

Welcome

The academic options approved by the Board of Education for 2018-2019 affirm Richmond County Schools' continued commitment to offer a wide range of choices that satisfy the unique interests and aspirations of our students.

Offering these programs to our families allows our system to further customize the learning experience for every student and provides more opportunity for choice in their child's educational setting.

Please take some time to explore the 2018-2019 School Options Guide to better understand the many diverse academic options available to meet the learning needs of your student.

The following definitions may help you decide which option is best for your child.

Choice Schools: Our choice options give students an opportunity to attend a school outside of their traditionally zoned options. Each choice school has its own set of criteria for entry. Information about each can be found on our school website at www.rcboe.org/choice.

Dedicated Magnet Schools: Public schools offering specialized instruction and programs. Magnet schools draw students from across the system rather than the traditional school zones defined by the school board. Students wishing to attend a magnet school must complete the Magnet Application process and meet the required criteria.

Specialized Programs: Specialized programs offered within comprehensive schools. Magnet programs operate as a "school within a school," or "whole school." In addition to serving their traditionally zoned students, specialized programs draw students from across the school system. Students wishing to attend a specialized program must complete the Magnet and Specialized Programs Application process and meet the required criteria.

Thank you for choosing the Richmond County School System!

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Important Dates

Early Application Timeline for the 2018-2019 School Year

November 1, 2017: Students may begin applying at 8 AM

November 4, 2017: Choice Fair at the Augusta Mall (10 AM - 2 PM)

November and December 2017: Individual school open houses (see website for dates)

January 12, 2018: Last day for students to apply

January 31, 2018 and February 3, 2018: Academic Testing

February 10, 2018: A.R. Johnson STEM interviews

February 17, 2018: Davidson Fine Arts auditions

March 1, 2018: Decision letters mailed

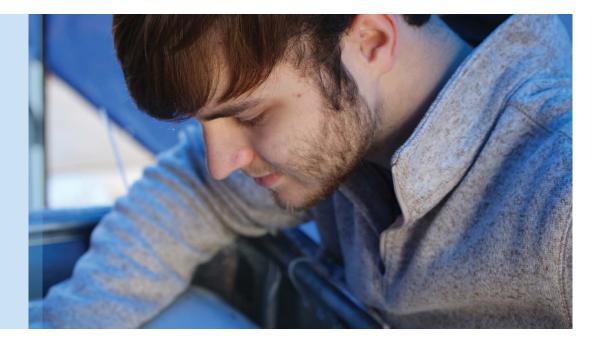
Late Application Timeline for the 2018-2019 School Year

March 29, 2018 - June 1, 2018: Late Application Window

June 15, 2018: Late Testing

July 1, 2018: Final decision letters mailed

Note: The late application process will be available to students who did not apply during the Early Application phase. Programs with available space will be listed as options during the Late Application Window. Military families with PCS Orders arriving in Augusta between January 1, 2018 through September 1, 2018 should contact our office at 706-826-1123.



Dedicated Magnet Schools

A.R. Johnson Health Science & Engineering Magnet School

A.R. Johnson is a public magnet school in the Richmond County School System serving 710 students in Grades 6-12. Armed with academic excellence, students have the opportunities to explore and enhance their competencies in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical related professions. Students are admitted on selective criteria based upon prior school record, academic testing, and a significant interest in Math and Science.

C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School

C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School is a school serving students in Grades K-8. The school has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence spanning over thirty years. C.T. Walker has been named a Georgia School of Excellence and a National Magnet School of Distinction. C. T. Walker strives to instill the qualities of respect, patriotism, responsibility, and communication.

John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School

Established in 1981, Davidson Fine Arts is a public magnet school in the Richmond County School System serving 791 students in Grades 6-12. Students attending Davidson are expected to explore all fine arts areas, but they may specialize in one or more fields during their high school years. Courses are tracked from introductory/exploratory to advanced levels in each area.

Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School

RCTCM is a public magnet school in the Richmond County School System serving 420 students in Grades 6-12. Students are admitted on selective criteria based upon prior school record, academic testing, and an interest in Cyber Security, Culinary Arts, Networking, Energy (Engineering), Audio/Video Technology & Film, Business, or Robotics. RCTCM is located adjacent to Augusta Technical College, where almost 20% of our students participate in *Move On When Ready.*



Magnet Schools & Specialized IB Programs

Who is best suited?

- * An inquirer and critical thinker
- * An effective communicator
- * Caring, balanced and open-minded
- * Willing to take risks while maintaining principles
- * Can be reflective and learn from experience

International Baccalaureate

The IB program is a rigorous program of study that focuses on critical thinking and international mindedness. The program seeks to develop the whole child - intellectually, personally, socially and emotionally - through teaching of cultural understanding, language development and volunteerism. Designed to reinforce a positive attitude, the program teaches students to ask challenging questions, reflect critically, develop research skills, and learn how to learn.

