

Williamsburg County School District

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Dr. Kelvin Wymbs, Superintendent

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT LAUNCHES SUMMER PROGRAMS TO ENGAGE AND ENRICH STUDENTS

Williamsburg County School District (WCSD) is excited to announce a robust lineup of Summer programs designed to keep students actively engaged, enriched, and inspired throughout the break. These programs offer a variety of educational and recreational opportunities tailored to meet the diverse needs and interests of WCSD students.

Programs are being held at various schools and community sites across the district, providing accessible options for families throughout Williamsburg County. The district's summer initiatives aim to strengthen academic skills, promote creativity, and support physical well-being.

2025 Summer Program offerings include:

READ TO SUCCEED SUMMER READING CAMP -Total Number of Participants: 55

The Summer Reading Camp (SRC) is designed to offer a unique opportunity to address the gaps in literacy skills in a focused and intentional learning environment with highly qualified Read to Succeed Literacy-trained teachers and coaches. The teachers are providing targeted interventions to ensure the students are prepared for success in the upcoming school year. In addition, instruction is thoughtful, intentional, and customized to meet the individual needs of the scholars. During the SRC, instruction is aligned to the Science of Reading to address specific areas of struggle (e.g. Word recognition, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, etc.)

SRC scholars are engaged with diverse, motivating instructional strategies and materials that differ from traditional school-year content. This allows our SRC teachers to focus on deeper engagement while using a variety of teaching methods and interactive activities.

CERDEP SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM – Total Number of Participants: 33

These scholars are engaging in fun, learning, and hands-on activities. The goal of our Summer Enrichment program is for our scholars to continue to discover the joy and magic of reading, math, and writing.

"The Read to Succeed Summer Reading Camp and the CERDEP Summer Enrichment Programs focus on students who are not reading at grade level and offer them the chance

to attend a summer reading camp. At these camps, students are taught by highly qualified teachers with experience in helping struggling readers. They receive both small-group and individual instruction to improve their reading, writing, listening, and research skills." *Mrs. Berlinda N. Mack, Director of Early Learning and Literacy*

21ST CENTURY LEARNING - Total Number of Participants: 450

21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) provide high-quality academic programming to a diverse group of students in grades pre-K to 12th grade in Williamsburg County School District. 21st CCLC programs provide academic enrichment opportunities for children during out-of-school time, including before-and after-school and over the summer, offering academic support and enrichment programs, social emotional learning, STEM activities, tutoring, and physical activities.

"The 21st Century Community Learning Centers from GSA, CEMM, APS, KGLA, KMMSA, HES, and HHS are in their second week of summer session. Over 450 students from across the district are coming together to learn, grow, and connect through a variety of enriching activities and hands-on experiences. Ms. Amanda Dorris, Project Director of 21st CCLC is very appreciative of the dedicated staff and community partners that are providing a safe, supportive and inspiring environment where participants are exploring new skills while creating unforgettable memories." Mrs. Amanda Dorris, Director of Testing and Accountability

EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) – Total Number of Participants: 50

Extended School Year (ESY) services are special education services provided beyond the typical 180-day school year for students with disabilities who have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). These services are designed to help students maintain critical skills and knowledge acquired during the regular school year, preventing significant regression during breaks.

"The Extended School Year (ESY) in Williamsburg County School District is off to a great start! We are providing ongoing support and preventing regression for students with disabilities. ESY is tailored to individual student needs and focuses on maintaining critical skills and objectives outlined in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). This can include academic, social, behavioral, communication, and life skills." Mrs. Thel'vanessa Murphy Greene, Executive Director of Special Services

GIFTED AND TALENTED AND FINE ARTS PROGRAMS – Total Number of Participants: 25

Advanced academic summer programs for middle schoolers offer a variety of options for students to explore their interests and continue learning during the summer months. These programs often focus on STEM fields like science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, but also include options in creative writing, art, and other areas. Some programs offer a residential experience, while others are day programs or online courses.

"We have approximately 25 students who are part of the Advanced Academic Program (AAP) program attending the STEM Summer Camp. This camp is a partnership between Gifted and Talented and CATE. It is going great, and the students are learning so many skills that are needed in today's jobs." Mrs. Jennifer Holliday, Director of Fine Arts, Gifted and Talented, and Grants

CREDIT RECOVERY - Total Number of Participants: 56

Credit recovery programs in high school allow students who have previously failed a course to retake it, often through an alternative format like online learning, and earn the necessary credits to graduate on time. These programs focus on the specific material a student didn't master, allowing them to concentrate on those areas and potentially finish the course faster than a traditional repeat

"The scholars here at Kingstree High School are working extremely hard to satisfy the academic requirements for being promoted to the correct grades. The ultimate goal here at KHS is to make learning an enjoyable experience and to ensure the scholars stay with the correct cohorts." Mrs. Ava Bradley, Assistant Principal Kingstree High School

CULINARY CAMP AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STEM PROGRAM (held twice at two different locations) -Total Number of Participants: 50

The Culinary Camp offers more than just recipes—it provides an enriching experience where young chefs gain essential life skills, build lasting confidence, and explore their creativity in a fun and supportive environment. Throughout the camp, participants will learn fundamental culinary techniques such as proper knife skills, measuring, mixing, cooking, and baking. Each week introduces children to diverse cuisines and ingredients, encouraging them to embrace new flavors. Under the guidance of experienced instructors, students will develop teamwork, problem-solving abilities, and a sense of independence—all while creating delicious dishes they can proudly share with family and friends.

The Technical Institute allows students in Williamsburg County the opportunity to explore fun learning opportunities at this summer. This camp focuses in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and more, allowing rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders to experience handson learning taught by leaders in the field.

"The Culinary Camp consisted of 4 days of culinary skill building, beginning with safety, recipe building, proper use of kitchen utensils such as knives, and proper use of cookware such as the stove. On the last day students had the opportunity to reflect on the entire week with a recap of what took place each day and how they benefited from the camp. I

believe this camp allows students to explore the world of culinary, and each one can begin deciding if they would like to invest their future in hospitality as a career."

Mr. Torrance Wilson, Director of Williamsburg County School District CATE Department

2025 Summer STEM Institute Closing Ceremony was held on June 18, 2025, at 1:15 p.m. at the Kingstree Middle Magnet School of the Arts