Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

2025 – 26

FAST FACTS

Endless possibilities

START WITH CMS!





2nd largest district in N.C.
and **16th largest** in the nation

185 schools
11 performance areas



101 Elementary Schools
16 K–8 Schools
29 Middle Schools
2 Middle/High Schools
33 High Schools
4 Alternative Schools

Approximately 140,000 students
(20-day count), representing

158
countries of origin

201
native languages



33.8% Black
31.5% Hispanic
23.6% White
7% Asian
3.8% Multicultural
<1% American Indian
<1% Pacific Islander

Largest school transportation
system in N.C.

71,769
students transported

99,500
miles traveled/day

17,611,500
miles traveled/year

25,500
bus stops daily

115,000 meals
served daily, including free breakfasts at all schools and free breakfasts and lunches at **115 schools**

Our 2024–29 **Strategic Plan** is designed to:

- Meet goals set by the Board for **improved literacy, math skills,** and post-secondary readiness to be **enrolled, enlisted or employed.**
- Adhere to guardrails mandated by the Board to maintain **equity, safety, well-being and quality teachers.**
- Advance our 4 pillars of excellence: **Academic, People, Operational and Engagement.**

Scan to read the Strategic Plan

CMS sets the standard with innovative programs and options that empower educators and nurture every student in a safe, inspiring learning environment.

- **CMS Teaching Residency** provides a path for teachers to earn a certification while teaching; more than 300 teachers are currently enrolled in the program with more on a waiting list.
- **CMS offers diverse educational programs** through a myriad of school choice options from International Baccalaureate (IB), computer science, aviation and the arts, to STEM and STEAM, world languages, Montessori, early colleges, and much more.
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE),** offers 16 Career Clusters that include more than 70 different CTE course pathways that can lead to endless career possibilities for students.
- **Dedicated CMS Police Department** with 200+ security team members committed to student and staff safety.

2025–26 Operating Budget: $1,938,748,587 ($1.9 billion)



55.8% State
34.4% Local
6.1% Federal
3.7% Other



78.2% Salaries & Benefits
11.1% Purchased Services
5.4% Supplies & Materials
4.9% Charter School Pass Through
0.4% Furniture and Equipment



cms
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www.cmsk12.org