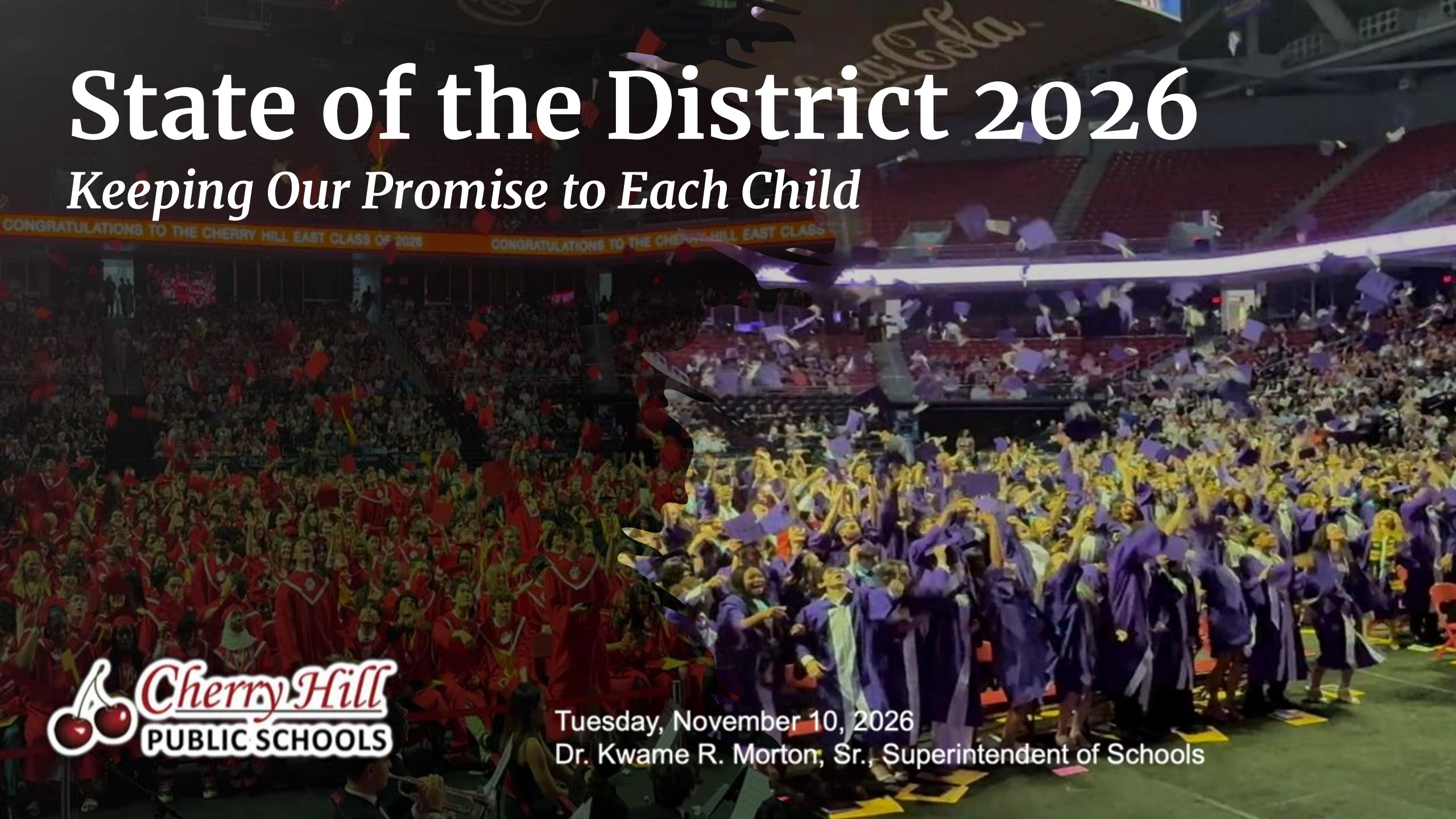
State of the District 2026

Keeping Our Promise to Each Child



Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Dr. Kwame R. Morton, Sr., Superintendent of Schools

Overview

Growing With Our Families

Each Student, Each Family

Listening and Leading Together

Stewardship

Commitments for 2026-2027



Growing With Our Families

“Yay For Pre-K”







