Saying thank you
May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation Week, but every day is a good time to let teachers know you appreciate all that they do. These upcoming annual celebrations can serve as reminders to thank people who work in education:

- Feb. 21-25 is Public Schools Week.
- Feb. 22 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.
- March 4 is Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day.
- March 6-12 is National School Social Work Week.
- April 4 is National School Librarian Day.
- April 4-8 is National Assistant Principals Week.
- April 6 is Paraprofessional Appreciation Day.
- April 17-23 is National Volunteer Week.
- April 27 is Administrative Professionals Day.
- May 1 is School Principals Day.
- May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation Week.
- May 6 is School Lunch Hero Day.
- May 11 is School Nurse Day.
- May 13 is School Communicators Day.
- May 18 is National Speech Pathologist Day.
It's budget season

The proposed fiscal year 2023 budget has three main priorities:

- Invest in our workforce
- Invest in student needs
- Invest in infrastructure

These are always priorities, but given our current climate and circumstances, we must take the necessary steps to provide the compensation our staff so richly deserves, provide the staffing levels and support our growing and diverse student population needs and provide facilities that are maintained, improved and can accommodate our student growth. Scan the QR code to learn more about the fiscal year 2023 budget proposal.

Contact your local and state leaders to let them know you support funding education.

What the budget pays for

Proposed budget FY2023

- Base Budget $761,288,100
- Invest in Workforce $59,628,598
- Invest in Students $21,438,576
- Invest in Infrastructure $11,759,699
- Meeting rising costs of existing services $3,593,317
- SRP Savings -$10,869,990
- Total Expenditures $846,838,300

Revenue $823,011,000

Gap Additional amount needed to meet state/local requirements/expectations, recruit and retain the best talent and serve our students appropriately $-23,827,300

Capital Improvement Plan

Chesterfield County is projecting 3,700 new students by September 2026. Our initial capital improvement plan identifies:

- Five new or rebuilt elementary schools
- Three new or rebuilt middle schools
- One new high school and one high school addition

This includes construction of a new west area middle school and a rebuild of Falling Creek Middle during the 2023-24 fiscal year. We have a running start with the recently approved $130 million Virginia Public School Authority bond offering, and the county is planning a bond referendum in November 2022 to secure additional funding.

Strong starts for Beginning Teachers of the Year

During the 2020-21 school year, about 240 teachers who were new to the profession worked in Chesterfield County Public Schools. The Beginning Teachers of the Year awards recognize their outstanding work and professional contributions:

- The Beginning Teacher of the Year is Jordan Stanford, special education teacher at Manchester Middle.
- The Elementary School Beginning Teacher of the Year is Ari Clayton, second-grade teacher at Davis Elementary.
- The Middle School Beginning Teacher of the Year is Tiphany Taylor, Spanish teacher at Swift Creek Middle.
- The High School Beginning Teacher of the Year is Lavenia Daniels, economics and personal finance teacher at Monacan High.

Learn more about the budget at mychesterfieldschools.com.

You can nominate Game Changers

At the roots of a strong public school division are an exceptional faculty and staff and a committed base of community supporters. To recognize the game-changing work of Chesterfield County Public Schools employees, the school system recognizes Game Changers each month. Game Changers are those who step up to meet the needs of students; offer support and access to resources that assist their colleagues; provide an extra layer of support for families outside of the classroom; and who generally make a positive and sometimes life-changing difference in the lives of students, families and their colleagues. To recognize a Team Chesterfield Game Changer, complete this nomination form: bit.ly/CCPSgc.

