

School Options Guide

Richmond County School System • 2019-2020



Important Dates

Early Application Timeline for the 2019-2020 School Year

November 1, 2018: Students may begin applying at 8 AM

November 3, 2018: Choice Fair at the Augusta Mall (10 AM - 2 PM)

November and December 2018: Individual school open houses (see website for dates)

January 11, 2019: Last day for magnet applications

January 30, 2019 and February 2, 2019: Academic testing

February 15, 2019: Davidson Fine Arts auditions

March 1, 2019: Decision letters mailed

Late Application Timeline for the 2019-2020 School Year

April 1, 2019 - May 1, 2019: Late application window

May 18, 2019: Late testing

June 10, 2019: 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, 2019 through September 1, 2019 should contact the Central Office at (706) 826-1000.

Contents

04 [Superintendent's Message](#)

06 [Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs](#)

[07 Early College](#)

[08 International Baccalaureate](#)

[10 STEM & STEAM](#)

[12 Traditional](#)

[13 Visual and Performing Arts](#)

[14 Academy for Advanced Placement Studies](#)

[15 Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps](#)

[16 Online Learning and Dual Enrollment](#)

[17 Career and Technology Education](#)

[18 Application Requirements for Early Conditional Acceptance](#)

[19 Testing and Transportation](#)

20 [School Choice](#)

[20 Marion E. Barnes Career Center](#)

[21 Reaching Potential through Manufacturing](#)

[22 K-8 STEM Choice](#)

[23 Cyber Academy of Excellence](#)

[24 House Bill 224 for Military Families](#)

[25 House Bill 251](#)

[26 Freedom Park K-8](#)

[27 Performance Learning Center](#)

28 [FAQs About the Application](#)

30 [School Comparison at a Glance](#)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for making the Richmond County School System your choice for educating your child! Our mission is building a world-class school system through education, collaboration, and innovation, which will enable us to serve the individual needs of students by providing high quality choices.

Many of our schools, including our award-winning magnet schools, offer specialized courses and programs-International Baccalaureate Program, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, skilled trades, cyber training, Early College, magnet programs, and visual and performing arts-just to name a few.

We hope that you and your child will review our School Options Guide which outlines our school choice options, specialized programs, and dedicated magnet schools to determine the best fit for your child's education.

In order to explore these choices, the Richmond County School System will be hosting open houses at various schools. Dates for the open houses can be found on our website at rcboe.org/choice. Individual schools and programs have additional information on their websites as well.

We are committed to providing the best choice for your child!

Sincerely,

Marion E. Barnes

Marion E. Barnes
President, Richmond County Board of Education

Angela D. Pringle

Angela D. Pringle, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools





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 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 serves 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 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 students in grades 6-12. Students are admitted on selective criteria based upon prior school record, academic testing, and an interest in Cybersecurity, Culinary Arts, Networking, Energy (Engineering), Audio/Video Technology & Film, Business, and Robotics. RCTCM is adjacent to Augusta Technical College, where almost 20% of our students participate in *Dual Enrollment*.



Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs

Who is best suited?

- * Students who have the ability to do accelerated work
- * Self-motivated students
- * Intellectually curious and critical thinkers
- * Students willing to commit to college-level work
- * Those who work well in a small school environment

Early College

The Early College Program is a partnership with Augusta University and provides the most highly motivated and capable students access to rigorous and accelerated curriculum and instruction. Participation in Early College allows high school students access to two years of college credit at no cost.

Students have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and receive two years of college credit at the conclusion of their high school career. Students begin their Early College career by taking specialized classes and expert instruction for two years at the high school level. At the start of their third year, students enroll full-time at Augusta University where they spend their last two years earning sixty credit hours toward an undergraduate degree.

Richmond County's Early College Program prepares students to excel as college students and as citizens of this community. Students will enjoy enrichment opportunities in Georgia, that will prepare them for the many possibilities beyond high school. Participants 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.

Magnet Schools & Specialized IB Programs



Magnet Schools & Specialized IB Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Intellectually curious and critical thinkers
- * Effective communicators
- * Caring, balanced and open-minded students
- * Those willing to take risks, while maintaining principles
- * Students who are 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 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 IB World School designation.

Our IB Schools

- [Academy of Richmond County High School](#)
- [Copeland Elementary School*](#)
- [Hephzibah Elementary School*](#)
- [Hephzibah Middle School*](#)
- [Hephzibah High School*](#)
- [Lake Forest Hills 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, while integrating concept based learning through global contexts and key concepts. Students study a variety of disciplines and how they relate. MYP students Complete Community & Service hours; 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.

