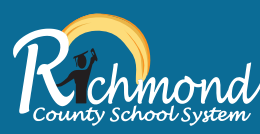




RICHMOND COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

# SCHOOL CHOICE

*Guide* 2023-2024



**MAGNET SCHOOLS AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS**



## Richmond County Board of Education

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and Administrative Services

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Assistant Superintendent of Support Services

**Dr. Andrea Roberts**

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and Cluster 4

**Mr. Nathan Benedict**

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services  
and Cluster 1

**Dr. Donald Mason**

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services  
and Cluster 2

**Dr. Shontier Barnes**

Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services  
and Cluster 3

**Dr. Cecil S. Clark, II**

Chief Human Resources Officer

**Mr. Bobby A. Smith, CPA**

Chief Financial Officer

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



**Dr. Bradshaw's  
Video**



RCSS Families,

Thank you for choosing  
the Richmond County  
School System to  
educate your child.

As our families make  
decisions about schools, we know you consider a number  
of factors when making the decision that is best for your  
family. That is why we are committed to provide safe, quality  
educational programs and opportunities in all our schools.

Our students have a wide range of academic interests and  
strengths. School choice gives you the opportunity to explore  
magnet schools, specialized programs and courses to meet  
your child's unique learning needs. As you review the 2023-  
2024 School Choice Options Guide, please explore the student  
voice features so you and your family can connect to the  
experiences of current students as you consider schools for the  
upcoming school year.

In addition to this guide, consider attending open house  
sessions hosted by the schools and programs to meet the  
faculty and students and to experience the opportunities  
available in our school system. Information about the open  
house sessions, choice programs and key dates is available on  
our website at [www.rcboe.org/choice](http://www.rcboe.org/choice).

I am proud of the work that our students and teachers are  
doing in our classrooms to develop lifelong learners and high  
achievers that graduate college or career ready. As you will see  
in the guide, school choice empowers our students to connect  
with a learning path that is right for them to be successful.

Again, thank you for choosing the Richmond County School  
System and for partnering with us to meet the educational  
needs of your family.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Bradshaw, Ed.D  
Superintendent of Schools  
Richmond County School System



# WHAT IS SCHOOL CHOICE?

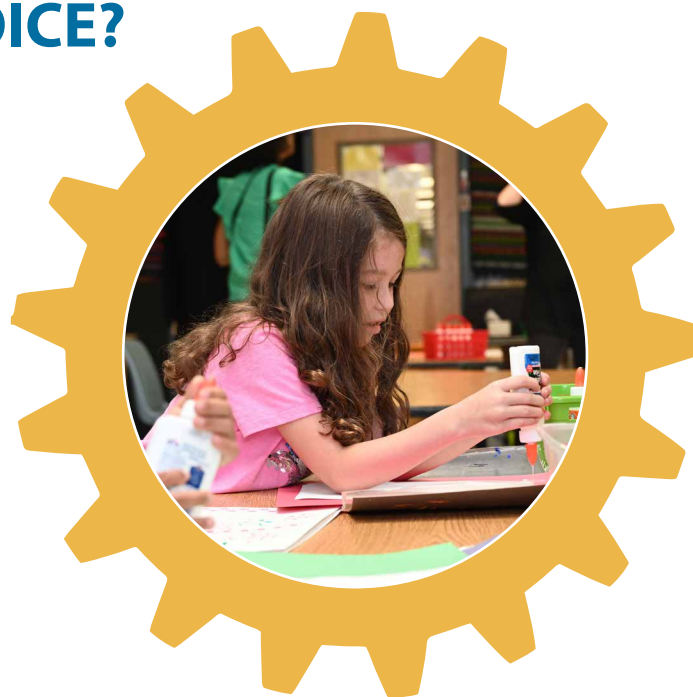
**F**amilies of the Richmond County School System are offered a variety of school choice options designed to meet the interests and academic needs of all our students.

Some of our schools offer specialized courses and programs open to all students in Richmond County. From International Baccalaureate Programmes to skilled trades, cybersecurity, robotics, and visual and performing arts, we have options to support your child's diverse interests.