The continuum of education spans the years from Kindergarten to Grade 12. IB schools maintain high standards by actively training and supporting teachers in the IB curriculum. IB schools are also evaluated and authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization in order to receive the designation of an IB World School (www.ibo.org).

Our Schools

- Academy of Richmond County High School
- Copeland Elementary School*
- Hephzibah Elementary School*
- Hephzibah Middle School
- Hephzibah High School*
- Lake Forest Elementary School
- Langford Middle School
 *IB Candidate School





IB-Primary Years Programme (PYP)

For grades K-5, PYP introduces specific vocabulary and concepts, including inquiry-based learning, PYP attitudes/character traits, and the learner profile. School staff members develop units of inquiry that connect subject areas, so students can view their studies holistically. The PYP emphasizes academic development, international understanding and service to society. The curriculum framework includes five essential elements: concepts, actions, skills, knowledge, and attitudes.

IB-Middle Years Programme (MYP)

For grades 6-10, MYP emphasizes the learner profile and focuses on an intensive study of core subjects integrating concept based learning through global contexts and key concepts. Students study a variety of disciplines and how these relate. MYP students complete Community & Service hours, and a Personal Project is the culminating assessment for the program.

IB-Diploma Programme (DP)

For grades 11-12, DP is a two-year curriculum and among the most academically rigorous programs offered in high school. The program emphasizes intellectual and international understanding, as well as responsible citizenship and community service. Students are encouraged to sit for international exams with the opportunity to earn the IB Diploma, a highly esteemed qualification widely recognized by institutions of higher learning. Students in the DP are also required to complete Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) hours, the Theory of Knowledge course, and an Extended Essay.

IB Career-related Programme (CP)

The IB Career-related Programme is a rigorous 11th and 12th grade curriculum that prepares students to enter university or the workforce. In addition to completing their chosen career pathway, such as engineering or cybersecurity, students take a selection of rigorous IB courses as well as engage in service learning, language acquisition, and reflection and investigation into ethical issues in their field of study. Students who successfully complete the programme requirements earn the IB Career-related Certificate and may also earn college credit.



Who is best suited?

Magnet

Schools &

STE(A)M

Programs

Specialized

- * Intellectually curious
- * Critical thinker
- * Interest in design (including sound, spacial, process, and object)
- * Responds to problem solving with fluency, flexibility, and originality

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics

STEM education is an approach to teaching and learning that integrates the content and skills of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Along with content knowledge, a strong STEM program establishes student behaviors, which include engagement in inquiry, logical reasoning, collaboration, and investigation. The goal of STEM education is to prepare students for postsecondary study and the 21st century workforce.

STE(A)M fuses arts and creativity with STEM to engage the whole child and foster high achievement in all areas by blending the arts and sciences. Both STEM and STEAM employ the artistic process and scientific method relying on exploration of ideas and possibilities. Both require high student engagement in exploring creative and critical thinking, which supports collaborative learning. STEAM compliments 21st century skills, particularly the "4 C's" of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication.

Our Schools

- Goshen Elementary School
- A. Dorothy Hains Elementary School
- Spirit Creek Middle School
- A.R. Johnson Health Science & Engineering Magnet School



The **Robotics and Computer Programming** program at Spirit Creek Middle School will further the concept of STEM education and narrow the focus to the fields of robotics and computer programming. Focusing on robotics and programming, students will develop concrete skills and a knowledge base that will make them more competitive in a global and digital world. Students participating in the Robotics and Programming Academy will further focus on robotics and programming principles during connections coursework. Robotics and Programming Academy students will learn to develop a computer programming mindset through a variety of high-level languages, focusing on object-oriented programming languages such as Java, C++, and Python. This knowledge base will then be used in later middle school years to control and manipulate competition robots for academic and extracurricular endeavors.

The **Health Science Program** at A.R. Johnson Magnet school provides students with both academic and clinical experiences to general healthcare knowledge and skills. Our students are encouraged to pursue a more in depth study in the career area they are interested in through the appropriate career pathway. The pathways that are currently available in the healthcare program of study include: Therapeutic Services - Nursing, Therapeutic Medical Services, and Emergency Services along with Health Informatics, and Diagnostics.

Upperclassmen courses include clinical rotations at Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home, Augusta University Medical Center, University Hospital, Richmond County Health Department and local pharmacies. ARJ is partnered with Augusta Technical College to offer students a Pharmacy Technician experience. Additionally, an Emergency Medical Technician program is offered in partnership with Augusta University's Medical College of Georgia. Students sit for state and national certification exams. Students can complete their health science experience with an internship.

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Who is best suited?

- * Committed to developing personal artistic abilities
- * Desire to participate in artistic performances and exhibitions
- * Ability to work well independently and in groups
- * Willing to receive constructive feedback for continued growth in the Arts

Visual and Performing Arts

The focus of the Visual and Performing Arts program is to develop a student's talents and passion for the arts. Students receive specialized studies in dance, music, theatre arts, and visual arts. As an integral part of a strong academic program, the Arts are approached through Arts education, integration and exposure.

