



Cherokee County
School District

Secondary Curriculum Handbook

SY 2026-2027

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Davis
Superintendent of Schools



Cherokee County
School District



Cherokee County
School District

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CCSD Secondary Schools

High Schools (9-12)

Cherokee High School 930 Marietta Highway Canton, GA 30114 770.721.5300	Creekview High School 1550 Owens Store Road Canton, GA 30115 770.704.4400	Etowah High School 6565 Putnam Ford Road Woodstock, GA 30189 770.721.3120
River Ridge High School 400 Arnold Mill Road Woodstock, GA 30188 770.721.6500	Sequoyah High School 4485 Hickory Road Canton, GA 30115 770.721.3200	Woodstock High School 2010 Towne Lake Hills S Drive Woodstock, GA 30189 770.721.3000
i-Grad Virtual Academy 8871 Knox Bridge Highway Canton, GA 30114 770.721.6680		

Middle Schools (6-8)

Creekland Middle School 1555 Owens Store Road Canton, GA 30115 770.704.4460	Dean Rusk Middle School 2761 East Cherokee Drive Canton, GA 30115 770.704.1135	E.T. Booth Middle School 6550 Putnam Ford Drive Woodstock, GA 30189 770.721.5500
Freedom Middle School 10550 Bells Ferry Road Canton, GA 30114 770.704.1100	Mill Creek Middle School 442 Arnold Mill Road Woodstock, GA 30188 770.721.6400	Teasley Middle School 151 Hickory Log Drive Canton, GA 30114 770.721.5420
Woodstock Middle School 2000 Towne Lake Hills S Drive Woodstock, GA 30189 770.721.3060		

Additional Secondary Programs

Tippens Education Center 2450 Holly Springs Parkway Canton, GA 30115 770.721.6450	ACE Academy 8871 Knox Bridge Highway Canton, GA 30114 770.721.6680
Transition Academy 8871 Knox Bridge Highway Canton, GA 30114 770.721.6680	

Georgia Graduation Requirements

Below are the [current graduation requirements](#) for Georgia public high school students who enter ninth grade for the first time in the 2008-2009 and subsequent school years. In order to meet graduation requirements, it is important to seek guidance from counselors, advisors and instructors regarding course selection and sequencing on an annual basis.

Areas of Study	Credits
I. English/Language Arts	4
II. Math	4
III. *Science	4
IV. Social Studies	3
V. **Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE), and/or Modern Language/Latin, and/or Fine Arts	3
VI. Health & Physical Education	1
Electives (4 units)	4
TOTAL UNITS	23

* The 4th science unit may be used to meet both the science and elective requirement.

** Students must complete three units in a pathway to complete a CTAE pathway and take an end of pathway assessment. Students interested in attending a [University System of Georgia](#) college/university must complete two years of the same foreign language to be admissible as a freshman.

Georgia High School Diploma Options

Diploma Type	Who Is Eligible?	Requirements
High School Diploma	All Students	Students must complete attendance requirements, unit requirements and state assessment requirements
State-Defined Alternate Diploma	Students with significant cognitive disabilities	Students who are assessed under the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA 2.0) and meet other State Board Rule requirements
Special Education Diploma	Students with disabilities assigned to a special education program	Students with disabilities who have not met the High School Diploma requirements and do not qualify for the State-Defined Alternate Diploma but have completed their IEP goals

Grading System

High School

The Cherokee County School District (CCSD) awards high school credits on a semester-based system. Students earn one half (.5) credit for each semester course they complete and pass. In general, students take six courses per semester, each worth one half (.5) credit, earning a total of three (3) credits. The minimum required score to earn credit is 70.

Unlike in elementary and middle school, grades only reset at the end of each 18-week semester. High School grades for quarters one and three are used as midpoint grades to show student progress.

Furthermore, quarter and semester grades are not averaged to create a yearly grade. Only final grades at the end of semester one and semester two, as well as any summer course grades, will show on a student's transcript.

Middle School

Grading at the middle school level is similar to what students experience in elementary school. Final quarter grades are awarded at the end of each nine weeks after which grades reset for the next quarter. Students receive semester averages based on their quarter grades and then an overall yearly average for each course.

Students participating in high school credit courses while in middle school follow the high school grading system which is based on semesters, not quarters, and does not include a yearly grade average.

Grade Level Progression

Students in middle school progress from grade level to grade level just as they do in elementary school. Middle school students will be promoted, placed or retained dependent upon their ability to meet the student performance standards and core curricular competencies of the School District and State Board of Education Rules 160-4-2-.11, Promotion, Placement, and Retention and 160-3-1-.07, Testing Programs-Student Assessment, and State law.

Unlike grades K-8, students in high school progress through grade levels based on the number of credits earned in specific course areas as follows:

To be in...	Minimum core credit requirement	Minimum # total credits
10th grade	1 ELA, 1 Math, 1 Sci	5
11th grade	2 ELA, 2 Math, 1 Sci	11
12th grade	3 ELA, 3 Math, 2 Sci, 1 SS	17

More information on grading policies and grade level progression can be found in [CCSD School Board Policy IHE – Promotion, Placement and Retention](#).



Course Placement and Selection Guidelines

High School

CCSD believes that every high school student should be informed prior to making course selection decisions. For this reason, a list of CCSD course offerings and standard sequencing is provided to assist students and parents/guardians in making the high school experience pleasant, informative and, most importantly, successful.

