



ATLANTA
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

UPPER SCHOOL
Family Guide
2026 - 2027

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2026-2027 Calendar

Academic and events calendars for the 2026-2027 school year are subject to change due to construction timelines. Please check the school website regularly for the most current information.



Academic, Testing,
and Events Calendars



Athletics
Calendar





Mission

The mission of Atlanta Classical Academy is to develop students in mind and character through a classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes the principles of virtuous living, traditional learning, and civic responsibility.

Vision

The vision of Atlanta Classical Academy is to be a nationally regarded K-12 classical school and serve as a local and national incubator for the growth and promotion of classical education.

Virtues

Courage, Courtesy, Honesty, Humility, Perseverance, Self-Government, Service.

Pledge

"I will learn the true. I will do the good. I will love the beautiful."



Scan here to view the
ACA Family Handbook.

UPPER SCHOOL Leadership



Mr. Josh Andrew

HEAD OF SCHOOL

jandrew@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Aaron Schepps

UPPER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

aschepps@atlantaclassical.org



Mr. Ian Nugent

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

inugent@atlantaclassical.org



Ms. Kristy Yunker

ACADEMIC RESOURCES DIRECTOR

kyunker@atlantaclassical.org



Ms. Natalie Spangler

DEAN OF STUDENT LIFE

nspangler@atlantaclassical.org



Need help?

Name	Position	Email
Mrs. Tarra Thompson	Receptionist	tthompson@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. LaNeish Holland	Nurse	lholland@atlantaclassical.org
Dr. Carolyn Jerdan	Counselor	cjerdan@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Rachael Boyd	MTSS/504 Coordinator/Counselor	rboyd@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Amy Nash	Special Education Lead Teacher	anash@atlantaclassical.org
Mrs. Cassidy Brown	Enrollment/Registration Coordinator	cbrown@atlantaclassical.org



Main School Line:
404-369-3500

All ACA staff can be reached through the main school line, but pre-arranged phone calls are preferable in non-emergency situations.

Cavalier Health

Health History

For everyone's health and safety, it is very important for our school nurses to be aware of each student's health history. Parents should thoroughly review and complete the Health History form on ParentSquare.

When To Stay Home From School

A child kept home or sent home with a fever may not return to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications (such as Tylenol or Motrin). Children with vomiting or diarrhea should stay home for 24 hours after symptoms stop. Please email the school at attendance@atlantaclassical.org if a child will miss school due to illness. Please report all illnesses to the nurse's office—including head lice, molluscum, and bacterial or viral infections—so we can keep everyone safe and healthy.

Medication

Students cannot receive medication (Prescription or OTC) until parents fill out the Administration of Medication/Medical Procedure (form 7) located on the school website.

All medications must be provided to the nurse in the original prescription bottle for prescribed medications and in new unopened boxes for all over-the-counter medications.

Students cannot carry medication (Prescription or OTC), and it must be kept in the school clinic. There is an exception for lifesaving, emergency medications like EpiPens or rescue inhalers. The school does not provide medication, including Tylenol and Benadryl.



Mrs. LaNeish Holland

SCHOOL NURSE

lholland@atlantaclassical.org

health@atlantaclassical.org

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's health, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse by phone or email.

404-369-3500 ext. 4

Cavalier Health

Counseling

The Counseling Department is dedicated to serving the individual needs of each student.

Our school counselors are available for one-on-one or small group meetings to address specific needs. Topics addressed include effective communication skills, decision-making, self-control, conflict resolution, empathy and goal setting.



Dr. Carolyn Jerdan

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

cjerdan@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Rachael Boyd

MTSS/504

COORDINATOR/COUNSELOR

rboyd@atlantaclassical.org

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's health, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jerdan or Mrs. Boyd by phone or email. To meet with one or both in person, please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

404-369-3500 ext. 4

School Lunch



Ordering Lunch

Atlanta Classical Academy provides school lunches through Chef Advantage. Please note that orders must be placed by 9:00 a.m. the day before lunch service in order to ensure your child receives their lunch.

