ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT PROGRESS 2014-15
MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Cherokee County Community,

I am pleased to bring you the School District’s Annual Report of District Progress for 2014-15. This past year was one of great accomplishment for the District, as our students, parents, teachers and support staff worked together to meet the challenges faced daily in public education. We again struggled with “austerity” funding cuts from the State, and we hope the Governor and Legislature will continue to work on restoring full public education funding to our schools. Our teachers and administrators had their job performance reviewed through a demanding new evaluation system which required extensive time and training. Our students took a new assessment, Georgia Milestones, in grades 3-8, as well as its accompanying End of Course exams in eight high school courses. The results have just been released; and it appears our students are meeting the challenge of a more rigorous assessment!

Our success is dependent upon the community’s demonstrated collective belief that our public schools are one of Cherokee County’s greatest assets; places where all students are welcome and encouraged to reach their fullest potential. In 2014-15, our School District once again earned multiple recognitions and achievements at the State and National levels, and I hope you will take a few minutes to read about those accomplishments in this publication. Thank you for your continued support of the Cherokee County School District!

Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo, Superintendent of Schools
Major System Priorities

- Establishing internationally competitive standards for student performance and an accountability system and policy framework designed to insure that all students are challenged individually and collectively to meet more rigorous standards.

- Insuring that all students and staff have a safe and secure environment for teaching and learning.

- Attracting, retaining, and training the best teachers, principals, and support staff.

- Utilizing technology both to improve student achievement and to increase the school district’s productivity and efficiency as a major business enterprise.

- Addressing exploding student population growth, recognizing that there is a large gap between the school district’s facilities and technology needs and available capital outlay revenue.

- In collaboration with technical colleges, other institutions of higher learning and the local business community, insuring that vocational/technical education programs prepare students for a diverse and technologically rich society.

- Increasing parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process.

- Reviewing the potential for utilizing the school district’s existing public education facilities to establish self-supporting community school evening/week-end education programs for interested Cherokee County adults.

Mission Statement

We, the School Board of Cherokee County, Georgia, commit ourselves to a philosophy of respect and high expectations for all students, parents, teachers and other staff. Our mission is to enable all students to become contributing citizens who can communicate effectively, gather and use information, make responsible decisions, utilize technology effectively and adapt to the challenges of the future. This mission will be accomplished by providing a variety of learning opportunities and experiences for students, both in school and in the community.
EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

What was new in CCSD for 2014-15?

- After five years of budget cuts during the economic recession, 2014-15 marked the return to a full 180-day school year for students, as well as the elimination of furlough days for teachers.
- Class sizes in grades K-5 were reduced through the hiring of 70 additional teachers.
- Teasley Middle School piloted a “one-to-one” initiative where each student (1,500 in grades 6-8) was assigned a laptop computer for the year to use at school and at home.
- A parent emergency notification system was implemented for phone, text and email alerts districtwide.
- Two additional Georgia Pre-K classes were added to offer more opportunities for young, at-risk students.
- Students in grades 5-12 received free personal access to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneNote, along with a cloud-based District e-mail account and OneDrive for storing personal files.
- STEM Academies expanded study units to kindergarten and first grade levels, and science classes at all seven CCSD middle schools had access to STEM units and lesson plans.
- High School credit course offerings for middle school students were greatly expanded for 2014-15, enabling hundreds of students to earn high school credits while in middle school. Band and chorus are among the new classes offered, and foreign language was expanded to include French and Latin at select schools.
- A language immersion/newcomer program was initiated at ACE Academy for middle and high school students new to the United States and in need of language skills.
- More than 290 unique professional development courses were offered for CCSD staff during 2014-15, including Gifted and ESOL endorsement training.
- Electronic lock/buzz-in security systems were piloted at schools in the River Ridge zone, then quickly expanded to additional schools.
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

Cherokee County School District’s four-year graduation rate increased for the Class of 2015 by 6 percentage points over the rate for the Class of 2014, continuing a trend of higher graduation rates for CCSD high schools since the introduction of the national “cohort rate” in 2011. Under the more stringent methodology, students are defined as part of a cohort when they enter ninth grade, at which point the only students who count toward the graduation rate are those who complete all the state requirements for a regular high school diploma within four years.

