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Richmond County School System Opens 2026–2027 School Choice and House Bill 251 application period

(AUGUSTA, GEORGIA) – The Richmond County School System (RCSS) opened the School Choice application period for the 2026–2027 school year, giving families the opportunity to explore innovative learning options that match their child's interests, talents, and future goals. In addition, families can apply for their child to attend another school outside of their school zone with capacity through House Bill 251 (HB251).

Applications for magnet schools and specialized programs are open from Nov. 1, 2025, through Jan. 9, 2026. The HB251 transfer application period remains open through May 1, 2026. Families can explore programs, review eligibility requirements, and apply online at www.rcboe.org/choice

"We want every family to know that Richmond County has options for every student," said Brian Hadden, School Choice coordinator. "Whether your child is drawn to the arts, trade skills, or technology, there's a program designed to help them discover their passion and prepare for what comes next."

Through RCSS School Choice, students can apply to one of the school system's four award-winning magnet schools or more than six specialized programs across the district. In addition, all Richmond County high schools offer access to more than 40 Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathways, allowing students to explore career-focused courses in fields such as agriculture, architecture and construction, government and public administration, and more. No application is required for courses offered at their zoned school.

Admission to magnet schools is competitive and based on academic performance, attendance, and conduct. Four-year-olds applying to kindergarten programs, along with students entering grades K–12, must complete a systemwide reading and math assessment to demonstrate readiness for advanced coursework. Testing sessions will be held in January, with results considered as part of the admissions process.

For more information or to apply for School Choice and HB251, visit www.rcboe.org/choice or contact the School Options Office at (706) 826-1136.