Our Preschool Expansion = Amazing Growth

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Locations

1 → 11

September 2023 — Today

Students

199 → ~900

September 2023 — Today

Cadence Academy PRESCHOOL

Chesterbrook Academy

THE GODDARD SCHOOL

ADVENTURE KIDS PLAYCARE

MALBERG EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER HOME OF THE CUBS

JK

KinderCare LEARNING CENTERS

Lightbridge Academy

PRIMROSE SCHOOLS

MOSAIC EARLY LEARNING

Discovery Corner Childcare and Enrichment Center

Each site follows the same guidelines, curriculum, policies, procedures, calendar and daily schedule

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Creative Curriculum
Play-based, hands-on units

Kick Start Literacy
Early literacy aligned with kindergarten

Second Step
Social and emotional growth

Inclusive program
Preschool disabled program fully integrated



CONSISTENCY IS

Focus on Parent Engagement & Increased Advocacy







Preschool Program
HOME OF THE CUBS

Next promise: 225 more preschool seats for 2027-2028

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

~225

Additional preschool seats projected for 2027-2028

- 15 additional classrooms
- Application to NJDOE: Friday, November 13



Each Student, Each Family

The promise: each student graduates on time, with support when they need it, and their families are engaged as partners.



School Aged Child Care (SACC) Program

- SACC enrollment currently has its highest enrollment since at least 2023-2024!
- SACC staffing is at its highest since at least 2023-2024!
- SACC has expanded clubs for the 2026-2027 school year
  - Lego Club
  - Chess Club
  - Dance Club
  - Engineering Club



Before/After Care Expansion

- Before/Aftercare now offered at Malberg Preschool
- Focus on SACC Waitlists
- Afterschool Affinity Clubs
- Summer Programming

RIGHT AT SCHOOL

Student Outcomes

873

Graduates – Class of 2026

1st Pathway (NJGPA)

ELA = 787 Math = 621

2nd Pathway (Substitute Competency)

ELA = 6 Math = 64

3rd Pathway (Portfolio)