All six traditional CCSD high schools saw their graduation rates increase for the Class of 2015, and all our schools have strategies and programs in place to keep students on track for graduation.

SPECIAL NEEDS RATE LEADS METRO AREA

Cherokee County School District led the Metro Atlanta region in the graduation rate for Special Needs students last year. The graduation rate for students with Special Needs is determined the same as it is for regular education students— they must graduate within four years with a regular education diploma.

CCSD has been piloting a program at one of our high schools to assist students with Special Needs, and the success rate is leading to its expansion this year. Students who are selected as candidates receive additional support, such as tutoring, mentoring and other services, to keep them on track for graduation. The first year of the pilot produced a graduation rate of 75 percent, and the second year generated a rate of 84 percent.

Graduation Rate: defined as students who earn a regular high school diploma within four years of entering ninth grade. This rate does not include students who receive a special education diploma, those who earn GEDs or take longer than four years to complete their high school coursework.

2014 Graduation Rate for Students with Special Needs
- Cherokee County 56.8%
- Clayton County 23.8%
- Cobb County 51.7%
- DeKalb County 24.6%
- Douglas County 35.3%
- Fayette County 49.2%
- Fulton County 42.4%
- Gwinnett County 38.3%
- Henry County 44.3%
- Rockdale County 36.4%
- Georgia Average 36.5%
The ultimate goal of a quality K-12 education is to produce graduates who are prepared for a seamless transition to the next phase of life—whether that is college or career. CCSD high schools are doing an excellent job preparing students for college, with less than 11 percent of recent graduates who enrolled at a public college or university in Georgia requiring remedial coursework in reading or math.

For students who are preparing for a career, CCSD is continuing to expand its career certification programs, including healthcare, technology, food industry and more. CCSD students can choose from two dozen different career certifications, and they continue to take advantage of dual enrollment at both universities and technical colleges to earn high school and college credits simultaneously. With the State’s recent expansion of the Move On When Ready program, high school students will have even more opportunities to craft an individualized education plan that will help them transition to their next phase successfully.

**Recent (2007-2013) CCSD Graduates:**

- 52.4% attended a college or university within the University System of Georgia
- 17.8% attended a technical college in Georgia
- 29.7% chose other options—attended a private college, attended college out of state, entered a branch of the military or entered the work force

- Of the CCSD graduates who went on to attend a State college or university (which includes the majority of CCSD graduates), approximately **90 percent** did NOT require a remedial class.

- Of the CCSD graduates who attended a State technical college after high school, **60 percent** did NOT need remedial instruction.
SAT AND ACT

CCSD high school students can choose to take the SAT or ACT for college entrance purposes, and some students take both of these challenging placement exams. CCSD routinely posts one of the highest average district scores in Georgia on both assessments.

CCSD’s average SAT score for its 2015 graduates ranked it in the top five school districts in Georgia, with the highest county average in Metro Atlanta. The 2015 average score for CCSD students was 1560 (math, reading and writing sections), topping the National average by 70 points and the State average by 110 points. A total of 1,479 CCSD students took the SAT, about the same as 2014. The SAT’s three sections are each worth 800 points.

CCSD’s Class of 2015 also excelled on the ACT, posting record high scores and the second-highest county average in Metro Atlanta. The ACT is scored on a scale of 1 to 36. The National composite average for 2015 was 21, as was the Georgia average. CCSD students scored 22.7. On the subject area tests, CCSD students posted the highest-ever scores for the system in English, Reading and Science. A total of 1,450 seniors took the ACT in 2015, up from 1,377 the previous year.

SAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS OF 2015</th>
<th>SAT READING</th>
<th>SAT MATH</th>
<th>SAT WRITING</th>
<th>SAT TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCSD</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>1560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>1450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATION</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1490</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS OF 2015</th>
<th>ACT ENGLISH</th>
<th>ACT MATH</th>
<th>ACT READ</th>
<th>ACT SCIENCE</th>
<th>ACT COMPOSITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCSD</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATION</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IOWA ASSESSMENT

The Iowa Assessment (formerly known as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, or ITBS) is administered each fall to grades 3, 5 and 7. It is a norm-referenced test that provides information on student strengths and weaknesses in specific subject areas; it describes a student’s developmental level; and, it provides a National comparison for academic achievement.

The 2014 ITBS composite results show CCSD students scored 10-15 percentile points above the National norm (which is 50). Individual subject scores were 8-20 percentile points above the National norm for third grade; 7-18 percentile points above the National norm for fifth grade; and 5-13 percentile points above the National norm for seventh grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>READING</th>
<th>LANGUAGE ARTS</th>
<th>MATH</th>
<th>SOCIAL STUDIES</th>
<th>SCIENCE</th>
<th>WRITTEN EXPRESSION</th>
<th>COMPOSITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3RD GRADE</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5TH GRADE</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7TH GRADE</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Norm is 50
CCRPI

The State of Georgia’s accountability system utilizes an index of weighted data called the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). The index is intended to give the public more than just a numeric test score average for schools and school districts, offering better insight into actual student progress and how well schools are closing gaps in achievement. Georgia has adjusted the index annually, so it is not yet ready for a year-to-year comparison, but CCSD is consistently performing above the State average. The CCRPI scores for 2015 will not be released until early 2016— and the index is being adjusted yet again.

For 2014, 29 of CCSD’s 38 schools (three-fourths) that were evaluated earned an average score of 70 or above. Schools also received a “climate score” for the first time in 2014, based upon parent and student surveys, attendance data and disciplinary reports. All CCSD schools received at least three stars on a five-star scale, and more than two-thirds of our schools received four or five stars, including all seven CCSD middle schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 CCRPI</th>
<th>CCSD</th>
<th>GEORGIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>72.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE SCHOOLS</td>
<td>82.7</td>
<td>73.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH SCHOOLS</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>68.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>72.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MILESTONES: END OF GRADE ASSESSMENT

In 2015, the State Department of Education administered a new, more challenging assessment called Georgia Milestones, which assesses the mastery of Georgia Performance Standards. Milestones includes an End of Grade assessment for grades 3-8 and End of Course tests for eight core high school credit courses. The new assessment also includes a writing component to replace previous separate writing assessments.

The intent of Milestones is to measure student progress in a more specific way, with four categories of student achievement. As part of the Milestones administration, Georgia also made a concentrated effort to raise its expectations for achievement for students. The overall results of the 2015 Milestones assessment are displayed here and on the following pages, with even more detailed data shared on our CCSD website under Student Assessment, with results for all our schools and all grade levels.

This first administration of Milestones will set a benchmark for progress for all our schools and our school district. Statewide, scores on Milestones were expected to be lower than what parents and communities are used to seeing with CRCT. There is no process to compare scores from Milestones to CRCT, as the assessments and related scoring are very different. Whereas CRCT used three achievement levels (Does Not Meet, Meets and Exceeds Expectation), Milestones employs four levels, explained to the right: Beginning Learner, Developing Learner, Proficient Learner and Distinguished Learner. The darker the color on the corresponding bar graphs, the more “saturated” the knowledge level of students.
Under the Georgia Milestones assessment, high school students will continue to take an End of Course assessment in eight core subjects. Student scores are classified in the same manner as the End of Grade assessments, with Beginning, Developing, Proficient and Distinguished Learner bands. Students also will receive a numerical grade conversion (0-100 scale) on individual assessment reports.

