

# Avon Grove Charter School

## 2025-2026 Annual Report



*Where Stories Begin*



# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

To Our AGCS Community,

Over twenty-four years ago, we opened our doors with a simple but powerful belief: every child deserves a school that knows their name, believes in their potential, and invests in their future. That belief has never wavered, and this year it has never felt truer.



The 2025–2026 school year has been one of our most meaningful yet. Our theme, Where Stories Begin, captured something essential about who we are: a place where students are writing the chapters of their lives, full of possibility. This year brought countless moments of growth, achievement, and celebration.

Behind those moments was the deep, often unglamorous work that great schools are built on: strengthening our curriculum, reimagining how we support every learner, and refining the systems that help our students thrive. All of it has been guided by a comprehensive strategic plan that keeps our focus on what matters most: your children.

That same long-term vision is shaping the future of our campus. This year marked the opening of our new Upper School building for grades 7–12, a milestone years in the making. Construction is also underway on The Den, a gathering place for our community that will house our cafeteria, Family and Consumer Sciences classroom, and Engineering Lab. Looking ahead, our Lower School will welcome a redesigned front entrance and administrative offices in 2027. Together, these projects reflect our commitment to providing exceptional learning environments for current and future generations of students.

As we look ahead, we are excited not only to celebrate the completion of these projects, but also a major milestone in our school's history: AGCS's 25th anniversary in August 2027. None of this happens without you. Thank you for choosing AGCS, for trusting us with your most important people, and for being part of a community where every story matters.

With Gratitude,  
Kristen Bishop  
CEO/Head of School





# SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Dwayne Degler** President  
**Enrique Mora** Vice President  
**Deji Akintoye** Treasurer  
**Jonathan Purifoy** Secretary  
**Cynthia Allen** Member  
**Stacy Barno** Member  
**Kelly Eshleman** Member  
**Brian Ladman** Member  
**Charity Longenecker** Member



## ADMINISTRATORS

**Kristen Bishop** Head of School & CEO  
**Natosha Bowers** Director of Human Resources & CPO  
**Donna Archer** Business Administrator & CFO  
**Gerri Kingery** Director of Information Technology  
**Jennifer Weaver** Director of Teaching & Learning  
**Ryan Taylor** Director of Student Services  
**Alex Bove** Director of Special Education

