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## 2016-2017 SCHOOL PROFILE

### Mission

Capital City Public Charter School enables a diverse group of students to meet high expectations; develop creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills; achieve deep understanding of complex subjects; and acquire a love of learning along with a strong sense of community and character. We graduate young adults who are self-directed, intellectually engaged, and possess a commitment to personal and civic responsibility.



### History

Capital City was founded in 2000 by a committed group of parents and educators. The school began as a Pre-K-8th grade program and then, motivated by the lack of small, public college preparatory programs in DC, amended its charter to add a high school program. Following a robust planning process, the High School opened in 2008 and graduated its first class of seniors in 2012. Capital City now serves 981 students in grades PK-12 in a newly renovated facility.

Capital City has been an EL Education (formerly Expeditionary Learning) school since its inception. EL Education emphasizes projectbased instruction to help students meet rigorous academic and character standards. Capital City has been recognized as an EL Education Mentor School and hosts many visitors annually.

**CEEB Code: 090241**

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**BELICIA REAVES**

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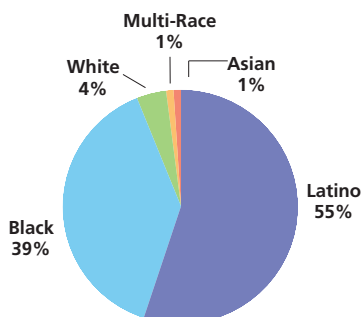
**BRIDGET JACKSON**

*Director of College Counseling*  
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College and university representatives are invited to visit. We are eager to learn about your college and introduce you to our students. Inquiries should be directed to Bridget Jackson, Director of College Counseling.

**www.ccpcs.org**

### Capital City Student Body



Capital City's **333** high school students hail from all parts of the city. The school is one of the most **racially and culturally diverse** schools in Washington, DC. Capital City is a Title I School with 80% low-income students.

## Curriculum

Capital City's curriculum focuses on teaching the deeper learning skills that students will need to be successful in college and beyond. Multi-disciplinary learning expeditions, a cornerstone of our program, allow students to delve deeply into course material, make connections, and emerge with new understandings. Problem-solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication are emphasized in all courses.

All Capital City students engage in a challenging, college preparatory curriculum. For 2016-17 we offer:

AP Language, AP Literature and Composition, AP Spanish Language and Culture, AP Human Geography, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics, and AP Statistics. Other core courses at Capital City are offered with an open honor options where students who elect to take courses with honors extend their learning by completing additional course requirements.

Students in all grades complete a portfolio of work that provides evidence of mastery of learning targets. At the end of each semester, students present portfolios to their advisors and families in student-led portfolio conferences. All 10th grade students must complete and present a more rigorous passage portfolio to a panel comprised of faculty and community members. Successful passage requires that students demonstrate mastery of skills, strong communication, and understanding of themselves as a learner.

As seniors, students design and execute their own personal learning expeditions, a requirement of graduation. As part of the process, students complete an in-depth research paper and annotated bibliography, conduct fieldwork, meet with experts, and design an authentic product to benefit the community. Seniors present the work of their expedition to a panel prior to graduation.



“At Capital City, I saw ample evidence that this is a school that cares deeply about **academic rigor** and learning. In classroom after classroom, students were engaged in **rich, multi-dimensional projects** that helped them to deeply understand important issues and topics.”

**DENIS UDALL**  
THE WILLIAM AND FLORA  
HEWLETT FOUNDATION

## Capital City Awards and Accolades

- > **High School named a Tier 1 High Performing High School** by the DC Public Charter School Board in 2013, 2014, & 2016.
- > **Designated an EL Education Mentor School** recognizing Capital City as one of the top performing schools in EL Education's national network of 165 schools.
- > **Won one of ten Career and Technical Education Makeover Challenge Prizes** by the U.S. Department of Education in 2016.
- > **Named U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School** for our focus on sustainability and the environment in 2016.
- > **Awarded Breakthrough Schools** grant for our innovation in education by the CityBridge Foundation in 2014.
- > **Visited by First Lady Michelle Obama** in 2014 as part of our College March, noting that Capital City, “should really be the model for every school.”



