GRADES: PRE-KINDERGARTEN - HIGH SCHOOL

Parent's Guide to STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



THIS GUIDE INCLUDES:

- Academic Progress Information
- Parental Engagement Strategies
- Educator Information
- School Resources and Support
- Policies and Protocols Regarding Student Achievement

2026-2027

CUMBERLAND COUNTY SCHOOLS

Parents' Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)

Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of the Cumberland County Public School System to provide parents and guardians of our students access to information pertaining to student achievement through the district's Parents' Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Paper copies of this guide can be obtained through a request from your child's individual school.

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The Cumberland County Board of Education highly values parental engagement and respects the rights of parents in the education and upbringing of their children. Following the approval of the Parents' Bill of Rights by the North Carolina General Assembly, our district remains dedicated to nurturing strong partnerships with parents to promote student success. We firmly believe parents/guardians are indispensable in their children's lives and education. Our commitment involves empowering parents by upholding their rights to guide their children's education, access records, make medical decisions, and engage with their academic progress.

North Carolina General Statute § 115C-76.25 outlines these rights, with many already addressed in existing Board Policy. The approved legislation consolidates all this information in one convenient location, promoting transparency and making it easily accessible for families. Any Board Policy updates concerning these rights will be added to this Parent's Guide for Student Achievement.

§ 115C-76.25. Parent legal rights for their child's education.

Parents have legal rights with regard to their child's education, including the following:

a) The right to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs, consistent with the requirements of G.S. 115C-81.30. (Policy Code: 3540 Healthful Living)
b) The right to seek a medical or religious exemption from immunization requirements, consistent with the requirements of G.S. 130A-156 and G.S. 130A-157. (Policy Code: 4110 Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission)
c) The right to review statewide standardized assessment results as part of the State report card. (Policy Code: 1310/4002 Parental Involvement) (Policy Code: 1320/3560 Title I Parent and Family Engagement)
d) The right to request an evaluation of their child for an academically or intellectually gifted program, or for identification as a child with a disability, as provided in Article 9 of this Chapter. (Policy Code: 3520 Special Education Programs/Rights of Students with Disabilities) (Parents Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education: Notice of Procedural Safeguards) (Policy Code: 4155 Assignment to Classes)
e) The right to inspect and purchase public school unit textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials, as provided in Part 3 of Article 8 of this Chapter. (Policy Code: 3210 Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials) (§ 115C-102. Right to purchase; disposal of textbooks and materials)
f) The right to access information relating to the unit's policies for promotion or retention, including high school graduation requirements. (Policy Code: 3420 Student Promotion and Accountability) (Policy Code: 3405 Students At-Risk of Academic Failure) (Policy Code: 3460 Graduation Requirements) (Regulation Code: 3460-R Four Course Concentration) (Regulation Code: 3460-R1 Calculating Credits for Transfer Students and Differentiated Diploma Pathway (DDP)
g) The right to receive student report cards on a regular basis that clearly depict and grade the student's academic performance in each class or course, the student's conduct, and the student's attendance. (Policy Code: 3400 Evaluation of Student Progress)
h) The right to access information relating to the State public education system, State standards, report card requirements, attendance requirements, and textbook requirements. (Policy Code: 1310/4002 Parental Involvement)
i) The right to participate in parent-teacher organizations. (Policy Code: 5010 Parent Organizations)
j) The right to opt in to certain data collection for their child, as provided in Part 5 of this Article and Article 29 of this Chapter. (Policy Code: 1310/4002 Parental Involvement) (Policy Code: 4720 Surveys of Students)
k) The right for students to participate in protected student information surveys only with parental consent, as provided in N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.65. (Policy Code: 1310/4002 Parental Involvement) (Policy Code: 4720 Surveys of Students)
l) The right to review all available records of materials their child has borrowed from a school library. (Policy Code: 4700 Student Records) (Policy Code: 3210 Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials)

How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. The relevant part of this link is found in Part 1A (pp. 15-28) regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc. Grade Level Promotion. Information about the Cumberland County Public School Board's promotion and retention procedures is available in Board Policy 3420. Information about the Board's graduation requirements is available in Board Policy 3460. Additional relevant information for middle and high school students may be obtained from the CCS Course Selection Guides, Middle School, or High School Program Planning Guides.
What is my child learning at school?	In North Carolina, all schools use the same standard course of study as determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should understand by the end of each grade/course. The standards are on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Office of Academic Standards website. There are standards for: • Arts Education • Career and Technical Education • Computer Science • English Language Arts • English Language Development • Student Success Standards • Healthful Living • Information and Technology • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies • World Language Local districts, schools, and teachers determine how to teach and pace these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc. **Curriculum** The following link provides information related to the Cumberland County Public School System curriculum: Policy 3100 Curriculum Development.