At the elementary level, the Arts are used as a catalyst for building a collaborative, creative, Arts-infused culture and community. Students receive weekly classes in each of the four arts disciplines, as well as Arts integrated instruction in their grade based classroom. Students continuing to the middle and high school program, will receive seven consecutive years of rigorous, intensive instruction in the visual and performing arts at a pre-professional level. The program provides flexible, skill-based groupings in the visual and performing arts to address the needs of individual students.

Special Features

- Students receive instruction in dance, music, theatre arts, and visual arts
- Performance opportunities available at all levels
- Collaboration with business and community organizations to provide resources and give insight to the skills students need to become successful adults

Our Schools

- Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
- Garrett Elementary School
- Warren Road Elementary School
- Tutt Middle School

Magnet
Schools &
Specialized
Military
Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Leadership or interest in developing leadership skills
- * Desire to develop a better understanding of his/her own identity and how it relates to global citizenry
- * Interest in learning the interaction between world cultures and its impact
- * Committed to participating in projects outside of the regular course of study

Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp

The program is conducted at accredited secondary schools throughout the nation, and taught by instructors who are retired Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel.

The NJROTC accredited curriculum emphasizes citizenship and leadership development, as well as our maritime heritage, the significance of sea power, and naval topics such as the fundamentals of naval operations, seamanship, navigation and meteorology. Classroom instruction is augmented throughout the year by extracurricular activities of community service, academic, athletic, drill and orienteering competitions, field meets, flights, visits to naval or other activities, marksmanship sports training, and physical fitness training.

Cross Creek High School is consistently ranked as one of the top JROTC programs in Georgia and the nation. It's a citizenship development program designed to ensure the future success of the cadets enrolled. The unit has an outstanding reputation for athletics, academics, drill and marksmanship and consistently competes at the national championships. Cross Creek has built a strong foundation and is known for high academic and discipline standards. It has a high success rate of college admissions and workforce entry. It has established its own scholarship program for its cadets.

Our Schools

Cross Creek High School



Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs

Who is best suited?

- * Learns best in structured, routine environment
- * Values good citizenship in a democratic society
- * Responds successfully to high expectations for personal conduct and academics

Traditional

"The strengths of the past form the foundation of our future" is the guiding philosophy of the Traditional program. Students are taught in a structured environment and are held accountable to a high standard of conduct and academics. This program values the best of the past: civics and citizenship; manners and etiquette; a strong foundation in the basics using proven instructional practices; classroom rituals and procedures; and allegiance to the traditions, interests, and ideals of a diverse American culture.

The Traditional program is committed to developing young citizens that possess leadership skills that are nurtured within and are demonstrated openly in service and responsibility to self, family, community, and country.

C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School is a school serving students in Grades K-8. The school has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence spanning over thirty years. C.T. Walker has been named a Georgia School of Excellence and a National Magnet School of Distinction.

Our Schools

C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School

Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Ability to do accelerated work
- * Self-motivated with a desire to excel
- * Intellectually curious and a critical thinker
- * Willing to commit to college-level work
- * Works well in a small school environment

Early College

The Early College is a partnership with Augusta University that provides the most highly motivated and capable students access to rigorous and accelerated curriculum and instruction.

Students have the opportunity to earn both a high school diploma and two years of college credit at the conclusion of their high school career. Students begin their Early College career at Lucy C. Laney High School where they attend specialized classes and receive expert instruction for two years. At the start of their third year, students enroll full time at Augusta University where they will spend their last two years earning sixty credit hours toward their undergraduate degree.

Lucy C. Laney's Early College Program will prepare students to excel as college students and as citizens of this community. Students will enjoy enrichment opportunities, in Georgia and beyond, that will prepare them for the many possibilities beyond high school graduation. Students will be better equipped to withstand the challenges of college, maneuver the trials of young adulthood, and attain high school and college education as a result of their participation in the Early College Program.

Our Schools

Lucy C. Laney High School

Magnet Schools & Specialized AP Programs

Who is best suited?

- * Highly engaged abstract thinker
- * Self-motivated with a desire to excel
- * Intellectually curious and a critical thinker
- * Willing to commit to college-level work

Academy for Advanced Placement Studies

The Advanced Placement (AP) Studies are designed to expose the most highly capable students to a challenging, rigorous, and accelerated curriculum.

Successful candidates are challenged with opportunities in abstract thinking, problem solving, and the use of higher order thinking skills. Our academy employ a school-wide enrichment model and use project-based, hands-on instructional techniques. Students are highly engaged through differentiated instruction and are working at least one grade level ahead of other students in their age group and grade placement.