Purple Star schools

Hopkins Elementary and Clover Hill High have been recognized as Purple Star Schools for consistently supporting military children and their families. Only 95 schools across Virginia achieved this honor this school year.
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What the budget pays for
Instruction 70.4%
Pupil Transportation 5.6%
Admin/Attendance and Health 3.7%
Operations & Maintenance 9.7%
Technology 2.7%
Debt Service 8%

What the budget pays for

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CCPS Teachers of the Year are phenomenal

Raegen Dinelli of Clover Hill Elementary is the 2022 Teacher of the Year for Chesterfield County Public Schools. Currently an instructional designer and formerly a fifth-grade teacher who has been at Clover Hill since 2006, Dinelli is also the school division’s 2022 Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

“My philosophy of teaching has always been ‘whatever it takes,’” Dinelli said. “I’ve always believed that teachers and students could do anything, and [starting in 2020] we were really put to the test. Now I believe that teachers and students can do virtually anything!”

Clover Hill Elementary colleagues praise Dinelli for researching and employing instructional methods that intrigue and inspire teachers, staff and students. She supports and collaborates with colleagues to transform classroom instruction. Dinelli taught every staff member how to use Canvas, and she helped create every staff member’s homepage for students, parents and other stakeholders to access while everyone was a part of virtual learning. She recorded clear, accessible videos for everyone was a part of virtual learning. She recorded clear, accessible videos for staff to learn how to use the multiple new technologies necessary to teach students in a virtual world.

About 4,400 teachers work in Chesterfield County Public Schools. Each school annually selects a Teacher of the Year. From those outstanding educators, the school system chooses an elementary, middle and high school Teacher of the Year, then from those three honorees the school system selects the overall Teacher of the Year. A gala event to celebrate all Teachers of the Year takes place each year.

2021-22 Teachers of the Year

Elementary schools
- Christina Nolte for Bellwood Elementary
- Angela Finch for Bensley Elementary
- Diana Abell for Beulah Elementary
- Bertha Yoeger for Bon Air Elementary
- Britany Evans for Chalkley Elementary
- Sabrina Tapley for Marguerite Christian Elementary
- Raegen Dinelli for Clover Hill Elementary
- Stephanie Hendricks for Crenshaw Elementary
- Wendy Seger for Crestwood Elementary
- Rebecca Winfree for Curtis Elementary
- Nicole Scruggs for Davis Elementary
- Bridget Manuel for Ecolf Elementary
- Rachel Bringewatt for Enon Elementary
- Jennifer Garcia for Ettrick Elementary
- Ashley Terry for Evergreen Elementary
- Laura Herrera for Falling Creek Elementary
- Kai Chan for Gates Elementary
- Jennifer Ward for Gordon Elementary
- Keith Baldwin for Grange Hall Elementary
- Katherine Gittings for Greenfield Elementary
- Kara Fetsick for Harrowgate Elementary
- Liana Stern for Hening Elementary
- Kerwesa McKay for Jacobs Elementary
- Amy Wolf for Lakeside Elementary
- Christine McCluskey for Old Hundred Elementary
- Jessica Barnes for Providence Elementary
- Angela Richmond for Reams Road Elementary
- Rachel Christiansen for Robious Elementary
- Shannon Clements for Salem Church Elementary
- Allyson Oden for Elizabeth Scott Elementary
- Elizabeth Hunter for Alberta Smith Elementary
- Alyce Burdette for Spring Run Elementary
- Amy Lott for Swift Creek Elementary
- Tristan Chicote for Watkins Elementary
- Scott Dow for Bessie Weaver Elementary
- Laura Pulley for Wells Elementary
- Rebecca Poljac for Winterpock Elementary
- Julie Gersbach for Woolridge Elementary

Middle schools
- Janet Branch for Bailey Bridge Middle
- Todd Gasparrero for Carver Middle
- Kimberly Lambert for Elizabeth Davis Middle
- Brandon Smith for Falling Creek Middle
- Kathy Smith for Manchester Middle
- Mandy Gray for Midlothian Middle
- Julia West for Providence Middle
- Susan Perkins for Robious Middle
- Shannon Hairson for Salem Church Middle
- Jennifer Hampton for Swift Creek Middle
- Jessica Schalow for Tomahawk Creek Middle