Initial placements for rising 9th grade students are determined using a data-based rubric tied to grades, Milestone assessment data and current middle school course placement. Schools are able to make adjustments to the data-based rubric results, but all placement decisions are at the final discretion of the school administration.

Teachers of pre-requisite core courses (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) are responsible for making appropriate course recommendations for the next school year. Teachers in World Languages, CTAE, Fine Arts and Physical Education courses are also able to make recommendations for courses within those elective areas. In making recommendations, teachers are encouraged to consider student interests, overall course load and placement guidelines. Schools should review and share data with students and parents/guardians regarding student performance and student behaviors that indicate overall student success in advanced courses.

In determining placement for students who fall short of the criteria, overall aptitude demonstrated by the preponderance of evidence from past academic performance and teacher feedback should be considered, always bearing in mind what is in the best interest of the student.

Middle School

Initial placements for rising 6th grade students are determined using a data-based rubric tied to grades, Milestone assessment data, reading levels and math diagnostic information. Schools can make adjustments to the data-based rubric results, but all placement decisions are at the final discretion of the school administration. In subsequent school years, middle school students are “rolled” to the next course with recommendations for adjustment made as needed based on classroom performance and assessment data.

Middle school students experience a variety of Connections courses each year typically consisting of yearlong PE and a rotation through four other areas. Some Connections courses, such as Band and Chorus, must be specifically selected by students in order to participate. Opportunities to earn high school credit in math, science and select elective areas are offered in 8th grade.

CCSD Course Offerings

English/Language Arts

High School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
· Literature & Composition I · Honors Literature & Composition I	Completion of 8th grade ELA coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
· Literature & Composition II* · Honors Literature & Composition II*	Literature & Composition I	Standards Adopted Resource
· American Literature & Composition · Honors American Literature & Composition	Literature & Composition II	Standards Adopted Resource
· Advanced Composition · Honors Advanced Composition	American Literature & Composition	Standards Adopted Resource
· AP Seminar ELA	Honors Literature & Composition I	College Board Info
· AP English Language & Composition	Honors Literature & Composition I	College Board Info Adopted Resource
· AP English Literature & Composition	Honors American Literature & Composition, AP Seminar or AP Language and Composition	College Board Info Adopted Resource

*End of Course (EOC) Assessment Required



High School Elective Options

Basic Reading/Writing I-IV	Journalism I-IV	Reading Enrichment
Speech/Forensics I-III	Writer's Workshop	Creative Writing
AP Seminar	AP Research	^Dramatic Writing

^Students earn a core ELA credit and then also receive a Fine Arts credit through embedded alignment.

High School ESOL Elective Options

Academic Language of Science and Math	Communication Skills	Communication Skills in Math
Oral Communications in the Content Areas	Reading and Listening in the Content Areas	

Middle School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
· English Language Arts 6* · Advanced English Language Arts 6*	Completion of 5th grade	Standards Adopted Resource
· English Language Arts 7* · Advanced English Language Arts 7*	English Language Arts 6*	Standards Adopted Resource
· English Language Arts 8* · Advanced English Language Arts 8*	English Language Arts 7*	Standards Adopted Resource

*End of Course (EOC) Assessment Required

*Where Available

Mathematics

High School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
GSE Foundations of Algebra	Completion of 8th grade Math coursework	Standards State Provided Resources
Algebra* Honors Algebra*	Completion of 8th grade Math coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Geometry Honors Geometry	Algebra	Standards Adopted Resource
Advanced Algebra Honors Advanced Algebra	Geometry	Standards Adopted Resource
Precalculus^ Honors Precalculus	Advanced Algebra	Standards Adopted Resource
Advanced Financial Algebra^	Advanced Algebra	Standards
Statistical Reasoning^	Advanced Algebra	Standards Adopted Resource
College Readiness Mathematics^	Advanced Algebra	Standards
Calculus	Pre-Calculus	Standards Adopted Resource
Enhanced Advanced Algebra & AP Precalculus	Honors Geometry	Course Overview College Board Info
AP Precalculus	Advanced Algebra	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Calculus AB	Honors/AP Precalculus	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Calculus BC	Honors/AP Precalculus	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Statistics	Advanced Algebra	College Board Info Adopted Resource
Honors Multivariable Calculus	Post AP Option	Standards Adopted Resource

*End of Course (EOC) Assessment Required

^Standard 4th Year Option

Mathematics

Middle School Math Core Content Courses		
Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
Math 6* Advanced Math 6*	Completion of 5th grade	Standards Adopted Resource
Math 7* Advanced Math 7*	Math 6	Standards Adopted Resource
Math 8* Advanced Math 8*	Math 7	Standards Adopted Resource
Enhanced Algebra** (HS Credit)	Advanced Math 7	Standards Adopted Resource

*EOG Assessment Required

**Both EOG and EOG Assessment Required

Cherokee County Standard Core Math Sequencing

5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Math 5	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Algebra	Geometry	Advanced Algebra	4th Year Option
	Advanced Math 6	Advanced Math 7	Advanced Math 8	Honors Algebra	Honors Geometry	Honors Advanced Algebra	AP Precalculus
			Enhanced Algebra	Honors Geometry	Honors Advanced Algebra	Enhanced Advanced Algebra & AP Precalculus	AP Calculus AB
					Enhanced Adv Algebra & AP Precalculus	AP Precalculus	AP Statistics
						AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC
						AP Calculus BC	Post AP Option*