The Academy for Advanced Placement Studies enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school by offering an impressive selection of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The academy is designed for students who are interested in and have a strong aptitude for the Humanities and Sciences.

Our Schools

- Lucy C. Laney High School
- Westside High School

Magnet Schools & Specialized CTAE Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Passion and intense drive to succeed with perseverance and determination
- * Strong sense of self
- * Adaptable to changing circumstances
- * Has enterprising skills and desire to be their own boss

Career and Technology Education

The Career and Technology Education program provides students the opportunity to experience leadership, academia, and social interactions along with global humanitarian opportunities. Students will experience academic rigor and advance opportunities starting at 6th grade making it possible to earn a high school diploma, as well as certifications, diplomas, and working towards an associate degree.

Career and Technology programs offered include Cyber Security, Culinary Arts, Networking, Energy, Audio/Video Technology and Film, Business, and Robotics.

Cyber Security includes implementing/troubleshooting access control, data integrity monitoring, security event monitoring, anti-malware protection, security patch deployments. A career in Culinary Arts provides job opportunities such as executive chefs to part-time food service workers. Working in Energy can include possibilities for work in utilities, gas and oil companies, government and research groups, energy education or environmental regulation agencies. Computer networking is a broad pathway including occupations such as computer programmers, system analysts, and database administrators. The Electronics program includes biomedical engineering, informatics and engineering, software engineering, mechatronics and robotics, and electronics and micro-engineering. The Audio/Video Technology and Film industry is comprised of two major employers - radio/television broadcasting companies and film production.

Our Schools

Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School



Application
Requirements
for Early
Conditional
Acceptance

System Requirements for All Magnet Schools and Specialized Programs

- * For a competitive application, students should have an 80 final average in all core subjects (math/reading/science/social studies) and conduct (grades 1-6) from the 2016-2017 school year.
- * Applicants must participate in the system-wide reading and math assessment.
- * Applicants must be residents of Richmond County to enroll in any RCSS magnet school or specialized program.
- * Kindergarten applicants must reach the age of five by September 1, 2018.
- * In grades K-3, applicants must maintain a B final average or a standards-based report card rating of a 2 in language arts and math for the 2017-2018 school year. In grades 4-11, applicants must maintain an 80 final average in all core subjects (math, reading, science, social studies) and conduct (grades 4-6) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Additional Requirements for Fine Arts Auditions at John S. Davidson

- * Qualified applicants will be invited to audition on February 17, 2018, to be held at Davidson Fine Arts. If an applicant does not complete the Davidson audition, he or she will be removed from the application process for Davidson. For more information on the audition process, please visit <u>davidson.rcboe.org</u>.
- * All middle school applicants are required to take a general audition in all fine arts areas (Music, Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, and Creative Writing). However, applicants with a minimum of two years of private lessons may request a solo audition.
- * All high school applicants are required to audition in Creative Writing. Also, high school applicants may choose to take the general audition in the fine arts areas (Music, Dance, Drama, Visual Arts) or request a solo audition in a specific fine arts area. * Solo applications may be picked up at Davidson or downloaded at davidson.rcboe.org. Davidson Fine Arts solo applications must be submitted in person at Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School.

Additional Requirements for STEM Interviews at A.R. Johnson

- * Qualified applicants will be invited to audition on February 10, 2018, to be held at A. R. Johnson. If an applicant does not complete the Johnson STEM interview, he or she will be removed from the application process for Johnson. * For more information on the STEM interview process, please visit johnson.rcboe.org.
- * A.R. Johnson graduates must complete five math and five science courses. Therefore, it is suggested that students take and pass a high school math and science course in eighth grade in order to fulfill graduation requirements.

Application
Requirements
for Early
Conditional
Acceptance



Directions for Completing the Application

The Early Conditional Acceptance application will be available on our school system website between November 1, 2017 - January 12, 2018. Paper copies of the application are available at the Richmond County Board of Education located at 864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901. The late application will be available on our school system website between March 29, 2018 - June 1, 2018.

When completing the application, please follow the guidelines below

- 1. Please use the complete legal name as it appears on your child's birth certificate.
- 2. Students may apply to a maximum of five (5) magnet schools or specialized programs. Please rank these schools by 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th choice. Please understand that you will receive only one letter of acceptance. Example: If a student qualifies for multiple programs, he will receive an acceptance letter to his highest ranked choice only.
- 3. Please complete all areas of the application. Failure to complete all sections may result in your application not being processed.
- 4. All notifications will be mailed or emailed to the address provided on the application.

During the months of November and December, trained staff will be available in each school to assist you with the completion of this application. Additionally, we have support staff available each Tuesday and Thursday from 8 AM to 5 PM at the Richmond County Board of Education located at 864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901.

Students Currently Enrolled in the Richmond County School System

Before you begin the application, you will need your child's nine-digit student identification number. This number may be obtained from your child's current school, Infinite Campus Parent Portal, or your child's report card. The number typically begins with the digits 3000. This is NOT your child's social security number. Providing this number will allow us to access your child's grades and help streamline the application process for you.

