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2023 **State of Schools**



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About Forsyth County Schools

The 2023-24 State of the Schools is produced by the Forsyth County Schools' Communications and Community Engagement Department.

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Mail: 1120 Dahlonega Highway, Cumming, Georgia 30040. Telephone: 770-887-2461 Website: www.forsyth.k12.ga.us

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Stephanie Woody, Publisher Forsyth County News

Once again, the Forsyth County News is honored to partner with Forsyth County Schools to publish the system's annual State of Schools magazine.

Our youth are one of the most valuable resources we have in this community, and it is a privilege to us that the school system has put its trust in us to deliver this content to them.

A good education is one of the best gifts that a child can receive and our hope is that this magazine helps to start the school year off on the right track

with all the information needed.

As residents of Forsyth County, it is evident daily the impact teachers and school leaders have in our community.

Our local system is at the forefront of leading our county forward and preparing our workforce for the future.

Without the level of educational services that our community is accustomed to, Forsyth County wouldn't have the quality of life that our community is known for.

Please take a look inside the 2023-24 State of Schools magazine and see some of what the system has going on.

Inside these pages you will find information ranging from programs offered, to leaders and administration, to the annual school calendar and much more.

As always, our hope is that the entire system, bus drivers, support staff, teachers, administrators and students have a great

We look forward to sharing with the community the great things that are sure to happen this school year and we thank you all for allowing us to be a small part.

> Sincerely, Stephanie Woody Publisher

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year and the 150th anniversary of Forsyth **County Schools!**

Our school district's history started high schools? in 1873 when "old field schools," log buildings with dirt floors built in cleared fields, were consolidated into one public district. At that time, there were 1,456 total students in the FCS.

To put this number into perspective, the entire school district then would now fit into our largest middle school: Riverwatch. Today, FCS serves 54,100+ **students.** To put this number into perspective, the entire school district now would fit into Dodger Stadium (but not Truist Park, which has a much smaller capacity).

For 2023-24, we are home to 42 schools: 23 elementary, 11 middle, 7 high, and 1 college and career-high school, and 8 support facilities. We are not opening a new school this year, but next August we will open a new, larger Midway Elementary on property adjacent to Denmark High

Since the early 1900s, the consolidation of community schools occurred as the

Forsyth County changed from strictly agrarian to more diversified. Can you guess our oldest elementary, middle, and

Big Creek Elementary is the oldest of our elementary schools, built in 1938. The school has been expanded and renovated many times, but still maintains the original auditorium. Big Creek is located along one of our busiest roads: 141. In fact, the school's time capsule from many years ago is said to buried under 141.

Otwell was our first middle school. Named after a then-community leader, the Otwell family continues to be a strong supporter of our school district. The original Otwell Middle School is now part of the campus of Forsyth Central High. We opened a new, larger replacement building for Otwell in 2001.

Forsyth Central is our county's oldest **high school.** Opened in 1955, it replaced the original Cumming High School, which is in downtown Cumming and currently used for a variety of purposes. Forsyth Central has been expanded and renovated many times, but still maintains the original "dome" gym in the middle of campus.

In the early 1900s, 16 of our schools were African American/Black schools. New Hope was one of the largest schools at that time.

Last school year we opened our 23rd elementary school, New Hope **Elementary,** honoring this former school. In Forsyth County, we honor our past by naming many of our new schools after former schools, communities, local leaders, and school leaders.

One of the many things that has made FCS a safe, connected, and thriving community for all is that even with our growth, we have maintained a small-town feel built on strong relationships.

I look forward to meeting and talking with many of you during my visits to schools and events throughout the year. Thank you for your commitment to public

Together we can keep Forsyth County Schools moving forward to provide an unparalleled education for all to succeed now and into the next 150 years!

Dr. Jeff Bearden Forsyth County Schools Superintendent The Superintendent's Cabinet is responsible for assisting the superintendent in addressing the school board's major system priorities. The cabinet provides input to the superintendent on major operational, programmatic, and fiscal issues that affect the school system.

To contact a Cabinet member, call 770.887.2461 or email as listed below:

Jeff Bearden

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Chief Technology and Information Officer mevans@forsyth.k12.ga.us

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Sarah Von Esh

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Matt Wark

Chief Facilities Officer mwark@forsyth.k12.ga.us

Mitch Young

Deputy Superintendent of Schools myoung@forsyth.k12.ga.us



Photo: (L-R) Vice Chair Lindsey Adams (District 2), Chair Darla Light (District 4), Superintendent Jeff Bearden, Tom Cleveland (District 4), Wes McCall (District 1), and Mike Valdes (District 5)

The Forsyth County Board of Education consists of five members who are elected by district to staggered, four-year terms. The primary role of the board is the legislation of the school system policies, which are executed under the direction of the school superintendent.

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) named Forsyth County as the winner of the 2019 Governance Team of the Year Award. This prestigious award is presented annually to one Georgia public school district's board of education and superintendent who have achieved all-around success in their district. This

recognition is deeply rooted in the components of the Georgia Vision Project's research-based recommendations for Georgia's public schools. These finalists were vetted through a stringent application process and a visit by an impartial review team to vet the information in the application. The winner was chosen by a panel of national experts who perform various leadership roles in the field of public education.