ELA = 66 Math = 176

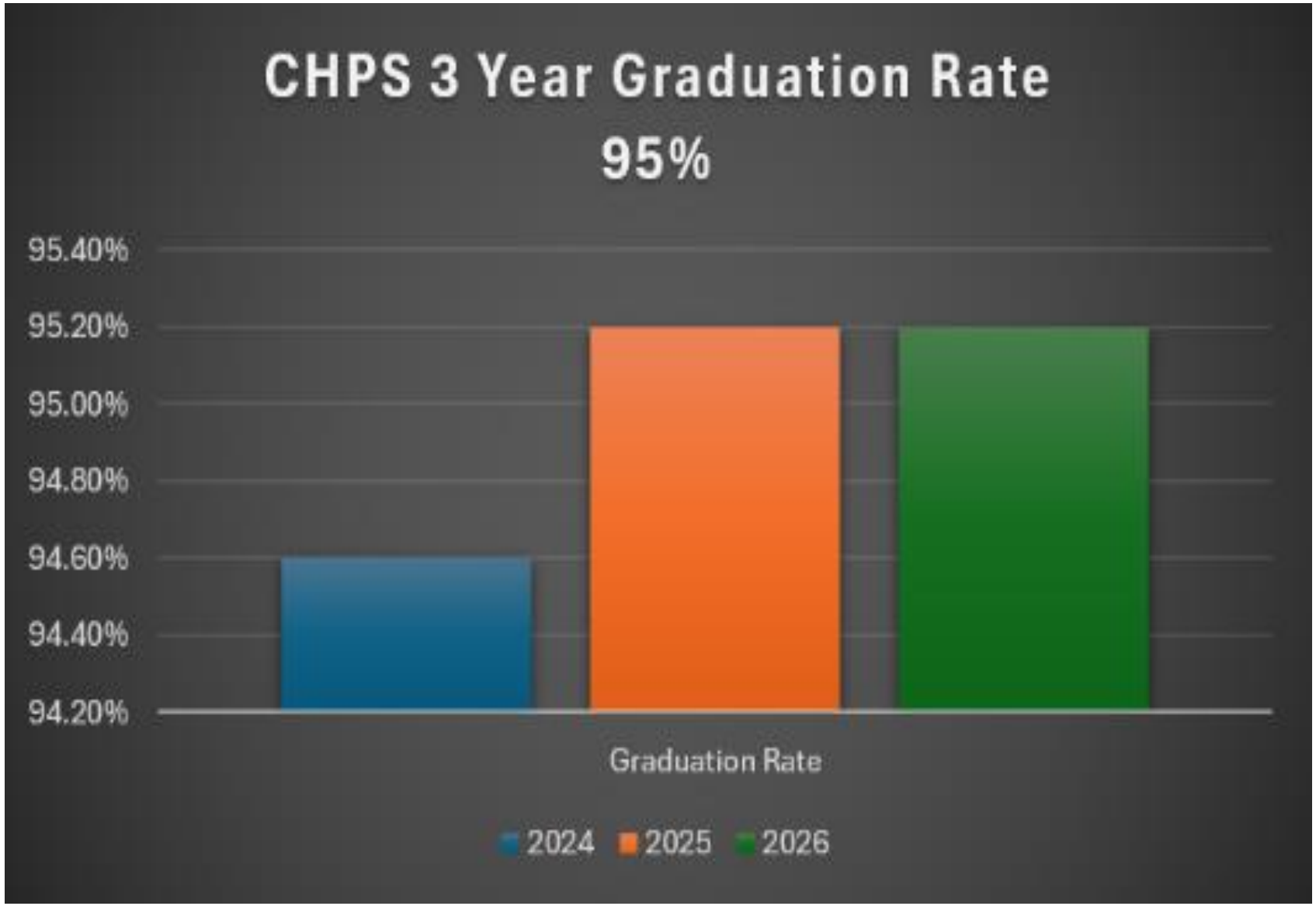
Meets via Alt. Specifications in IEP

ELA = 14 Math = 12

Students Denied Graduation Solely without an Assessment Pathway

ELA = 0 Math = 0





Class of 2026

- 100% of 12th grade students enrolled in CHPS graduated.
- Graduates committed to enroll at over 120 colleges/universities across the nation!
- Graduates enlisted to serve in various branches of the military!
- 202 (~23%) 12th grade students earned the Seal of Biliteracy

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Student Outcomes – Class of 2026 Commitments

American University

Arizona State University

Binghamton University

Boston University

Camden County College

Central Connecticut State University

Chestnut Hill College

Chicago State University

Columbia University – Jewish Theological Seminary

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Dominican University

Drexel University

Duquesne University

East Carolina University

East Stroudsburg University

Eastern University

Elon University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Emory University

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Florida Atlantic University

Florida Gulf Coast University

Florida Institute of Technology

Franklin & Marshall College

George Washington University

Hampton University

Harvard University

Holy Family University

Immaculata University

Indiana University

Iona College

Ithaca College

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University

Kean University

Kutztown University

LaSalle University

Lehigh University

Liberty University

Lincoln Tech

Long Beach City College

Loyola University New Orleans

Loyola University Maryland

Loyola University Chicago

Lynn University

Marymount Manhattan College

McGill University

Miami University

Montclair State University

Morgan State University

New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)

North Carolina A&T State University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Oberlin Conservatory

Pace University

Penn State University

Pfeiffer University

Princeton University

Purdue University

Ramapo College of NJ

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rice University

Rider University

Rizzeri Aveda School

Rowan College Bur. County

Rowan College of SJ

Rowan University

Rutgers University Camden

Rutgers University Newark

Rutgers University New Brunswick

Saint Joseph's University

San Diego University

Seton Hall University

St. John’s University

State University of NJ Geneseo

Stevens Institute of Tech

Stockton University

Swarthmore College

Syracuse University

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ)

