June 2023	May 2023	8	4,604,100	5,494,145	890,045
July 2023	June 2023	9	4,818,522	5,509,360	690,838
August 2023	July 2023	10	4,787,586	5,922,789	1,135,203
September 2023	August 2023	11	4,848,609	5,339,709	491,100
October 2023	September 2023	12	4,619,404	5,276,069	656,665
November 2023	October 2023	13	4,766,013	5,652,592	886,579
December 2023	November 2023	14	4,899,541	5,628,151	728,610
January 2024	December 2023	15	5,403,573	6,715,254	1,311,681
February 2024	January 2024	16	4,921,317	5,110,321	189,004
March 2024	February 2024	17	4,143,483	5,309,129	1,165,646
April 2024	March 2024	18	4,411,884	5,502,215	1,090,331
May 2024	April 2024	19	4,537,412	5,471,342	933,930
June 2024	May 2024	20	4,696,182	5,810,715	1,114,533
July 2024	June 2024	21	4,914,893	5,612,665	697,772
August 2024	July 2024	22	4,883,338	5,864,797	981,459
September 2024	August 2024	23	4,945,582	5,789,651	844,069
October 2024	September 2024	24	4,711,792	5,345,738	633,946
November 2024	October 2024	25	4,861,333	5,514,947	653,614
December 2024	November 2024	26	4,997,532	5,796,564	799,032
January 2025	December 2024	27	5,511,645	6,812,555	1,300,910
February 2025	January 2025	28	5,019,743	5,147,797	128,054
March 2025	February 2025	29	4,226,353	5,157,129	930,776
April 2025	March 2025	30	4,500,122	5,678,527	1,178,405
May 2025	April 2025	31	4,628,160	5,902,762	1,274,602
June 2025	May 2025	32	4,790,105	5,887,018	1,096,913
July 2025	June 2025	33	5,013,191	5,867,483	854,292
August 2025	July 2025	34	4,981,005	6,125,326	1,144,321
September 2025	August 2025	35	5,044,493	6,159,431	1,114,938
October 2025	September 2025	36	4,806,027	5,688,641	882,614
November 2025	October 2025	37	4,958,560	5,817,903	859,343
December 2025	November 2025	38	5,097,482	6,088,901	991,419
January 2026	December 2025	39	5,621,878	7,122,430	1,500,552
February 2026	January 2026	40	5,120,138	5,376,144	256,006
March 2026	February 2026	41	4,310,880	5,192,766	881,886
			<u>\$ 196,610,527</u>	<u>\$ 232,308,344</u>	<u>\$ 35,697,817</u>

2022-2027 Ed-SPLOST Projected Collections

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	TOTAL
January	-	4,824,820	4,921,317	5,019,743	5,120,138	5,222,541	25,108,558
February	-	4,062,238	4,143,483	4,226,353	4,310,880	4,397,097	21,140,052
March	-	4,325,376	4,411,884	4,500,122	4,590,124	4,681,927	22,509,432
April	-	4,448,443	4,537,412	4,628,160	4,720,723	4,815,138	23,149,876
May	-	4,604,100	4,696,182	4,790,105	4,885,907	4,983,625	23,959,919
June	-	4,818,522	4,914,893	5,013,191	5,113,455	5,215,724	25,075,784
July	-	4,787,586	4,883,338	4,981,005	5,080,625	5,182,237	24,914,790
August	-	4,848,609	4,945,582	5,044,493	5,145,383	5,248,291	25,232,358
September	-	4,619,404	4,711,792	4,806,027	4,902,148	5,000,191	24,039,561
October	4,636,009	4,766,013	4,861,333	4,958,560	5,057,731	-	24,279,647
November	4,807,242	4,899,541	4,997,532	5,097,482	5,199,432	-	25,001,229
December	5,104,524	5,403,573	5,511,645	5,621,878	5,734,315	-	27,375,934
TOTALS	\$ 14,547,775	\$ 56,408,226	\$ 57,536,391	\$ 58,687,118	\$ 59,860,861	\$ 44,746,770	\$ 291,787,141



Projects in Construction

Cherokee HS Replacement

Replacement Facility

Carroll Daniel Construction

Substantial Completion: 02.2026

Anticipated Occupancy: 08.2026

- ADA and life safety inspections continue alongside fire alarm testing across the campus.
- Identification and completion of punch list items are advancing.
- Furniture delivery and installation are nearing completion.
- Technology staff are actively working to complete the installation of technology hardware.
- Transition meetings with district staff and the school administration/staff continue; plans are being finalized to begin relocation of the staff at the beginning of post-planning.
- Project is on schedule for student occupancy in August 2026.