Visit chefadvantage.boonli.com/login to order.
School ordering code: ACALunch9



NEW PARENTS:

1. Visit chefadvantage.boonli.com/login
2. Click on "Register"
3. School Password is: ACALunch9

Guidelines

Students are not required to order lunch through the school and are welcome to bring their own lunches from home each day.

Please note that students are not permitted to order food through meal delivery services such as UberEats or DoorDash.



For more information about school lunches or to place lunch orders, **scan the QR code.**

Carpool

DROPOFF

Morning drop-off **begins at 7:30 a.m.** Please do not drop off your child before this time.

PICKUP

Upper School pickup begins at **3:25 p.m.**

Upper school students and their siblings should be picked up by **3:50 p.m.**

EARLY CHECK-OUT NOTE

Carpool changes should be sent to transportation@atlantaclassical.org before **1 p.m.** on the day of the occurrence. Students may not be checked out after **2:15 p.m.**



All cars in the afternoon carpool line must have an Atlanta Classical Academy carpool hangtag visible on the rearview mirror. If a hangtag is not present, you must go through carpool, park, and speak to the receptionist. Please contact **transportation@atlantaclassical.org** if you have a question or did not receive a hangtag.

11th and 12th-grade licensed student drivers may apply for parking by contacting Assistant Principal Mr. Nugent at **inugent@atlantaclassical.org**. Parking for student drivers is located off campus. A registered bus driver will drive students to campus each morning and bring them back to their cars in the afternoon.



Enter the car line by heading eastbound on Moores Mill Road and making a right turn into campus. Join the carpool line by pulling as far to the right as possible and turning on your hazard lights.

RULES

- Do not drop off students in any teacher parking lots.
- Do not drop off or pick up students on any side streets.
- Do not block drives of neighborhoods while waiting in line.
- Do not block the sidewalk as you turn into our property.

Carpool Contacts

Topic	Email
Carpool Hangtag	transportation@atlantaclassical.org
Carpool Changes	transportation@atlantaclassical.org
Pickup Child Early	dismissal@atlantaclassical.org
Parking Inquiries	inugent@atlantaclassical.org
Student Early Dismissal/Absences	attendance@atlantaclassical.org

**Carpool instructions are subject to change due to construction.*

Uniforms

Educational Outfitters

Purchase uniform and Spirit Wear items through our uniform supplier, Educational Outfitters. Items may be purchased online or in-store. We encourage families to try on uniform items in-store before purchasing.

7th-8th Grade School Day Uniform



9th-12th Grade School Day Uniform



9th-10th Grade Formal Uniform



11th-12th Grade Formal Uniform



Uniform Resale

The Uniform Resale store will be open periodically throughout the year. During these sales, families can purchase used uniform items at a discount. Donations for the store are accepted at the front office, through donation drives, and during the sales. Donors can choose a voucher to use in the used uniform store or a donation receipt.

Grades 7-8		Grades 9-12	Notes
School Day Attire	<p>Boys: Khaki pants, ACA polo, khaki shorts*</p> <p>Girls: Navy box pleat skirt OR Navy flat front pants, ACA polo</p>	<p>Boys: Khaki Pants, ACA navy logo polo shirt</p> <p>Girls: Plaid box pleat skirt OR Navy/Gray flat front pants, ACA polo</p>	<p>Leggings or tights are optional under skirts</p> <p>Brown leather belt (solid or braided) must be worn with pants</p> <p>Shoes must be neutral colors (brown, white, black, grey) with closed heels and toes, no boots allowed.</p> <p>7th and 8th grade boys may wear shorts during August-September and April-May</p> <p>Shorts are not permitted for boys in grades 9-12</p>
Formal Day Attire	N/A	<p>Boys: Khaki pants, White long-sleeved Oxford shirt, ACA tie</p> <p>Girls: Plaid box pleat skirt, Fitted white long-sleeved Oxford shirt with ACA logo</p> <p>Grades 11-12 ONLY: Navy blazer with ACA logo</p>	<p>Required every Wednesday and at some school events</p>
Physical Education	Branded PE Uniform	Branded PE Uniform	Purchase at Educational Outfitters



To view all uniform boards, including guidelines regarding outerwear and footwear, scan the QR code.