Meetings of the board are held monthly, with meeting dates, agendas and minutes available for review at **forsyth.k12.ga.us/boe**. Video broadcasts of the meetings are

available live and archived at youtube.com/ ForsythCountySchools.

Communicate with your Board of Education at the email addresses listed at **www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/boe** or by mail to Board of Education, Forsyth County Schools, 1120 Dahlonega Highway, Cumming, GA 30040.

Highlights of Board of Education work sessions and regular meetings are communicated to staff, parents/guardians, and the public in Board Briefs, which is sent by email monthly. To subscribe visit forsyth.k12.ga.us/enewsletters.

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Food and Nutrition Services

USDA provides assistance (free or reduced) with meals for the 2023-24 school year for families that qualify. Please visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/freereduced** for more information. If you or your organization would like to donate funds to feed students in need, visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/diningwithdignity**

Food and Nutrition Services offers kid tested, great tasting, nutritional meals for breakfast and lunch.

Our meals offer students a variety of five different meal components which include:

- Protein rich entrees;
- 100% whole grain rich foods;
- Fruit or juice, often Georgia grown;
- A wide variety of vegetables;
- 1% and skim milk or fat-free flavored milk.

A full lunch consists of:

- One entrée with a grain component;
- Up to three fruit or vegetable servings in elementary and middle schools, and four in high school;
- Milk.

Students may choose a lighter meal consisting of any three components as long as one component is a fruit or a vegetable side. We often offer 100% juice and cups are always available for water. Bottled water, other juice options and USDA approved smart snacks are also available for purchase.

Because your child's health is important to us, we work with students and their families who have food allergies or other medical concerns to provide them a safe and nutritious meal. Contact your school's cafeteria manager about any food related medical concerns your child may have. The manager, school nurse and our on-staff registered dietitian will work as a team to be sure your child's nutritional needs are addressed.

Menus are available on school websites and FCS uses **www.mealviewer.com** and the MealViewer mobile app, which allows families to view menus, set allergen alerts and view nutrition calculators. Meal pre -payments can be made at **mypaymentsplus.com.**

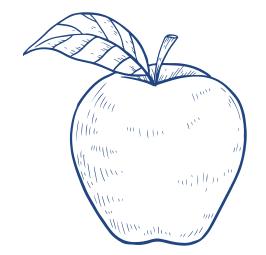
2023-24 Daily Meal Prices

LUNCH

Elementary \$3.00 Middle \$3.10 High \$3.10 High School Grill \$3.10 Reduced (all grade levels) TBD

BREAKFAST

Elementary \$1.70 Middle \$1.80 High \$1.90 Reduced (all grade levels) TBD



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Protecting Your Child's Data

The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), a government agency in the US, is tasked with safeguarding our online systems and infrastructure. They have recognized K-12 schools as an important part of our country's critical infrastructure. Forsyth County Schools (FCS) has taken this responsibility seriously and has become a leading example in K-12 cybersecurity.

Our commitment begins with a rigorous digital resource approval process, where every potential software addition undergoes thorough evaluation. We carefully vet all vendor privacy policies, verifying that they align with our stringent standards and offer robust protection for student data.

To establish clear privacy guidelines, FCS procedures require all vendors to sign our data sharing Terms of Service. This agreement mandates that student data remains protected throughout its lifecycle and governs how it can be used and shared. By holding vendors accountable, we create a strong foundation for safeguarding student privacy.





To enhance security, we have implemented behavior and device monitoring tools, as well as multi-factor authentication (MFA), as a mandatory requirement for all staff members. This additional layer of protection ensures that only authorized individuals have access to sensitive data, reducing the risk of unauthorized access.

Awareness and education are crucial in maintaining data security. We regularly conduct phishing campaigns to train our staff to recognize and report suspicious emails. By simulating real-world scenarios, we empower our staff to be vigilant and proactive in identifying potential security threats.

However policies and technology are not enough. To bridge the gap, FCS has a dedicated cybersecurity team that monitors and responds to cyberthreats. Using specialized tools, they tackle active and emerging risks, while also suggesting ways to enhance system and data protection.

FCS also utilizes a Data Loss Prevention system to continuously monitor and prevent the unintended transmission of sensitive data from the district. This technology requires sensitive information to be sent via encrypted means, ensuring its confidentiality and integrity.

At FCS, we are unwavering in our commitment to protecting student information, ensuring that students can focus on their education with the confidence that their personal information remains safe and protected.

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As the largest employer in Forsyth County, Forsyth County Schools employs the best of the best! Annually, we recognize our employees at the Celebration of Excellence and at monthly meetings of the Board of Education.

Teachers make up the majority of our staffing and are recognized through the Teacher of the Year program. New Hope Elementary's Morgan O'Leary is the 2023 FCS Teacher of the Year. As a first-grade teacher, Ms. O'Leary joined the FCS family in 2015.



