



FCS Innovation Academy High School Profile 2026-2027

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Scott Kent, Principal ♦ <https://fcsinnovationacademy.fultonschools.org/>

ABOUT US

FCS Innovation Academy opened in 2021 as a Magnet STEM high school in Alpharetta, GA. Our mission is to provide relevant experiences that foster authentic learning, so our students can succeed in a rapidly changing world. We utilize design thinking, project-based learning, research, and inquiry to provide the necessary skills and foster a passion for ongoing learning. These skills and passion will allow students to address complex issues in a collaborative setting to solve real-world problems. Students are immersed in a rigorous and supportive environment that promotes the transdisciplinary connections between career pathways, STEM fields, and the humanities.

CAREER PATHWAYS AT IA

Areas of Study in Health Science	Areas of Study in Engineering	Areas of Study in Information Technology
Biotechnology, Patient Care, Surgical Tech, Emergency Medical Responder, Allied Health, Pharmacy Tech	Engineering Technology, Mechatronics	Computer Science, Game Design, Cybersecurity, Embedded Computing, Artificial Intelligence

CROSS-CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION

Our freshmen begin with our **signature GT Block Course** that seamlessly integrates introductory content from all three of our career pathways—Health Sciences, Engineering, and Information Technology. This interdisciplinary experience is designed to cultivate a deep understanding of how knowledge across fields connects and complements one another. Students are encouraged to think critically and creatively as they explore the relevance of cross-curricular learning in today's rapidly evolving world. Through collaborative, hands-on projects, they apply their skills to solve real-world challenges with the potential for lasting impact. This foundational course sets the stage for innovation, leadership, and purposeful learning throughout their high school journey.

Students are taught Design Thinking (DT) as one of many tools in their problem-solving toolkit. Design Thinking is a method that uses a cyclical process to solve problems with the user in mind. DT uses a series of steps that create specific work in each phase. Although we are a STEM school, we pride ourselves on our humanities and emphasize the empathy and understanding components of Design Thinking as absolutely essential to the process.

PINNACLE PROGRAM

With a school-wide focus on real-world problem solving, **every student takes part in the Pinnacle Program** their junior year. During this time, they are encouraged to collaborate in teams to tackle an issue they are passionate about addressing.

Students can also pursue the AP Capstone Diploma, which starts with 10th graders taking AP Seminar combined with 10th grade ELA requirements. AP Seminar is followed by the Pinnacle Program in 11th, and AP Research in 12th. The AP Research course is exclusively independent, with no help allowed from the instructor, and focuses on developing a solution or strategy for a real-world challenge. Students must score a 3 or above in at least four AP courses and at least a 3 in AP Research and AP Seminar to earn the AP Capstone designation.

VIRTUAL COURSES

Innovation Academy provides all students with a hands-on, in-person learning environment. To address the various world language interests, Innovation Academy only offers virtual world language courses.

FLEX FRIDAYS

Innovation Academy encourages our students and faculty to think outside the box. Our schedule encourages that kind of innovation and flexible thinking. Monday through Thursday, students follow a traditional schedule taking 7 academic courses with one additional period for lunch. This leaves Flex Fridays open for a variety of in-depth, hands-on learning opportunities. Students attend tutoring in the morning before participating in two pathway workshops. These two hour sessions allow students to deep dive a topic within their chosen major pathway. Students also meet with their Pathway Houses to work on leadership development.

During **Super Flex Fridays**, students participate in large scale learning events supported by community and corporate partners. Super Flex Fridays extend this model to large scale, complex learning experiences that mirror the collaborative, multidisciplinary work of professional environments.

Our engineering students participated in Making F.U.N., where IA's engineering students were challenged to design and build creative solutions inspired by local elementary students' ideas, with a special virtual keynote from the cast of Netflix's *Making Fun*.

Last year, IA launched the Innovate IT Conference which connected students, educators, and industry professionals for a day of learning and collaboration focused on emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and web applications.