## PRINCIPALS

### UPPER SCHOOL

**Matthew Messick** Principal, 9-12  
**GeriAnn Lambert** Principal, 7-8  
**Mark Miller** Assistant Principal, 7-12

### LOWER SCHOOL

**Sharon Ray** Principal, 4-6  
**Tara Delgado** Assistant Principal, 4-6

### EARLY LEARNING CENTER

**Kelly Hendrickson** Principal, K-3  
**Kristopher Stevenson** Assistant Principal, K-3

## MISSION

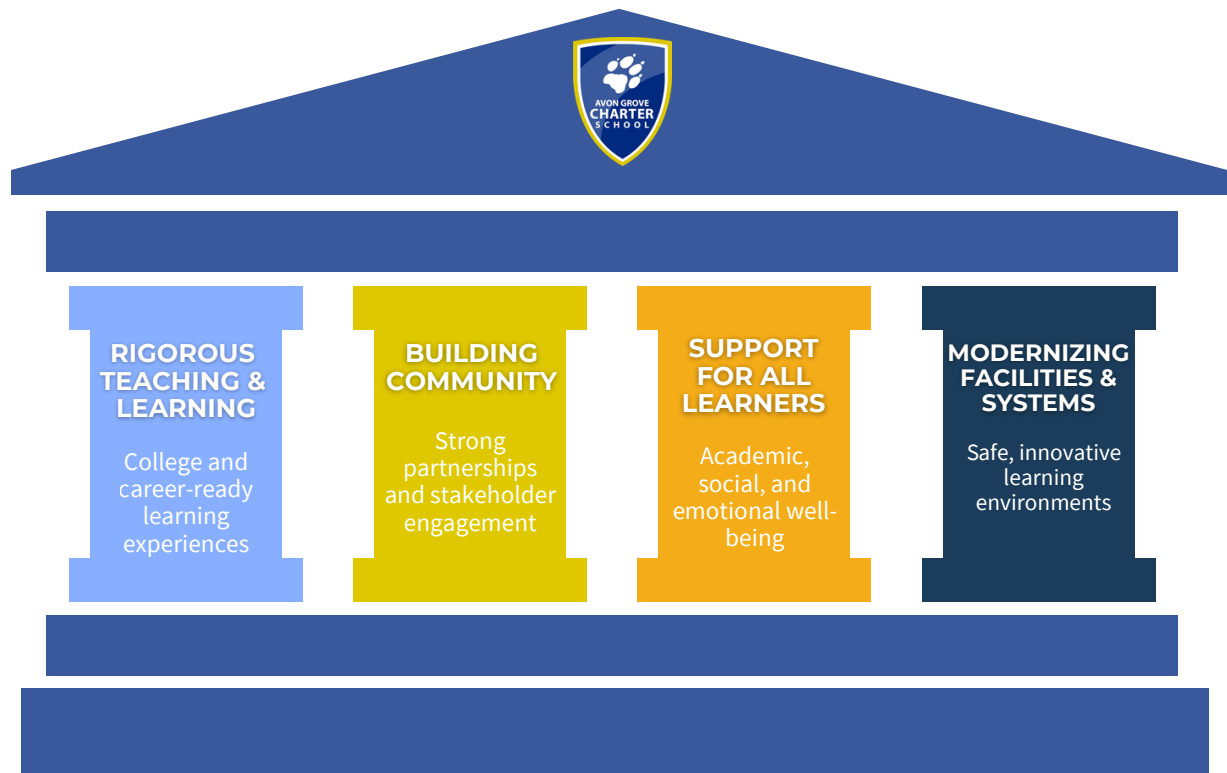
To inspire passion for lifelong learning one student at a time.

## VISION

To be an accepting community that unlocks students' abilities to discover and reach their full potential.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

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## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES IN ACTION

### Upper School Program of Studies

- Aligned course prerequisites across departments
- Added grade-level course progressions
- Created elective pathways tied to student interests and post-secondary goals

### CAAP Program Updates

- Refined program mission and branding
- Renamed to Charter's Academically Accelerated Program (CAAP)
- Raised the eligibility threshold from the 80th to the 85th percentile

### K-8 Mathematics Review

- Completed comprehensive curriculum review
- Adopted Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Into Math, a research-based program designed to strengthen conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills



A photograph of a modern school building. The building features a large, overhanging roof with a brown, wood-grain texture. The main facade is made of light gray panels. There are several windows with black frames and yellow accents. A large glass entrance is visible on the right side. The sky is blue with some clouds.

# A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

**OUR NEW UPPER SCHOOL  
BUILDING OPENED ON  
JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

Years of planning, construction, and anticipation culminated in an unforgettable day and the start of a new page in our history book.





**SCAN TO  
WATCH THE  
GRAND  
OPENING  
VIDEO**



On January 5, 2026, AGCS reached an historic milestone as students in grades 7–12 walked through the doors of the new Upper School for the very first time. The excitement of opening day was felt throughout the school community as students explored their new spaces and settled into their new school home.

The celebration continued with special events and a visit from FOX 29, helping showcase this exciting chapter in AGCS history. More than a new building, the Upper School represents AGCS's continued commitment to providing exceptional learning experiences and opportunities for students.



Bob Kelly and FOX 29 joined AGCS for a live segment during the opening day pep rally.