How can a parent/guardian review these materials?	**Instructional Materials** Contact your school principal to request to inspect or purchase textbooks and other instructional materials. In some cases, principals may be able to provide parents or guardians with paper or electronic copies of certain supplemental instructional materials for them to inspect at home. In other cases (as with most copyrighted materials), materials will be made available for in-person inspection only. Generally, requests to inspect school library materials will be fulfilled by informing parents or guardians of the hours they may browse the library stacks. Additional information pertaining to the inspection of instructional materials can be located at: Policy 3200 Selection of Instructional Materials **Literacy Intervention Plan** Parents and guardians may view North Carolina Public School's Literacy Intervention Plan at the following link: NCDPI Literacy Intervention Plan **Career and Technical Education (CTE)** The Cumberland County Public School System also offers courses in Career and Technical Education (CTE). These courses enable students to explore various careers and earn valuable credentials. CTE Career Clusters, Pathways, Course Information, Credentials, and Course Standards may be found at this link: Course Management System To learn more about the CCS CTE Program, visit: • CCS Career and Technical Education • NC Career and Technical Education To learn more about the CCS Curriculum and Instruction Program, visit: CCS Curriculum and Instruction
How will a parent/guardian learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	Cumberland County Public Schools shares students' progress through various ways, including quarterly report cards, progress reports, and assignment/test feedback. Feedback on conduct is also included. • Progress Report/Report Card Schedule Information regarding assessments and evaluation of student progress in Cumberland County Public Schools can be located at the following: • List of Standardized K-12 Assessments • Cumberland County Board of Education Policy Code 3400: Evaluation of Student Progress **Local Assessments** Report cards reflecting grades and attendance are issued every quarter. Review the school calendars for the dates when each quarter ends. More information can be found on the CCS District Calendar website under the link Progress Report/Report Card Schedule.

Parents and guardians can access attendance, grades, and testing information by visiting the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Parents or guardians who do not have a Parent Portal account should contact their child's school to obtain a Parent Portal letter for account setup. Each individual has a specific Activation Key. This is a required step before you can access the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. You will also have access to review grades, attendance, and state test scores promptly online. Questions related to parents' Infinite Campus access that are not addressed in this link may be directed to the school data manager.

- List of Local District Assessments

State Assessments

Individual Student Reports for End-of-Grade/End-of-Course tests, and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the NC-SIS (Infinite Campus) parent portal.

In North Carolina, all students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8. Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8. In high school, students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3.

Career and College Readiness Assessments

Students in Grade 10 take the Pre-ACT, students in Grade 11 take the ACT, and CTE Concentrators in Grade 12 take the ACT WorkKeys. ACT shares those results.

Individual Reading Plans

An **Individual Reading Plan** (IRP) shall be developed for any kindergarten through third-grade student demonstrating difficulty with reading. An IRP will include specific strategies and ideas that can be implemented at home. IRPs are part of the CCS Personal Education Plan process, and parents/guardians are invited to be a part of the team as teachers develop a plan to address the individual learning needs of struggling students. If a parent or guardian wants a copy of their child's IRP, they may contact their child's teacher.

North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition as the state's K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment North Carolina districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, screening for the risk of dyslexia, and progress monitoring.

What are the qualifications and licensure status of my child's teachers?	All certified teachers must meet state licensure requirements. Those requirements may be accessed here (*select "LICN" in the left-hand column):* State Board of Education Licensure Policies. Parents or guardians may check the licensure status of their children's teachers on the NCDPI Licensure Verification Webpage. Please contact the Office of Human Resources at (910) 678-2629 with any additional questions you may have regarding an educator's licensure status.
What are the requirements for school enrollment? **What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?**	**Enrollment** Enrollment in CCS is governed by Board Policy 4100: Age Requirements for Initial Entry to the Cumberland County Public School System. Parents and guardians may enroll eligible students in school by following the instructions at the following link: CCS Enrollment Procedures. Admission requirements: GS 115C-364 **Health Assessments and Immunizations** The following are statutory school entry requirements, including required immunizations: • NC Health Assessment Transmittal Form per N.C.G.S. § 130A-440 • Immunization records: GS 130A-155 The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) provides additional information on state requirements for health assessments and immunizations for students. • NCDHHS Immunizations Resources webpage • CCS Immunizations & Health Assessment webpage • CCS Board Policy 4110: Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission CCS Immunization Schedules may be accessed here: • CCS Pre-K-12 Immunization Entry Requirements • NC State Law and Vaccine Requirements • CCS Exemptions to Immunizations & Health Assessment

How can I help my child learn and progress in reading and other areas?