Capital Outlay Report

Work Session | 04.23.2026



River Ridge HS

Auxiliary Gymnasium

SmithBuilt Construction Group

Substantial Completion: 05.2026

Anticipated Occupancy: 08.2026

- Painting, placement of ceiling tiles, and lighting fixture installation are complete.
- Installation of the scoreboard and goals is complete.
- Gym floor installation is underway.
- Asphalt work is complete, and landscaping with plant and tree installation has begun.
- Furniture orders were completed in December, with delivery and installation scheduled for mid-May.
- Project is on schedule for student occupancy in August 2026.





Sequoyah HS

Auxiliary Gym and Facility Improvements
(Press Box & Field House)
Carroll Daniel Construction

Substantial Completion: 11.2026
Anticipated Occupancy: 01.2027

- Construction activities for the auxiliary gym continue, including painting, exterior brick, metal wall panel installation, and above-ceiling punch work.
- Construction activities at the home concession are progressing, with the completion of the structural steel and roofing, and the placement of the exterior masonry walls is underway.
- At the visitor's concessions, exterior construction activities are wrapping up, while interior finishes such as painting and installation of fixtures are underway.
- Installation of underground mechanical and electric services is underway, with slab placement commencing.
- Interior renovations of the existing spaces started over spring break, with installation of the temporary wall and fencing, along with floor protection.



2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT STATUS
HB295 Gaines - R	Creates procedures for real property owners to make claims for compensation for loss of property value or expenses incurred; waives sovereign and governmental immunities for local governments and their officials and employees for a violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies.	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB328 Carpenter - R	Increases in the aggregate limit for contributions to student scholarship organizations from \$120M to \$140M. The bill also now includes language from HB1220 which would waive public school attendance requirements for military students and students with disabilities to obtain a scholarship. The bill also now contains the Peach Tax Credit and increases the cap from \$15 to \$25 Million. Finally, the bill now contains language from HB1259 which prohibits virtual instruction to out-of-system students if the local school system has a College and Career Ready Performance Index below a specified average.	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB445 Martin - R	Revises the language required to be included in the notices of current assessment and adding a hearing officer review for tax assessment of certain business personal property.	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB463 Blackmon - R	Provide for a state-wide homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes for certain senior citizens who volunteer with local governments in an amount to be determined by such local governments and was amended to contain state income tax reduction verbiage from SB477. Reduces the state income tax to 4.99% for 2026 and by .125% annually beginning in 2027 until the rate reaches 3.99% if certain conditions are met.	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB651 Powell - R	Requires a local referendum to deploy speed cameras in school zones; if approved would require renewal in six years. It allows existing contracts to continue until expiration. Camera operation is restricted to one hour before school and one hour after school. Caps on fees and surcharges to be implemented.	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB907 Jones, J - R	Completion Special Schools Act: requires local school systems within completion special school attendance zones to either partner with such schools or provide comprehensive dropout prevention programs. Mandates local systems share contact information of students who stop attending or withdraw from grades 9-12 with completion special schools.	03.20.2026 TGFS
HB973 Burns - R	Supplemental Budget: Fiscal Year 2025-26	03.03.2026 Act 372
HB974 Burns - R	General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027	04.02.2026 TGFS
HB1000 Gambill - R	Enacts Governor Kemp's proposal to provide tax refunds to Georgians totaling \$250 for individual filers, \$375 for heads of household, and \$500 for married filing jointly.	03.16.2026 TGFS