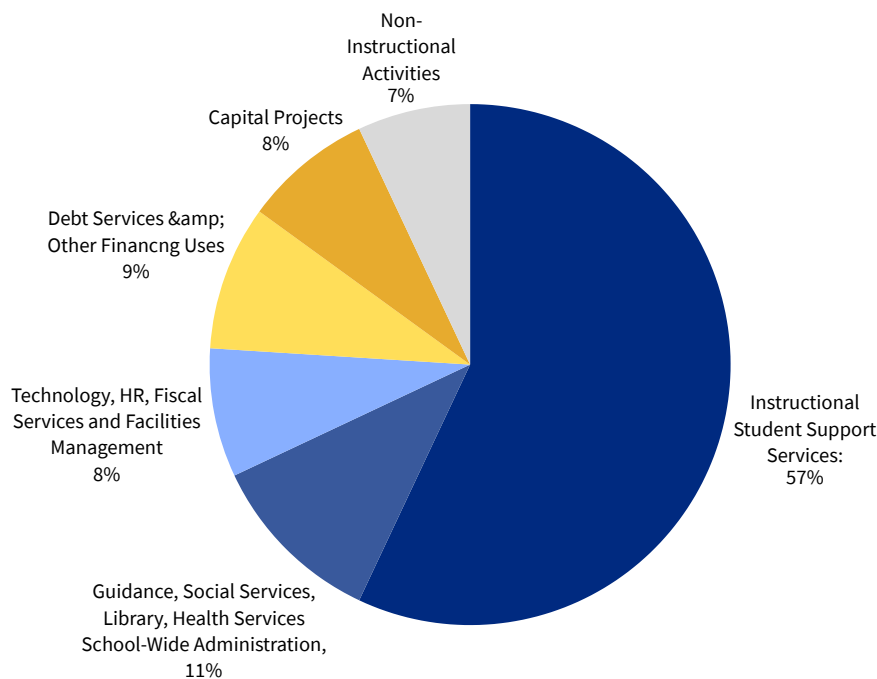
The new Upper School includes collaborative learning spaces where students can gather for group work, project-based learning, and classroom extension activities. These flexible environments support communication, creativity, and student engagement.

The new Upper School features compartmentalized safety doors that can quickly secure hallways during an emergency, providing an additional layer of protection for students and staff.

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

- ✓ ZERO AUDIT FINDINGS
- ✓ FULL FISCAL COMPLIANCE
- ✓ USDA REPORTING COMPLIANCE
- ✓ LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING

**2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET: \$47,760,575.00**



Every budget decision at AGCS is guided by a commitment to student success and responsible stewardship of public resources. Through thoughtful planning and strategic investment, the school remains well-positioned to support both current needs and future growth.



# EMPLOYEES

Behind every student success story is our team of dedicated professionals committed to helping students learn, grow, and thrive. The data below reflects the experience, expertise, and commitment represented across our campuses. Together, our faculty and staff create a culture of excellence and care that supports students at every stage of their AGCS journey.