The 2015 results, which cannot be compared to previous assessments, will set a benchmark for achievement moving forward. CCSD students performed above the state average in this first administration of the tests. In addition, the percentage of students scoring at the developing and proficient learner levels and above led the Metro Atlanta region in six of eight subjects.

Middle school students in CCSD who meet eligibility requirements have the opportunity to take two of the eight courses (Physical Science and Coordinate Algebra) as eighth graders for high school credit. These academically advanced students performed extremely well on the EOC assessments for those subjects— in addition to taking the End of Grade assessment in that subject as well.

**Percentage noted = % of students at Developing Learner or above**
**MILESTONES READING**

In addition to the assessment of Georgia standards mastery, the Milestones assessments also evaluated student writing skills and reading levels. Each student’s reading ability is measured to determine whether that child is reading on grade level, above grade level or below grade level, both on the End of Grade tests in Grades 3-8 and on the End of Course tests for 9th Grade Literature and American Literature. Parents are provided this additional information in their student’s individual score report.

**Percentage of Students Reading On or Above Grade Level**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>3rd Grade</th>
<th>5th Grade</th>
<th>8th Grade</th>
<th>9th Lit</th>
<th>American Lit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATIONAL NORM COMPARISONS**

In addition to assessing student mastery of Georgia standards, the Milestones tests also included a sampling of questions designed to show how Georgia students are performing as compared to their peers across the country (the national norm is the 50th percentile). CCSD students exceeded the national norm in all testing categories and grade levels, with the exception of third grade reading, where students scored just 5 percentage points under the norm. Parents will receive a national normed score for their student on the individual Milestones report so they can determine how their child is performing on a national spectrum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>National Percentile</th>
<th>CCSD Percentile</th>
<th>GA Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Reading</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Reading</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Reading</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Math</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Math</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Math</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US History</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Grade Lit</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Lit</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM

Cherokee County School District students achieved passing scores (3, 4 or 5) on 73% of Advanced Placement exams they attempted in 2015, compared to Georgia’s overall pass rate of 55%. Most colleges award course credit for scores of 3 or higher.

All six Cherokee County School District high schools have experienced increased student participation in Advanced Placement (AP) courses in recent years, and many teachers have taken advantage of the College Board summer training opportunities available for new and returning AP teachers. CCSD teachers also participate as national exam readers each summer.

CCSD students took 4,124 AP exams in 2015, an increase of 20 percent over 2014. More than 2,200 students took at least one AP exam. Students who are eligible can begin taking AP classes their freshman year in high school.

Cherokee County School District was one of six public school districts in Georgia selected for the “AP District Honor Roll” by the College Board in 2015, its third consecutive year to be chosen for the honor. Districts are selected by maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning a 3 or higher on AP exams while increasing access to AP course work.

AP Courses in CCSD High Schools
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Computer Science A
- Economics Macro
- Economics Micro
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Environmental Science
- European History
- U. S. Government & Politics
- Human Geography
- Music Theory
- Physics 1
- Physics B
- Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
- Physics C: Mechanics
- Psychology
- Spanish Language & Culture
- Statistics
- Studio Art: Drawing
- Studio Art: 2-D Design
- Studio Art: 3-D Design
- U. S. History
- World History
SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCES

Due to a gradual reduction in State “austerity budget cuts,” growth in the Local property tax digest and a continuation of fiscally conservative practices and programs, the 2014-15 school year included the following financial hallmarks:

- No increase in the Maintenance and Operation millage rate, as well as elimination of the .4 Bond millage rate after the 20-year General Obligation Bond passed by voters in 1993 was paid in full;
- Districtwide reductions in class size through hiring an additional 49 teachers, with the greatest focus on reducing the number of classes operating near maximum class sizes in Grade K-3;
- Restoration of the hours school nurses are available to students from five and one-half hours to a full six hours each day, increasing the level of professional healthcare available to students;
- An additional one-half instructional allotment to all high schools to increase credit recovery opportunities for students needing assistance with graduation requirements;
- Restoration of staffing for the School Police Department, to increase law enforcement presence and improve safety and security for students, staff and volunteers throughout the District; and,
- Continuation of the incremental restoration of School District financial “reserves,” as outlined by School Board Policy and State Department of Education best practices recommendations for reserve levels.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCAL</td>
<td>$134,909,353</td>
<td>$126,859,068</td>
<td>$120,876,776</td>
<td>$123,575,507</td>
<td>$135,134,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>$156,006,461</td>
<td>$148,530,123</td>
<td>$154,743,876</td>
<td>$158,679,833</td>
<td>$178,905,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEDERAL</td>
<td>$10,577,269</td>
<td>$777,020</td>
<td>$151,814</td>
<td>$776,718</td>
<td>$784,957</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$301,493,083</td>
<td>$276,166,211</td>
<td>$275,772,466</td>
<td>$282,255,340</td>
<td>$314,040,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE AUSTERITY CUTS</td>
<td>$25,239,981</td>
<td>$26,663,945</td>
<td>$26,505,886</td>
<td>$24,846,679</td>
<td>$17,629,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENTS</td>
<td>38,760</td>
<td>38,774</td>
<td>39,061</td>
<td>39,668</td>
<td>40,676</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCHOOL FACILITIES

Using voter-approved Ed-SPLOST funds, CCSD has built 18 new and new/replacement schools since 2000, with another replacement school underway. The District also has added critically needed classroom additions at several schools, along with numerous renovation projects and the provision of state-of-the-art technology for students and teachers on all CCSD campuses. CCSD has added capacity for more than 20,000 students over the last 15 years—while growing by nearly 14,000 students along the way and moving more than 5,000 out of portable classrooms. Thank you for your continued support of Ed-SPLOST!

NEW/REPLACEMENT SCHOOLS
BALL GROUND ES
CANTON ES
E.T. BOOTH MS
LITTLE RIVER ES
TEASLEY MS—NEW IN 2014-15
WOODSTOCK ES
DEAN RUSK MS - OPENING FOR 2016-17

NEW SCHOOLS
CARMEL ES
LIBERTY ES
CREEKLAND MS
HASTY ES
FREEDOM MS
CREEKVIEW HS
AVERY ES
KNOX ES
MILL CREEK MS
RIVER RIDGE HS
INDIAN KNOLL ES
CLARK CREEK ES

ADDITIONS/RENOVATIONS
CHEROKEE HS
MACEDONIA ES
R.M. MOORE ES
ETOWAH HS
SEQUOYAH HS
HOLLY SPRINGS ES (PARENT DRIVE)
CARMEL ES (PARENT DRIVE)- NEW IN 2014-15
The Washington Post
All six CCSD traditional high schools made The Washington Post’s list of “America’s Most Challenging High Schools.” “America’s Most Challenging High Schools” ranks schools through an index formula that includes the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given at a school each year, divided by the number of seniors who graduated that year. This year, just 11 percent of the approximately 22,000 U.S. public high schools managed to earn placement on the list.

Cherokee County School District was among the 2015 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardees. Across the Nation, 58 schools and 14 districts were honored for their exemplary efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, promote better health, and ensure effective environmental education, including civics and green career pathways.

Holly Springs Elementary School STEM Academy was recognized by Microsoft as the first (and only) school in the nation to achieve Microsoft Innovative Educators (MIE) certification for all its teachers, paraprofessionals, specialists and administrators. The MIE program requires 20 hours of training for teachers on Microsoft’s suite of computer-based resources, including productivity, lesson planning and research-based programs.