Temple University

The American University of Rome

The Ohio State University

Thomas Jefferson University

Tuffs University

United States Air Force

University of Alabama

United States Army

University of California Berkeley

University of Central Lancashire

United States Coast Guard

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Connecticut

University of Dayton

University of Delaware

University of Florida

United States Marine Corps

University of Hawaii

University of LaVerne

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts Amherst

University of Massachusetts Boston

University of New Haven

United States Navy

University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

University of North Carolina – Charlotte

University of Oregon

University of Ottawa

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

University of Richmond

University of South Carolina

University of South Florida

University of Tampa

University of Tennessee

University of Valley Forge

University of Wisconsin-Madison

University of Virginia

Ursinus College

Villanova University

Virginia Tech University

Wake Forest University

Washington University in St. Louis

West Chester University

West Virginia University

Widener University

William Patterson University

AP participation grew, and 69% still scored a 4 or 5

34
AP courses
Up from 33 in 2025

3,020
AP seats filled
Up 311 from 2,709 in 2025

2,194
AP exams taken
Up 516 from 1,678 in 2025

69%
scored a 4 or 5
Same rate, more test takers

Elementary School
Continuing Curriculum Excellence

- Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA)
  - Builds strong reading, writing, and critical thinking skills
  - Engages students with knowledge-rich content
  - Teachers trained extensively for effective delivery
  - Impact: Improved comprehension, vocabulary, and student confidence
- Eureka Math Squared
  - Conceptual understanding
  - Procedural fluency
  - Real-world application
  - Builds and expands understanding
- Intervention & Enrichment (I&E)
  - Aligned with curricular materials
  - Aligned with MTSS instructional cycles
  - Each student receives equal amounts of intervention & enrichment
  - Educators use a shared students model to better help with instructional needs
  - Professional guidance with the I&E Handbook





Middle School *Navigating Transitions*

- Shift to Junior High Model
- Middle Level Scheduling Team
- WIN (What I Need) Period
- Chorus, Orchestra, Band
- Transition Events for 6th grade students: Orientation, Socials, YMCA of the Pines
- Focused Interventionists for Math & ELA
- Comprehensive Training for Interventionists to meet MTSS needs





Middle School *Navigating Transitions*

- National Junior Honor Society
  - Recognizes Academic Achievement & Community Service
- Positive Behavior in Schools (PBIS) @ Beck Middle School
- Student Success Center @ Carusi Middle School
- National History Day @ Rosa Middle School
- Talented & Gifted (TAG) incorporated in the middle school day









High School
Preparing Students for Life Beyond Graduation

- Cultivating Student Leadership
- DECA Program
- AFJROTC Program
- Intensive College/Career Counseling
  - FAFSA & Scholarship Assistance
  - Senior College Night & Fairs
  - Visits from Colleges/Universities
  - Trade School Partnerships
- Career Day
- 18-21 WBL/Job Training Program



- Dual Credit programs with local colleges/universities
  - Stockton University
  - Camden County College
  - Rowan College of Burlington County (RCBC)
  - Rutgers University Piscataway - Credit by Examination
  - Rutgers University Camden - College Now
  - 359 enrolled @ HS East
  - 223 enrolled @ HS West
- Experiential Learning participants continues to grow
  - 17 students @ HS East
  - 25 students @ HS West



New curricular extend rigor from kindergarten through high school

Notables: Elementary

- Amplify CKLA - 3rd year of implementation
- K-5 DIBELS and MAZE Universal Screeners year 2 of full implementation and reporting to families
- Beginning of Year Assessments finalized
- Eureka Math Squared - year 5 of full implementation K-Algebra I
- Media Specialists join Encore program
  - K-5 typing competencies being addressed through Typing Club during library time
- Computer Science standards organically embedded into multiple curricular areas

Amplify CKLA

EUREKA MATH²

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Notables: Secondary

- Talented and Gifted (TAG) programming at the middle level

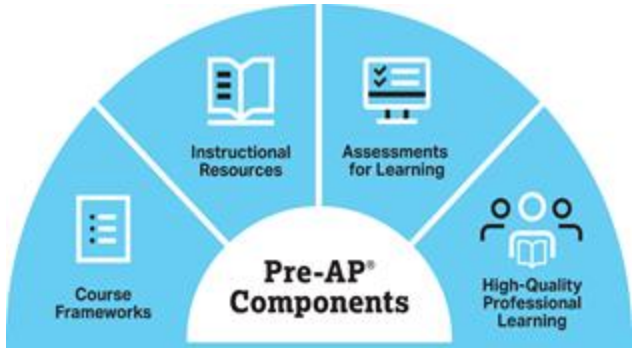
- Pre-AP English 9 and 10 continues for year 3

- AP Business Principles and Personal Finance introduced at the high schools

- Maintaining enrollment in Math Pathways at both High Schools:
  - AP Pre Calculus - 5 sections
  - AP Calculus AB – 3 sections
  - Quantitative Reasoning A/H - 2 sections
  - Data Science A/H - 2 sections

- Implementation of AP African American Studies Course







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Inclusive Excellence

Advancing Practices District Wide



- Three special education teacher coaches working directly with special education teachers in each building to support inclusive practices.
- School based annual goals include a focus on inclusion.
- Continued collaboration with SEPAG and the BOE Special Education committee to prioritize special education District practices.