*Where Available

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Science

High School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
Environmental Science	Completion of 8th grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Biology* Honors Biology*	Completion of 8th grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Chemistry Honors Chemistry	Biology (recommended)	Standards Adopted Resource
Physical Science**	Completion of 8th Grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Physics Honors Physics	Chemistry (recommended)	Standards Adopted Resource
Earth Systems^	Completion of 8th grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Human Anatomy/Physiology^ Honors Human Anatomy/Physiology^	Physics (recommended)	Standards Adopted Resource
Astronomy^	Completion of 8th grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource
Zoology^	Biology (recommended)	Standards Adopted Resource
Forensic Science^	Completion of 8th grade Science coursework	Standards Adopted Resource

Continued on next page

*EOC Assessment Required

**EOG Assessment Required for MS Students Only

^Standard 4th Year Option

Science

High School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
AP Biology	Physical Science or Chemistry (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Chemistry	Honors Biology (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Physics I: Algebra-Based	Honors Chemistry (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Physics II: Algebra Based	Honors Chemistry (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Physics C: Mechanics	Honors Chemistry (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	Honors Chemistry (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Environmental Science	Biology (recommended)	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Computer Science Principals	CTAE Computer Science Pathway (recommended)	College Board Info
AP Computer Science A	CTAE Computer Science Pathway (recommended)	College Board Info

*EOC Assessment Required

**EOG Assessment Required for MS Students Only

^Standard 4th Year Option

Science

High School Science Elective Options		
Scientific Research I-II	Scientific Research III-IV	Advanced Scientific Internship
Advanced Genetics/DNA Research	AP Seminar - Life or Physical Science	AP Research - Life or Physical Science
Organic Chemistry		

Middle School Science Core Content Courses		
Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
Science 6 Advanced Science 6	Completion of 5th Grade	Standards
Science 7 Advanced Science 7	Science 6	Standards
Science 8* Advanced Science 8*	Science 7	Standards
Physical Science** (HS Credit)	Advanced Science 7	Standards

*EOG Assessment Required

**EOG Assessment Required for MS Students Only

Cherokee County Standard Core Science Sequencing

5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Science 5	Science 6	Science 7	Science 8	Environmental Science	Biology	Physical Science	4th Year Option
	Advanced Science 6	Advanced Science 7	Advanced Science 8	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	4th Year Option
			Physical Science	Honors Biology	Honors Chemistry	Honors or AP Physics	4th Year Option
				AP Biology*	Honors Chemistry	AP Physics	4th Year Option
						AP Chemistry	Additional AP Science
						AP Environmental Science	Post AP Option*

*Where Available

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Social Studies

High School Core Content Courses

Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
World History Honors World History	World History Honors World History	Standards Adopted Resource
U.S. History* Honors U.S. History*	World History	Standards Adopted Resource
American Government Honors American Government	U.S. History	Standards Adopted Resource
Personal Finance and Economics Honors Personal Finance and Economics	U.S. History	Standards Adopted Resource
AP World History	Completion of 8th grade Social Studies coursework	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP U.S. History	World History	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Government/Politics: U.S.	U.S. History	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Government/Politics: Comparative	U.S. History	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Macroeconomics	U.S. History	College Board Info Adopted Resource
AP Microeconomics	U.S. History	College Board Info Adopted Resource

*EOC Assessment Required

Social Studies

High School Social Studies Elective Options		
World Geography	U.S. and World Affairs	The Individual and the Law
Honors World Geography	Honors U.S. and World Affairs	Constitutional Theory
Anthropology	Comparative Religions	Middle Eastern Studies
Current Issues	Ethnic Studies	Psychology
Modern U.S. Military History	Peer Leadership I	Sports in United States Society
Recent U. S. Presidents	Sociology	U.S. History in Film
AP Psychology	AP European History	AP Research
AP Human Geography	AP Seminar	

Middle School Social Studies Core Content Courses		
Course Name	Prerequisite Course	Course Information
Social Studies 6 Advanced Social Studies 6	Completion of 5th grade	Standards
Social Studies 7 Advanced Social Studies 7	Social Studies 6	Standards
Social Studies 8* Advanced Social Studies 8*	Social Studies 7	Standards

*EOC Assessment Required

Cherokee County Standard Core Social Studies Sequencing

5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
SS 5	SS 6	SS 7	SS 8	Optional SS Elective	World History	US History	Government + Economics
	Advanced SS 6	Advanced SS 7	Advanced SS 8	Optional SS Elective	Honors World History	Honors US History	
				AP Human Geography*	AP World History	AP US History	AP Government + Economics

*Where Available

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World Language/Latin (Where Available)

High School Options	
French I-IV	Honors French II-IV
Latin	Honors Latin II-IV
German I-IV	Honors German II-IV
Spanish I-IV	Honors Spanish II-IV
Workplace Spanish	Advanced Workplace Spanish
Spanish for Native Speakers	AP French Language and Culture
AP Latin	AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP Spanish Literature and Culture	

Middle School Connections	
French Culture 6-8	French I*
Spanish Culture 6-8	Spanish I*
Latin I*	

*8th Grade HS Credit Courses

†Native Language and Native Language Literacy Credit in lieu of enrollment can be awarded based on international transcript evaluation or results of native language proficiency test. Reach out to your school for more information.