Other classifications of employees are recognized through our Employee of the Month program. 2022-23 winners include:

NOVEMBER:

Support Personnel

Pam Gunn, Student Information Support Specialist

DECEMBER: Service Employees

Marco Ramirez, Shiloh Point ES Head custodian

IANUARY:

Paraprofessionals

Laurie Tyra, South Forsyth HS

FEBRUARY:

Leadership Employees

Polly Tennies, Chestatee ES Principal

MARCH:

School Food and Nutrition Employees

Tammy Mathis, Coal Mountain ES Food Service Manager

APRIL:

Student Support Services Employees

Peggie Cole, School Psychologist

MAY:

Transportation Employees Marjorie Walker, Bus Driver

2023 school-level Teachers of the year include:

Big Creek Elementary

Wendi Guthrie

Brandywine Elementary

Leslie Marulanda

Brookwood Elementary

Donna Feuerbach

Chattahoochee Elementary

Molly Burns

Chestatee Elementary

Lori Holbrooks

Coal Mountain Elementary

Ashley Yarber

Cumming Elementary

Zo Sanchez

Daves Creek Elementary

Caitlin Odess

Haw Creek Elementary

April Wylie

Johns Creek Elementary

Judy Camp

Kelly Mill Elementary

Jamie DeVito

Mashburn Elementary

Sylvia Davis

Matt Elementary

Stevie Segraves

Midway Elementary

Angela Vallier

New Hope Elementary

Morgan O'Leary

Poole's Mill Elementary

Abby Wagner

Sawnee Elementary

Vicki Baker

Settles Bridge Elementary

Tara Stewart

Sharon Elementary

Jeni Pestorius

Shiloh Point Elementary

Allison Bronk

Silver City Elementary

Isaac Padilla

Vickery Creek Elementary

Whitlow Elementary

Rebecca Bronson

DeSana Middle

Ashley Martin

Tara McClelland

Hendricks Middle

Sara Carder

Lakeside Middle **Kelly Morton**

Liberty Middle

Jennifer Kelley

Little Mill Middle

Kari Shepherd

North Forsyth Middle

Otwell Middle

Barry Bruce

Erica Gaines

Piney Grove Middle

Cari Shelton

Riverwatch Middle **Hunter McGee**

South Forsyth Middle

Max Marshall

Vickery Creek Middle

Gretchen Alain

Alliance Academy

Jessica Demerly

Denmark High **Suzanne Bertz**

East Forsyth High

Michele Yeager

Forsyth Central High **Bethany Demarest**

Lambert High **Stephen Pate**

North Forsyth High

Jamie Summerour

South Forsyth High

Steffi Legall-Riddle

West Forsyth High

Kyle Hill

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Learning Management System implemented in all schools for 2023-24

Forsyth County Schools (FCS) has used a Learning Management System (LMS) to help facilitate learning in both the face-to-face and online environment for 20 years.

With the start of the 2023-24 school year, Canvas will be fully implemented in all schools for daily use.

Canvas is widely used throughout the U.S. in both the K12 and higher education markets. Similar to the previous LMS itslearning, students will access Canvas on their ClassLink dashboard to access courses, instructional materials, assignments, and important dates.

Student accounts are currently active and observer (parent/guardian) accounts may be created. Please visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/canyas** for more information.



Chromebooks still available

Attention, parents and guardians!

We are thrilled to inform you that we still have a limited number of ECF Chromebooks available for your students.

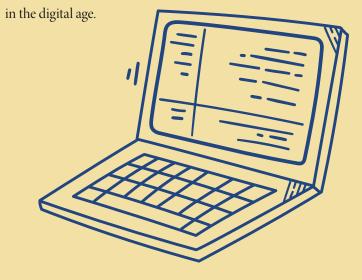
In these ever-evolving times of online learning and digital education, having a reliable device for your child is of utmost importance. Whether for completing homework, studying, writing papers, or participating in online learning days, students need a device to learn and connect to the internet.

Our ECF Chromebooks were part of the US Government's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) program to provide connectivity and devices for online learning at home. If your child is still in need of a Chromebook, we encourage you to reach out to your school's Ed Tech Coach (known prior as an ITS) at your earliest convenience.

Our dedicated team is ready to assist you in obtaining one of these invaluable devices. Together, we can ensure children stay connected, engaged, and empowered in their educational pursuits.

Don't miss this chance to equip your student with the

necessary tools for success. Act now and secure an ECF Chromebook for your child. Let's continue to foster a love for learning and empower our students to thrive





August 2022 Lesley Zarzana - Pinecrest Acadamy

September 2022 Brandy Pittman - Riverwatch Middle School

October 2022 Dyamon Manning - Whitlow Elementary School

November 2022 Nicole Rickert - Whitlow Elementary School

December 2022 **Kristen Sheppard** - Coal Mountain

January 2023 Julia Barrett - Hendricks Middle School

February 2023 Leigh Lisiewski - New Hope Elementary

March 2023 Kristy Harrell - Kelly Mill Elementary

April 2023 - Dan Grass - Forsyth Central High School

May 2023- Elizabeth Schwenk - Sharon Elemantary

June 2023 - TBD

an outstanding job.