IA's annual Save-A-Life event involves a schoolwide medical disaster response simulation. This immersive experience challenges students to think critically, communicate effectively, and work under pressure, collaborating with local healthcare and emergency personnel.

STATE OF GEORGIA DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
Health & Personal Fitness	1
Fine Arts/ World Language	3
Electives	4

Total Credits: 23

ADDITIONAL FCS IA MAGNET REQUIREMENTS

As part of our magnet curriculum, FCS IA students complete:

1. **The freshman year GT Block class**, which is a combination of all three introductory classes for our STEM pathway offerings.
2. A career pathway in one of our three STEM areas.
3. **A Pinnacle Program** as part of an 11th grade research class.
4. Twelve Flex Friday credit hours each year at IA.

Full Requirements can be found: <https://int.fcsia.com/url/magnet>

GRADING SCALE

A = 90–100 ♦ B = 80–89 ♦ C = 70–79 ♦ F = 69 or lower

Transcripts with weighted grades include seven quality points added to passing grades for all honors, AP, and college courses.

Accreditation: Cognia **CEEB Code:** 110387 **NCAA Number:** 853204

*** Please see grading addendum attached**

AVERAGE STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

	SAT	ACT	PSAT
FCS Innovation Academy	1285	27.6	1164
Fulton County Schools	1090	23.0	943
Georgia	1063	21.3	926
Nation	1045	19.5	948
Global	1064	n/a	950

AP EXAMS STATISTICS (SPRING 2026)

988 out of 1,450 students took 2,275 AP exams
 71% of students at IA took at least 1 AP course
 AP Score Pass Rate: 91.4% with a 3.9 score average
 35% of test-takers scored 5 or higher
 72% scored 4 or higher 91% scored 3 or higher

- 142 AP Scholars
- 371 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 35 AP Capstone Diplomas
- 104 AP Scholars with Honor

AP AND COLLEGE COURSES OFFERED

AP Art History
 AP Biology
 AP Calculus AB
 AP Calculus BC
 AP Chemistry
 AP Computer Science A
 AP Computer Science Principles
 AP Cybersecurity
 AP English Language and Composition
 AP English Lit and Composition
 AP Environmental Science
 AP Human Geography
 AP Macro Economics
 AP Micro Economics
 AP Physics 1
 AP Physics 2
 AP Physics C: Mechanics
 AP Physics C: Electricity

AP Pre-Calculus
 AP Psychology
 AP Research
 AP Seminar (With English Lit)
 AP Statistics
 AP United States Government and Politics
 AP United States History
 AP World History: Modern

College Courses at IA:
 Georgia Tech Math
 Georgia Tech Computer Science
 Gwinnett Tech Advanced Composition
 Gwinnett Tech British Literature
 Gwinnett Tech Human Anatomy/Physiology

STUDENT BODY

FCS Innovation Academy is home to students in the North Fulton area, which includes the following high schools: Alpharetta HS, Cambridge HS, Centennial HS, Chattahoochee HS, Johns Creek HS, Milton HS, North Springs HS, Northview HS, Riverwood HS, and Roswell HS.

Schoolwide Enrollment: 1520

Class of 2027 Enrollment: 322

Ethnicity:
 Asian: 48%
 White: 31%
 Black/African American: 9%
 Hispanic/Latino: 7%
 Two or More Races: 4%
 American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%

Other Subgroups:
 Gifted Students: 58%
 Economically Disadvantaged: 11%
 Students with Disabilities: 8%

SCHOOL-WIDE ACCOLADES

PSAT/National Merit: 16 National Merit Semi-Finalists in 2026.

HOSA: In 2026, the IA HOSA Club participated at the International Leadership Conference. 12 students placed in the top 10 for their categories and 3 took home top 3 finishes.

FRC Robotics: Excellence in Engineering Award at the Albany, GA event and the team qualified for state championships in Macon.