Health and Physical Education

High School Options	
Health	Personal Fitness
General PE I-IV	Adaptive Physical Education I-IV
Weight Training	Advanced Weight Training
Body Sculpting	Advanced Body Sculpting
Exercise and Weight Control	Advanced Exercise and Weight Control
Physical Conditioning	Advanced Physical Conditioning
Introductory Lifetime Sports	Intermediate Lifetime Sports
Advanced Lifetime Sports	Introductory Recreational Games
Intermediate Recreational Games	Advanced Recreational Games
Introductory Team Sports	Intermediate Team Sports
Advanced Team Sports	Principles of Athletic Training/Sports Medicine

Middle School Connections	
Physical Education 6-8	Health 6-8

Fine Arts

High School Visual Arts	
Visual Art Comprehensive I	Applied Design I
Ceramics/Pottery I-IV	Drawing I-II
Painting I-II	Drawing and Painting I-II
AP Drawing	Photography I-II
AP 3-D Art and Design	Digital Design I
AP 2-D Art and Design	Sculpture I-II

High School Dramatic Arts/Theatre	
Fundamentals of Theatre I-II	Advanced Drama I-IV
Theatre Acting I-II	Musical Theatre I-III
Technical Theatre I-IV	*Dramatic Writing

*Students earn a core ELA credit and then also receive a Fine Arts credit through embedded alignment.

High School Chorus	
Beginning Chorus I	Intermediate Chorus I
Advanced Chorus I	Advanced Choral Ensemble I-IV
Beginning Men's Chorus I-IV	Intermediate Men's Chorus I-IV
Advanced Men's Chorus I-IV	Beginning Women's Chorus I-IV
Intermediate Women's Chorus I-IV	Advanced Women's Chorus I-IV
Mastery Women's Chorus I-IV	



Fine Arts

High School Band	
Beginning Band I-II	Intermediate Band I-IV
Advanced Band I-IV	Mastery Band I-IV
Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble I-IV	Guitar I-II

High School Orchestra	
Beginning Orchestra I	Intermediate Orchestra I-IV
Advanced Orchestra I-IV	Mastery Orchestra I-IV

High School Music	
Beginning Music Theory and Composition	AP Music Theory

High School Dance	
Dance Competition	Dance I-IV

Middle School Connections	
Visual Art 6-8	*Visual Art Comprehensive I
Theatre 6-8	*Fundamentals of Theatre I
Band 6-8	*Beginning Band I
General Music 6-8	*Beginning Chorus I
Orchestra 6-8	*Beginning Orchestra I

*8th Grade HS Credit Courses



Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Advanced Manufacturing Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Engineering Drafting and Design	Introduction to Drafting and Design	Survey of Engineering Graphics	3D Modeling and Analysis
Engineering and Technology	Foundations of Engineering and Technology	Engineering Concepts	Engineering Applications

Agriculture Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Companion Animal Systems Pathway	Basic Agricultural Science	Animal Science/Biotechnology	Small Animal Care
Equine Science Pathway			Equine Science
Veterinary Science Pathway			Veterinary Science
Agricultural Mechanics Systems Pathway		Agricultural Mechanics Technology I	Agricultural Mechanics Technology II
Agricultural Mechanics and Metals Fabrication			Agricultural Metals Fabrication
Plant and Floral Design Systems Pathway		General Horticulture & Plant Science	Floral Design & Management
Agriculture Leadership in Horticulture Pathway			Agribusiness Management & Leadership



Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Arts, Entertainment, and Design Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Audio/Video Technology and Film I Pathway	Audio-Video Technology & Film	Audio-Video Technology & Film II	Audio-Video Technology & Film III
Audio/Video Technology and Film II Pathway			Broadcast/Video Applications
Graphic Design Pathway	Introduction to Graphics & Design	Graphic Design & Production	Advanced Graphic Design
Graphic Communication Pathway			Advanced Graphic Output Processes

Construction Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Architectural Drawing and Design Pathway	Introduction to Drafting & Design	Architectural Drawing & Design I	Architectural Drawing & Design II
Carpentry Pathway	Industry Fundamentals & Occupational Safety	Introduction to Construction	Carpentry I
Electrical Pathway			Electrical I
Welding Pathway		Introduction to Metals	*Welding I
Heavy Equipment Pathway		Introduction to Heavy Equipment	Heavy Equipment Operations I

*Welding II & III are optional 4th plus year

Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Digital Technology Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Computer Science Pathway	Introduction to Software Technology	Computer Science Principles or *AP Computer Science Principles	*AP Computer Science A
Web Development Pathway			Web Development
Game Design Pathway			Game Design: Animation & Simulation
Cybersecurity Pathway	Introduction to Hardware Technology OR <u>Computer Science Principles</u> or <u>*AP Computer Science Principles</u>	Introduction to Cybersecurity	Advanced Cybersecurity

Education Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Early Childhood Care and Education I Pathway	Early Childhood Education I	Early Childhood Education II	Early Childhood Education III
Early Childhood Care and Education II Pathway			Early Childhood Education Practicum
Teaching as a Profession Pathway	Examining the Teaching Profession	Contemporary Issues in Education	Teaching as a Profession Practicum



Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Healthcare and Human Services Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Patient Care Pathway	Introduction to Healthcare Science	Essentials of Healthcare	Patient Care Fundamentals
Sports Medicine Pathway			Sports Medicine
Allied Health and Medicine Pathway			Allied Health & Medicine
Clinical Lab Pathway			Clinical Lab I
Nutrition and Food Science Pathway	Food, Nutrition, & Wellness	Food for Life	Food Science

Marketing and Sales Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Marketing and Management Pathway	Marketing Principles	Marketing & Entrepreneurship	Marketing Management
Sports and Entertainment Marketing Pathway		Sports & Entertainment Marketing	Advanced Sports & Entertainment Marketing



Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Public Safety and Services Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Firefighting Pathway	Introduction to Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	Essentials of Fire & Emergency Services	Applications of Firefighting
Criminal Investigations Pathway		Criminal Justice Essentials	Criminal Investigations
Forensic Science Pathway			Forensic Science & Criminal Investigations
Security and Protective Services Pathway			Security & Protective Services

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
JROTC Army	JROTC Army Leadership Education I	JROTC Army Leadership Education II	JROTC Army Leadership Educations III	JROTC Army Leadership Education IV
JROTC Air Force	Aerospace Science: Aviation History 100 Aerospace Leadership: Citizenship 100 Aerospace Science: Science of Flight 200	Aerospace Science: Global & Cultural Studies 220 Aerospace Leadership: Communication 200	Aerospace Science: Exploring Space & Cyber 300 Aerospace Science: Survival Aerospace Leadership: Career Exploration 300	Aerospace Science: Corps Management Aerospace Leadership: Management 400
JROTC Navy	Naval Science I: Cadet Field Manual Naval Science I: Introduction to NJROTC	Naval Science II: Maritime History	Naval Science III: Naval Orientation & Skills	Naval Science IV: Naval Leadership & Ethics



Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Supply Chain and Transportation Career Cluster

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3
Flight Operations Pathway	Fundamentals of Aerospace	Flight Operations 1	Flight Operations 2
Unmanned Aircraft Systems Pathway			Unmanned Aircraft Systems
General Automotive Technology Pathway	Automotive Technologies 1	Automotive Technologies 2	Automotive Technologies 3

Pathway Completion

The Georgia Department of Education offers four pathways students can complete during their time in high school.

Advanced Academic

Educational programs in Advanced Academic pathways prepare students for career opportunities that will lead to multiple postsecondary options for advanced studies and skills. Students will be able to use these skills in a university or college setting and/or many career fields. Students may complete an Advanced Academic pathway when three units of credit from English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies have been successfully completed and additional criteria met.

Requirements for each Advanced Academic pathway are as follows:

Advanced Academic Pathway in English Language Arts	Advanced Academic Pathway in Mathematics	Advanced Academic Pathway in Science	Advanced Academic Pathway in Social Studies
Four units of credit in English Language Arts	Four units of credit in Mathematics	Four units of credit in Science	Four units of credit in Social Studies
At least one Advanced Placement (AP) course or one postsecondary enrollment course that fulfills a core ELA graduation requirement	At least one Advanced Placement (AP) course or one postsecondary enrollment course that fulfills a core mathematics graduation requirement	At least one Advanced Placement (AP) course or one postsecondary enrollment course that fulfills a core science graduation requirement	At least one Advanced Placement (AP) course or one postsecondary enrollment course that fulfills a core social studies graduation requirement
Two units of sequential course credit in one world language	Two units of sequential course credit in one world language	Two units of sequential course credit in one world language	Two units of sequential course credit in one world language

CTAE

The Georgia Department of Education offers 14 Career Clusters that allow high school students to choose an area of interest. Students take classes tailored to their cluster which helps them navigate their way to greater success regardless of what they choose to do after high school. Within each cluster are a variety of specific career pathways. The aim of the program is to show students the relevance of what they're learning in the classroom, whether they want to attend a two-year college, a four-year university or go straight into the world of work. Students will begin to learn about potential careers in elementary and middle school so that they are ready to choose a pathway once they reach high school. Georgia's initiative is based on the [National Career Cluster Model](#).

A CTAE pathway is completed when a student earns credit in three sequenced courses as outlined by the [State approved CTAE career pathways](#). Specific pathways offered in CCSD can be found in the CTAE section of this handbook. CCSD students who complete a CTAE pathway are awarded a medal to wear during graduation ceremonies.

At the end of the 3rd course in a pathway, students will take an End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA) exam. Passage of an EOPA often results in certification in the pathway enabling students to have an advantage in the post-secondary and career opportunities.

Fine Arts

Educational programs in the Fine Arts pathways prepare students for career opportunities that will lead to multiple postsecondary options for advanced studies and skills. Students will be able to use these skills in a university or college setting and/or many career fields.

A student can complete a Fine Arts pathway by successfully earning three units of credit in any one of the following areas of study: Dance, Music, Theatre, Visual Arts.