Magnet Schools & Specialized STE(A)M Programs



Magnet Schools & Specialized STE(A)M Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Intellectually curious and critical thinkers
- * Critical thinkers
- * Those interested in design (including sound, spatial, process, and object)
- * Students who respond 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 post-secondary 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:” 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](#)
- New Wheelless Area K-5 School*

*Opening in the fall of 2019

The **Robotics and Computer Programming Program** at Spirit Creek Middle School furthers the concept of STEM education and narrows the focus to the fields of robotics and computer programming; through these programs, 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. Students 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 the 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 the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home, Augusta University Medical Center, University Hospital, Richmond County Health Department and local pharmacies. ARJ is also 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 and can complete their health science experience with internships.

Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Students who learn best in structured, routine environments
- * Those who value good citizenship in a democratic society
- * Those who respond 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 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 serves 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 Arts Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Students committed to developing personal artistic abilities
- * Those who desire to participate in artistic exhibitions and performances
- * Students who work well independently and in groups
- * Those 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, 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 grade based classroom. Students continuing to the middle and high school programs 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 businesses 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 AP Programs



Who is best suited?

- * The highly engaged, abstract thinkers
- * Self-motivated students with a desire to excel
- * Intellectually curious and critical thinkers
- * Students 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 employs a school-wide enrichment model and uses 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. Our AP Academy schools are also supported by a three-year grant from the National Math and Science Initiative; students who make a qualifying score, are eligible for the students' cash incentive. 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 Military Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Students who show leadership or interest in developing leadership skills
- * Those with a desire to develop a better understanding of their own identity and how it relates to global citizenry
- * Students interested in learning the interaction between world cultures and its impact
- * Those committed to participating in projects outside of the regular course of study

Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

The NJROTC Program is conducted at accredited secondary schools throughout the nation and is taught by 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 with extracurricular activities such as community service, academic, athletic, drill and orienteering competitions, field meets, flights, visits to naval facilities, marksmanship sports training, and physical fitness training.

Cross Creek High School is consistently ranked as one of the top NJROTC programs in Georgia and the nation; it is 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, and has established its own scholarship program for its cadets.

Our Schools

- [Cross Creek High School](#)

Magnet Schools & Specialized Programs



Who is best suited?

- * The self-motivated student with a desire to excel
- * Students on track for graduation
- * Students that are adaptable to changing circumstances
- * Students willing to commit to college-level work

Online Learning and Dual Enrollment

The **Online Learning Program** is an accredited, alternative learning approach for the most highly motivated students of the Richmond County School System. This program is available to students in grades 9-12. The online learning program allows students to work from home or at an off-site location to earn their high school diplomas. Students enrolled in this program will be required to attend the campus site once a week to take assessments and receive support or face-to-face instruction.

Students will be required to log in daily to be counted present and will also be monitored daily for progress and grades. The online learning program is designed for the student that is self-motivated and on track for graduation.

The **Dual Enrollment Program** exposes students to collegiate learning, offers an opportunity to earn college credit, while reducing the financial burden on students and parents. The program is state-funded for high school students and provides tuition assistance to allow students to get a head start on college. Participants can be enrolled full or part-time, with the ability to earn credits which will satisfy high school, college, or technical school requirements. Recent studies have shown that students who participate in dual enrollment programs are more likely to earn a college degree. Rules for dual enrollment eligibility vary from college to college. Augusta University, East Georgia State College, Augusta Technical College, Brenau University, Georgia Military College, and Paine College all participate in the program.

Magnet Schools & Specialized CTAE Programs



Who is best suited?

- * Students with a passion and intense drive to succeed with perseverance and determination
- * Those with a strong sense of self
- * Students that are adaptable to changing circumstances
- * Those with 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 advanced opportunities starting in 6th grade, making it possible for students to earn a high school diploma, as well as certifications, diplomas, and credit towards an associate degree.

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

Cybersecurity includes implementing/troubleshooting access control, data integrity monitoring, security event monitoring, anti-malware protection, and security patch deployments. A career in **Culinary Arts** provides job opportunities for 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 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 a final average of 80 in all core subjects (math/reading/science/social studies) and conduct (grades 1-6) from the 2017-2018 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, 2019.
- * K-3 applicants must maintain a “B” average or a rating of 2 (for students with standards-based report cards), in language arts and math for the 2018-2019 school year; applicants in grades 4-11 must maintain an 80 average in the core subjects (math, language arts, science, social studies, reading); students in grades 4-6 must also maintain a “B” average in conduct. At the end of the 2018-2019 school year, magnet school candidates must present cumulative 2018-2019 report cards.