General Guidance

Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process.

- Ask questions daily about your child's school day. The following are available resources: "How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning" and "Parent Questions by Grade Level".
- Inquire about the topics and assignments they are learning.
- Connect with teachers to understand your child's progress.
- Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn.
- Attend different events at your child's school to stay connected and learn how to support them.
- Establish a designated and intentional area in the home, if possible, for homework, studying, etc.
- As a parent or guardian, model reading.
- Engage with your child about their progress and their effort.
- Be an active participant in your child's education.
- Communicate often with your child's teacher.
- Keep as many books of varying reading levels as possible in the home.

Parent Guides for Academic Standards

The following grade-level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers in understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents and guardians about the standards and provide useful strategies to incorporate at home.

- Kindergarten Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- First Grade Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- Second Grade Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- Third Grade Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- Fourth Grade Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- Fifth Grade Parent Guide: English / Spanish
- Sixth Grade Parent Guides: Social Studies / Science / ELA / Mathematics
- Seventh Grade Parent Guides: Social Studies / Science / ELA / Mathematics
- Eighth Grade Parent Guides: Social Studies / Science / ELA / Mathematics

Reading and Literacy Support

The following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: Amplify Parent Resources.

Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy for students in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 5 are also available at North Carolina's Digital Children's Reading Initiative (DCRI). These activities include the following topics:

1) Phonemic awareness
2) Phonics

	3) Vocabulary 4) Fluency 5) Comprehension 6) Oral (spoken) language For printable DCRI resources that parents and guardians, and students, can use at home, click here.
How can a parent/guardian help their child develop citizenship, social skills, and respect for others?	**Portrait of a Graduate** Cumberland County Public School System embeds **"Portrait of a Graduate"** skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child's understanding of citizenship, social skills, and respect for others. These skills include: • Adaptability • Collaboration • Communication • Critical Thinking • Empathy • A Learner's Mindset • Personal Responsibility These skills can also be practiced and reinforced in the child's home environment. A summary of these core competencies is available here. • Grade-level-specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones, can be found in the following resource repository: NC Portrait of a Graduate—Durable Skills. **Citizenship and Character Education** Citizenship and character education in CCS are governed by Board Policy 3530: Citizenship and Character Education. CCS utilizes a district-adopted curriculum to provide instruction in social-emotional learning (SEL) to students in grades K-8. Instruction is based on the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning's (CASEL) five competencies for SEL instruction. The following resources for parents and guardians are designed to help their child develop these skills. • CCS Mental Health and Wellness Portal • CCS School Culture & Behavior Support website Click here to access free CharacterCounts! Family Guides to Character Education. All CCS Pre-K families have access to ReadyRosie, an online birth-through-elementary cohesive family engagement resource that facilitates home-to-school partnerships. ReadyRosie is aligned with The Creative Curriculum. The Pre-K teachers connect families to ReadyRosie and recommend specific videos connected to a lesson. Parents and guardians have unlimited access to videos and resources. ReadyRosie also sends weekly videos to families.

	For additional information, contact the Pre-Kindergarten Department at 910-483-7370.
How can a parent/guardian strengthen communication with the school/teacher?	CCS schools and the district use the ParentLink notification service to send important information to families through phone calls, email, and text messages. To ensure CCS and your student's school can reach as many families as possible during emergencies, all families are automatically opted in to receive text messages from ParentLink. If you have questions or concerns regarding ParentLink, please call your child's school for assistance. ● General school news and updates are shared by email and text message. ● A phone call shares urgent information. For more information, please visit 'Communications and Community Engagement' on the CCS website. Information regarding the appropriate use of technology platforms can be located at the following: ● Policy Code: 3220 Technology in the Educational Program ● Policy Code: 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use Parents/guardians can stay updated on their children's grades and testing by visiting the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parents and guardians may access information on how to create or change their Infinite Campus login credentials here. Questions related to parents' Infinite Campus Portal access that are not addressed in this link may be directed to the school data manager. The Cumberland County Public School System policy on parent involvement, including parent communication, participation, and conferences, may be accessed here. (Policy 1310/4002) A supplemental policy on parent engagement in Title I schools may be accessed here. (Policy 1320/3560) Title I Parent and Family Engagement The following North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) parent guides provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school. ● Building Strong Relationships with Your Child's Teacher (NC Rethink Education Program) ● How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning (NC Rethink Education Program) Additional NCDPI "Rethink Education" resources for parents and guardians, including webinars, can be accessed at the following website.