FTC Robotics: The team received a design award at the Super Regional Competition.

TSA: The IA TSA team took home 5 1st place awards at the State Championship along with 4 other top ten awards. The team then earned 3 top 10 awards at the National level.

Sole Purpose: The Good Trouble Project: The club was featured in the August 2026 issue of Roswell City Life Style Magazine. Sole Purpose was also selected to present at the National Council for the Social Studies conference.

IA Fencing Club: The Women's Team placed 3rd at State and our Men's Team took home 5th place in 2026.

Environmental Advocacy: Our Varsity Envirothon Team won State Champions for the second year in a row with JV placing 4th.

TEDxIA: Hosted TedX Youth Event where 9 speakers were featured on TedX Youth.

IA Red Cross: Donated 62 pints of blood, providing a lifesaving resource to patients and families in need throughout our community.

SODA (Student Organ Donation Advocates): The club won Most Creative Registration Event for their Popsicles for a Purpose event where they registered over 100 new organ donors. Additionally, they helped 5 new chapters get off the ground.

CLUBS & STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

We encourage our students to embrace their passions and creativity, develop their leadership skills, and take a break from their academic day. Students are invited to participate in their pathway club and honors societies and are limited to joining two additional IA clubs. Innovation Academy hosts over 150 clubs for our students to choose from. We offer clubs in a variety of categories including:

- Science
- Games
- Cultural
- Making a Difference
- Healthcare
- Engineering
- Leadership
- School Related
- Information Technology
- Sports and Fitness
- Crafts

For a full list of IA's club offerings visit: <https://int.fcsia.com/url/clubs>

INTERNSHIPS & WORK-BASED LEARNING

Nearly 150 juniors & seniors are participating in work-based learning taking on jobs and internships like Advanced Technology Intern and Life Science Intern.

We placed more than 100 students with 60 different organizations in gifted internships. Some of the amazing companies our students worked at were:

Georgia Tech
 WellStar Hospital
 Mathnasium
 Atlanta Veterans Affairs

Publix
 TJ Maxx
 Lifetime Fitness
 Kumon
 Homegoods

PGA Superstore
 Kroger
 Chick-Fil-A
 Emory Rehab Center
 Subway



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Mike Looney, Ed.D., Superintendent

May 26, 2026

Dear College Admissions Representative:

Fulton County Schools is providing this information to explain circumstances that may affect the timing and appearance of final transcripts for members of the Class of 2026.

In May 2026, a national cybersecurity incident involving the Instructure Canvas platform led Fulton County Schools to suspend Canvas access through the end of the school year while security protections were independently evaluated.

Because Canvas supported coursework and grading for many of the courses offered in the district, the disruption affected final grade calculations for some students, including graduating seniors. As a result, some Fulton County Schools' transcripts may include the following grading indicators:

- "P" (Pass), assigned to students who were passing coursework at the time instructional access was interrupted
- "I" (Incomplete), assigned to students who require additional time to complete coursework impacted by the system outage before a final numerical grade can be calculated

Students receiving an Incomplete have until July 1, 2026, to complete remaining coursework requirements. Following completion and verification of coursework, final numerical grades will be issued and updated transcripts will be provided.

Some senior transcripts may not be available until after July 1, 2026, due to coursework completion and grade verification related to the Canvas disruption. These grading indicators and delays are the result of the district's response to a cybersecurity incident, not academic or disciplinary concerns.

While some districts resumed broader Canvas access sooner, Fulton County Schools implemented a more cautious recovery approach to protect student information and district systems.

We respectfully request consideration regarding transcript timelines and temporary grading indicators associated with this incident. Fulton County Schools remains confident in the preparation and accomplishments of its graduating seniors and appreciates your support of students affected by these circumstances.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Should additional information or verification be needed, please contact Fulton County Schools through the student's school counseling office or district student services staff.

Best Regards,

Mike Looney, Ed.D.
Superintendent