Students NOT Currently Enrolled in the Richmond County School System

Before you begin the application, you will need to gather a copy of last year's report card (unless you are applying to kindergarten). Students applying to 10th, 11th, or 12th grade will also be required to submit a current high school transcript. During the online application process, you will be prompted to upload your supporting documents. If you are unable to upload the required documents, please mail them to the address below. All items must be postmarked by January 12, 2018. Richmond County Board of Education ATTN: Magnet Application 864 Broad Street, Suite 413 Augusta, GA 30901



Testing and Transportation

Testing: All students applying to magnet schools and specialized programs must participate in a reading and math readiness assessment. During the application process, parents will have the ability to select the preferred testing date and location. Students will take the test according to the grades for which they are applying. **Example:** Students applying to kindergarten may test with kindergarten at C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School. See below for testing dates and locations.

2018-2019 Grade	January 31	February 3	
Kindergarten	Warren Road Elementary	C.T. Walker	
First - Fifth Grade	Copeland Elementary Garrett Elementary	Hains Elementary Hephzibah Elementary	
Sixth - Twelfth Grade	Academy of Richmond County Davidson Fine Arts Hephzibah High Laney High Hephzibah Middle Westside High	A.R. Johnson Cross Creek High Langford Middle RCTCM Spirit Creek Middle Tutt Middle	

Transportation: The following magnet schools and specialized programs offer transportation to and from school using a shuttle bus system:

- Academy of Richmond County (IB Programme)
- A.R. Johnson Health, Science, & Engineering Magnet School
- C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School
- John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
- Lucy C. Laney High School (Academy for Advanced Placement Studies and Early College Academy)
- Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School



Agreement of Understanding

When submitting an application, all parents must agree to the following Agreement of Understanding:

- * Applicants are allowed to choose a maximum of five magnet schools or specialized programs.
- * This application is valid for the 2018-2019 school year.
- * I understand my child must participate in the required testing that will be administered. If my child does not participate in a required test, I understand that my child will be removed from the 2018-2019 application process.
- * It is the policy of the Richmond County Board of Education to afford equal opportunity in education to qualified students. If your child requires accommodations for testing, you are encouraged to voluntarily provide information about his or her services. This information will be considered for testing accommodation purposes only.
- * I understand my child is expected to attend school daily, to arrive promptly, and to remain throughout the scheduled hours.
- * I understand my child is to cooperate and conduct himself or herself with teachers, other adults, and classmates in a manner showing respect to all persons.
- * I understand my child is to complete all required work, including homework and work missed.
- * I understand my child must adhere to all school policies and Richmond County Board of Education policies.
- * I understand if either the student or parent/guardian, or both, ceases to be a resident of Richmond County, the school shall be promptly notified, to allow a prompt determination as to whether the student remains eligible to attend the selected school.
- * I understand if I fail to provide appropriate proof of age and residency documents during on-site registration in March, my spot will be forfeited and offered to the next person on the waiting list.
- * In grades, K-3 applicants must maintain a B final average or a standards-based report card rating of a 2 in language arts and math for the 2017-2018 school year. In grades 4-11, applicants must maintain an 80 final average in all core subjects (math, reading, science, social studies) and conduct (grades 4-6) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Visit any Richmond County school for assistance. Support will also be available at the central office each Tuesday and Thursday from 8 AM - 4 PM during November and December. We are located at 864 Broad Street, Augusta GA 30901. All completed applications must be submitted by 4 PM on January 12, 2018. No changes to the application can be made after this time.



School Choice

Who is best suited?

- * Students who wish to complete one of the following pathways:
- * Carpentry
- * HVACR Electrical
- * Masonry
- * Plumbing
- * Welding

How to Apply:

* See your school guidance counselor or administrator for registration information

Skilled Trades Center

Housed at T.W. Josey High School, the skilled trades center is a unique opportunity that will provide hands-on experiences for students of the Richmond County School System. Students will be introduced to career fields related to Manufacturing and Skilled labor professions. This centralized location will offer **Carpentry**, **HVACR Electrical**, **Masonry**, **Plumbing** and **Welding** pathways for any RCSS student.

Success in any of these programs can lead to specified certifications, apprenticeship opportunities, post-secondary education and possible employment immediately after graduation. Students wishing to participate will be transported to the skilled trades center for the specified course.

CTAE Pathway	Course Name and Number	
Carpentry	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450080 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460080 Carpentry I - 46.5500080	
HVACR Electrical	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450080 Introduction to HVAC Systems - 47.4140080 Low Voltage Electrical - 47.4160080	
Masonry	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450080 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460080 Masonry I - 46.5700080	
Plumbing	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450080 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460080 Plumbing I - 46.5800080	
Welding	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450080 Introduction to Metals - 48.5810080 Welding I - 48.5510080	



School Choice

Who is best suited?