The Cherokee County School District received National recognition for its academic school choice program in spring of 2015. The School District’s Cherokee Academies program was named an Honorable Mention winner in the 21th annual Magna Awards program sponsored by the National School Boards Association’s flagship magazine, American School Board Journal (ASBJ). The Magna Awards recognize school districts and their leaders from across the Nation for taking bold and innovative steps to improve the lives of their students and their communities. An independent panel of school board members, administrators and other educators selected the 33 honorees from 250 submissions.
STATE and PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- All six CCSD high schools were named AP STEM and AP STEM Achievement Schools by the State
- Four schools were named State STEM Award Finalists by the Technology Association of Georgia: Canton ES STEM Academy, Clark Creek ES STEM Academy, Teasley MS and Creekview HS
- Two elementary schools (Holly Springs ES and Woodstock ES) were named Georgia School Bell winners by the Georgia Association of Elementary School Principals
- Dr. Frank Petruzielo was named to the State Superintendents’ Advisory Council
- Technology Projects Specialist Sandi Adams was named a Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert, one of 20 in the nation
- 14 CCSD students were State Winners at the Georgia Technology Fair
- Teacher Kristen Brooks was named a PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator
- Woodstock MS Science Bowl team won the region competition and competed in the National Bowl in Washington, DC
- Clark Creek ES STEM Academy was selected as the 2015 Georgia Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) School of the Year
- CCSD 2015 Media Specialist of the Year, Wendy Cope of Woodstock HS, won the Region Media Specialist of the Year for North Central Georgia
- 25 CCSD students placed at the State PTA Reflections competition
- Two CCSD STEM Academies advanced to the State LEGO League competition at Georgia Tech (Clark Creek and Holly Springs)
- Finance Director Candler Howell was named Outstanding School Business Official by the Georgia Association of School Business Officials
- CCSD won a $1.9 Million grant for its Fine Arts Academies from US Department of Education
- Teasley MS was named a finalist the Georgia Family-Friendly Partnership program
- Free Home ES teacher Carmen Power won the Georgia Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award winner
- Carmel ES teacher Merry Willis was named Museum of Aviation’s National STEM Teacher of the Year
- Woodstock ES was named by the Georgia Department of Education as a Highest Performing Title I school for the third consecutive year
- CCSD’s Transportation Department was recognized by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division with the GaDER Green Award for reducing bus emissions by 25%
- Speech Pathologist Dr. Patti Howard was honored with the National Patriotic Employer Award from the Office of the Secretary of Defense
- 9 students were recognized as Georgia Scholars
- 20 students were finalists for the Governor’s Honors Program
- 24 student projects won at the Regional Science Fair, and four students won at the State level
- 31 student projects competed at the Regional Social Science Fair; 13 won “Best in Fair” and four placed at the State level
- Clark Creek ES STEM Academy teacher Jennifer McIntosh was named a Georgia Innovation in Teaching competition winner
- 23 schools were named to the Governor’s Student Health and Physical Education Honor Roll
- Engineering and technology teacher Judi Haggerty was selected as a “Siemens Teachers as Researchers” (STARs) fellow
- 4 students were named National Merit Semi-Finalists, and 4 students were named National Achievement Program semi-finalists
CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CANTON, GA

44 SCHOOLS And CENTERS

24 Elementary Schools
7 Middle Schools
6 High Schools

ACE Academy; C3 Academy
Polaris Evening School
Ralph Bunche Head Start Center
Johnston and Oak Grove Preschool Centers
L.R. Tippens Educational Center

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>31,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>41,150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SAT: 1560
- 70 points > National Average
- 110 points > State Average
- Rank: Top 5 Districts in GA

K-12 TEACHERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1 Million Meals served in school cafeterias

30.7% Free/reduced lunch program participants

SAT: 1560

369 school buses transport 25,000+ students daily on 1,450 bus routes.

4.5 Million Miles

$343.5 Million Operating Budget

$7,691 Per Pupil Expenditure

2014 GRADUATES ELIGIBLE FOR HOPE SCHOLARSHIP:

53%

4-YEAR GRAD RATE:

86%

www.cherokee.k12.ga.us