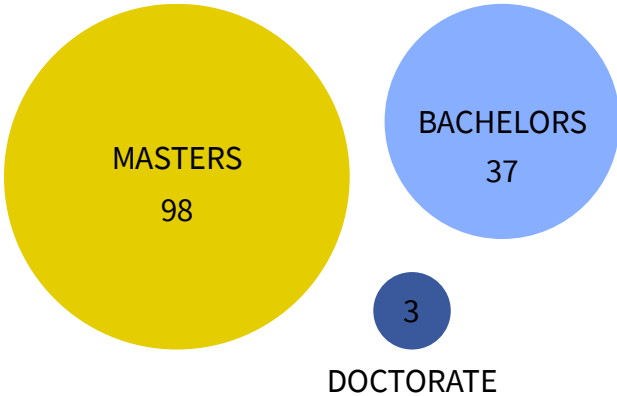
147 STATE ROAD  
FACULTY

88 EARLY LEARNING  
CENTER FACULTY

100% OF OUR TEACHERS ARE CERTIFIED IN THEIR CONTENT AREA



## Number of Staff Members at Each Level of Education



28 10-14 YEARS  
OF SERVICE

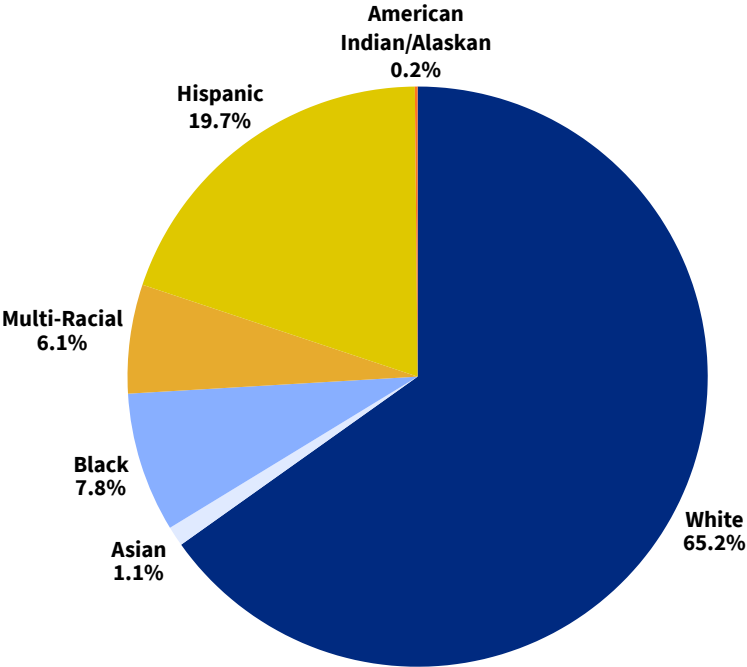
33 15-19 YEARS  
OF SERVICE

18 20+ YEARS  
OF SERVICE

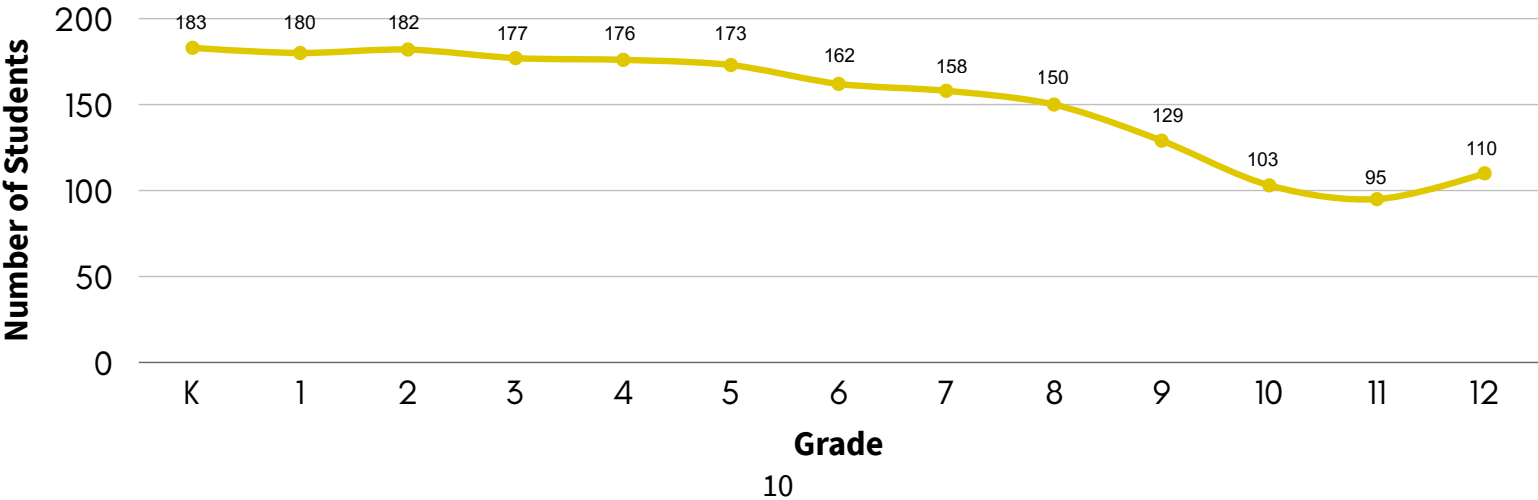
# WHO WE SERVE



Ethnicity



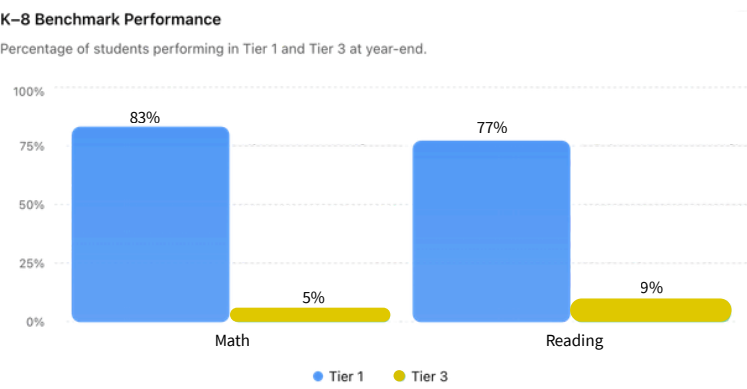
Students by Grade



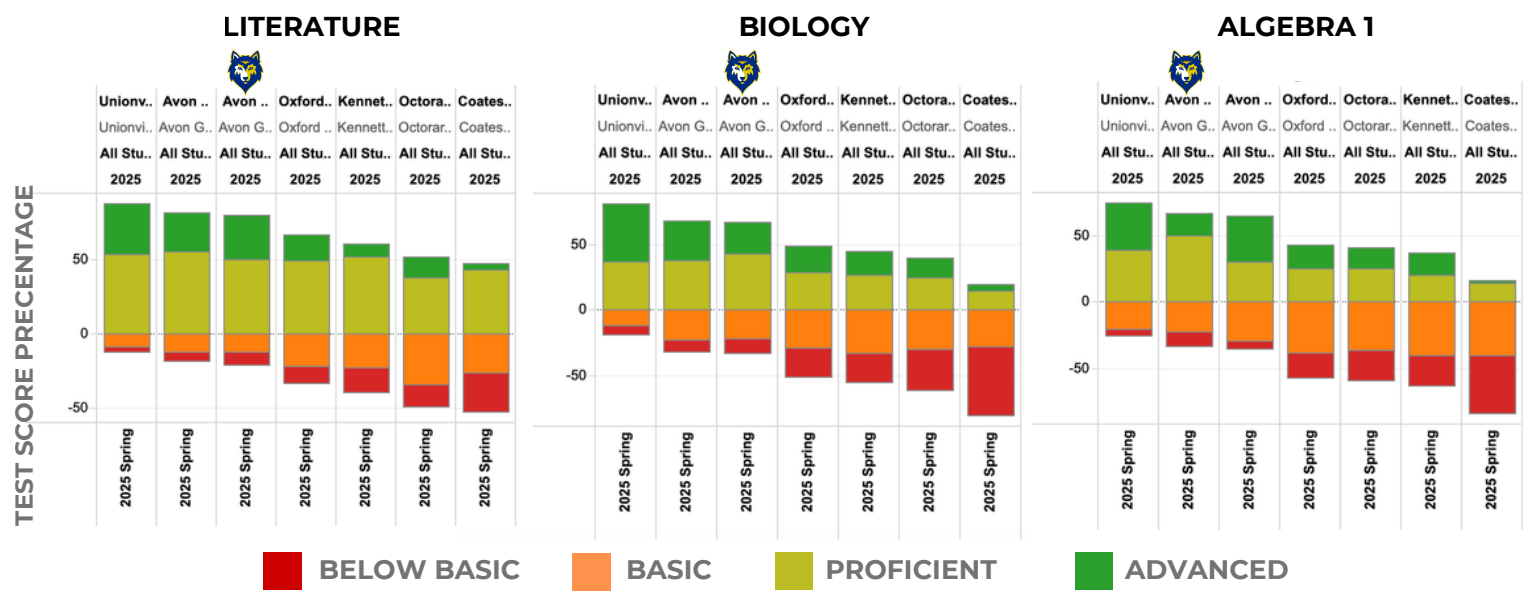


# ACADEMIC RIGOR

Student benchmark data reflects strong academic performance across grades K–8. By year-end, 83% of students were performing at Tier 1 in mathematics and 77% in reading, while only 5% and 9%, respectively, were identified as Tier 3. These results reflect the impact of targeted instruction, intervention supports, and a continued focus on academic excellence.