- * Current high school students
- * Motivated and hardworking
- * Students who need a flexible school/work schedule

How to Apply:

* See your school guidance counselor or administrator for a referral

Reaching Potential through Manufacturing

Reaching Potential through Manufacturing (RPM), a partnership between Textron Specialized Vehicles Inc. and the Richmond County School System, offers students the ability to make up lost ground toward a high-school diploma while earning an income and valuable work experience in a manufacturing facility.

An inaugural class of about 75 students entered the cooperative education program, which combines an instructional day with a four-hour shift at a manufacturing facility. The facility produces components and subassemblies for products manufactured by Textron Specialized Vehicles, which manufactures vehicles under the E-Z-GO®, Cushman®, Bad Boy®, TUG™, and Douglas™ brands.

Besides the manufacturing floor, the facility also includes a classroom and educational space to allow students to make progress toward their high-school degree, and earn valuable work experience and income, from a single facility. Students have the choice between continuing to attend classes in their home high school, or taking coursework at the RPM facility, depending on their specific needs. Besides traditional academic classes, RPM students also receive training in life skills, and will be provided tutoring resources as needed.



School Choice

Who is best suited?

* Students with an interest in STEM

How to Apply:

* Please visit our website at rcboe.org/choice to enter your child's name in the lottery drawing

When to Apply:

Early Window: November 1, 2017 through January 12, 2018

Late Window: March 29, 2018 through June 1, 2018

New K-8 STEM School on Dyess Parkway

Located on Jimmy Dyess Parkway, our new K-8 school will have a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus. The new facility and programming will give students access to advanced technology and an integrated STEM curriculum. The school is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2018. The school will serve K-8 students living in its attendance zone.

In addition to the students in the attendance zone, the new school will accept 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students through a lottery application. Residents of Richmond County who live outside the new school's attendance zone may complete the lottery application for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Space will be determined by available seats once all zoned students have been enrolled. If selected, students living outside of the neighborhood attendance zone must provide their own transportation.



School Choice

Who is best suited?

- * Students who wish to complete one of the following pathways:
- * Networking
- * Cybersecurity
- * Students with basic computer skills

How to Apply:

* See your school guidance counselor or administrator for registration information

Cyber Academy of Excellence

Housed at the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School, the Cyber Academy of Excellence is open to students attending our traditional high schools who wish to pursue an interest in Cyber Training. Students will be transported to the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School for part of the day. Cyber Academy of Excellence students will have the opportunity to earn college credits through the Dual Enrollment guidelines through three tracks of study at Augusta Technical College:

- 1. Associate Degree in Cybersecurity (Associate Degree)
- **2. Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Security** (Technical Certificate of Credit)
- **3.** A+ and Microsoft Client Certificate (Technical Certificate of Credit)

The program will deliver a technically-focused, security-related curriculum designed to specifically address the fast growing careers in cybersecurity and computer science. The interdisciplinary nature of the Cybersecurity program allows potential students to develop deep technological skills; an understanding of the business, managerial, and administrative elements of cybersecurity; and an awareness of networking and coding.



School Choice

Who is best suited?

* School aged child of a military service member who lives on a military base or off-base in military housing

How to Apply:

* Complete the online application at rcboe.org/choice

When to Apply:

* Within the first 30 days of enrollment

House Bill 224

Effective July 1, 2017, Georgia's House Bill 224 allows military families to attend any public school that is located within the school system in which the military base or off-base military housing in which the student resides is located, provided space is available for additional enrollment. Each year, the school system will identify schools with available capacity and accept applications for military families to attend these schools. The list of schools with less than 80 percent capacity and the application can be found on the school system's website at www.rcboe.org/choice. Upon arrival, military families should enroll in their zoned school and complete the application to request for a transfer.

Procedures

- 1. Enroll the student in his/her Richmond County zoned public school.
- 2. Visit our website at www.rcboe.org/choice and complete the online Application to Request a HB 224 Transfer. Paper copies of the application can be picked up at 864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901. The application to request a transfer should be completed within the first 30 days of enrollment.
- 3. In the event that the number of transfer requests exceeds the available capacity in a particular school, requests will be approved based on the order in which they were received.
- 4. Parents will be notified of approval or denial in writing via the U. S. Postal Service. Once a request is approved, the parent assumes all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of their child to and from the school so long as the child remains at the assigned school.



School Choice

Who

is best suited?

- * Any student wishing to attend a school outside their attendance zone
- * Must provide your own transportation

How to Apply:

* Complete the online application at rcboe. org/choice

When to Apply:

Early Window: November 1, 2017 through January 12, 2018

Late Window: March 29, 2018 through June 1, 2018

House Bill 251

Under a 2009 state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131), parents may request a transfer to another public school within their local school district to specified schools and grades designated as possibly having space available. In the RCSS, any school with an enrollment below 85% capacity will be considered a participating school.