In addition to specialized courses and programs, we provide opportunities to attend our award-winning magnet schools: Davidson Fine Arts, a fine arts magnet school; A.R. Johnson, a health science and engineering magnet school; Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School, offering Cybersecurity, Culinary Arts, Networking, Energy, Audio/Video Technology and Film, Business, and Robotics; and C.T. Walker, a magnet school with a focus on respect, patriotism, responsibility, and communication.

In addition to our magnet schools and specialized programs which require a competitive application, we offer school choice options established by Georgia law to meet our family's needs. HB251 makes it possible to request a transfer to another school in Richmond County without a hardship. HB251 transfer applications are open November 1 through May 1 each year. Families residing in Richmond County may request a zone exemption from one school attendance zone to another for extreme hardships. The hardships include medical, financial, and bullying, and proof of the hardship must be presented on the application. The school must have available space to be considered for the request.

The school district sets the space available criteria as follows: any school that is above 90% of their enrollment capacity is not eligible for consideration for students who are out of zone. In addition, any newly opened school is not eligible for school choice for a period of four years.



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# APPLICATION DATES

Magnet Schools and Specialized Programs Fall/Winter Application Period
<b>NOVEMBER 1, 2022:</b> Applications open for magnet schools and specialized programs at 8 a.m.
<b>NOVEMBER &amp; DECEMBER 2022:</b> Schools host open house events for interested families.
<b>JANUARY 6, 2023:</b> Last day to apply for magnet schools and specialized programs. Application closes at midnight.
<b>JANUARY 25 &amp; 28, 2023:</b> Academic testing for magnet schools and specialized programs.
<b>FEBRUARY 17, 2023:</b> Davidson Fine Arts auditions
<b>MARCH 3, 2023:</b> Decision letters e-mailed
Spring Application Timeline for Magnet and Specialized Programs
<b>APRIL 1 - MAY 1, 2023:</b> Spring Application period open
<b>MAY 13, 2023:</b> Academic testing for Spring applicants
<b>MAY 25 OR 26, 2023:</b> Davidson Fine Arts auditions
<b>JUNE 5, 2023:</b> Decision letters e-mailed
House Bill 251 Application Period
<b>NOVEMBER 1, 2022 - MAY 1, 2023:</b> Decision letters e-mailed on or before May 15, 2023
<b>NOTE:</b> The spring application process will be available to students who did not apply for winter during the early application phase. Only programs with available space will be listed as options during the spring application window. Military families with PCS Orders that arrive in Augusta between January 1, 2023 through September 1, 2023 should contact the Central Office at (706) 826-1136.





# 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 previous school year.
- Applicants must participate in the system-wide reading and math assessment.
- Applicants must be residents of Richmond County to enroll in any Richmond County magnet school or specialized program.
- Kindergarten applicants must reach the age of 5 by September 1 of year enrolling.
- 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 current school year; applicants in grades 4-11 must maintain an 80 average in core subjects. Students in grades 4-6 must also maintain a "B" average in conduct. At the end of the current school year, magnet school candidates must present cumulative current report cards.

## Students Currently Enrolled in the Richmond County School System:

- Before you begin the application, you will need your child's 9-digit student identification number. This number may be obtained from your child's current school, Parent Portal, or your child's report card. The number typically begins with the digits 300. This is NOT your child's social security number. Providing this number will allow us to access your child's grades and streamline the application process.

## Students NOT Currently Enrolled in the Richmond County School System:

- Before you begin the application, you will need a copy of your child's report card for the last school year (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 supporting documents.
- If you are unable to upload required documents, please mail them to the address below. All items must be postmarked by January 16:



RICHMOND COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

**Richmond County Board of Education**  
**Attn: Magnet/Choice Application**  
**864 Broad Street**  
**Augusta, GA 30901**



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Can I apply for School Choice AND Magnet Schools?

Yes. Parents can apply to both and then select the desired school if accepted to both. Decisions for the 2023-2024 enrollment must be made in the spring.