## KEYSTONE RESULTS COMPARED TO SURROUNDING DISTRICTS



“AGCS has prepared me to set goals and challenge myself. Throughout my time at Charter, I have been encouraged to pursue opportunities I once thought were out of reach, and I’ve learned that I am capable of achieving more than I ever gave myself credit for.”

-Ginetta Gallo, Class of 2026

OVER 30 DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES OFFERED AND FUNDED BY AGCS

100% PASS RATE ON 2025 AP BIOLOGY EXAM

# SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

## PEER TO PEER MENTORSHIP



This year, AGCS launched Link Crew and WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) Crew, two peer-to-peer mentoring programs designed to help students successfully transition into Middle and High School. Trained student leaders welcomed incoming 7th- and 9th-grade students, as well as those new to AGCS, through student-led orientation days before the start of school.

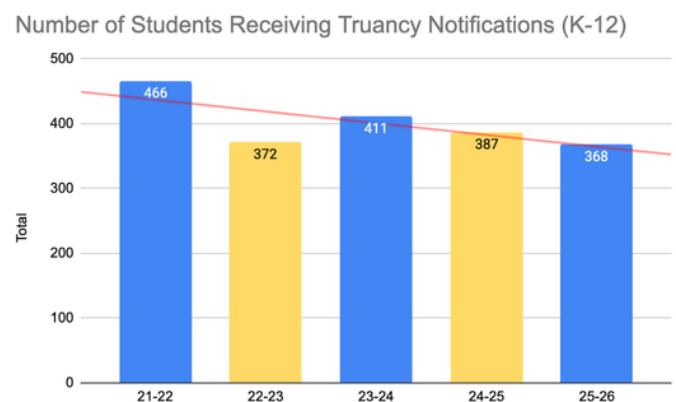
Throughout the year, mentors provided support through activities, assemblies, and regular check-ins, helping new students build connections, navigate their new environment, and develop a strong sense of belonging. The programs have strengthened school culture while supporting students both socially and academically during this important transition.

## TACKLING CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Improving student attendance remained a strategic priority this year, with a schoolwide goal of achieving a 95% attendance rate. We are proud to report that the Early Learning Center met this benchmark, while grades 4–6 and 7–8 finished at 94% attendance and grades 9–12 reached 92%.

To address chronic absenteeism, AGCS increased counselor involvement in attendance monitoring, family communication, and attendance meetings.

To continue this upward trend next year, students with more than 10 medically related absences will participate in a family conference with the school nurse to determine whether additional supports or a health plan are needed. At the Upper School level, student privileges will be tied to attendance expectations to encourage consistent engagement in school.