High School Courses

	9th	10th
English	Composition Classical Literature	British Literature
Mathematics	Algebra I Geometry	Geometry Algebra II
Science	Biology	Chemistry AP Biology
History	Western Civilization I	Western Civilization II
World Languages	Latin III Spanish I	Latin IV Spanish II
Other	Personal Fitness/Health	Moral Philosophy Art Appreciation

	11th	12th
English	American Literature	Modern European Literature
Mathematics	Algebra II Precalculus	Precalculus, Calculus, AP Calculus BC
Science	AP Chemistry Physics	AP Physics Anatomy & Physiology AP CS Principles AP CSA
History	American History	Modern European History
World Languages	Latin V	AP Latin Spanish IV
Other	American Government Political Philosophy	Economics Lessons in Wonder

Electives & AP Offerings

Below is the 2026-2027 list of electives and AP offerings for students in grades 9-12. If you have any questions about the course selection process, please direct them to Ms. Holley at dholley@atlantaclassical.org.

ELECTIVES

- Examining The Teaching Profession
- Major Movements & Ideologies of the Modern World
- Cancer Biology
- History of Atlanta
- Creative Writing
- Contemporary Poetry
- Ethics
- Psychology
- French
- Yearbook
- Chorus
- Strings
- Studio Art I-VIII
- Problems in / Principles of Engineering
- The Art of Public Speaking
- History of Film I and II

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Calculus BC
- Computer Science Principles
- Computer Science A
- Latin

Notes on the ACA Course Catalog

The AP sequence:

AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, and AP Latin

Though we have not elected to offer much of our core curriculum in AP format, we have created a sequence of AP courses that students may begin to take in their sophomore year of high school. The four core math and science 'AP' offerings are a robust sequence for students who begin pursuing this route in 10th grade. In addition to these, students may pursue AP computer science courses, language courses, and may also choose to take AP exams for courses they do not formally take at ACA.

ACA's unique 0.5 credit requirements:

Composition (9th grade), Moral Philosophy (10th), A Survey of the Fine Arts (10th), Political Philosophy (11th), American Government (11th), and Lessons in Wonder (12th)

Humanities courses have historically been a strength at Atlanta Classical, and we have recruited talented teachers in corresponding fields. This sequence of unique required courses ensures that students are close readers, nuanced thinkers, and excellent writers. These courses are essential to our aim of ordering the affections of our students.

College Counseling Faculty



Mrs. Ashley Meyer

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

ameyer@atlantaclassical.org



Mrs. Kayla Beth Moore

COLLEGE WRITING ADVISOR

kmoore@atlantaclassical.org



College Counseling

Timeline

9th Grade

- 9th Grade College Night
- Academic Advising

11th Grade

- PSAT/NMSQT at ACA (Fall)
- 11th Grade College Night
- College Fairs: KIPP/Marist, North Atlanta
- College Visits at ACA (30+)
- 1:1 Meetings with College Advisor
- SAT at ACA (Spring)
- ACT at ACA (Spring)
- Family College Counseling Meeting (Spring)
- Junior Workshops:
 - Match & Fit: Creating a College List
 - Naviance, Common App, Teacher Recommendations
 - Career + Major Discernment
 - Personal Statement: What is it?
 - Personal Statement: Refinement
 - Scholarships + Summer Checklist

10th Grade

- 10th Grade College Night
- 10th Grade Parent Coffee
- Mock Admissions Night
- Administer PSAT 10
- College visits at ACA (30+)

12th Grade

- Common Application Boot Camp in August
- College Kickoff Day
- 12th Grade College Night
- KIPP/Marist Fair (invitation only)
- Financial Aid Night
- College Visits at ACA
- College Workshops (Fall)
- Weekly newsletters
- College Lab
- Individual Senior/Parent Meetings with Advisor (ongoing)
- College Decisions (by late Spring)
- Senior Walk + Pennant Pinning
- Graduation!