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

Yes, one may apply, but 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 will forfeit their acceptance.

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

Changes can be made to the application between November 1, 2022 through January 6, 2023. Parents can access the application using the account created during the application process.

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

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.

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

Yes. If you have an active account in 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.

## Do I need to submit teacher recommendations?

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

## Can I submit a paper application instead of applying online?

All applications must be completed online. Assistance will be available every Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm during the months of November and December by calling (706) 826-1136 or emailing [haddebr@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:haddebr@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us).

## Where/when will my child take the academic test?

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

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

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. For more information about both measures, please visit [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com) or [www.quantiles.com](http://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.

## What will my child need to bring to the academic test?

Students applying to grades 1-12 should bring their 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.

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

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

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

According to Georgia state law, students enrolling in kindergarten must reach the age of 5 by September 1.

## If my child is gifted, do they still need to participate in the testing?

Yes, all applicants must participate in testing.

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

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.

## Can I change my mind about transportation?

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

## If my child is accepted, can they start now?

This application process is for the 2023-2024 school year.





# 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 grade for which they are applying.

Example: Students applying to kindergarten will test with kindergarten at C.T. Walker Magnet School.



Grade Level	January 25, 2023 at 4:30pm	January 28, 2023 at 8:30AM	January 28, 2023 at 1:30 PM	May 13, 2023 at 8:30 AM
Kindergarten	Warren Road Elementary	C.T. Walker	C.T. Walker <b>11:00 AM</b>	Lake Forest Hills
1st-5th grade	Copeland Elementary Garrett Elementary	Hains Elementary (SPED)	Hains Elementary Hephzibah Elementary	Copeland Elementary
6th-12th grade	Academy of Richmond County Davidson Fine Arts Hephzibah Middle Laney High (SPED)	Hephzibah Middle Langford Middle	AR Johnson RCTCM	Westside RCTCM

## Transportation

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

- Academy of Richmond County
- A.R. Johnson Health Science and Engineering Magnet School
- C.T. Walker Magnet School
- John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
- Lucy C. Laney High School
- Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School



# DEDICATED MAGNET SCHOOLS

Luke  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade



**A.R. JOHNSON**  
HEALTH SCIENCE & ENGINEERING  
MAGNET SCHOOL

**Luke's  
Video**

A.R. Johnson is a public magnet school serving students in grades 6-12. Armed with academic excellence, students have opportunities to explore their interests and enhance their skills in science, technology, engineering and math related professions. Students specialize in engineering and health science studies and gain hands on experience to apply their classroom knowledge and earn hours toward certification in select programs of study.



**RICHMOND COUNTY**  
TECHNICAL CAREER MAGNET SCHOOL

**Bria's  
Video**

RCTCM is a public magnet school serving students in grades 6–12. Students are admitted on selective criteria based upon prior school record, academic testing, and 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.

Bria  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade







# DEDICATED MAGNET SCHOOLS



**C.T. WALKER**  
MAGNET SCHOOL

## Emolyn's Video

C.T. Walker Magnet School serves students in grades K-5. The school has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence spanning more than thirty years. C.T. Walker has been named a Georgia School of Excellence, a National Magnet School of Distinction, and a National Blue Ribbon School. C.T. Walker strives to instill the qualities of respect, patriotism, responsibility, and communication.