World Language

A World Language Pathway may be followed in any of the world language areas included in the state list of approved courses. A student can complete a World Language Pathway by meeting the following requirements:

- Three units of credit in any one world language
 - One unit of credit can be earned through AP coursework or post-secondary enrollment

Dipolma Seals

Fine Arts Diploma Seals

The Fine Arts Diploma Seal is awarded to graduating high school students who complete a Georgia Fine Arts Pathway and engage in creative industry focus courses, extra- curricular activities and experiences that foster Fine Arts mastery. The goal of this seal is to produce students who prepared for college and careers in these Fine-Arts related career fields. The qualifications for this Seal are:

- Completion of a Georgia Fine Arts Pathway
- Completion of at least one additional Fine Arts course in any Fine Arts area of study
- Participation in two or more arts-related extra-curricular activities and experiences that foster Fine Arts mastery
- Documentation of 20 hours of arts-related community service
- Completion of a capstone presentation of experiences

International Skills Diploma

In today's global marketplace, it is important for students to acquire the interdisciplinary skills they need to be globally competent and competitive. The International Skills Diploma Seal is awarded to graduating high school students who complete an international education curriculum and engage in extracurricular activities and experiences that foster the achievement of global competencies. It is a signal to employers and higher education institutions that a student is prepared to participate in the global economy. The qualifications for this seal are:

- World Languages
 - At least three credits in the same world language and/or ESOL
- International Focus
 - At least four credits in courses determined to have an international focus, such as international economics, world history, world geography, etc.
 - At least four extracurricular activities and experiences with global themes and/or in global contexts such as international and language clubs, travel abroad, etc.
 - 20 hours of community service involving a global/cross-cultural public service project
 - Capstone presentation on the knowledge gained in the courses and activities listed above

Seal of Biliteracy

For students to succeed in a global economy, they will need to possess a new set of skills that were not required for the success of prior generations of Americans. Regional expertise, cross-cultural competence and advanced language proficiency are no longer skills reserved only for those who plan for a career overseas - they are skills that will enhance any career field, encourage international investment to our state, and develop a workforce that is successful in working on diverse international teams to collaborate and solve global problems. The purpose of the Georgia Seal of Biliteracy is to:

- Encourage pupils to study foreign languages
- Certify attainment of biliteracy
- Provide employers with a method to identify people with language and biliteracy skills
- Provide universities with a method to recognize and give academic credit to applicants seeking admission
- Recognize and promote foreign language instruction in public schools The qualifications for this seal are:
 - Completion of all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above in those classes
 - Proficiency in one or more languages other than English, demonstrated by passing a foreign language advanced placement examination with a score of 4 or higher; provided, however, that for languages in which an advanced placement examination is not available, the Department of Education may provide a listing of equivalent summative examinations that local school systems may use in place of such an advanced placement examination

Social Studies Civic Engagement Diploma Seal

Civic education equips students with the skills they need to succeed in the 21st century – the ability to communicate effectively, work collectively and ask critical questions. Students will use civic knowledge and skills their entire life. The purpose of the Civic Engagement Diploma Seal is to prepare students to constructively participate in civic life and recognize their commitment to community. The qualifications for this seal are:

- Completion of Social Studies graduation requirements
- Passing the American Government Basic Skills Test
- 50 service hour minimum
 - Must include a minimum of 15 hours of civic engagement activities
 - Can include voluntary community service and/or extracurricular activities
 - Approved seal-related electives/pathway courses can count up to 30 hours
 - Any student who legally enlists in the United States Military prior to graduation will meet this requirement automatically
- Capstone portfolio presentation that summarizes the knowledge, skills and experience gained during the activities listed above and how it shapes their civic involvement and participation now and in the future.

Career Ready Diploma Seals

The Career Ready Diploma Seal is awarded to graduating high school students who complete a series of accomplishments as outlined and engage in activities, courses, and experiences that foster career readiness. The diploma seal is a signal to employers that a student is prepared to participate in the workforce. The Georgia Department of Education offers three types of recognized career seals with associated requirements as follows:

Employability Career Seal

- Employability/Soft Skills Seal
 - Complete an Employability Skills/Soft Skills program approved by the local system and their business partners
- Distinguished Employability/Soft Skills Seal
 - Complete the requirements above
 - Earn at least one unit in a state-approved Work-Based Learning program in the concentrated CTAE pathway area

Pathway Career Seal

- Pathway Skills Seal
 - Complete a Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathway in at least one of Georgia's 17 Career Clusters
 - Complete at least one of the following:
 - Pass an End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA)/Industry Recognized Credentialing exam (if applicable)
 - Complete a pathway in an industry-certified program
 - Earn at least one unit in a state-approved Work-Based Learning program in the concentrated pathway area
 - Complete all components of the Career-Related Capstone Project in the concentrated CTAE pathway area, as outlined by the GaDOE
 - Earn a rank of E5 or above
 - Via dual enrollment complete two Technical Certificates of Credit (TCC) in one pathway, earning a Technical College Diploma, or earning an associate degree (Accelerated Career Diploma)
- Distinguished Pathway Skills Seal
 - Complete a Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathway in one of Georgia's 17 Career Clusters
 - Complete at least two of the following:
 - Pass an End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA)/Industry Recognized Credentialing exam (if applicable)
 - Complete a pathway in an industry-certified program
 - Earn at least one unit in a state-approved Work-Based Learning program in the concentrated pathway area
 - Complete all components of the Career-Related Capstone Project in the concentrated CTAE pathway area, as outlined by the GaDOE
 - Earn a rank of E5 or above