Student Culture



Trips & Retreats

- 7th/8th Grade Retreat to Camp Highland
- 9th Grade Retreat to North Georgia
- 10th Grade Personal Narrative Retreat
- 10th Grade Cav Choir Trip
- 11th Grade Washington DC Trip
- 12th Grade Savannah Trip
- 10th-12th Grade Select Choir NYC Trip (every three years)
- Senior Week Trip to Chattanooga

Friday Cav Period

7th and 8th Grade: House Events and Competitions

9th and 10th Grade: Cav Choir

11th Grade: Community Building with Faculty and College Application Work

12th Grade: College Application Work and Senior Thesis

Field Trips

9th Grade: Biology Field Trip to Blue Heron Nature Preserve

10th Grade: Architectural Tour of Christ the King Cathedral, Play at Shakespeare Tavern

11th Grade: Trip to Flannery O'Connor's House & Georgia College Tour

12th Grade: Hiking Kennesaw Mountain with the Principals



R&R Weekends



Once per quarter, we mark a weekend on which we do not give homework to high school students. Scan the QR code to view the ACA calendar which includes the R&R schedule.

Student Clubs

The Upper School activities program includes a diverse and dynamic array of clubs, student organizations and extracurricular activities.

Students can initiate new clubs with a faculty sponsor.



Examples of clubs offered:

Banned Books Club	Dead Poets Society	Chess Club
Quiz Bowl	Key Club	Chem Club
Airplane and Rocketry Club	Jar Journal	English Language Lab
Girl Talk	Debate Club	Culture Club

Student Government Association



Atlanta Classical Academy's Student Government Association (SGA) is an institution of student leadership for students in 9th-12th grade. SGA exists "to foster our school culture, represent student sentiment, cultivate the school virtues, serve the local and school community, and promote school morale and camaraderie" (SGA Constitution Preamble).

Students vote their representatives and leaders into office, after which they are responsible for representing student needs, concerns, and petitions to the school leadership. They are further responsible for organizing and hosting major school events such as Homecoming, Prom, service projects, and school-wide fundraisers.

Serving on student government is a weighty responsibility, a special honor, and a unique opportunity for students to grow their skill in leadership.

Fine Arts



Atlanta Classical's Fine Arts department is committed to ensuring that every ACA student has the opportunity to appreciate, perform, and create art of all kinds.

Students in grades 7-8 have a daily Fine Arts period built into their schedule and participate in their grade-level choir one day a week. The Cav Choir, made up of the entire 9th-10th grade classes, meets weekly during Cav Period. As a graduation requirement, students must take a course surveying the history of music and visual art in 10th grade. All Upper School students may participate in a Fine Arts elective each semester and students with particular interest in either music or the visual arts may pursue special certificates through our Visual Art Scholars Program and Performing Art Scholars Program.

Upper School Fine Arts elective and extra-curricular offerings:

- Middle School and High School Studio Art Elective
- Performing Arts and Visual Arts Scholars Program (9th - 12th grades)
- Middle and High School Theatre
- 10th-12th Grade Select Choir
- Choir Ensemble
- Strings Ensemble



Athletics



Athletics at ACA provide opportunities for student-athletes to become virtuous citizens through hard work alongside teammates and through vigorous and courteous competition. ACA student-athletes and coaches must set goals and adhere to them even when faced with obstacles. Athletes learn that sport requires courage. The spirit of sport is challenge: the greater the challenge, the greater the victory.

7th and 8th grade competes in the Metro Atlanta Athletic Conference (MAAC). 6th grade students may be invited to participate in select sports each year.



High School teams compete within Georgia High School Association (GHS) in Region 7 Class A.

Fall

Cross Country
MS Boys Soccer
Volleyball
Cheer (Club)
Flag Football (Club)

Winter

Basketball
Swim

Spring

Track
MS Girls & HS Soccer
Baseball
Golf
Tennis (Club)

In order to try out for any sport at ACA, students must go through the following process:

- **Register through MyPaymentsPlus** to receive all relevant information and updates about tryouts. [To create an account for MyPaymentsPlus, visit mypaymentsplus.com/welcome]
- Before tryouts, parents must complete **all forms and waivers** and have an **updated GHSA physical on file** through PRIVIT. For PRIVIT access, scan the QR code to the right.
- Key Policy: Physicals that expire during the season must be updated **within 7 days of the expiration date**. Players must have current physicals for the length of the season. Athletes will be pulled from practices and games if their physicals are not updated.