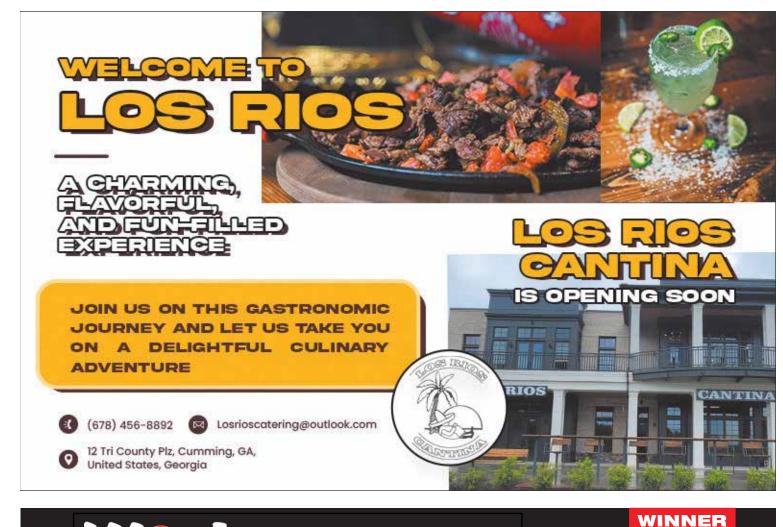
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See Something, Say Something (P3 Campus)





Education Special Department is devoted to providing meaningful professional development to staff to ensure the highest quality instruction. This year we have connected this goal with our IDEAS work, which has provided a streamlined experience for our educators. We offer professional development in the areas of Intervention, Data, Eligibility, Accessibility, and Self-Advocacy.

IDEAS is the Special Education
Department's initiative aimed to promote
awareness, understanding and fidelity of
implementation regarding the areas that ensure the SPECIAL in
Special Education. These areas of emphasis include Intervention,
Data, Eligibility, Accessibility, and Self-Advocacy

The Intervention team developed resources for teachers to determine appropriate intervention based on skill areas and collaborated with Teaching and Learning to provide a streamlined learner experience. We continued our work surrounding literacy interventions.

The Data Team spent this year providing resources for progress monitoring and then creating a comprehensive Professional Learning Plan for the 2023-2024 school year, which focuses on three areas: writing present levels in the IEP, creating goals related to the present levels, and effective progress monitoring.

The Eligibility group developed resources for each domain of

the eligibility report and professional learning will be delivered regarding understanding each eligibility area and how that may impact students in the classroom.

The Accessibility group focused on building classroom teacher's capacity in ensuring their classrooms are accessible. Some of the topics shared were class schedules, using visuals during instruction, emotional regulation strategies, and adaptive books. During 2023-24 school year, we have planned professional learning regarding accessibility and assistive technology use.

The Self-Advocacy Team focused on the collaboration between Special Education and Guidance Counseling. Special Education Teachers and Counselors will participate in professional learning during the 23-24 school year, focusing on career assessment and exploration, Self-Advocacy and Transition/Graduation Planning.

Forsyth County is leading the way in multidisciplinary conversations to increase self-advocacy and transition planning in order to optimize post-secondary outcomes.

Our department is offering a professional learning cohort that incorporates the work of our IDEAS initiative and includes themes around classroom engagement and student learning needs. The goal of our academy is to create connection, increase teacher k n o w l e d g e, and teacher retention.

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office and Forsyth County Schools work together to provide P3 Campus Reporting, which provides an avenue for all members of the community to submit anonymous tips about illegal activities such as unsolved cases, vandalism, theft, the sale and distribution of drugs, possession of weapons or information about crimes that are being planned on their schools' campuses.

Students are encouraged to report information about dangerous or harmful situations to the principal, an assistant principal, a teacher, or another trusted adult.

Anonymous TIPS can also be reported to the Forsyth County Schools P3 Campus Anonymous Reporting in one of three ways.

1. Download the App





2. ANONYMOUS Web tip at https://www.p3campus.com

3. Call the ANONYMOUS tip line at 770-888-3466, Ext. 1 or 3.

Anonymous reports can also be made by calling the State of Georgia School Safety Hotline Number, 1-877-SAY-STOP (1-877-729-7867).

Callers will not be asked to reveal their identity.