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Student Leadership in CHPS

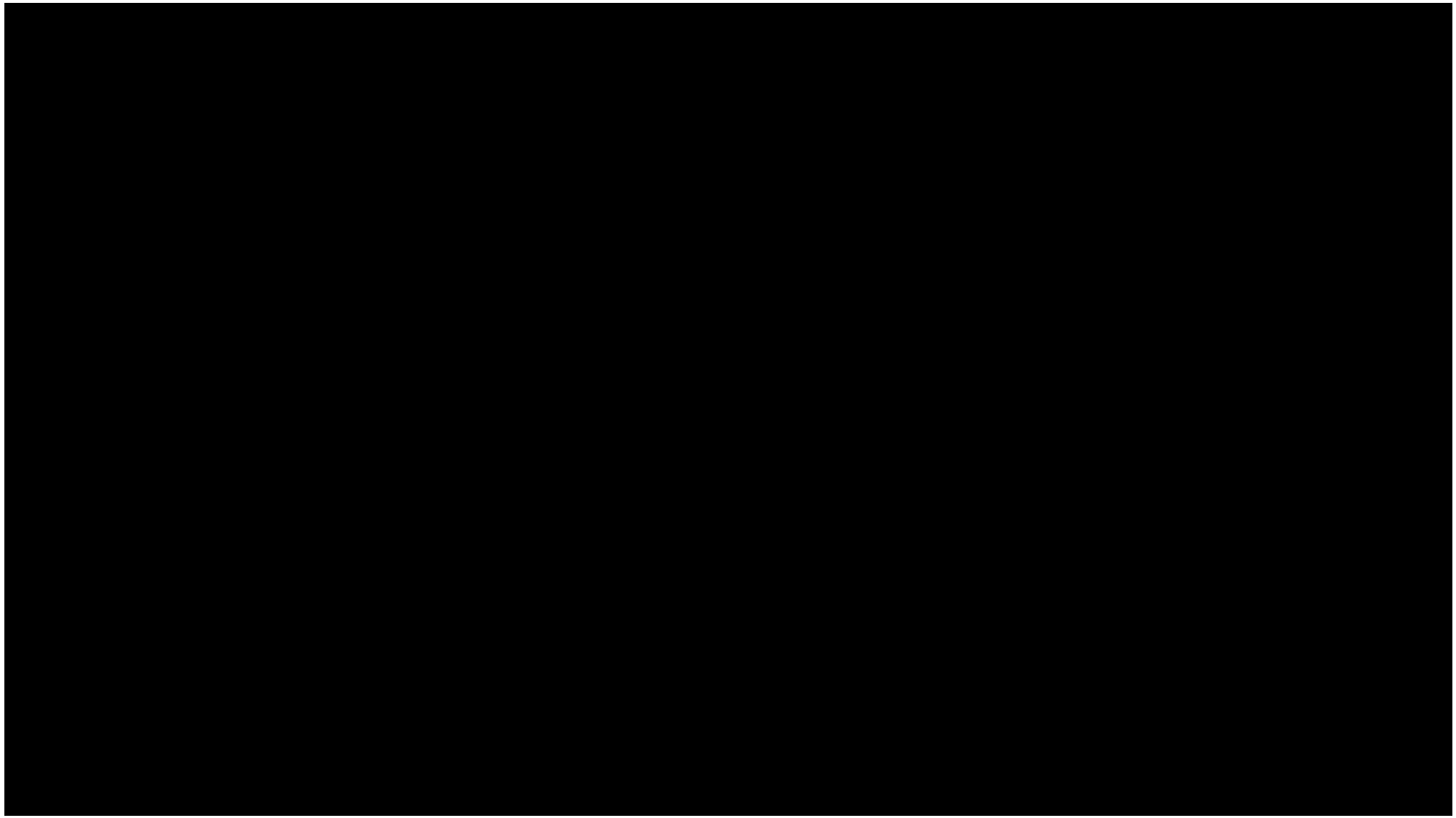
- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC)
- Student Leadership Day
- Student Town Hall Discussions
- Middle Level Student Leadership
- Elementary Level Student Leadership











More than half of secondary students compete in athletics, and athletics builds leaders!