What services are available for parents/guardians and their children?

Cumberland County Public Schools and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction provide multiple types of services to parents and their children, including the following:

Family Ambassador Services

Go to this link, CCS Family Ambassador on the Cumberland County Public Schools Website for details.

Family Literacy Services

NCDPI's Literacy at Home: Digital Children's Reading Initiative, developed by NCDPI, provides home literacy activities for grades Pre-Kindergarten through 5.

Mentoring

Mentoring services are available at select schools. Parents/guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these services.

Other Academic Reinforcement Programs

Additional academic enhancement opportunities are available at all Cumberland County Public Schools. Parents or guardians should contact the school administration to inquire about these services.

Career Preparation and College Planning

Counselors are available in all CCS high schools to allow students to plan their college path. More information about college planning is available at the following links:

- CCS Scholarships and Financial Aid
- College Foundation of North Carolina
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- MajorClarity: Official CCS College and Career Ready Platform for grades 5-12
- Mentoring/Volunteering Opportunities

Academic Advisement

Counselors and other staff are available at each Cumberland County School to offer guidance to students and parents/guardians on course selection and other academic issues. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact their school counselor for support with graduation plans and post-secondary options. Middle and high school families can access course options in the district's Course Selection Guides.

Student Support Services

Cumberland County Public Schools are staffed with school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, and other Student Support Services staff who support a wide range of academic, social, and emotional issues. For general information on these services, please consult the Student Services and Student Support Services webpage.

	The district offers the School-based Behavioral Health program (SBH) that provides support to students within the school building during the school day. Services may include comprehensive clinical assessments, individual, family, and group counseling, and medication management for students receiving treatment from select providers. Additional information about mental health and wellness resources provided by CCS and community resources can be found on CCS' Mental Health and Wellness Portal. Parents or guardians are encouraged to contact the school administration or any school counselor or social worker with questions about the specific counseling services available at their child's school. **After-School Programs** The 21st CCLC program, authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, offers academic support to help students meet academic standards in reading, math, and science, along with activities in youth development, arts, technology, and more. Interested parents and guardians should contact their school administrator for information and to see if this opportunity is available at their child's school. Trio Talent Search is at Westover Middle School, Douglas Byrd Middle School, and High School.
What are opportunities for parent/guardian participation?	**Parenting Classes** The Pre-K Department hosts monthly **Parent Cafés in partnership with the SOAR Community Coalition**. Parent Cafés provide a welcoming space for meaningful conversations and parent leadership opportunities. The sessions focus on the five protective factors that have been shown to make positive outcomes more likely for children, their families, and the community. Parents of children of all ages are invited. For details, contact the Pre-Kindergarten Department at 910-483-7370. Overview — Be Strong Families In collaboration with the Cumberland County Health Department, parents/guardians can access an online parenting program called Triple P to learn about positive parenting practices. **Cumberland Family Academy** Cumberland Family Academy (CFA) provides FREE workshops and educational events for the families of Cumberland County Schools (CCS). As part of its strategic plan, CCS launched CFA during the 2020-21 school year. Research shows that students achieve more when families are involved in their education. The purpose of the CFA program is to provide families with tools to support the success of their children's education and to bring schools, parents or guardians, families, and community organizations together as equal partners. For more information on CFA, visit www.familyacademy.ccs.k12.nc.us.

Advisory Councils

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The Office of Exceptional Children is dedicated to increasing our parent participation and partnerships. The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meets monthly with parents and EC staff to provide professional development on programming and parent concerns. The PAC President and the department work together to address the needs of our students and families. The Parent Advisory Council meetings are open to all parents, guardians, and teachers of exceptional children. **For more information, please visit the** Parent Advisory Council Meeting Site **or contact the Exceptional Children's Department at (910) 484-3391.**

School Health Advisory Council

The School Health Advisory Council is a consultative body comprising individuals primarily chosen from the community's health and education sectors. This collective group guides the school system regarding various aspects of its health programs. The school system appoints council members to provide advice and recommendations. **For additional information, contact Healthful Living at (910)678-7014.**