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

TGFS=To Governor for Signature

<p>HB1009 Hilton - R</p>	<p>Prohibits public school students from accessing personal electronic devices during the school day, with K-8 restrictions starting July 2026 and grades 9-12 restrictions beginning July 2027. Requires local school systems to establish policies for device storage, emergency communication protocols, and enforcement procedures by January 2026</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.23.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1030 Donatucci - R</p>	<p>Establishes the 'Math Matters Act' requiring Georgia schools to provide advanced math courses and automatic enrollment for high-performing students. Mandates minimum math instruction time for grades 4-5 and requires teacher certification programs to include evidence-based math instruction training. Requires the adoption of new math standards. Bill provisions would not be waivable by schools. HB 1030 also requires GaDOE to report various data on student math assessment performance and the number of students enrolled in advanced math courses. The bill now includes language from SB171 regarding advanced math pathways.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.27.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1107 Rice - R</p>	<p>Excellent Teacher Preparation Act: requires the Professional Standards Commission to develop annual performance measures evaluating all educator preparation programs in Georgia by January 2027. Mandates comprehensive reporting on program enrollment, graduate outcomes, job placement rates, and retention data to improve teacher preparation accountability.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.27.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1118 Donatucci - R</p>	<p>Provides 120 hours of paid maternal birth leave for eligible full-time state and local education agency employees who give birth. Requires employees to work six continuous months before eligibility and limits usage to a three-week period following childbirth.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.27.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1123 Jones - R</p>	<p>Requires public schools with pre-kindergarten programs to include pre-K students in after-school programs on the same basis as other students. Allows the Department of Early Care and Learning to grant one-year waivers for extenuating circumstances.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.19.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1164 Wade - R</p>	<p>Requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to appoint an audit committee and outline the committee's responsibilities. It revises financial audit provisions for school districts and state charter schools. The bill requires the Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) to create a tiered system to monitor the financial conditions of districts and state charter schools, and to institute interventions for those identified as in fiscal distress or in a critical fiscal emergency. Under HB 1164, GOSA has expanded authority to conduct performance audits of school districts, including their use of waivers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.23.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>HB1193 Erwin - R</p>	<p>Georgia Early Literacy Act of 2026: adjusts QBE to have a literacy coach in every K-3 elementary school, streamlines guidelines for grade placement (kindergarten as a requirement and grade retention policies), requires schools to adopt a unified literacy plans, engages higher education institutions and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission that prepare and certify educators, and creates a public awareness campaign.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03.31.2026 TGFS</p>

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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HB1284 Silcox - R	Gakobe Milton Act - provides for awarding high school diplomas posthumously and to high school students who are at the end of life	03.27.2026 TGFS
HB1293 Jones - R	Revises eligibility requirements and funding mechanisms for Georgia's Dual Achievement Program that allows students to earn high school diplomas through technical college coursework. Establishes a new funding formula and eliminates the program's automatic repeal date to make it permanent	03.19.2026 TGFS
HB1302 Gambill - R	Education and Workforce Strategy Act - reconstitutes the Governor's Office of Student Achievement to the Governor's Office of Education and Workforce Strategy.	03.18.2026 TGFS
HB1379 Gaines - R	Foreign Funding Transparency and Accountability Act: requires all Georgia public education institutions to submit semiannual reports detailing funding received from foreign sources. Makes these reports publicly available through the Department of Accounts and Audits website with personal information redacted.	03.18.2026 TGFS
HB1409 Camp - R	Allows for secure, web-based mandated reporting of child abuse	04.02.2026 TGFS
HR145 Erwin - R	Urges the Department of Education and Department of Health to collaborate to prioritize the expansion of vision and hearing screenings at various grade levels	3.12.2026 PASSED HOUSE BY SUBSTITUTE
SB/Sponsor	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT STATUS
SB33 Kirkpatrick - R	This bill was stripped of its contents and amended to add language similar to that of SB382 which opts school districts back into the provision of HB581 which caps annual increases in taxable home values at the rate of CPI. Starting in 2027, any increase in property taxes beyond CPI, will require voter approval. It also increases the reserve cap from 15% to 25%.	04.02.2026 TGFS
SB148 Hatchett - R	Creates a pilot program for outdoor learning spaces and requires an evaluation of and a report on the pilot program. It also increases the maximum number of accumulated sick leave days from three to five days that teachers and other school personnel may take each school year for personal or professional reasons (SB 412 and the original language from HB 127). It removes the requirement of a licensed physician to sign off on the maintenance of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for schools (HB 629). Finally, it allows local school boards to authorize hunting safety courses in grades 6-12 (HB 451).	01.28.2026 TGFS
SB150 Hatchett - R	Return to Work: 30 years or more of creditable service required; required to sit out of the classroom for one year and then return in high-needs areas: math, special education, science, CTAE, and reading, writing, or English language arts with a dyslexia or reading endorsement. The three areas of highest need will be determined based on vacancies per school district. If areas of highest need change, participants would remain eligible. Extends the sunset to June 2030 and requires a state audit by 2029.	03.31.2026 TGFS