Please keep in mind that if a parent chooses to transfer a child to another school in the system, the law requires that they assume all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of the child to, and from, the school as long as the child remains at that school. If a parent does not enroll their child/children in the school that they were approved to attend by the first week of school, the House Bill 251 approval becomes obsolete.

In addition, any change of school placement which is not the result of a bona fide change of residence may impact a student's eligibility to participate in Georgia High School Association sanctioned varsity activities and events for a period of one calendar year. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for investigating and determining such impact on eligibility and thereafter make an individual decision about the consequences of accepting a permissive transfer if approved.



School Choice

Who is best suited?

* Military families living off base

How to Apply:

* Visit our website at rcboe.org/choice or pick up an application from Freedom K-8 or our Central Office 864 Broad Street, Augusta GA 30901

When to Apply:

Early Window: November 1, 2017 through January 12, 2018

Late Window: March 29, 2018 through June 1, 2018

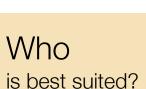
Freedom Park K-8

Students of Active Duty and Retired Military Families living off base, and DOD Civilians working on Fort Gordon, whose children currently attend, or live in the attendance zone for, the Richmond County School System are now eligible to apply to attend Freedom Park K-8 School, conveniently located by Gate 5 on Fort Gordon.

Students in 6th-8th grade have an opportunity to study robotics and Cyber security education. These programs prepare students to develop real world solutions for implementing and troubleshooting the monitoring and security of advanced systems. Students can go on to explore more advanced studies in technology education.

Students in 3rd -8th grade enjoy a one to one technology initiative that allows for the use of state of the art technology to explore innovative answers to problems. In addition, students in K-8th participate in maker labs and collaborate with national and international partners to explore global solutions. Freedom Park is an Middle Years Programme International Baccalaureate candidate school.





School

Choice

- * Independent, motivated students
- * Strong computer skills
- * Students who wish to complete their coursework online rather than a traditional approach

How to Apply:

* See your school guidance counselor or administrator for a referral

Performance Learning Center

The Performance Learning Center (PLC) is a non-traditional, virtual high school which serves students in Richmond County. The school promotes high academic standards through the implementation of the curriculum set forth by the Georgia Department of Education and the expectations of the Richmond County School System. PLC provides a place where all students are challenged and expected to be responsible for their education while teachers act as learning facilitators.

The Performance Learning Center offers a strong curriculum with more than 100 possible course selections in math, science, language arts, social studies, visual art, physical education, and the Entrepreneurship Pathway in CTAE. The educational model at PLC utilizes Ingenuity as the primary source of curriculum courseware in which students work and earn credits while attending class in this online environment. While attending PLC, students will master the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for success in technical school, college, the military, or work.

FAQs About the Application

Q: Can I submit a paper application instead of applying online?

A: Yes. Paper applications are available at the Richmond County Board of Education, 864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901. They can be picked up any day during the application window.

Q: Can I apply if I don't live in Richmond County, Georgia?

A: Students must be a resident of Richmond County at the time of registration in order to enroll. Students who are unable to provide proof of residency documentation at registration will forfeit their acceptance.

Q: Can I make a correction to my application once it has been submitted?

A: Changes can be made to the application between November 1, 2017 through January 12, 2018. Parents can access the application using the account created during the application process.

Q: Do I need to submit teacher recommendations?

A: Teacher recommendation letters are no longer a part of the application process.

Q: Where/when will my child take the academic test?

A: During the application process, you selected a preferred testing date, time, and location. Your child will take the test at that location and will be considered for the programs you selected regardless of test location.

Q: What will my child need to bring to the academic test?

A: Students applying to grades 1-12 should bring their testing ticket, pencils, and headphones. *Students who do not bring headphones will not be able to accurately complete the assessment.* Students applying to kindergarten do not need to bring any materials.

Q: Do I need to remain at the school while my student takes the test?

A: Parents will need to remain on campus in the waiting area. Since each student works at his or her own pace, testing times vary between 45 minutes and 3 hours.

Q: If my child is gifted, does he or she still need to participate in the testing?

A: All applicants must participate in testing.

Q: Can my child be tested for kindergarten even if she is not yet old enough?

A: According to Georgia state law, students enrolling in kindergarten must reach the age of five by September 1.

Q: When will Davidson Fine Arts auditions be held? A: Auditions for qualified applicants will be held February 17, 2018.

Q: When will A. R Johnson STEM interviews be held?

A: STEM Interviews for qualified applicants will be held **February 10, 2018**.

Q: Can I change my mind about transportation?

A: Yes. If you change your mind, please let the school know during your March pre-registration.

Q: If my child is accepted, can he start now?

A: This application process is for the 2018-2019 school year.

Q: Why do I have to indicate my child's gifted status?