## SEL MISSION

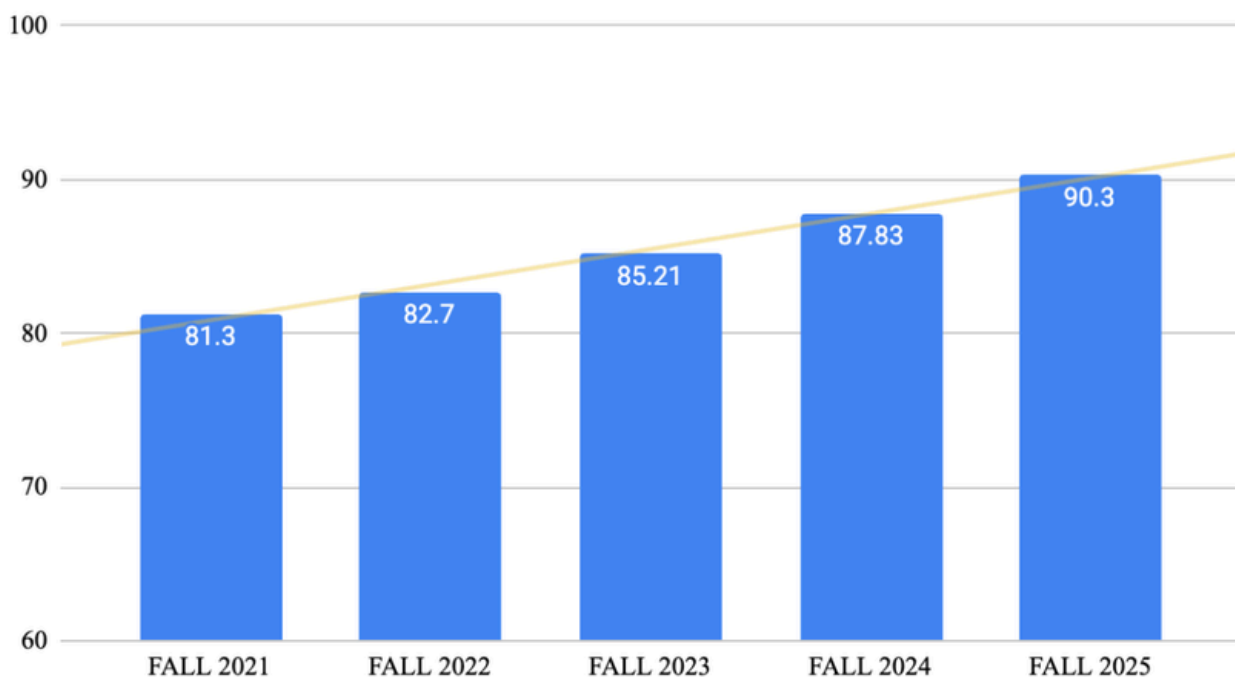
One of AGCS's social-emotional learning goals is for every student to identify an adult at school they can count on, no matter what. The steady increase in student responses over the past five years demonstrates the strength of the relationships being built between students and staff and reflects our commitment to ensuring every student feels known, supported, and valued.



# 100%

OF STUDENTS WILL REPORT  
HAVING AN ADULT AT  
SCHOOL THEY CAN COUNT  
ON, NO MATTER WHAT

Percent of Students who Report having an Adult at School to Count On



# AGCS PRIDE

## NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR AGCS COMMUNICATIONS

AGCS received an NSPRA Award of Excellence for its Capital Campaign Video, one of the highest honors in school communications. Produced in partnership with Matthew Arters of Addison Film Company, the video tells the story of AGCS's growth over the past two decades and the opening of the new Upper School. Scan the QR code to watch the award winning video!



## THE DEN TAKES SHAPE



Construction continues to advance on The Den, the next major addition to the AGCS campus. Structural steel is rising for the new facility while sitework progresses across campus, including paving, landscaping, and continued development of the grounds and future turf field. These projects represent another exciting step forward as AGCS continues to invest in spaces that support learning, innovation, and community.

## DISNEY STAGE CONNECT GRANT

AGCS was proud to receive a Disney Stage Connect Grant, which supported our Grade 4–6 production of Finding Nemo KIDS and introduced many students to musical theater for the first time. We are excited that the grant has been renewed, allowing us to continue fostering student creativity and confidence through our 2027 spring production of Frozen KIDS.



## DECA INTERNATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE



For the second consecutive year, AGCS students Ben Mullen and Noah Ramsey qualified for the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC), where they competed among the world's top business students. Ramsey earned the Top Test Score in the Business Management and Administration cluster, an outstanding achievement on the international stage.