~3,500
of students compete

~200
All-Conference Student Athletes

63
2026 college commitments



- Student Athletes Leadership Committee
- CHHS East won the NJSIAA Sportsmanship Award
- Positive Coaching Alliance workshop every season
- Unified Sports
- Community Unifying Events
- Eagles Showdown Game



Listening and Leading Together

The promise: big decisions are made with the community, in the open.





Transparency and Community Voice

- **Strategic planning**
- **Portrait of a Graduate**
- **Engagement forums**
- **Community surveys**
- **We Are Listening**
- **Advisory Panel**
- **Data Dashboard**



The AI policy we promised now comes with classroom and screen time guidelines

AI Policy
October 2026

AI Implementation Guidelines
October 2026

Screen Time Guidelines
October 2026

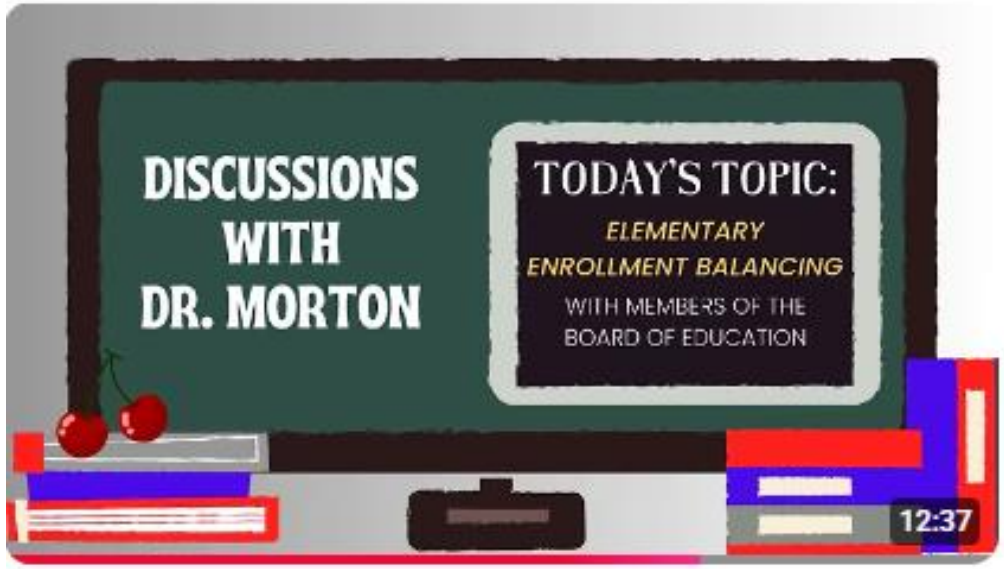






We studied elementary enrollment balancing with families and chose to pause

1. Community input and feedback
2. Discussions with families and Dr. Morton
3. **Informed decision to pause**
4. Five-year projections guide what comes next



Discussions with Dr. Morton: Elementary Enrollment Balancing

▷ 750 1y ago

Communications *Telling the story of CHPS*

- Special communications focus on detail-heavy topics
  - Budget Clarity Hub
  - ClearGov
  - District Technology
- Highlights and news items are shared via CHPS Weekly (30,000+ recipients) and Principal newsletters
- Consistent updates made to district website and social media pages
- Regular student recognitions at Board of Education meetings
- Staff, family, and community support at events showcasing our students



Communications *Connecting with the Community*

- Community Discussion Forums
  - Topic: Technology
  - Additional forums planned for this school year
- Construction Project Tour at Rosa
- District-wide food drive
- CHEA Golden Age Prom
- Eagles High School Football Showdown: East vs. West
- Cherry Hill FOP Holiday Party
- Annual CHEF Golf Outing



Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Labor Management Collaborative (LMC) is in its third year, and its structure has held!

Early success
Goals, wellness, calendar, Learning Hub

Year-three plateau
Leadership transitions

Structure held
Building based teams gained momentum

Primed for growth
Steering committee reconvened Oct. 14

Stewardship

The promise: each dollar is spent with purpose, each promised project gets built, and we fight for Cherry Hill's fair share.