Military Child Task Force

The Military Child Task Force seeks to cultivate a welcoming environment that empowers military-connected families by addressing their unique concerns and challenges. The goal is to support a smooth transition for military families in our community and schools. **For more information, visit the Military Family Advisory Council website or contact Military Family and Youth Services at 910-678-7008.**

CCS Career Academy Advisory Boards

Each CTE career academy has an advisory board consisting of industry representatives and community stakeholders with expertise in the designated academy program of study. **For more information on Career Academy Advisory Councils, contact Career and Technical Education at 910-678-2442.**

CTE Advisory Council

The Career and Technical Education Program is required by NC Statute 115C-172 to have an established membership, which assists the Cumberland County Schools Board of Education in fulfilling its duties to provide career and technical education instruction, activities, and services, as outlined in NC General Statutes Article 10, Part 4. For more information on the CTE Advisory Council, contact Career and Technical Education at 910-678-2442.

The district offers many opportunities for parental involvement and engagement.

- Mentoring/Volunteering Opportunities

What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?

Cumberland County Public Schools offers a variety of options for students to pursue their interests and skills at their academic level, including the following:

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

North Carolina has made a significant investment in developing students and programs to meet the needs of the future workforce. Through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, Public Schools offer opportunities for students to develop career awareness in the 5th grade, explore careers in grades 6-8, and experience leadership, career development, and career-aligned content in grades 9-12.

For more information about CTE programs in grades 6-8, please explore the following links:

- CCS CTE
- Middle School Course Selection Guide

For more information about CTE programs in grades 9-12, please explore the following links:

- CCS CTE
- High School Course Selection Guide

General information about CTE career clusters, pathways, courses, credentials, and course standards may be accessed here: North Carolina Career and Technical Education Course Management System

Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG)

In North Carolina, school districts are required to identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) students from kindergarten through 12th grade. AIG refers to students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas, such as reading and/or math, when compared with other students of their age or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

The Cumberland County Public School Local AIG Plan outlines specific opportunities for differentiated, rigorous instruction and accelerated programs. This plan is linked to the Advanced Learning and Gifted Education webpage.

The Cumberland County Public School System has developed an AIG Program guide and AIG Program brochure to help parents/guardians better understand the AIG program. These resources describe how students will be identified and served across grades K-12. For more information, visit the Advanced Learning and Gifted Education webpage.

Individualized services for AIG students may include:

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups;
- Accelerated opportunities;
- Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and/or
- Other opportunities for extension of content standards

Services for AIG students may be provided by AIG personnel or within the regular classroom by teachers trained to meet the needs of gifted students.

Honors Level Courses

In Cumberland County Schools, students have access to various honors-level courses in high school. These courses are listed in the High School Course Selection Guide.

Honors-level courses typically have a faster pace than standard-level courses. They offer increased rigor, complexity, and creativity compared to standard courses.

Career and College Promise (CCP)

Cumberland County Public Schools offers a dual enrollment program for high schoolers. Eligible students may enroll in college classes at the partner community college through their high school.

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway or the Cooperative Innovative High School. Many courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families. For additional information, please visit the following links:

- College Credit Overview
- NCDPI CCP website.

Early Colleges & Choice Programs and Academies

Cumberland County Public Schools sponsors several early colleges.

Cumberland County Public Schools offers several choice programs, including Early College, STEM, Language Immersion/Global Studies, International Baccalaureate, Gifted and Talented, and Arts Plus options. Click here for more information, including application procedures and the Choice Program Guide.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program developed by the College Board to offer college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. AP classes are offered in all Cumberland County Public high schools and vary by site.

Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for North Carolina students, as outlined in State Board policy.

AP exams are free for North Carolina public high school students enrolled *in these courses.* Colleges and universities may offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a three or above on the exam. All colleges in the UNC System offer credit for scores of three or higher on an Advanced Placement exam. More information is available on the

NCDPI AP website.

International Baccalaureate (IB).

South View High School offers the International Baccalaureate Program (IB). The IB Academy at South View High School is part of Cumberland County's Governed Choice Program. It is a college preparatory program that challenges its students with a well-rounded curriculum. It develops critical reasoning with a rigorous, inquiry-based education with a global perspective. Subject areas include English, French, Spanish, History, Psychology, Information Technology, Core Computer Science, Biology, Environmental Systems, Math, Music, and Theater. More information can be located on pages 68-72 of the High School Course Selection Guide.

- NCDPI Advanced Coursework website

North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)

North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is North Carolina's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007 with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for various reasons. Parents or guardians should contact a school counselor if they are interested in enrolling their child in one or more NCVPS courses.