High schools
- Rachel Hall for Bird High
- Susan Anderson for Carver College and Career Academy
- Terri Drewry for Chesterfield Detention Home
- Regena Barthelemy for Chesterfield Career and Technical Center @ Courthouse
- Paul Lathrop for Chesterfield Career and Technical Center @ Hull
- Emily Yancey for Clover Hill High
- Nissa Glover for Cosby High
- Tracy Longworth for Thomas Dale High
- Darlene Back for James River High
- Tara Bickford for Manchester High
- Nicole Eshelman for Matoaca High
- Stuart Spangler for Meadowbrook High
- Mary Williams for Midlothian High
- Kristine Vester for Monacan High

Volunteer in Chesterfield schools

Willing hands and hearts are welcome in Chesterfield County schools, where volunteers play a vital role in the academic success of students. It is easy to participate — whether you can help every day, once a week, once a month or once a year. There are many ways to volunteer: reading to students, helping in a school office, selling tickets at a game, speaking at career day or filling another need. Please talk to a school PTA representative or your school’s volunteer coordinator about specific ways to help. Volunteers are asked to complete a confidential electronic registration form that is available on mychesterfieldschools.com.
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Jamie Accashian was an innovative teacher, coach and administrator known for motivating at-risk students and helping them believe in themselves. He helped establish Burger King Academy, which became Community High.

Dr. Jane Baskerville served as a world language instructor, a foreign language department chair, an instructional specialist for foreign languages and later the specialist for English as a Second Language.

Dr. Billy Cannaday served as superintendent 2000-2006. When he began his leadership journey in Chesterfield County Public Schools, fewer than half of the schools were fully accredited. When he left to become state superintendent of public instruction, all Chesterfield County schools were fully accredited.

Dianne Smith served as a teacher, principal and central office leader across 35 years in Chesterfield schools. In retirement, she went on to represent Chesterfield County Public Schools as an elementary school teacher for more than 20 years. Her compassion and high expectations laid the foundations for students’ success in her classroom and beyond.

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Greg Cummings is one of the founders of MEGA Mentors and has provided leadership and inspiration to others resulting in thousands of Chesterfield students meeting with success.

Ralph Floyd retired from military service, then served Chesterfield County as a school bus driver and strongly believed in the mission of feeding the hungry and ending hunger in Chesterfield County.

Betty Hornick prepared thousands of students for college or career during two decades of work as a school counselor, then took on a districtwide leadership role as an instructional specialist for school counseling.

Deloris Jackson was a brilliant educator and positive role model who began her teaching career during segregation. Now retired, she is an avid teacher of Black history and a neighborhood and church historian.

Sue Robertson, a celebrated educator, served Chesterfield County Public Schools as a Latin teacher and department chair for more than 35 years before retiring from Midlothian High.

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Amanda Berneche of Clover Hill High won $13,200 to study photography in remote locations while chasing the northern lights in Iceland.

Brianna Gatch of Clover Hill High won $13,900 to study Japanese pedagogical techniques and observe their influences on concert bands in Hawaii.

Helene Grossman of Gates Elementary won $14,800 to study Iceland.

Paul Lathrop of Chesterfield Career and Technical Center @ Hull won $13,800 to explore the history and current marvels of engineering and manufacturing across the United States.

Remarks

Remarkable educators receive R.E.B. Awards

Adventures in learning await six Chesterfield County teachers who were named 2021 R.E.B. Awards for Teaching Excellence winners and will receive almost $85,000 in professional development grants from the Community Foundation for a greater Richmond and the R.E.B. Foundation. Across the Richmond region, a total of 17 teachers were selected as 2021 honorees.

“The R.E.B. awards make a big difference each year. While rewarding our extraordinary teachers for their exceptional work, the grants also create even more remarkable learning environments in our classrooms,” said Dr. Merv Daugherty, superintendent of Chesterfield County Public Schools. “We are so appreciative of the parents, colleagues and community partners who nominated our teachers.”