### Faculty

Dedicated and experienced teachers are a hallmark of our program. Of our 37 high school faculty members, 100% are Highly Qualified and 84% have advanced degrees. The student to faculty ratio is 13:1.

### Grading/GPA Calculation

Capital City uses a Standards Based System for grading. For each class, a minimum of 2.0 is required to earn credit. This is equivalent to a “C” in a traditional letter based grading system. Capital City sets a high standard for mastery and does not accept or give credit for “D”s earned at other schools.

Honors, Dual Enrollment and AP courses receive an additional weighting. For honors courses, students receive an additional .5 Quality Points. Students receive an additional 1.0 Quality Points for AP and Dual Enrollment Courses.

Capital City does not rank students. Capital City also does not have an honor roll or Dean’s list.

## Graduation Requirements

**English**  
4.0 units

**Mathematics**  
4.0 units

**Social Studies**  
4.0 units

**Science**  
4.0 units

**Foreign Language**  
2.0 units

**Art**  
0.5 units

**Music**  
0.5 units

**Physical Education**  
1.5 units

**Electives**  
5.5 units

**Total: 26.0 units**

### Students must also meet the following requirements:

- At least 2.0 credits of the 26.0 required credits must be AP or college level classes
- 100 hours of community service
- 10th grade passage portfolio and senior expedition project

## Capital City Grade Conversion Chart

CCPCS Standards Based Grade	Traditional Grading Scale	Letter Grade Equivalent	CCPCS GPA Quality Points
4.0	95-100	A	4.0
3.75	90-94	A-	3.75
3.5	86-89	B+	3.5
3.0	80-85	B	3.0
2.75	77-79	B-	2.75
2.5	74-76	C+	2.5
2.0	70-73	C	2.0
1.75	65-69	F	No Credit
1.5	60-64	F	No Credit
1.0	0-59	F	No Credit





## School Culture and Extracurricular Activities

Capital City focuses on developing responsible citizens as well as strong students. The community values, of compassion, contribution, integrity, courage and self-discipline are reinforced throughout the program and the curriculum.

A wide range of extracurricular activities provides opportunities for students to specialize and develop interests. In recent years offerings have included: soccer, cross country, flag football, basketball, swimming, cheerleading, track and field, softball, drama, studio art, drum line, chorus, robotics, chess, and debate. In 2015-2016 our girls' and boys' varsity basketball and soccer teams won league championships.



“With the education you are getting here at Capital City **you have everything you need** to follow every last one of your dreams.”

**FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA**  
DURING HER 2014 VISIT TO CAPITAL CITY

## Alumni

**Capital City alumni, including six Posse Scholars, two Trachtenberg scholars, one Milken scholar, and several Conway scholars, currently attend or graduated from the following colleges and universities:**

Clarion University of Pennsylvania  
Coastal Carolina University  
Delaware State University  
Frostburg University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
Goucher College  
Hampton University  
Howard University  
Johnson C. Smith University  
Kent State University  
Liberty University  
Lincoln University  
Lynn University  
Marshall University  
Mary Baldwin College  
Mary Washington University  
Marymount Manhattan College  
Marymount University  
Michigan State University  
Montgomery College  
Morgan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina A&T State University  
North Carolina Central University  
Northern Virginia Community College  
Oberlin College  
Ohio University  
Ohio Valley University  
Old Dominion University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Potomac State College of West Virginia  
Radford University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah State University  
Sewanee: The University of the South  
Shaw University  
Shepherd University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
Stratford Career Institute  
Susquehanna University  
Temple University  
Tennessee State University  
Towson University  
Trinity Washington University  
University of the District of Columbia  
University of Maryland Eastern Shore  
University of Maryland Baltimore  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
University of Rochester  
University of Vermont  
University of WisconsinMadison  
Virginia State University  
West Virginia University