*Emolyn*  
*3rd Grade*

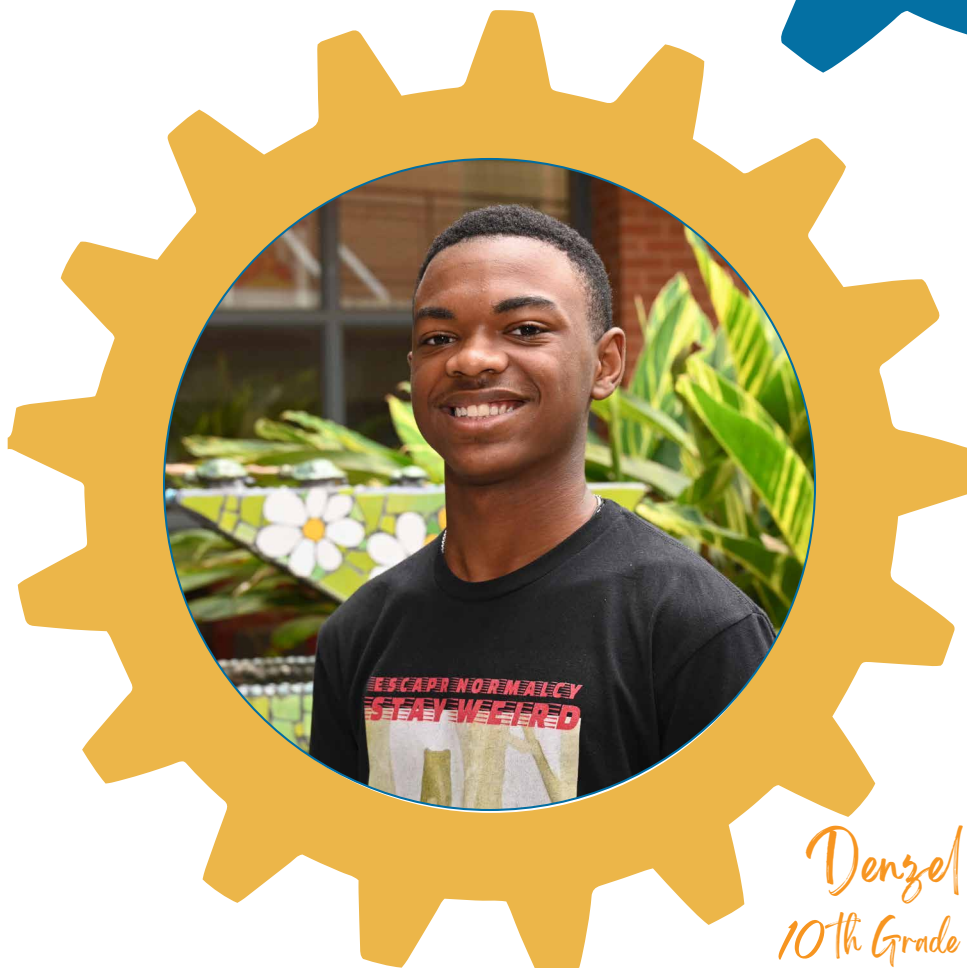


**JOHN S. DAVIDSON**  
FINE ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

## Denzel's Video

John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School was founded in 1981 as a pillar of excellence in academics and the study of fine arts. In addition to rigorous academic preparation, students develop and explore the art forms of drama, dance, visual art, music and creative writing. Students specialize in areas of the arts as they advance each year. This provides an enriching environment for the study of the arts, establishing Davidson as one of the highest ranking schools in the state of Georgia and the nation.

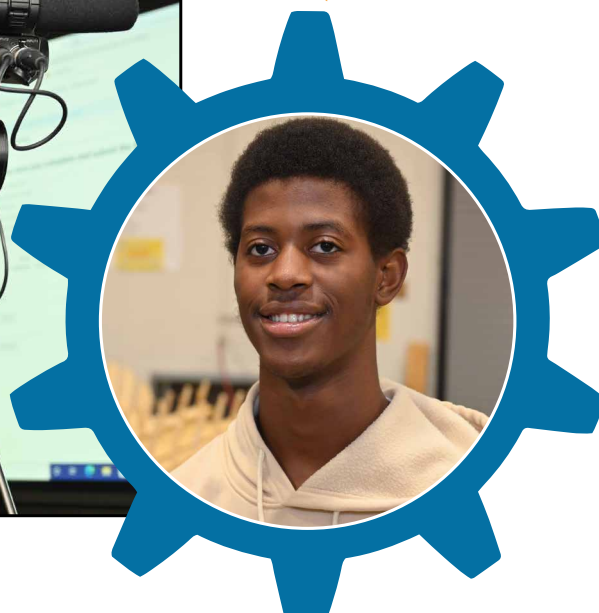
*Denzel*  
*10th Grade*



# CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION



*Josiah*  
*12<sup>th</sup> Grade*



**Josiah's  
Video**

**T**he Career and Technical Education Programs provide students opportunities to experience leadership, academic, and social interactions along with hands on career readiness and experience opportunities.