The Chesterfield County Public Schools Hall of Fame welcomes first honorees

Congratulations to the first people ever inducted into the Hall of Fame of Chesterfield County Public Schools: (l-r) Betty Hornick, Deloris Jackson (seated), Sue Robertson, Greg Cummings, Ralph Floyd, Dianne Smith, Dr. Billy Cannaday, Louan Stanfield, Jack Winn (seated) and Jamie Accashian. Not pictured: Dr. Jane Baskerville.

Nominate a Hall of Famer

Do you know a CCPS star? You are invited to nominate former employees and volunteers who made a significant difference in Chesterfield County Public Schools. To nominate someone, just fill out the simple online form at bit.ly/CCPSHall. March 31 is the nomination deadline. Questions? Contact the Family and Community Engagement Office at 804-639-8690, ext. 1111.
Let’s stay in touch!
Chesterfield County Public Schools is on the go, sharing successes, information and stories in multiple ways. Here are ways to keep current:

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Exclusively for senior residents
Designed to thank senior residents for their support and encourage them to remain active in Chesterfield schools, the Super Senior Passport is free and provides:

- Discounted fees for Super Senior Passport classes and other adult education classes on a space-available basis (Discounted tuition in a particular class is not guaranteed. For more information, call 804-768-6140.)
- Free admission to school athletic events (except playoffs and tournaments)
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Chesterfield County residents who are 60 or older are invited to apply for a Super Senior Passport:

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Work where you can help children succeed
Try us: You’ll like us! Chesterfield County Public Schools is hiring, and every open position is posted on our website: mychesterfieldschools.com. We’re looking for the best teachers, leaders, bus drivers, technology wizards, maintenance workers and many more top-notch employees. Work where you can help young people succeed, and apply today to join Team Chesterfield.

Connecting with faith leaders
School Board members and the superintendent meet regularly with leaders in the faith community, a strong partner for Chesterfield County Public Schools. The quarterly gatherings include updates about school initiatives and ways to support students, teachers and schools. Leaders of churches, synagogues, mosques and other faith communities who would like to connect with Chesterfield County schools are invited. Email judi_anderson@ccpsnet.net to join the faith leaders mailing list.

How to rent a school
Many school facilities are available for rental, and scheduling is online and automated. For information about how to request the use of a school facility, rental rates and policies, go to mychesterfieldschools.com/community/facilities.

Engaging Egypt
Third graders at Chalkley Elementary researched Egypt and created a museum for other students to tour just before winter break.

Chesterfield Education Foundation: a strong partner
The Chesterfield Education Foundation was founded in 1989 by community and business leaders who recognized that public funds alone could not adequately support the ambitious efforts to advance student achievement in Chesterfield County.

The foundation works closely with school administrators to implement student-centric strategic growth while meeting the ongoing basic needs of schools, classrooms and teachers. An independent nonprofit, the Chesterfield Education Foundation funds innovative educational programs including:
- the county’s first early childhood learning academy
- teacher recognition and enrichment programs through MCD Classroom Innovation grants
- support for mentoring programs
- Bravo! Awards to celebrate outstanding alumni

The Chesterfield Education Foundation is led by professional staff and an active Board of Trustees, many of whom represent the area’s most prominent employers and all of whom have a passionate commitment to public education. The foundation works to build an equitable educational environment in which all of Chesterfield’s 65,000 students are prepared to succeed. Visit cefva.org to learn more about how to get involved and make a difference for the students and teachers of Chesterfield County.
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Chesterfield County Public Schools is growing: more than 63,000 students at last count. We’re an award-winning school system known throughout Virginia and the nation for having high standards and doing what is right for children. A strong public education system benefits everyone in Chesterfield County, and we want all residents to be proud of Chesterfield schools. That’s why this publication is being delivered to every home in the county. This publication is initially funded through federal relief funds to improve reach of communication throughout the school district. A digital version is available on our website, mychesterfieldschools.com, in English and in Spanish.

COVID-19 guidance: continuity of services
Chesterfield County Public Schools seeks feedback on its use of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund. To submit comments or ideas, go to bit.ly/CCPSsesser.