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.

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 11, 2019. Richmond County Board of Education ATTN: Magnet Application 864 Broad Street, Suite 419 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 will test with kindergarten at C. T. Walker Traditional Magnet School.* See below for testing dates and locations.

2019-2020 Grade	January 30	February 2
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 and 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

School Choice



School Choice



Who is best suited?

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

How to Apply:

* See school guidance counselor or administrator for registration information, or apply online

Marion E. Barnes Career Center

The skilled trades center is a unique opportunity that provides hands-on experience for students of the Richmond County School System. Students are introduced to career fields related to manufacturing and skilled labor professions. This centralized location offers **Carpentry, HVACR Electrical, Masonry, Plumbing, Welding,** and **Cosmetology** pathways for any RCSS student. Students are afforded the opportunity to experience work-based learning, internships, and participate in volunteer efforts with Habitat for Humanity. 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 are transported to the skilled trades center for specified courses.

CTAE Pathway	Course Name and Number
Carpentry	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450020 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460020 Carpentry I - 46.5500020
Cosmetology	Introduction to Personal Care - 12.5440020 Cosmetology Services II - 12.5100020 Cosmetology Services III - 12.5110020 Barbering II - 12.5200020 Barbering III - 12.5210020
HVACR Electrical	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450020 Introduction to HVAC Systems - 47.5140020 Low Voltage Electrical - 447.5160020
Masonry	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450020 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460020 Masonry I - 46.5700020
Plumbing	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450020 Introduction to Construction - 46.5460020 Plumbing I - 46.5800020
Welding	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety - 46.5450020 Introduction to Metals - 48.5810020 Welding I - 48.5510020

Who is best suited?

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

How to Apply:

* See school guidance counselor or administrator for a referral

Reaching Potential through Manufacturing

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

There are over 100 students enrolled in this cooperative education program which combines an instructional day with a four-hour shift at a manufacturing facility. The facility produces components and sub-assemblies for products manufactured by Textron Specialized Vehicles, which manufactures vehicles under the E-Z-GO®, Cushman®, Textron Off Road®, TUG™, and Douglas™ brands.

In addition to the manufacturing floor, the facility includes a classroom and educational space to allow students to make progress toward their high school diplomas 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. RPM students also receive training in life skills, and they are provided tutoring resources as needed.

School Choice



School Choice



Who is best suited?

* Middle school 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

K-8 STEM Choice

Belair K-8 School and the New Segoe Area K-8 School have a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus. These facilities, along with the programming, give students access to advanced technology and an integrated STEM curriculum. Both schools serve kindergarten through 8th grade students living in the designated attendance zones.

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

Our Schools

- [Belair K-8 School](#)
- New Segoe Area K-8 School*

**Opening in the fall of 2019*

Who is best suited?

* Students who wish to complete one of the following pathways:

- * Cybersecurity
- * Networking

* Students with basic computer skills

How to Apply:

* See school guidance counselor or administrator for registration information

Cyber Academy of Excellence

The Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School Cyber Academy of Excellence is open to students attending our traditional high schools who wish to pursue Cybersecurity Training as well as seeking Industry Certification. The students are provided transportation to the Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School.

Cyber Academy of Excellence students have the opportunity to prepare for the CompTIA Security+ Certification while earning college credits and following the guidelines of a dual enrollment student; there are three tracks of study available 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 delivers a technically-focused, security-related curriculum explicitly designed to address the fast-growing careers in cybersecurity and computer science. The interdisciplinary nature of the program allows potential students to develop deep technological skills and an understanding of the business, managerial, and administrative elements of cybersecurity. By the end of the program, students will have an in-depth awareness of networking and coding principles.

School Choice



School Choice



Who is best suited?

* School aged children of military service members who live on a military base or off-base

How to Apply:

* Complete the online application at rcboe.org/choice

When to Apply:

* Within the first 30 days of enrollment

House Bill 224 for Military Families

Effective July 1, 2017, Georgia 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 90 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 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.
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.

***The application to request a transfer should be completed within 30 days of enrollment.**

Who is best suited?

* Any student wishing to attend a school outside their attendance zone

* Students that can arrange their own transportation

How to Apply:

* Complete the online application at rcboe.org/choice

When to Apply:

November 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019

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 90 percent 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 chance of school placement which is not the result of a bona fide change of residency may impact 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. Therefore, parents and guardians must make individual decisions about the consequences of accepting permissive transfers.