Students experience academic rigor and advanced opportunities making it possible to earn a high school diploma and additional professional certification, specialty diplomas, and earn credit towards an associate degree.

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 who are adaptable to changing circumstances.
Those with enterprising skills and desire to be their own boss.

## Cybersecurity

This program includes implementing/troubleshooting access control, data integrity monitoring, security event monitoring, anti-malware protection, and security deployments.

## Culinary Arts

A career in culinary arts provides job opportunities to be executive chefs to part-time food service workers.

## Energy

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

Networking is a broad pathway including occupations such as computer programmers, system analysts, and database administrators.

## Electronics

This program includes biomedical engineering, informatics and engineering, software engineering, mechatronics and robotics, and electronics microengineering.

## Audio/Video Technology and Film

This industry is comprised of two major employers: radio/television broadcasting companies and film production.



# CYBER ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE



**Jonathan's  
Video**

**T**he Cyber Academy of Excellence is open to students attending our traditional and magnet high schools who wish to pursue Cybersecurity Training as well as seek Industry Certification.

The students are provided transportation to the Cyber Academy of Excellence at 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 the dual enrollment students.

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 networking and coding principles.

*Jonathan  
12th Grade*



## WHO IS BEST SUITED?

Motivated and hardworking high school students

Students who need a flexible school/work schedule

## HOW TO APPLY:

See school guidance counselor or administrator for referral



# MARION E. BARNES CAREER CENTER



**Jacob's  
Video**

**T**he 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.

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.

## WHO IS BEST SUITED?

Motivated and hardworking high school students

Students who need a flexible school/work schedule

## HOW TO APPLY:

See school guidance counselor or administrator for referral

- Barbering
- Carpentry
- Cosmetology
- Fine Furniture
- HVACR Electrical

- Low Voltage Electrical
- Masonry
- Nail Technology
- Plumbing
- Welding

*Jacob  
10th Grade*





# REACHING POTENTIAL THROUGH MANUFACTURING



**Reaching  
Potential  
through  
Manufacturing  
Video**

**R**eaching 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.

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 classroom and educational space to allow students to make progress toward their high school diplomas. RPM students also receive training in life skills and are provided tutoring resources as needed.

There are more than 100 students enrolled in this co-operative education program which combines an instructional day with a four-hour shift at a manufacturing

## WHO IS BEST SUITED?

Motivated and hardworking  
high school students

Students who need a flexible  
school/work schedule

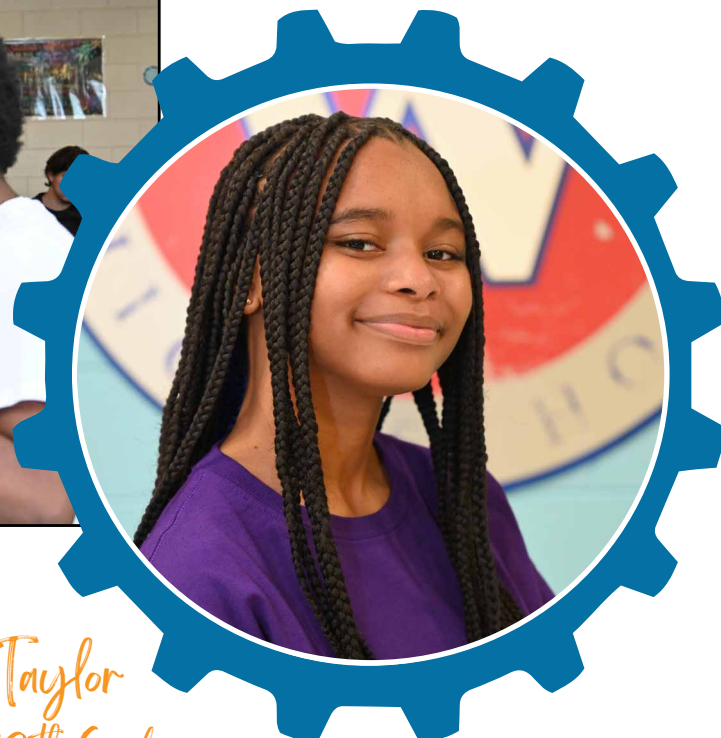
## HOW TO APPLY:

See school guidance  
counselor or administrator  
for referral





# ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIES



**Taylor's  
Video**

**T**he Advanced Placement (AP) Studies are designed to expose highly capable students to challenging, rigorous, and accelerated curriculum. Successful candidates are challenged with opportunities in abstract thinking, problem-solving, and the use of higher-order thinking skills.

*Taylor  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade*

The Academy employs a schoolwide enrichment model and uses project based, hands-on instructional techniques. Students are highly engaged 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 AP courses. The Academy is designed for students who are interested in, and have a strong aptitude for, the humanities and sciences that are college bound.

## AP SCHOOLS

- Lucy C. Laney High School
- Westside High School

## 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



## OUR IB SCHOOLS

- Academy of Richmond County
- Hephzibah High School
- Langford Middle School
- Hephzibah Middle School
- Copeland Elementary School
- Hephzibah Elementary School
- Lake Forest Hills Elementary School

The International Baccalaureate program is a rigorous program of study focusing 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 IB World School designation.

## 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



## PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)

For Grade K-5 students, the PYP nurtures and develops learners who are caring and active participants in a lifelong journey of learning. It offers an inquiry-based, student-centered, and transdisciplinary curriculum framework with units of inquiry that encompass all subject areas. The PYP is an example of best educational practices globally, responding to the challenges and opportunities facing students in our rapidly changing world. By learning through inquiry and reflecting on their own learning, PYP students develop the knowledge, conceptual understandings, skills, and attributes of the IB Learner Profile to make a difference in their own lives, their communities, and beyond.

## 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 are also required to complete Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) hours, the Theory of Knowledge Course, and an Extended Essay.

## MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)

For grades 6-10, MYP emphasizes the learning 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 activities and service hours; a personal project is the culminating assessment for the program.

## CAREER-RELATED PROGRAMME (CRP)

The IB Career-Related Programme is rigorous 11th and 12th grade curriculum preparing students to enter college or the workforce. In addition to completing their chosen career pathway, such as engineering or cybersecurity, students take a selection of rigorous IB courses and engage in service learning, language acquisition, and reflection and investigation into ethical issues in their fields 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?

Students who are self-directed learners: motivated, persevering and independent.

Students with reading, writing, and mathematical skills at, above or near grade level.

Those who possess effective time management skills, basic computer skills, and can self advocate.





# VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



*Priseton  
5th Grade*



**Priseton's  
Video**

**V**isual and Performing Arts Programs develop a student's talents and passion for the arts.

Students receive specialized instruction in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts. As part of a strong academic program, the arts are approached through education, integration, and exposure.

At the elementary level, students receive weekly classes in each of the four arts disciplines, as well as arts-integrated instruction in grade-based classrooms.

Students continuing to middle and high school programs will receive more rigorous, intensive instruction in the visual and performing arts specific to their area of interest.

## 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

## 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

## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOLS

- Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
- Garrett Elementary School
- Hephzibah Elementary
- Warren Road Elementary School





The eSchool offers an engaging, virtual learning environment for self-directed learners in grades 6-12. The majority of work is asynchronous, meaning that students work independently through modules in each course. This allows flexibility in a student's daily school routine, such as when and where to complete assignments. Students will engage in a standards-based curriculum on his or her own with occasional "live" support from teachers.