To learn more about special education visit forsyth.k12.ga.us/specialed

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High School Principals (L-R): Kim Oliver (Denmark), Amanda Thrower (Lambert), Pam Bibik (South Forsyth), Drew Hayes (ACE), Karl Mercer (Alliance), Kacey Martin (East Forsyth), Aaron Archambeau (West Forsyth), Josh Lowe (Forsyth Central), and Bob Carnaroli (North Forsyth)

Middle School Principals (L-R): Tameka Osabutey-Aguedje (Piney Grove), Carrie MacAllaster (Riverwatch), Precilla Saint-Jean (Otwell), Cheryl Riddle (Hendricks), Megan Thompson (Lakeside), Connie Mc-Crary (Little Mill), Keith Sargent (DeSana), Dawn Hudson (Liberty), Matt Woodley (North Forsyth), Molly Bradley (South Forsyth), and Scott Feldkamp (Vickery Creek)

Elementary School Principals (L-R): Ashley Johnessee (Haw Creek), Kelly Fuchs (Coal Mountain), Laura Webb (New Hope), Alyssa Degliumberto (Johns Creek), Courtney McKinney (Big Creek), Rachel Moity (Brookwood), Polly Tennies (Chestatee), Daphne Rogers (Midway), Brian Nelson (Sharon), Steve Miller (Mashburn), Ben Jones (Shiloh Point), Kristan Riedinger (Vickery Creek), Amber Lamb (Settles Bridge), Kimberly Davis (Sawnee), Dawn Bush (Whitlow), Eric Ashton (Daves Creek), Jennifer Williams (Chattahoochee), Kristen Glass (Poole's Mill), June Tribble (Matt), Jordan Livermore (Cumming), Daisy Tremps (Brandywine), and Mike Sloop (Silver City) Not photographed: Tracey Smith (Kelly Mill)

Partners in Education (PIE) work with all Forsyth County schools and district departments to provide generous funding, thousands of volunteer hours, and countless inkind services and donations to improve student achievement in all subject areas, enrich students' life experiences, help grow career opportunities, and boost educator support and morale.

These small businesses, corporations, non-profits, and individuals help provide invaluable resources to our students, teachers, and staff each year. If you would like to get involved as a PIE visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/pie**.

Another area of PIE is employee discounts. If you would like to offer an exclusive benefit to FCS staff, visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/eddiscounts.**



The Forsyth County Fire Department was awarded with the 2023 Don Hendricks Partnership Award.

Congratulations and thank you to our 2023 PIE Award Winners!

Don Hendricks Award

Forsyth County Fire Department

Volunteer of the Year **Dr. Saad Bhamla**

Mentor of the Year Corey Milford

Friend of the School

All for Lunch

Friend of the School **Burlington**

Program of the Year- Silver **Altrusa**

Program of the Year- Gold **RBM of Alpharetta**

Program of the Year- Gold **Vulcan Materials**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Developing Leaders in FCS

Forsyth County Schools provides three programs for aspiring leaders and newly named administrators to learn and grow:

- The Class A Leadership: This program is designed to bring out the leadership potential in classified employees working in transportation, food and nutrition, facilities, and communications as well as those in support staff roles, such as secretaries, clerks, paraprofessionals, custodians, and administrative assistants.
- The LEAD Academy: Formerly called The Aspiring Leaders Program, this opportunity is designed to help teachers, coordinators, and specialists

in various certified roles in schools and the district office explore and develop their leadership skills and abilities.

• Aspiring Principals: This opportunity is designed for experienced assistant principals in our schools to prepare for the challenges of leading in the role of a principal. Successful participation in this program is a prerequisite for becoming a FCS principal.

Additionally, FCS' Leadership Development Department also provides the New Administrator Onboarding (NAO), which includes district coaching, mentoring, and cohort-based learning opportunities for each of our newly named principals and assistant principals during their first year of service.

As we continue to enhance the professional growth of our leaders, plans are being developed to expand NAO opportunities beyond the first year of service as administrators.

Additionally, programs are being researched and designed to provide onboarding and induction experiences for those leaders moving from the school setting to roles in the district office.

For more information on leadership development visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/ leadership**

Activities and Athletics Passes

Forsyth County Schools offers three passes for Forsyth County residents: Senior/FCS retiree, substitute, and veteran.

These passes include half-price admission for one to FCS home athletic events, musicals, plays, band concerts, and other special school-sponsored activities.

Half-price admission does not extend to play-off games, graduation, PTO/A sponsored events and events produced by The FoCAL Center. With the exception of the substitute passes, passes are reusable each year.

Passes are issued at the Forsyth County Board of Education/Professional Development Center at 1120 Dahlonega Highway, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Driver's License and/or verification of military service are required. For more information visit forsyth.k12.ga.us/pass.









Since 2014, FCS has signed at least eight REACH scholars annually. The 2022-23 REACH scholars are: Jonathan Ayala, Juliette Campos-Bautista, Elizabeth Martinez Angeles, Amarie Orean, Maleigha Robinson, Yanelizeth Rojas-Nemorio, Ana Rubio Hernandez, Sophia Stargel, and Alyssa Witham. For more information visit forsyth.k12.ga.us/reach



REACH Georgia is the State of Georgia's mentorship and college scholarship program, launched in 2012 as a key component of the state's Complete College Georgia Initiative. REACH (Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen) is Georgia's mission to ensure Georgia's academically promising students have the academic, social, and financial support needed to graduate from high school, access college, and achieve postsecondary success. Currently, in all 180 school systems throughout the state REACH

serves more than 3,000 students throughout Georgia. The program is partially funded by the State, and partially funded by local sponsors. Thank you to the Tommy and Chantal Bagwell Family Foundation, Browns Bridge Church, Jeremy Echuck and the Knight Family!