The COVID-19 guidance page on the division website offers helpful resources for families or staff who have questions about what happens when they are test positive for COVID-19 or are identified as a close contact. The COVID-19 guidance page can be found at mychesterfieldschools.com/covid-19-guidance.

High school graduation dates set
Here are graduation dates for the class of 2022; ceremonies are by invitation only:

**May 23 at Virginia Commonwealth University**
- Clover Hill High at 10 a.m.
- Monacan High at 2:30 p.m.
- Midlothian High at 7 p.m.

**May 24 at Virginia Commonwealth University**
- James River High at 10 a.m.
- Manchester High at 2:30 p.m.
- Cosby High at 7 p.m.

**May 25 at Virginia Commonwealth University**
- Meadowbrook High at 10 a.m.
- Bird High at 2:30 p.m.
- Thomas Dale High at 7 p.m.

**May 27 at Virginia State University**
Timed to accommodate Ettrick Elementary arrival and dismissal times:
- Matoaca High at 9 a.m.
- Carver College and Career Academy at 1:30 p.m.

Bus driver update
- Since school began, we’ve added 149 bus drivers to the road as of Feb. 1.
- Many more are in various stages of the hiring process, with more completing training and being assigned routes each week.
- Chesterfield County Public Schools continues to recruit bus drivers, apply at mychesterfieldschools.com/apply-at-ccps/.

Just the facts about CCPS

**Academics**
- 100% of schools accredited
- 92% on-time graduation rate
- 96% daily attendance rate
- 4,540 graduates in the class of 2021; 59% earned advanced diplomas
- $27 million in scholarships for the class of 2021

**Size**
- Based on the number of students, Chesterfield County Public Schools is the largest school system in central Virginia, the fifth-largest school system in Virginia and among the 70 largest school systems in the United States.

**Schools**
- 63,000+ students in 65 schools
- 39 elementary schools (grades K-5)
- 1 prekindergarten
- 12 middle schools (grades 6-8)
- 11 high schools, which include 13 specialty centers (grades 9-12)
- 2 career and technical centers
- 7 National Blue Ribbon Schools: Midlothian High 2019; Cosby High 2015; Winterpock Elementary 2014; Grange Hall Elementary 2009; Robious Elementary 2005; Clover Hill Elementary 2003; and James River High 2000.

**Students and staff members**
- Almost 40% of students are economically disadvantaged, 12.7% have disabilities, and 12.2% are English learners, representing about 100 different languages.
- Student population is 45% White, 26% Black, 19% Hispanic, 5% multiple races, 3% Asian, <1% American Indian and <1% Native Hawaiian.
- 3,445 staff members have master’s degrees, 131 have doctorates, and 100+ are National Board Certified Teachers.

**Operations**
- $703.7 million operating budget for FY 2022 ($69.5 million for instruction; 11.2% for operations and maintenance; 8.1% for debt; 5.5% for transportation; 3.3% for administration, attendance and health; and 2.4% for technology)
- $11,365 cost per student
- 7,494 full-time and part-time positions in operating fund

Economic educator
Central Virginia’s Outstanding Economic Educator for 2021 teaches at Falling Creek Middle. Congratulations to Dr. Eeman Salem, who was honored by the Virginia Council on Economic Education for her innovative and engaging approaches to teaching entrepreneurship, economics or personal finance.

Poets
Two Chesterfield County students are among the 24 poets chosen by Virginia Poet Laureate Luisa A. Igloria and the Poetry Society of Virginia as 2021-22 Virginia Young Poets in the Community. They will create public poetry projects showing what matters most to them in our world today and how poetry is a tool for social engagement. Congratulations to fifth-grader Jaiden J. of Curtis Elementary and eighth-grader Abigail A. of Tomahawk Creek Middle.
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Pink Flamingo Week provided 1,000 winter coats

The first-ever Pink Flamingo Week raised more than $15,000 to provide 1,000 coats to Chesterfield students. Coats were distributed in December at 26 elementary schools across the county. Pink Flamingo Week, held Oct. 9-16, was sponsored by the Chesterfield Education Foundation, in support of and in partnership with Chesterfield County Public Schools to ensure every Chesterfield student who needed a winter coat was able to get one.