Ideal candidates for eSchool have documented academic success, grades of C or higher; score at the developing learner level or higher on Georgia Milestones; and are progressing toward grade-level promotion and/or timely high school graduation. While students with disabilities are not restricted from participation in the eSchool program, all students are expected to work within the curriculum without modifications that would compromise the integrity

of the course. As a choice option, the eSchool is not required to modify or change the instructional programs if the program's integrity may be compromised.

eSchool is a year-long commitment. If you are considering this option, feel free to contact the eSchool where the administrative and counseling staff will assist your family in determining if the program is the best option for your student.



WHO IS BEST SUITED?		
Sixth through twelfth grade students who are self-directed learners: motivated, persevering and independent.	Students with reading, writing, and mathematical skills at, above or near grade level.	Those who possess effective time management skills, basic computer skills, and can self advocate.



## HOUSE BILL 251



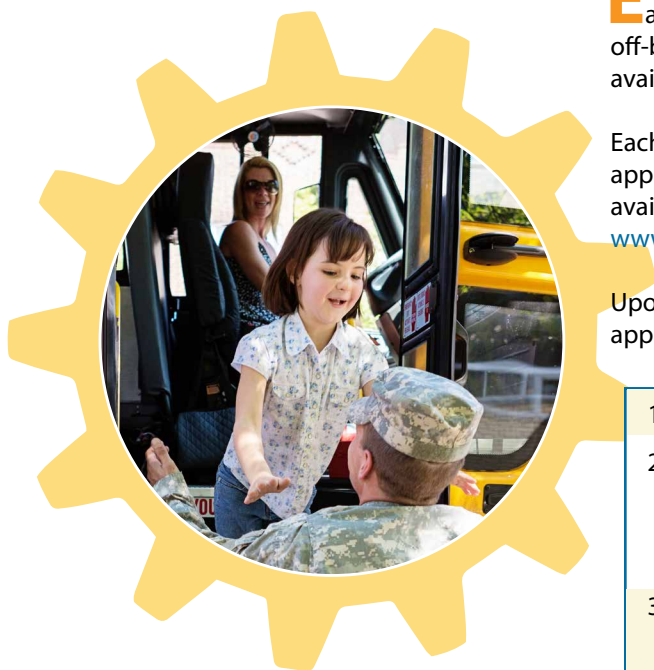
**U**nder a 2009 state law (OCGA 20-2-2131), parents may request a transfer to another public school within their local school district to specified schools and grades designated as having available space. Each year, the school system identifies schools with available space and accepts applications from families requesting a transfer under this law. **Applications are accepted November 1 – May 1 each year.** The list of schools with space available and the application can be found at [www.rcboe.org/choice](http://www.rcboe.org/choice). In the Richmond County School System, any school with an enrollment below 90% capacity is considered a participating school.

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

In addition, any change of school placement which is not the result of a bona fide change of residency may impact a student's eligibility to participate in Georgia High School Association sanctioned varsity activities and events for 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.



## HOUSE BILL 224 FOR MILITARY FAMILIES



**E**ffective July 1, 2017, Georgia House Bill 224 allows military families to attend any public school located within the school system where 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 identifies schools with available space and accepts applications for military families to attend these schools. The list of schools with available space and the application can be found on the school system website [www.rcboe.org/choice](http://www.rcboe.org/choice).

Upon arrival, military families should enroll in their zoned school and complete the application to request a HB224 transfer.

1. Enroll the student in their Richmond County zoned public school.
2. Visit our website [www.rcboe.org/choice](http://www.rcboe.org/choice) and complete the online application to request a HB 224 transfer. The application to request a transfer must be completed within 30 days of enrollment. Paper copies of the application can be picked up at the central office, 864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901.
3. In the event the number of transfer requests exceeds the available capacity in a particular school, requests will be approved based on the order in which they are received.
4. Parents will be notified of approval or denial by the email address provided on the application.
5. Once a request is approved, the parent assumes all costs and responsibilities related to transportation of their child to and from school so long as the child remains at the assigned school.

RICHMOND COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Richmond County Board of Education  
864 Broad Street  
Augusta, GA 30901  
(706) 826-1000

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For additional information, Contact Brian Hadden (706) 826-1136.  
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