For more information visit forsyth.k12.ga.us/reach.



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Focus on FoCAL

Built with the support of Forsyth County voters in the 2018 bond referendum, The FoCAL Center is a two story, 81,006 square foot facility that includes a main stage theatre (seating for 1813 guests), orchestra pit, a black box theatre with four different seating configurations, a versatile rehearsal/banquet hall space, a catering kitchen, and an outdoor space.

The facility was designed to support the fine arts programming of Forsyth County's 42 schools and the local community. Since opening in December 2021, the FoCAL Center has hosted many Forsyth County schools for their fine arts programs including band and choir concerts, competition events, theatre productions, and fine arts showcases. This multifaceted facility also hosts graduations, 5th and 8th grade promotion ceremonies, dances, and proms. Various community and civic organizations benefit from the FoCAL Center's space as they host meetings, scholarship awards ceremonies, and much more.

Anchored in the belief that the FoCAL Center should provide engaging and inclusive programming for our schools and community, the FoCAL Center sponsors educational programming endeavors such as cultural heritage month exhibits, arts integration professional learning, elementary field trips, and for the 2023-24 school year, the expansion of our public art shows.

Our special needs musical program, the Penguin Project,

has been a phenomenal success and an annual tradition at the FoCAL Center. Penguin Project productions are junior (abbreviated) musicals cast by actors, or as we call them "artists", with special needs. They are paired with typical peers/mentors during all rehearsals and performances. We are thrilled for the next Penguin Project production Finding Nemo Jr., coming January 2024.

In addition to providing a plethora of exciting, educational programs, the FoCAL Center is focused on the goals to provide music and theatre entertainment to the community and to showcase and celebrate local talent.

To meet these goals, the FoCAL Center has launched their **2023-24 theatre season** with an array of exciting productions for the entire community to enjoy. In addition, the FoCAL Center will be hosting their Holiday Cabaret December 15-17 to ring in the holiday season.



FORSYTH COUNTY ARTS AND LEARNING CENTER

2023-24 SEASON

AUGUST 17-20 & 24-27, 2023

FoCAL & Bellissimo Main Stage Production August 17-19 & 24-26 at 7:30 pm August 20 & 27 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$30 Adult, \$25 Student



OCTOBER 19-22 & 26-29, 2023

FoCAL & Bellissimo Black Box Production October 19-21 & 26-28 at 7:30 pm October 22 & 29 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$20 Adult, \$15 Student



DECEMBER 2-3 & 9-10, 2023

FoCAL & Sawnee Ballet Theatre Main Stage Production December 2 & 9 at 7:30 pm December 3 & 10 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$30 Adult, \$25 Student



FEB 22-25 & FEB 29-MARCH 3, 2024

FoCAL & Bellissimo Main Stage Production February 22-24 & February 29 - March 2 at 7:30 pm February 25 & March 3 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$30 Adult, \$25 Student



APRIL 18-21 & 25-28, 2024

FoCAL & Bellissimo Black Box Production April 18-20 & 25-27 at 7:30 pm April 21 & 28 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$20 Adult, \$15 Student

SEASON ADD-ON



JANUARY 18-21, 2024

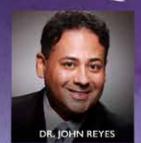
Penguin Project FoCAL Production January 18-20 at 7:30 pm January 21 at 2:00 pm Tickets: \$15 Adult, \$10 Student



Visit www.TheFoCALCenter.com for more information about ticketing, programming, rental, and sponsorship opportunities with the FoCAL Center.

















































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"Me focus on personal, compassionate care"

Congratulations and best wishes to our 22-23 retirees!