Nationally distinguished

Crestwood Elementary School was selected as a National ESEA Distinguished School. Each year, only two schools per state receive this prestigious designation. Superintendent Merv Daugherty said, “Crestwood Elementary exemplifies what we mean when we say ‘all means all.’ Public education is for all students, and teachers throughout our school system work hard to make sure every student succeeds.”

Crestwood is the eighth Chesterfield County elementary school to achieve this national recognition, which previously was named the National Title I Distinguished School Award: Ettrick Elementary won in 2018, Bensley Elementary in 2016 and 2002, Elizabeth Scott Elementary in 2014, Bellwood Elementary in 2011, Beulah Elementary in 2010, Harrowgate Elementary in 2006, and Chalkley Elementary in 2005.

Winter art

Art can brighten the grayest winter. Here are spirit-lifting works by Gordon Elementary students Ainsley and Sally, taught by Ann Schumm, and Elizabeth Scott Elementary student Jason, taught by Heather Levet.

Helping others

To help a family in need of a doghouse, the Boys to Men Mentoring Network of Virginia at Academy 360 teamed with community policing officers of the Chesterfield County Police Department, area businesses and carpentry and veterinary students at the Chesterfield Career and Technical Centers. Carpenter students framed the doghouse, then Academy 360 students completed it with help from Chesterfield police officers. On the day the doghouse was delivered, the family was further surprised when Buck arrived home looking his best after being bathed and groomed by veterinary students.

Summer and online opportunities

This summer, Chesterfield County Public Schools will offer extensive learning opportunities for students, in person and online. Details will be shared soon on mychesterfieldschools.com. One part of summer learning is provided by CCPSOnline, which for years has offered a comprehensive catalog of high school credit classes. CCPSOnline registration is open now through April 29 for the 2022-23 school year and summer 2022.
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Each year, Chesterfield County Public Schools recognizes outstanding school counselors who go above and beyond in order to maximize student success and promote access and opportunity for all students. Congratulations to these top school counselor leaders who are all in for all students:

- Outstanding Elementary School Counselor of the Year: Joshua Reed at Chalkley Elementary
- Outstanding Middle School Counselor of the Year: Kelly DePew at Providence Middle
- Outstanding High School Counselor of the Year: Jacquelyn Thrower at Monacan High
- Outstanding First Year Counselor of the Year: Jill Perlmutter at Matoaca and Manchester high schools

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Laura Early, coordinator of psychological services for Chesterfield County Public Schools, was named Virginia School Psychologist of the Year during the spring conference of the Virginia Academy of School Psychologists, which celebrated her work in supporting and advocating for her staff and her emphasis on the hard discussions about how school psychologists must be social justice change agents.

Megan Aguilar, who teaches computer art at Manchester Middle, and William Shuman, who teaches government and history at Cosby High, were selected for the Virginia Declaration of Learning program. Only 30 teachers from across Virginia were selected for the Virginia Declaration of Learning program in Arabic.

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For more information, call 804-748-1897 or email ccpsschoolboard@ccpsnet.net.

What do you think?
Will you share your thoughts about this issue of CCPS on the Go? You can fill out this five-question survey and mail it to Chesterfield County Public Schools, Creative and Media Services Department, P.O. Box 10, Chesterfield, VA 23832 or you can fill out the online version at bit.ly/OntheGosurvey.

What did you learn from CCPS on the Go?
How do you suggest improving this publication?

How would you rate this publication overall?
Excellent □  Fair □
Good □  Poor □
Average □

Do you have children currently attending Chesterfield County Public Schools?
Yes □  No □

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□ Delivered to my home by U.S. Postal Service
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