Middle school students (including rising 9th graders) are NOT to be enrolled in an NCVPS summer school course.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery

Cumberland County Public Schools offer opportunities for students to earn credit for a high school course without enrolling in the course by "testing out." This opportunity is offered in all courses, except where prohibited by the state. There are two phases of assessment that a student must complete to earn credit for the course. For more information, visit the NCDPI Credit by Demonstrated Mastery webpage.

Governor's School

Each summer, the NC Governor's School offers a unique opportunity for high-achieving rising juniors and seniors to learn with their peers across the state in a 4-week residential program at two college campus sites. For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact your school counselor or visit the Governor's School website at www.ncgovschool.org.

What school choices are available for my child?

Cumberland County Public Schools

Cumberland County Public Schools is the fifth-largest public school district in North Carolina, serving approximately 50,000 students through 86 schools. Students eligible for admission to Cumberland County Public Schools are assigned to attendance area home schools based on their legal domiciles per state law and Policy 4150: School

	Assignment and Transfers. Per state law, a student's legal "domicile" (permanent, established home) is generally the same as that of the parent or legal guardian, even if the child lives elsewhere. The limited exceptions to this rule are explained in Policy 4150. Parents and guardians may look up the base school associated with their home address (Find My School) here. All families may request a transfer from their base school to another school in the district. For detailed information on the timelines and procedures for requesting a transfer, please consult the CCS Student Assignment webpage. For information about CCS Choice Programs, including specific timelines and procedures for applying to those schools, please visit the CCS Choice Programs webpage. **Charter Schools** Charter schools are public schools approved by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. They are not under the jurisdiction of Cumberland County Public Schools. If you are interested in North Carolina charter schools, visit NC Charter Schools for information, resources, and contacts. **Nonpublic Education and Scholarship Grants** Non-public (private) schools are overseen by the NC Department of Administration. For a list of private schools, visit the NC Private Schools website. **Homeschool** Click here for information on homeschooling in North Carolina. **School Vouchers** Click here for information about school vouchers from the NC State Education Assistance Authority.
What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?	For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding federal and state legal requirements to ensure a free, appropriate public education. • Parent Rights Handbook • Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish) • IDEA Dispute Resolution • Special Education Surrogate Parents • Project Child Find Detailed information about special education programs and services in Cumberland County Public Schools may be

	accessed at the CCS Exceptional Children's Services webpage. Cumberland County Schools complies with Section 504 of the American Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is Civil Rights legislation intended to prohibit discrimination and to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities. Section 504 states, "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely because of his/her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." The following links provide important information regarding Section 504 for assistance, contact the school-based Section 504 Coordinator or the District 504 Coordinator at (910) 678-2496. • Section 504 Notice of Rights • NCDPI Section 504 Resources • Office of Civil Rights • OCR Frequently Asked Questions Parents/guardians of children two years old or younger who may be in need of special education services should contact the Early-In Special Education Preschool Department at 910-484-6761. Parents or guardians of children aged three or older who are not yet eligible to enter kindergarten should call the Pre-Kindergarten Center at 910-483-7370. Parents or guardians of kindergarten through 12th-grade children with questions about disability accommodations or special education services should contact their child's school. CCS Policy 1730: Nondiscrimination based on Disabilities strictly prohibits any discrimination based on disability status. Any students who believe they have been discriminated against because of a disability have the right to file a formal complaint for investigation and response under Policy 1720: Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Complaint Process.
What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	Parents or guardians can contact Cumberland County Public Schools at 910-678-2300. For contact information for each school, visit the CCS District Page, click the image of the "School" at the top right of the webpage, and select the school you want to contact. This link will direct you to the school's website, which provides the main phone numbers, mailing addresses, and a staff directory with email addresses.
What are some resources to support my child's health and well-being?	Cumberland County Public Schools offers the following information and resources to support your child's health and well-being: • Student Wellness Policy (Policy 6140) • NCDHHS Immunizations Resources webpage • CCS Immunizations & Health Assessment webpage

Dental Van

The Dental Van provides an opportunity for all students to receive necessary dental care, with written consent from their parents or guardians. The Dental Van communicates with parents regarding any treatment plan for their child. Call the Office of Health Services at 910-678-2406 for additional information.

Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students is available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS):

- Immunizations
- Health Assessment
- Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting

Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact their children's schools for information about other health and well-being resources that may be available through the school.

Updated 07/16/2026



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