Leadership Career Seal

- Leadership Skills Seal
 - Complete one year of membership in a state-recognized Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) or participate in one year of JROTC co-curricular activity
 - Prepare a portfolio to include as a minimum, a cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation
 - At least one of the following:
 - Present to business and industry, civic organizations, legislators, and/or local, state, or national board of education members on behalf of local CTAE, CTSOs, or JROTC
 - Receive a regional, state, or national honor and/or recognition
 - Participate in at least 40 hours of documented community service, and/or community service campaigns
 - Earn a rank of E5 or above and at least 2 credits of JROTC
 - Distinguished Leadership Skills Seal
 - Complete two years of membership in a state-recognized Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) or participate in two years of a JROTC co-curricular activity
 - Present to business and industry, civic organizations, legislators, and/or local, state, or national board of education members on behalf of local CTAE, CTSOs, or JROTC
 - Hold or previously held a leadership office at the local, regional, state or national level in a state recognized CTSO during high school or a JROTC Command or Staff position in the unit or JROTC co-curricular activity and earn a rank of E7 or above
 - Participate in at least 80 hours of documented community service, and/or community service campaigns

Online Learning Options

Full and part time online learning options begin in CCSD when students enter high school. In grades K-8, only full time in-person learning is available. Hybrid, part-time and full-time virtual options are not available in grades K-8.

High school students have the opportunity to enroll in a full-time virtual learning option through i-Grad Virtual Academy. Students at i-Grad work from home utilizing digital coursework with support from subject certified i-Grad teachers or through one of CCSD's virtual/digital course partners. Coursework at i-Grad is a hybrid of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (flexible time) learning where students work from a location of their choice. Students have the ability to come onto the i-Grad campus if additional support is needed. On occasion, i-Grad students are required to attend an event on campus. This may include State testing and AP testing as well as optional in-person activities such as live speakers and graduation ceremonies.

i-Grad students may participate in Dual Enrollment and/or Work Based Learning.

High school students also have the option to enroll in a partial day of online learning through their local high school. CCSD Policy IHE allows full time high school students to take a maximum of three online courses (i.e., half of their full-time enrollment) as part of their daily high school schedule. Courses may be taken on campus or off campus depending on the type of course and required coursework.

High school students are able to pay for additional coursework during the school year as well as during the summer term. High school students may take one self-paid online course per semester earning up to .5 credits and/or two self-paid online courses during the summer totaling up to 1.0 credits. Dual Enrollment students may take a maximum of two approved courses during the summer totaling up to 2.0 high school credits.

Students must receive approval prior to enrolling in any online course. Their school counselor must review the appropriateness for the student's program of study. Only virtual/online coursework offered through CCSD will be accepted. Currently, CCSD offers virtual and digital coursework through CCSD Edgenuity, Edgenuity Instructional Services and Georgia Virtual School (GAVS).

Virtual and digital online coursework is offered in two formats: credit recovery (CR) and initial credit (IC):

- Credit recovery versions of courses are focused on mastery of standards and demonstration of proficiency. This format of coursework is only used when a student has previously failed a core content course and needs to retake it to earn credit.
 - Pretesting is used in credit recovery to allow students to “test out” of individual lessons they have previously mastered. Additionally, courses are adapted so students focus only on the material they need to progress to the next grade level of subject matter.
 - Students must demonstrate mastery on each assignment, lesson quiz and unit test to proceed to the next lesson. Credit recovery courses are passed by completing coursework with at least a minimum passing score on all graded items. Courses not completed receive a grade of 60 on the student transcript.
 - Credit recovery courses are only available for core content subjects and may be taken with any certified teacher regardless of their area of certification.
 - Credit recovery courses are only offered through CCSD Edgenuity at the local high school or as a paid option through Edgenuity Instructional Services outside of the school day (or during the summer term). GAVS does not offer credit recovery coursework.
 - Credit recovery courses are not approved by the NCAA and should not be utilized by student athletes seeking collegiate eligibility.
 - Initial credit versions of virtual and digital courses are meant to match the learning experiences a student would have in the standard in-person classroom. This format is typically used when a student has not taken the course previously but may also be used to retake a course that has been failed previously.
 - Pre-testing is not an option for initial credit, and courses provide a more robust learning experience.
 - Students will complete assignments, lessons, quizzes and tests just as they would in a standard classroom.
 - Final grades for Initial Credit courses are established by the course provider and sent to the student’s school to be posted on the transcript. Courses that use Edgenuity courseware use the relative grade as the final course grade.
 - Initial credit courses are passed if the final student grade is above a 70. Whether the course is passed or not, students receive the final course grade on their transcript.
 - Initial credit core courses must be taken with a teacher that is subject certified. Initial credit elective courses may be taken with any certified teacher regardless of their area of certification.



- Most initial credit courses are offered in partnership with GAVS and Edgenuity Instructional Services. Digital CCSD Courses may also be used in specialized circumstances for initial credit courses.
- Initial credit digital/virtual coursework completed in CCSD through Edgenuity and/or GAVS is NCAA-approved.

