



Class of 2026

Class Size: 55

Valedictorians: Joshua Altman, Spencer Anderson, Wesley Bledsoe, Emerson Hannah, Rylee Hill, and Emily Palk

Charter Members: 14 members of the Class of 2026 are Charter Students, having attended DCA since at least kindergarten.

Scholars Diplomas: 34 members of the Class of 2026 earned a Scholars Diploma, completing at least eight Honors, Dual Enrollment, and/or Advanced Placement upper school courses.

Post-Secondary Plans

47.3% (26) 4-Year Public University
32.7% (18) 4-Year Private University
18.2% (10) 2-Year College/Technical
0.0% (0) United States Military
1.8% (1) Other
81.8% (45) In State
18.2% (10) Out of State/International

ACT Scores

- Top 25% Composite Average = **30.2**; Top 25% Superscore Average = **31**
- Composite Middle 50% = **21-28**; Superscore Middle 50% = **21-28**
- All students are required to take the ACT at least once. Each student's highest score is included in the following class averages: English: **24.63**, Math: **22.66**, Reading: **25.5**, and Science: **23.46**, with an overall average of **24.06**.

College Level Courses

- 75% (41) of the Class of 2026 participated in college level courses through Dual Enrollment and/or Advanced Placement programs during grades 11 and 12.
- 765 total credit hours were earned. (AP course credit hours are based on a score of 3 or higher on the corresponding AP exam. AP students are required to take the exam.)
- Average credit hours earned per student in the Class of 2026: $765/55 = 13.9$
- Average credit hours earned per student participating in college level courses: $765/41 = 18.7$
- 25 members of the Class of 2026 took 84 AP exams in 8 subjects over two years, with an average score of 3.26. 85.7% (72) of those exams resulted in a score of 3 or higher. Students earned a perfect score of 5 on 4 total exams, a score of 4 on 29 total exams, and a score of 3 on 39 total exams.

Other Noteworthy Academic Achievements

- The Class of 2026 has 5 AP Scholars with Distinction (**Josh Altman, Spencer Anderson, Wes Bledsoe, Emerson Hannah, and CC Toussaint**), 2 AP Scholars with Honor (**Lola Crouch-Wair and Sofia Griffiths**), and 5 AP Scholars (**Rylee Hill, Allison Long, Aeyzsha Meriwether, Emily Palk, and Rose Queener**).

Scholarships

- 96% (53) of the Class of 2026 received scholarship offers from various colleges, universities, and organizations.
- 96% (53) academically qualified for the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship (21 ACT **or** 3.0 UGPA).

- 10 Students (18%) also academically qualified for the General Assembly Merit Scholarship (29 ACT *and* 3.75 UGPA): **Josh Altman, Hallie Anderson, Spencer Anderson, Wes Bledsoe, Emerson Hannah, Rylee Hill, Emily Palk, Aidan Quirk, Audrey Rowe, and C.C. Toussaint**
- 80% (44) of the Class of 2026 received additional academic, athletic, art, service, or citizenship scholarships from colleges, universities, or organizations, above and beyond the HOPE, GAMS, Aspire, Tennessee Promise, or TSAA.

Community Service Hours

Senior Service Program (Spring 2026)

- During the spring semester of their senior year, students participate in a semester-long internship at local elementary schools, nursing homes, and daycares. Their goal is to care for and serve students, teachers, and residents, doing anything they can to make an impact and show the love of Christ in our community.
 - All Seniors: 55 students x 34 hours each = 1,870 hours
 - Senior Service PLUS: 6 students x 61 hours each = 366 hours
- **Total Hours from Senior Service Program = 2,236 hours**

Special Projects

- *High School Service Day* – HS Service Day occurs every fall semester. Students served at food banks, churches, and schools, assisting in facility upkeep, cleaning, and organizing materials. This year's graduating class served during the fall of 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.
 - 57 Students x 3 hours each event x 4 years = 684 combined service hours
- *Sophomore Winterim Week Community Service* – Students spent a week serving our community in numerous ways, including working at churches, daycares, non-profit organizations, and schools.
 - 57 Students x 3 hours per day x 2 days = 342 combined service hours
- *Letters of Encouragement* – In the Spring of 2026, seniors participated in a letter-writing campaign to encourage and affirm the teachers and staff at DCA.
 - 55 Students x 1 hour each = 55 combined service hours
- **Total Hours from Special Projects = 1,081**

Total Hours

- **Total Service Hours for the Class of 2026 = 3,317 hours**

Noteworthy Accomplishments and Events in the Arts

Band –

- Led by Senior Leaders: **Sofia Griffiths** - Band Major, **Braydon Baughman** - Field Commander, **Katie Anderson** - Woodwind Captain, **Spencer Anderson** - Brass Captain, **Kate Duccini** - Guard Captain, **Aeyzsha Meriwether** - Rookie Captain, and **Lola Crouch-Wair** - Administrative Assistant
- Station Camp Marching Invitational - Superior Band and Band placed 3rd in Division
- Rome, GA Peach State Marching Contest - Superior Band, Guard, Percussion, and Field Commander (Senior - **Braydon Baughman**). The WMB placed 4th in their Division (out of 12 Bands), missing 3rd place by .03 and 1st place by only 1.4!