# ATHLETICS

AGCS Athletics concluded another successful year of competition, growth, and achievement. During the annual Sports Boosters Banquet, student-athletes were recognized for their dedication, sportsmanship, and accomplishments both on and off the field. Congratulations to Cristian "Tito" Matlock and Chloe Sullivan, recipients of the 2026 AGCS Senior Athlete of the Year Scholarships.

As we look ahead, excitement is building for the opening of our new turf field behind the Upper School. With continued investment in facilities, programs, and student opportunities, the future of AGCS Athletics is brighter than ever.



## COLLEGIATE COMMITMENTS

**Ella Barrett**

Volleyball, Cecil College

**Charlotte Biehn**

Swimming, York College

**Jaelyn Brison**

Flag Football, Goldey-Beacom College

**Ella Civatte**

Cross Country, Delaware County

Technical Community College

**Chloe Sullivan**

Volleyball, Penn State Abington

**Sydney Welch**

Volleyball, Cecil College



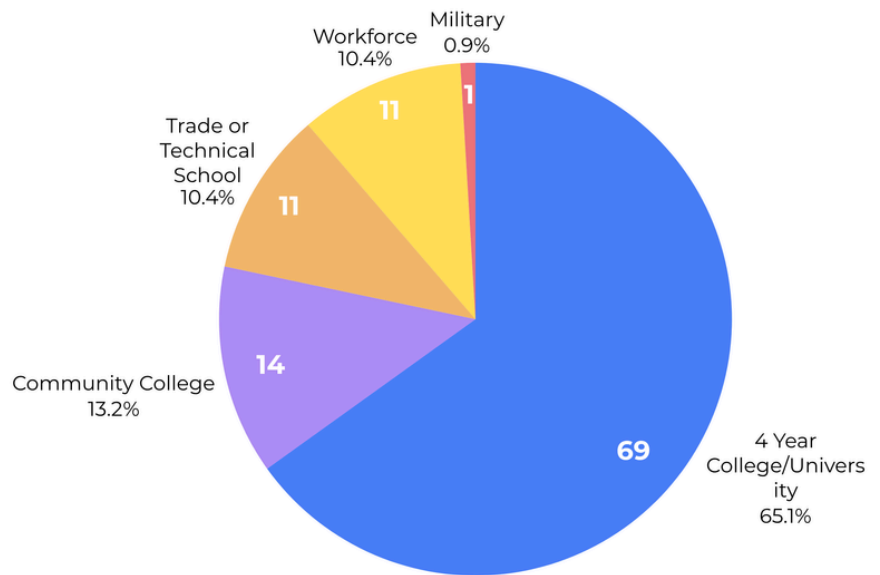


# CLASS OF 2026

## POST-SECONDARY PLANS

### 4-Year Colleges & Universities

Albright College  
 Bloomsburg University  
 Bowling Green State University  
 Bucknell University  
 California Polytechnic State University  
 Delaware State University  
 East Stroudsburg University  
 George Washington University  
 Goldey-Beacom College  
 Immaculata University  
 James Madison University  
 Kutztown University  
 Millersville University  
 Misericordia University  
 Neumann University  
 Penn State Altoona  
 Penn State Abington  
 Penn State University Park  
 Quinnipiac University  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Roger Williams University  
 Slippery Rock University  
 Syracuse University  
 Temple University  
 The School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
 University of Colorado Boulder  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Valley Forge  
 Ursinus College  
 Villanova University  
 Washington University in St. Louis  
 West Chester University  
 Wilson College  
 York College of Pennsylvania



### Community Colleges

Cecil College  
 Delaware County Community College  
 Delaware Technical Community College  
 Northampton Community College

### Trade & Technical Schools

ATP Flight School  
 Fire/EMT School  
 Harcum College  
 Lancaster School of Cosmetology  
 Pennco Tech  
 Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences  
 Schilling-Douglas School of Hair Design  
 Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology  
 Universal Technical Institute





**AVON GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL**

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our website to learn more!



[agcharter.org](http://agcharter.org)