Shannon Anderson-Rush

Penni Arner

Alice Arnold

Amy Atkins

Larry Bagwell

Socorro Bedolla

Kimberly Bennett

Julie Bentley

Steven Bohn

Brandee Boothe

Janice Bradley

Elaine Caine

Judy Camp

Lynne Castleberry

Robin Castleberry

Mary Cauller

Frederick Chang

Tanya Cheeves

Marcy Clark

Suzanne Clark

Erika Comella

Christopher Cook

Deanne Cox

Cynthia Cox

Lisa Crosby

Gary Davison

Gina Deal

Charlotte Dietrich

Sandy Dupee

Kim Eades

Beth Ehrhart

Kathy Evans

•

Patricia Fairley

Elizabeth Ferree

Donna Fitzgerald

Carol Fort

Gretchen Franklin

Michael Frost

Cheryle Gelfand

Tamyra Glasgow

Patricia Gober

Brenda Hamilton

Chris Highland

Ricky Howard

Jeff Hunt

Joan Imand

Ginger Jackson

Kathleen Jacobson

Rhonda Kennedy

Cathi Kruse

Jennifer Kumnick

Steve Langston

Carol Larkin

David Light

Kim Lochbaum

April Lowe

Rich Lowe

Susan Madore

John Major

Cindy Martin

Sandra Martinaitis

Doreen Mastlev

Cindy McCormick

Sallie McHugh

Carrie McKevitt

Carolyn McKinzie

Stacey Mitchell

Tim Monroe

Brian Moon

Michael Mooney

Tracy Mooney

Susan Norce

Danny Orr

Kristina Parkhurst

Donna Price

Cathy Prince

Chris Pruitt

Janet Reece

Rock Reed

Peggy Richards

Gail Richardson

Libby Romig

Essie Rous

Jodie Roush

Susan Ryke

Cindy Salloum

Elizabeth Schwenk

Susan Sciorrotta

Mary Sell

Bill Singleton

Nancy Skidmore

Marsha Skinner

LaDonna Szatkowski

Jill Thomas

Laurie Tuttle

Claire Upchurch

Elizabeth Warstadt

Laura Wilson

Linda Young





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FORSYTH COUNTY SCHOOLS

2023-24 Student Calendar Key Dates

Student Holidays/Breaks (No School)

Nov 20-24 Thank Dec 20 Stude Dec 21-29 Winte Jan 1-2 Winte Jan 3 Stude Jan 15 Stude Feb 16-19 Stude Feb 20 Stude Mar 15 Stude	reak nt Holiday (Prof. Dev.) segiving Break nt Holiday (Prof. Dev.) r Break r Break nt Holiday (Prof. Dev.) nt/Staff Holiday nt/Staff Holiday nt Holiday (Prof. Dev.) nt Holiday (Prof. Dev.) g Break
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Student Early Release Days*

Sep 1	K-12 (Prof. Dev.)
Dec 15-18	9-12 (Exams)
Dec 19	K-12 (End of the Semester)
Mar 14	K-12 (Parent Conf.)
May 21-22	9-12 (Exams)
May 23	K-12 (Last Day of School)

Teacher Work Days (No School for Students)

Jul 26-31 Jul 31 Aug 1-2 Aug 1 Oct 20 Dec 20 Jan 3 Feb 20 Mar 15 May 24	Preplanning Open House (MS) Preplanning Open House (ES) Professional Development Post Planning
	Post Planning

Aug 3

Oct 19

*School hours and early release times can be found at forsyth.k12.ga.us/time

First Day of School

K-8 Online Learning Day/Parent

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FC Education Foundation



The Forsyth County Education Foundation fosters innovation for increased student achievement by unifying resources, not ordinarily provided by Forsyth County Schools' operating budget. The Foundation is led by community, business, and parent/guardian volunteers, in partnership with FCS. Our work includes:

School and Teacher Grants

Using funds raised by the annual spring Duck Dive for Education duck adoptions and sponsors, the Foundation has presented close to \$500,000 in grants, impacting 108,500+ students. Examples of school grants include STEM/

STEAM, literary, fine arts, and student support services. Grants are presented each fall during #FoundationFriYAY! Sponsorships range from \$250 to \$10,000. Additionally, Mark Heard Fuel Company provides Fueling the Future! First Year Teacher Grants at the start of each new school year. Teacher grants start at a minimum of \$500.

Student Scholarships

The Foundation is honored to be the home for several student scholarships. Scholarships are a wonderful way to honor a family or loved one's legacy. The Foundation coordinates the application and marketing, and if you so choose, the selection and presentation. Scholarships start at minimum of \$1,000.

Staff Scholarships

As the largest employer in Forsyth County, there are a variety of ways to support the employees of Forsyth County Schools. Proceeds from the annual fall Dr. Jim and Peggie Morrow

iChallenge participants and sponsors support paraprofessionals pursuing teaching degrees, and teachers pursuing counselor degrees. Staff scholarships allow Forsyth County Schools to grow their own and support nationwide teaching shortage. Sponsorships range from \$250 to \$7,500.

Families in Need

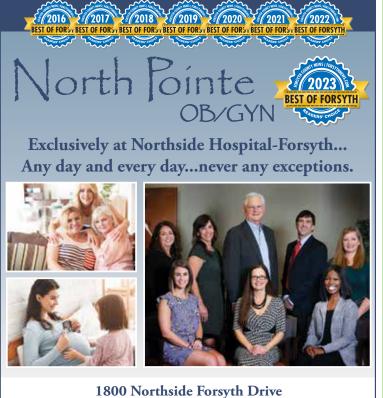
Forsyth County Schools annually experiences an increase in the number of families who are facing economic challenges. To ensure that all student receive a hot breakfast and lunch, the Foundation provides the Dining with Dignity program. Donations from \$20 and up are accepted. Additionally, one time donations are also accepted to support a variety of essential needs for students.