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 Park K-8 or at our Central Office, 864 Broad Street, Augusta GA 30901

When to Apply:

November 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019

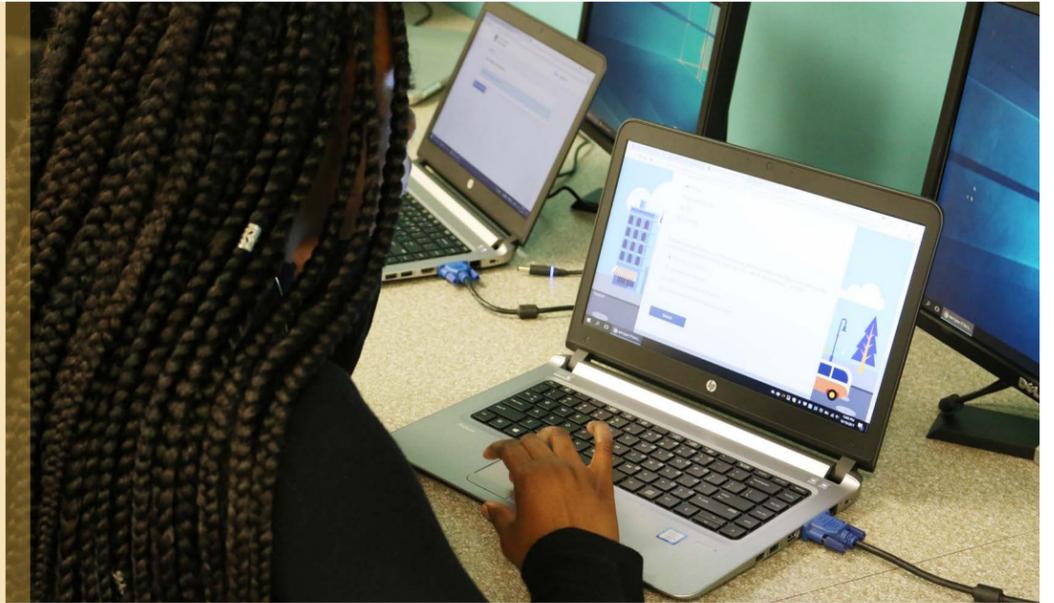
Freedom Park K-8

Freedom Park K-8 School is conveniently located by Gate 5 on Fort Gordon and primarily serves students living on Fort Gordon. In addition, students of active duty military members living off base, DOD civilians working on Fort Gordon, and children of retired military members that live within the Richmond County School district are eligible to apply through the lottery application process. The number of available seats will be determined once all zoned students have been enrolled. If selected, students living outside of the attendance zone must provide their own transportation. Active duty families living off base will be given priority in the lottery process.

Students in grades six through eight have an opportunity to study robotics and cyber-related education. These programs prepare students to develop real-world solutions for implementing and troubleshooting the monitoring and security of advanced systems. Students will have the skills to explore advanced studies in technology.

Students in 3rd-8th grades enjoy a 1:1 technology initiative that allows the use of state-of-the-art technology to explore innovative answers to problems. In addition, students in all grades participate in Makerspace and collaborate with national and international partners to explore global solutions. Freedom Park K-8 is a Middle Years Programme International Baccalaureate candidate school.

School Choice



Who is best suited?

* Independent, motivated students

* Students with strong computer skills

* Students who wish to complete their coursework online rather than through a traditional approach

How to Apply:

* See school guidance counselor or administrator for a referral

Performance Learning Center

The Performance Learning Center (PLC) is a non-traditional, virtual high school 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; in this setting, 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 Edgenuity as the primary source of curriculum courseware in which students work and earn credits while attending class in an 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.

***Any student who desires an alternative education center is able to enroll without a referral.**

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: A student 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 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, 2018 through January 11, 2019. 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 will select 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 tickets, 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 15, 2019.**

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/she start now?

A: This application process is for the 2019-2020 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 in the 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 the 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: Can I apply for School Choice AND Magnet Schools?

A: Yes. Parents can apply to both and then select the desired school if accepted to both. Decisions for 2019-2020 enrollment must be made in the spring.

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. 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.

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 School	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	Student interest; apply online
T.W. Josey High School	9-12	Marion E. Barnes Career Center	School Choice	Yes	Student interest; register at your school
Belair K-8 School	K-8	STEM	School Choice	No	Student interest; apply thru online lottery
New Sego Area K-8 School	K-8	STEM	School Choice	No	Student interest; apply thru online lottery
Online Learning	9-12	Online Learning Program	School Choice	No	Student interest
Dedicated Magnet Schools & Specialized 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