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

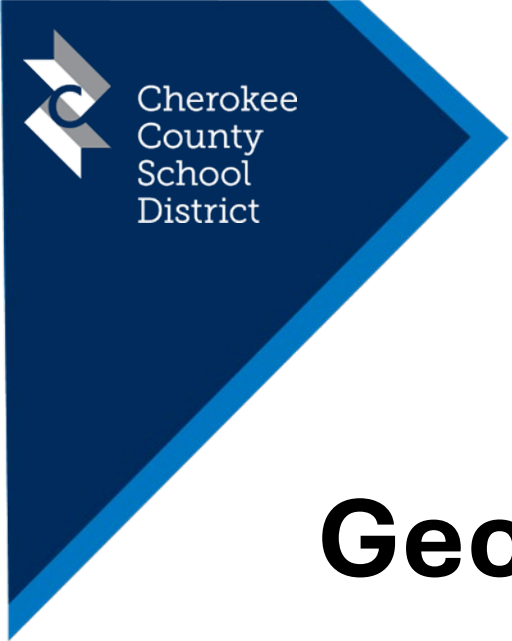
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<p>SB179 Dixon - R</p>	<p>Student records must be sent within five days. The Senate agreed to a House substitute which in addition to records requirements, now contains inclusion of computer science as a core course and increases the charge per student for each Georgia Virtual School course. Dixon amended the bill to include language similar to that of HB198 which encourages schools to facilitate access for students to participate in activities provided by a patriotic society for the purposes of encouraging civic education and school districts shall not prohibit such use.</p>	<p>03.23.2025 TGFS</p>
<p>SB284 Walker - R</p>	<p>"Georgia Uniform Securities Act of 2008:" authorizes issuance of orders by the Commissioner of Securities directing persons who have violated certain securities provisions to return. <i>Now contains language from HB669 which awards low-wealth capital outlay grants to qualifying local school systems that award certain contracts for roofing improvements to suppliers that meet certain criteria.</i></p>	<p>03.27.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>SB369 Still - R</p>	<p>Establishes definitions and rules for Completion Charter Schools: establishes a new definition for dropout recovery charter schools in the Georgia code, allows these schools to apply for local approval, and requires the Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) to separately report on the performance of these schools.</p> <p>The bill now contains additional language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB1257 which revises provisions for incentive grants for local board approval of charters • HB1206 which requires local boards to consider the total costs of purchasing electronic devices • HB1218 which allows virtual students in grades 6-12 to participate in extracurricular activities 	<p>03.31.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>SB402 Tillery - R</p>	<p>Establishes a five-year pilot program to provide autism spectrum disorder screenings and clinical evaluations to children in foster care. Requires the Division of Family and Children Services to train staff and caregivers while expanding the program across all regional service areas.</p>	<p>04.02.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>SB407 Dickerson - R</p>	<p>Provides for a referendum to establish a 4% annual cap on the assessed value of a homestead in Cherokee County for education property taxation purposes</p>	<p>02.17.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>SB431 Kirkpatrick - R</p>	<p>Requires enrollment of foster care students no later than three school days of a request for enrollment by such student's parent or legal custodian. School districts are prohibited from enrolling in virtual instruction while waiting for records.</p>	<p>04.02.2026 TGFS</p>
<p>SB472 Hickman - R</p>	<p>Provides for the suspension of local board members following certain audit findings or findings by the state auditor of financial mismanagement or misconduct, for a cap on the total amount of advance distributions of state-allocated funds that may be made by the State Board of Education to local units of administration, for intervention plans, and for the authority of the state auditor relative to such intervention plans. Amended to say if a local school system is designated as high-risk, the superintendent's contract can only be extended for twelve months (as also stated in HB 1164) and if the state auditor finds the superintendent to be</p>	<p>03.27.2026 TGFS</p>