Sponsorships are tax deductible and stay in Forsyth County, with no funding supporting administrative costs. To become a sponsor or learn more visit **forsyth.k12.ga.us/edfoundation.**

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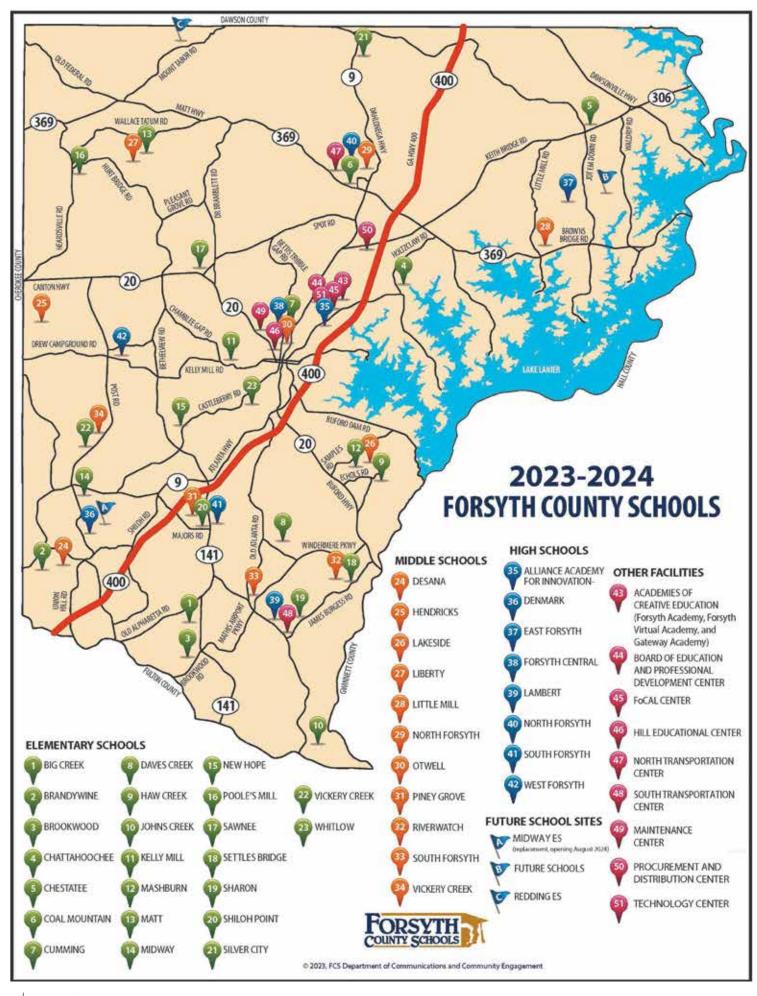
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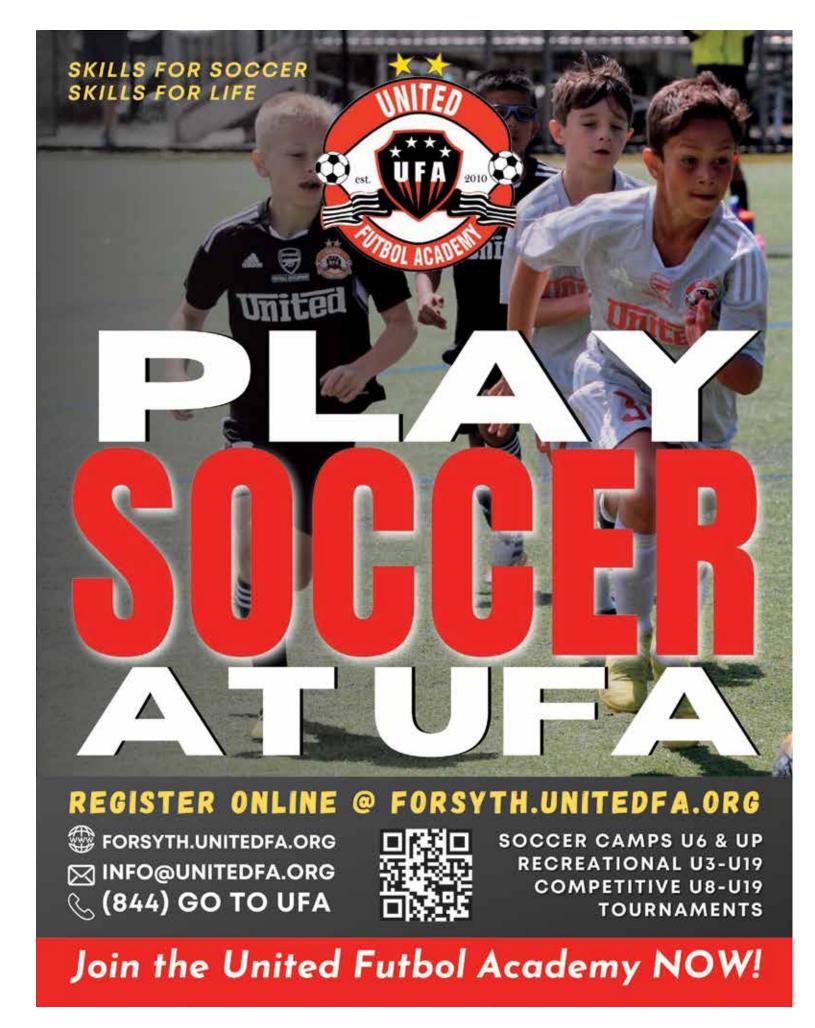
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