A: This information is shared with the receiving school after the student has been accepted to ensure that gifted services are in place once the student arrives next fall. *This information is a voluntary portion of the application.* Parents who do not wish to reveal this information on the application are not required. This information is not shared with the admissions team.

Q: Why do I have to provide my child's zoned school?

A: Once accepted into a magnet program, this information is used to alert the zoned school that the student will not be attending next year. This information helps us accurately staff our schools. A student's zoned school is not shared with the admissions team.

Q: If my child is currently enrolled in a Richmond County School System school, can I find their student identification number in Infinite Campus Parent Portal?

A: Yes. If you have an active account in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal, your child's student identification number appears in the top left information box under the name of the school. The number typically begins with the digits 300.

Q: How can I prepare my child for the magnet grades 1-12 testing?

A: Students applying for grades 1-12 will take a computerized Reading and Math assessment that will generate a Lexile and Quantile score. Students considered for admissions must perform on-grade level or higher as measured by Lexile and Quantile performance bands. For more information about both measures, please visit www.lexile.com or www.quantiles. com. To best prepare your students, review the Georgia reading and math educational standards for your child's grade level. Students should arrive 30 minutes prior to testing for check-in. Students applying to grades 1-12 should bring their own pencils and headphones for testing. All students will take a math and reading readiness assessment. Students will be allowed to use the restroom and stretch between the two tests. Since students will complete the tests at their own pace, ending times will vary (usually between 45 minutes to 3 hours, depending on the student's pace).

Q: How can I prepare my child for the kindergarten testing?

A: Students applying for kindergarten will participate in a basic readiness screener in the areas of reading and math. Students should arrive 30 minutes prior to testing for check-in. Parents should plan to remain on site in the waiting area. Creating a stress-free, enjoyable experience for your child is the best way to prepare your student.

Q: Can I apply for School Choice AND Magnet Schools?

A: Yes. Parents can apply to both then select the desired school if accepted to both. Decisions for 2018-2019 enrollment must be made in the spring.

School	Entry Grades	Program	School Type	Transportation	Admissions Criteria
Choice					
All High Schools	9-12	Reaching Potential through Manufacturing	School Choice	Yes	Student interest; register at your school
Freedom Park K-8	K-8	STEM and IB (MYP)	School Choice	No	Military families; apply online
Performance Learning Center	9-12	Performance Learning Center	School Choice	No	Student interest; Register at your school or call school directly
Richmond County Technical Career Magnet	9-12	Cyber Academy of Excellence	School Choice	Yes	Student interest; register at your school
Select schools (based on available capacity)	K-12	House Bill 251	School Choice	No	Students interest; apply online
T.W. Josey High School	9-12	Skills Trade Center	School Choice	Yes	Student interest; register at your school
Dedicated Magnet Schools & Specialize	ed Programs				
Academy of Richmond County High School	9 - 10	IB (MYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	Yes; Neighborhood Stops	Academic and Entrance Testing
Academy of Richmond County High School	11	IB (DP, CP)	School within a School Specialized Program	Yes; Neighborhood Stops	Academic and Entrance Testing
A. Dorothy Hains Elementary School	K - 5	STEM	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
A.R. Johnson Health Science & Engineering Magnet School	6 - 10	Health Science & Engineering	Dedicated Magnet	Yes; Shuttle	Academic and Entrance Testing
Copeland Elementary School	K - 5	IB (PYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Cross Creek High School	9 - 12	NJROTC	School within a School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
C.T. Walker Traditional Magnet School	K - 8	Traditional	Dedicated Magnet	Yes; Shuttle	Academic and Entrance Testing
John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School	6- 12	Fine Arts	Dedicated Magnet	Yes; Shuttle	Academic and Entrance Testing
Garrett Elementary School	K-5	Arts Infusion	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Goshen Elementary School	K - 5	STEAM	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Hephzibah Elementary School	K - 5	IB (PYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Hephzibah Middle School	6 - 8	IB (MYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Hephzibah High School	9 - 10	IB (MYP)	School within a School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Lake Forest Hills Elementary School	K - 5	IB (PYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Langford Middle School	6 - 8	IB (MYP)	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Lucy C. Laney High School	9	Early College Academy	School within a School Specialized Program	Yes; Neighborhood Stops	Academic and Entrance Testing
Lucy C. Laney High School	9-11	AP Academy	School within a School Specialized Program	Yes; Neighborhood Stops	Academic and Entrance Testing
Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School	6 - 10	STEM & CTAE	Dedicated Magnet	Yes; Shuttle	Academic and Entrance Testing
Spirit Creek Middle School	6 - 8	Robotics & Computer Programming	School within a School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Tutt Middle School	6-8	Arts Infusion	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Warren Road Elementary School	K - 5	Arts Infusion	Whole School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing
Westside High School	9-11	AP Academy	School within a School Specialized Program	No	Academic and Entrance Testing