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

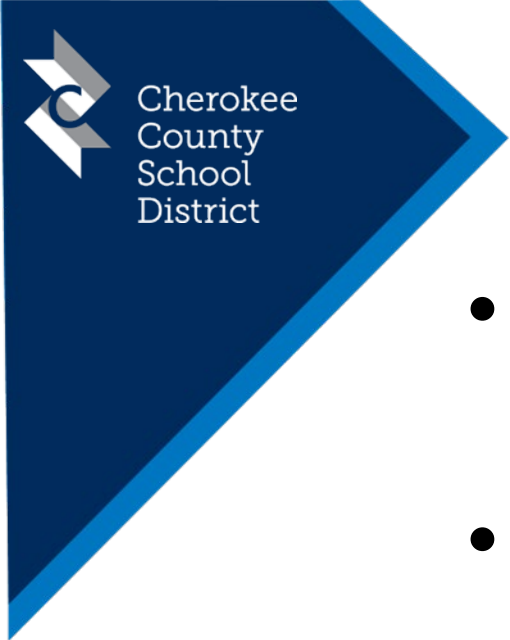
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	the subject of a finding for financial mismanagement or misconduct or has knowingly failed or refused to comply with an intervention or corrective action plan, then the local board may terminate the superintendent's contract for cause. Includes provisions that require 10% rather than 25% of registered voters to petition to consolidate city and county school districts.	
SB523 Goodman - R	Creates state-wide Title VI Coordinators for K-12 and higher education to investigate discrimination complaints and enforce compliance.	03.25.2026 TGFS
SB552 Watson - R	"True Patriotism and Universal Access (TPUSA) Act establishes equal access rights for students to engage in political activities and expression in Georgia public schools and requires schools with limited open forums to provide the same opportunities for partisan and nonpartisan political groups as other noncurricular student organizations. Schools will maintain the authority to maintain order regarding school attendance.	03.31.2026 TGFS
SB556 Payne - R	Creates dual credit courses and academic eligibility requirements to receive the HOPE scholarship by providing for the inclusion of advanced placement (AP) and international baccalaureate (IB) fine arts courses in the calculation of grade point averages for determining student eligibility for the HOPE scholarships and other scholarships.	04.02.2026 TGFS
SB566 Hufstetler - R	Allows for the acceptance of tax digests in the event of a publication error made by a newspaper. Revises required information to be contained on a property tax bill and extends certain exemption application periods.	03.27.2026 TGFS
SB589 Brass - R	Allows children who turn four or five by August 1 to enroll in Georgia's Pre-K Program at their parent's request. <i>Now includes language from HB1045 which requires public schools issuing student ID badges for grades 6-12 to include 9-8-8 crisis hotline information on the badges to promote mental health awareness among middle and high school students. Now includes language which allows students to be enrolled in either kindergarten or first grade at parents' request.</i>	03.31.2026 TGFS
SR545 Kemp - D	Creates Senate Study Committee on Paid Student Teaching	03.31.2026 PASSED SENATE
SR553 Halpern - R	Creates Senate Study Committee on Funding for Charter School Capital Improvements	03.31.2026 PASSED SENATE
SR789 James - D	Creates the Senate Study Committee on the Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	03.31.2026 PASSED SENATE



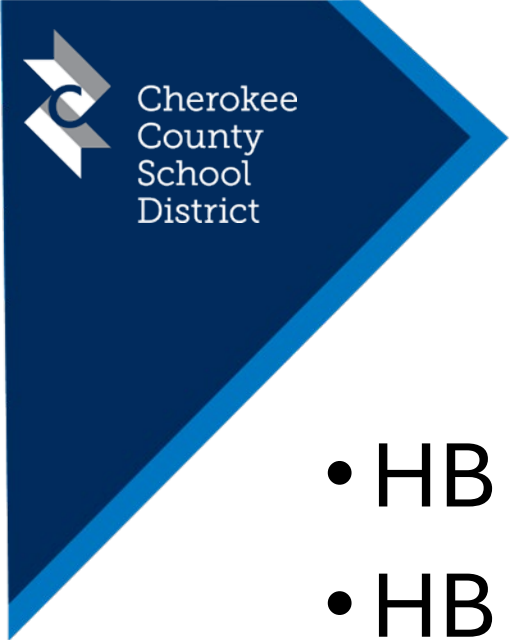
Georgia Legislative Session Update

April 23, 2026



Overview

- Over 200 Education Bills filed this year
- 72 education bills made it through Crossover Day
- 85 bills still under consideration on last day of session
- 40 bills authored before legislative session adjourned
- Governor Kemp has 40 days to Sign or Veto



Education Impact Bills

- HB 907 – Completion Specialty Schools
- HB 1009 – Personal Device Restriction
- HB 1030 – Math Matters Act
- HB 1193 – Early Literacy Act of 2026
- SB 33 – Property Tax Reform
- SB 148 – Personal Day Increase
- SB 431 – Foster Children