

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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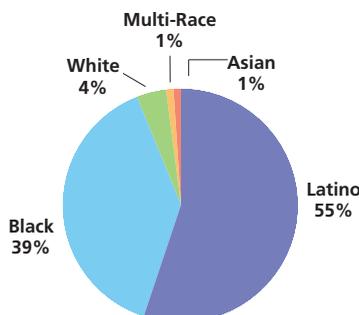


College and university representatives are invited to visit. We are eager to learn about your college and introduce you to our students. Inquiries should be directed to Bridget Jackson, Director of College Counseling.



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