College Plans:

- **Spencer Anderson** (class of 2026 Valedictorian) will be a member of the Golden Eagle Marching Band at Tennessee Tech University as he pursues a degree in engineering.

Choir –

- **Legacy Show Choir Accolades**

- Led by Senior Dance Captains, **Landon Jacobs, Sam Mintmire, Rose Queener and Emma Wisthuff**, as well as senior members of the choir, **Kate Duccini, Jake Herron, Rylee Hill, Allison Long, Aeyzsha Meriweather, and Emily Palk**.

- 2nd Place at Albertville High School - Diamond Show Choir Classic in Albertville, AL.

- 1st Place in Large Mixed Division, Best Choreography Overall and **Emma Wisthuff** won the solo competition at Three Rivers Show Choir Classic in Rome, GA.

- Finalist and 2nd Runner Up at Double H Classic in Hamilton, OH.

- Performed on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry at the Show Choir Nationals Competition.

- **High School Choirs** traveled to Los Angeles, CA, for their spring trip in January of 2026. They visited many famous sites including the Hollywood sign, Griffith Observatory, Disneyland, California Adventures, and Warner Brothers Studio, and attended a performance by the LA Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir.
- **Legacy** hosted the only school sponsored Show Choir Competition in the state of TN again this year.

Individual Achievements of the Class of 2026 Choir Members:

- **Emma Wisthuff** auditioned and was selected for the Middle TN Mid-State Honors Choir.
- **Emma Wisthuff** was also selected for All-State Choir

College Plans:

- **Hallie Anderson** – Music Business and Songwriting at Belmont University
- **Emma Wisthuff** – Ministry/Christian Counseling with a minor in Music at Trevecca Nazarene University

Theatre –

During the 2025-2026 school year, the DCA Theatre Department performed the play, *Empowered: How One Girl Scout Nearly Destroyed the World's Economy*, as our annual Homecoming weekend production in the fall. Our annual spring musical production was *The Music Man*. Notable lead performances by senior performers included **Sofia Griffiths**, **Rylee Hill**, **Allison Long**, **Sam Mintmire**, and **Emily Palk** in *Empowered: How One Girl Scout Nearly Destroyed the World's Economy* and **Rylee Hill**, **Landon Jacobs**, **Allison Long**, **Sam Mintmire**, and **Emily Palk** in *The Music Man*.

College Plans:

- **Rylee Hill** (class of 2026 Valedictorian) plans to major in Theatre and Music Education at Auburn University.
- **Landon Jacobs** plans to participate in Theatre and Choir at Trevecca Nazarene University while pursuing a degree in accounting.
- **Sam Mintmire** plans to participate in Theatre at Trevecca Nazarene University while pursuing a degree in English Education.

Visual Arts –

Two members of the Class of 2026 will be pursuing degrees in the visual arts.

- **Katie Anderson** – Interior Design at Belmont University
- **Sofiia Mitchell** – Interior Architecture at Middle Tennessee State University

Noteworthy Accomplishments and Events in Athletics

- **Varsity Girls Soccer** won the District and qualified for the State Tournament. DCA is the only team from our region that advanced to the Final Four of the TSSAA DII State Championship. Tennessee High School Soccer Coaches Association All State 2025: **Avery Harris**
- **Varsity Boys Cross Country** won the school's first ever region championship and advanced to the TSSAA DII State Championship, finishing 4th in the team event. **Wes Bledsoe** finished 10th overall in the individual times, earning All-State Honors.
- **Varsity Football** qualified for their 7th straight TSSAA State DII tournament and 33 out of the last 34 years. Advanced to the quarterfinals of the state tournament.
- **Varsity Volleyball** had a record of 16-10, winning the Overton Bobcat Classic Tournament
- **Varsity Girls Bowling: Brynley Usry** made the First Team Girls for the All-Middle Region Bowling Teams and represented DCA at the Individual State Championship in January, finishing 4th in the state.
- **Varsity Girls Basketball** had a record of 22-7 and advanced to the Region Tournament. **Mia Johnson** was awarded the prestigious Moss-Oliver Award given by the The Nashville City Civitan Club.
- **Varsity Baseball** advanced to the Region Tournament for the first time since 2018.

- **Varsity Softball** was District Runner-Up in the Region Tournament and advanced to the quarterfinals of the region tournament.
- **Varsity Boys Soccer** advanced to the quarterfinals of the region tournament.
- **Varsity Track** sent 7 to the 2026 TSSAA State Track Meet in Knoxville. **Avery Harris** competed in the 200m for the second year in a row, finishing 6th in 2026.
- **Varsity Boys Tennis:** Doubles team of **Cole Franklin** and **Jake Herron** won the 2025 Individual District Doubles Championship.

College Commitments:

Nine student athletes (16%) from the Class of 2026 have committed to continue their sport at the collegiate level.

- **Wyatt Gray** – football at Midway University
- **Mia Johnson** – basketball at Johnson University
- **Blaine Jones** – baseball at Columbia State Community College
- **Canon Lett** – cross-country & track at UT Southern
- **Kendra Matheson** – soccer at Lee University
- **Dane Price** – basketball at Cumberland University
- **Grayson Scragg** – basketball at Cumberland University
- **Carson Sneed** – football at the University of North Carolina
- **Brynley Usry** – softball at Shawnee Community College