Off Campus Course Requests

- Students who wish to complete off-campus courses may request credit through the CCSD Off-Campus Course Request (OCCR) process prior to beginning the course. The school providing the course must be accredited by a Board-approved agency. (See Board Policy JBC(4) – Transferring Credits.)
- Students and families should contact their school for additional information.
- Approval Requirements:
 - Prior to beginning the course, the OCCR form must be approved by the content coordinator, the Director of Teaching and Learning, and the Executive Director of Academics.
- Milestone Courses:
 - If a student takes a Milestone course through the OCCR process, they are required to take the corresponding Milestone assessment. If the student does not complete the Milestone with the off-campus provider, they must take the assessment through Cherokee County Schools.
- Course Alignment:
 - If the off-campus course does not directly align with a state-funded course, a copy of the course syllabus must be attached to the OCCR form for approval.

Advanced Placement (AP) Program

CCSD partners with College Board to offer a robust Advanced Placement (AP) program for Cherokee County students. The AP program offers college-level courses and exams that can be taken in high school. Taking AP courses and exams in high school could give you an advantage in college by letting you:

- Earn college credit and placement as determined by individual post-secondary institutions
- Stand out to colleges and universities with a strengthened high school transcript that demonstrates the motivation to succeed and desire for a rigorous learning experience
- Get familiar with college-level work and develop skills that will be necessary for success in college and career
- Enhance the weighted versions of grade point average (GPA) and numeric grade average (NGA)
 - CCSD honors courses receive an additional .5 bonus to the GPA and five (5) point bonus to the NGA
 - CCSD AP courses receive an additional 1.0 bonus to the GPA and a ten (10) point bonus to the NGA

Available AP courses in CCSD can be found in the CCSD Course Offerings section of this handbook. Course availability is determined at each individual high school.

Dual Enrollment

Georgia's Dual Enrollment (DE) program allows high school students to earn college credit while working on their high school diploma. DE is offered through approved public University System of Georgia (USG) postsecondary institutions as well as through the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) and some private postsecondary schools. Through the DE program, tuition, mandatory fees and required textbooks are covered at no cost to students.

The goal of DE is to increase college access and completion and to prepare students with the skills they need to succeed beyond high school. Students must meet the DE admissions requirements set by the participating postsecondary institution they wish to attend. Those requirements may include a minimum grade level and/or age requirement. Students must also meet the postsecondary institution's satisfactory academic progress policies. Courses may be taken before, during or after regular school hours on the college campus, online or at the high school where available.

DE Program Basics

- Students are enrolled at both the local high school and postsecondary institution.
- Students simultaneously earn high school credit and college credit by completing DE courses at a postsecondary institution.
- Students graduate from high school with a CCSD diploma under the traditional graduation requirements.
- Students MAY enroll in up to 4 DE courses per semester (not to exceed 15 total college credit hours). ALL students MUST maintain full time CCSD enrollment status (minimum of 3 high school credits per semester in any of the following combinations):

College Classes	Minimum Required HS Classes	Total HS Credits per semester
4+ (Not to exceed 15 total hours)	0	4
3	0	3
2	2	3
1	4	3
0	6	3

- Students may take up to 30 postsecondary course hours funded by the DE program. Core academic areas and CTAE courses are approved for DE funding. Fine Arts, PE and Health courses are not eligible for DE funding.
- Eligible 11th and 12th grade students may take approved Dual Enrollment courses listed on the [GAfutures Dual Enrollment Course Directory](#) at an eligible participating postsecondary institution.
- Eligible 10th grade students may take approved CTAE electives at a participating TCSG institution. SAT or ACT minimum scores must be met for participation in additional DE courses for 10th grade students.
- 9th grade students are not eligible to participate in the DE program.

To participate in the Dual Enrollment program, high school students must complete the CCSD Dual Enrollment Participation Form and meet with their School Counselor prior to the application deadline of April 1st. Access to the CCSD DE application form and orientation video can be found by visiting [CCSD's Dual Enrollment page](#) located under the Division of Curriculum and Instruction. Interested students should meet with their School Counselor and visit [GAfutures site](#) for program information.

Accelerated Career Diploma

In February of 2023, the Georgia State School Board passed a rule that renamed the “Option B” Dual Enrollment Program to the Accelerated Career Diploma program. Accelerated Career is another route to a high school diploma. A traditional high school student completes the required 23 credits to graduate. Accelerated Career students seek another path because they have a career plan and want faster access to the credentialing needed to get to work. Because students graduating under the Accelerated Career Diploma do not follow a traditional path to graduation, they may not be admissible to a four-year college or university straight out of high school.

To be eligible for the Accelerated Career Diploma program, students must complete a minimum of nine required high school courses:

- Two credits in Mathematics
 - Algebra 1 and the associated EOC assessment
 - One other required high school math course
- Two credits in English/Language Arts
 - Lit 1
 - Lit 2
- Two credits in Science
 - Biology and the associated EOC assessment
 - One other required high school science course
- Two credits in Social Studies

Students may replace one Social Studies course with an additional Math course. Students may also take 3 math and 1 Social Studies

- One-half credit of Health and one-half credit of Personal Fitness

Once students have completed nine required high school courses, students must complete one of the following:

- Two Technical Certificates from approved, specific career pathways,
- A Technical Diploma, or
- An Applied Associate Degree

To participate in the Accelerated Career Diploma program, students should meet with their School Counselor to begin planning a path to graduation.