We build each budget line from zero, so each dollar has a purpose

Start at zero
No line rolls forward automatically

Justify every line
Each cost tied to a student need or legal requirement

Fund the priorities
Dollars follow the strategic plan and parity







CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Site/Accessibility Improvements

Mann ES, Johnson ES, Kilmer ES, Knight ES, Stockton ES and HS East

Work included new asphalt, sidewalks and curbing, parking and circulation enhancements, fencing, handrails, playground enhancements, and accessibility upgrades

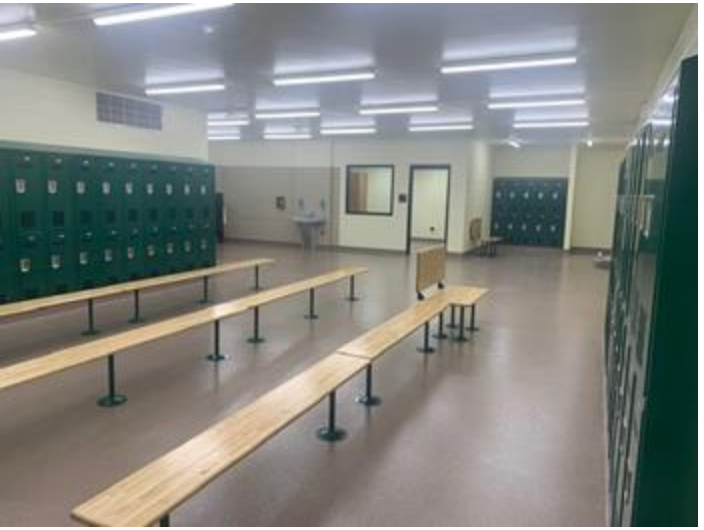


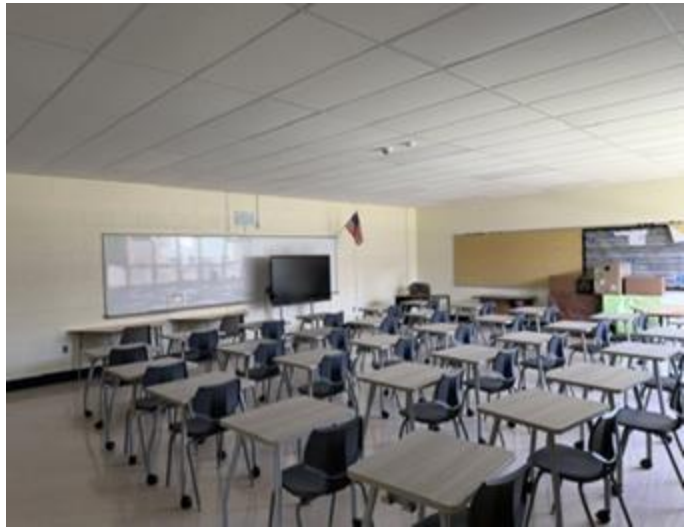


CHERRY HILL TOMORROW

A community investment in education

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS









CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

Interior Renovations

Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS





CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

High School West Lower Level Locker/Team Rooms





Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

High School East Auditorium









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Security Vestibule/Main Office Renovations at Barton ES, Johnson ES, Kingston ES & Sharp ES







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CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

2027 Projects

Six (6) additional security vestibules

(Kilmer, Knight, Mann, Cooper, Harte & Stockton)

Interior Renovations

(Barton, Beck Phase II of II, Carusi Phase IV of IV)

Media Center Renovations

(High Schools East & West)

High School East

(F-Wing Demolition and Reconstruction, HVAC Upgrades)



Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHERRY HILL TOMORROW
A community investment in education

2027 Projects

HS West

(Auditorium Renovation, Exterior Facade Phase I)



Site/Accessibility Improvements

(HS East Phase II, HS West Phase I, Johnson Phase II, Kingston, Sharp, Rosa Phase I)



Cherry Hill PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Promises We Make Next

Six commitments for 2026-27, each with a way to report back next fall.



Six promises for 2026-27

- **Coordinated communication**
- **Equal HS opportunities**
- **Chronic absenteeism**
- **Middle school PLC time**
- **Discipline overrepresentation**
- **Teacher leadership**



Commitments already on the calendar

Nov. 13	Preschool application to NJDOE
Jan. 2027	SACC waitlist news
Quarterly	Discipline reports to the Board
Mar. 31	Student Leadership Day
2027	Cherry Hill Tomorrow projects
2027-28	225 more preschool seats
Fall 2027	We report back



"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."
— Franklin D. Roosevelt