Scan to access PRIVIT

For questions, contact Athletic Director Mr. Latham at rlatham@atlantaclassical.org.

House System



The House System at ACA is for students in grades 6-8. Upon entering 6th grade, each student is sorted into one of four houses: Alexandria, Carthage, Constantinople, or Damascus. The House System is designed to create a sense of community, foster camaraderie, and provide opportunities for leadership and growth.

Each house seeks to win the house cup at the end of the year by accumulating the most house points. House points are awarded for acts of virtue and excellence to individual students and to houses for winning weekly competitions. Not only does the winning house receive a prize for being victorious, but the student with the most individual points at the end of the year also receives a prize.

Get Involved



Parent Teacher Community Association

The Parent Teacher Community Association (PTCA) exists to support school leadership in carrying out the mission of our school. It is an integral part of the life of the school.

The PTCA is involved in many aspects of our school, from classroom-level support to school-wide events. It is led by two co-presidents who support each volunteer team and facilitate communications between volunteer teams and school administration.

Through the PTCA, committed parents and community members help our school flourish!

If you would like to serve on a PTCA team, please email ptca@atlantaclassical.org



Volunteer Clearance

Whether you volunteer as a mystery reader, a field trip chaperone, or anything in between, all volunteers must clear Level 2 training in order to engage with volunteering at Atlanta Classical. To gain clearance, volunteers must watch two training videos and complete a Google form about what you learned. The process should take 15 minutes or fewer to complete.

Once you have watched both videos and completed the form, you will be cleared to perform supervised volunteering on and off campus.

NOTE: If you sign up for unsupervised volunteer opportunities, you must complete additional steps.



To access the training package,
scan the QR code.

Communications Channels

Channel	Description
Infinite Campus	Parents can access their student's class schedules, attendance records and grades, and update their contact information through Infinite Campus, Atlanta Public School's (APS) student information and communication system.
ParentSquare	A communications app and website where teachers communicate with their class and parents. The school will send reminders and communicate grade-specific information.
MyPaymentsPlus	Payment system for fees and activities.
PRIVIT	Prior to athletic tryouts, parents must complete all forms and waivers, and have an updated physical on file through PRIVIT. No hard copies will be accepted.
Mr. Andrew's Weekly Zoom Call	Head of School Mr. Andrew hosts a weekly Zoom call relaying important updates in the life of the school.
Direct Email	Direct school correspondence in the form of email from school personnel to parents.
Legenda and Chronicle	The Legenda is a weekly, forward looking email highlighting all- school news and upcoming events. The Chronicle is a quarterly email that reflects on significant events and stories from our school community.
TeamSnap	Once a student-athlete joins an ACA team, parents will be added to TeamSnap for communication regarding practices, schedules, and more.
Social Media	Find ACA on Facebook and Instagram (@atlantaclassicalacademy) for a look inside a day of an ACA student.

Useful Links

Topic	Website Link
Faculty and Staff Directory	www.atlantaclassical.org/home/faculty-staff-directory
Nurse and Counselor Forms	www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/school-nurse
Academic, Athletic and School Calendars	www.atlantaclassical.org/calendar/school-calendar
Arrival, Dismissal and Carpool	https://www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/transportation
School Forms	https://www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/school-forms
Uniforms	https://www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/uniforms
School Lunch	https://www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/lunch
Infinite Campus Information	https://www.atlantaclassical.org/parent-resources/infinite-campus
MyPaymentsPlus	www.mypaymentsplus.org
PTCA	www.atlantaclassical.org/community/ptca
Cavalier Fund	www.atlantaclassical.org/support/cavalier-fund
College Counseling	www.atlantaclassical.org/academics/college-counseling



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