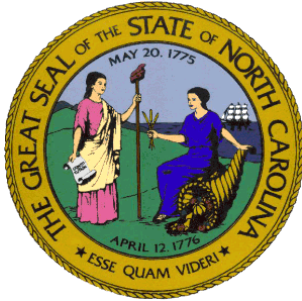


Macon County Schools



Macon County has one of the best school systems in North Carolina. The system consistently performs among the best in the state for SAT scores. Schools and class sizes are small and students are afforded a rare opportunity for learning in our schools. The average class size is 19 and average elementary schools have 303 total students.

MISSION: Macon County Schools will challenge all students to achieve their academic potential and be successful in the 21st Century. We will achieve this mission in a safe and caring environment in partnership with parents, staff, and the community.

VISION: To be a globally competitive school system striving to be better.

VALUES:

- Continuous Improvement
- Motivated Faculty and Staff
- All Children Can Learn
- Management by Fact
- Stakeholder Partnership
- Safe and Healthy Learning Environments



With 710 total employees, serving approximately 4,362 children, all Macon County Schools are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Macon County Schools follow North Carolina Course of Study in all grade levels. This ensures rigorous student academic performance standards that are uniform across the state.

This philosophy of teaching and learning is consistent with current research, exemplary practices, and national standards. Macon County Schools follows grade level pacing guides developed for the county.

Educating and Training Students



Academically Gifted and Students with Disabilities

The Mission of the Exceptional Children program is to assure that students with disabilities and those who are academically or intellectually gifted develop mentally, physically, emotionally, and vocationally through the provision of an appropriate individualized education in the least restrictive environment. A range of services are available to students with disabilities and those that are academically gifted at each site in Macon County.

College Preparedness—GEAR UP

This initiative helps students gear up or gain early awareness and readiness for undergraduate programs. The program begins with sixth and seventh grade students with the ultimate goal of helping them become more aware and prepared for college.



New Century Scholars

The New Century Scholars Program is a collaborative educational effort among the public schools in Macon, Jackson, and Swain counties and Southwestern Community College.

This program targets “high potential” students at the end of sixth grade and provides extra support to those students through their middle school and high school years. In addition to maintaining good grades and behavior, students are required to perform 10 hours a year of community service. Upon completion of high school, each student is awarded a tuition scholarship for each of his/her two years at Southwestern Community College.



Western Carolina University has added a guaranteed scholarship that will enable students who complete NCS program and earn an Associates Degree at SCC to continue their education at WCU for two years and earn a Bachelors Degree.

Macon Early College

Macon Early College started in the fall of 2006. With 33 early college high schools in operation throughout North Carolina and more to come, early college has been a great success.

MEC’s goal is to provide students with the opportunity to earn up to two years of college credit during high school. Students have the choice to earn this credit four years or five years. MEC has 138 students currently enrolled in the ninth through twelfth grade.

Macon County Academic Foundation

The Macon County Academic Foundation plays a very important role in the Macon County Schools System. MCAF is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization that provides funding for supplemental programs that enrich the existing school curriculum. Funds donated to the organization are provided for special events, pilot programs, and special classroom teaching initiatives.

Macon County Schools

Current Schools: 12

4 Primary/Elementary Schools

Cartoogechaye — 353 students
Iotla Valley at Cowee — 247 students
East Franklin — 420 students
South Macon — 519 students

1 Intermediate School

Mountain View — 611 students

1 Middle School

Macon — 567 students

1 High School

Franklin — 999 students

2 K-12 Schools

Highlands — 353 students
Nantahala — 104 students

1 Alternative School Grades 7-12

Union Academy — 60 students

1 Early College Grades 9-12

Macon Early College — 132 students

Planned School with Planned Opening Date

Iotla Valley Elementary School — 2012

- 11 different Advanced Placement courses at the high school level
- Recipient of Advanced Placement Scholar status and honor status at the high school level
- Scholarship awarded to 2009-2010 class exceeded \$1,000,000
- 59 National Board Certified teachers
- 130 teachers with advanced degrees
- 60% of all classrooms utilize advanced white board technology in instruction
- All Macon County Schools are connected via the high speed data technology of Balsam West Fibernet
- Recipient of the nationally recognized Carolyn White PEP grant
- 4,400 students
- 625 Full Time Employees
- District-wide SACS accreditation
- Macon County Teachers present at state and national conferences
- Innovative learning opportunities for high school students
- State winners in Career and Technology student organizations
- New and updated elementary schools
- Strong partnership with local community college and local university
- NC State Improvement Project sites for math and reading
- Elementary AIG program executes "Battle of the Books"
- County-wide family literacy night
- Support staff and specialized programs in all schools
- 10 different sports for men and women throughout school system
- Band and chorus at the middle school and high school level
- School nurses are assigned to all schools
- Active volunteer program within all schools
- Strong relationships between Parent/Teacher organization and schools

VIP After-School Program

VIP Provides quality care, educational support, and a variety of enrichment activities designed to stimulate the development of children in a safe and fun environment. This program is offered to all elementary students grades K-5. All sites are licensed by the North Carolina Division of Child Development.



Child Nutrition

Macon County Schools provide nutritious meals and snacks that promote growth and healthful eating habits for all students. School meals are planned based on the USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans. School breakfast provides one-fourth and lunch provides one-third of the Recommended Dietary Allowances for calories, protein, calcium, iron, vitamin A and vitamin C with less than 35% calories from fat and less than 10% total calories from saturated fat

More at Four Pre-Kindergarten Program

The More at Four Pre-Kindergarten program is a high quality pre-k program that serves children who are at risk and prepares them for success in school. Children served by More at Four attend a full school day, full school year program that meets high quality state standards. This program is community based, voluntary, and designed to prepare four year olds for success in school.



School Resource Officer

Macon County Schools started a School Resource Officer program in the school system in the fall of 2001. This program places officers in school in an effort to create and maintain safer learning environments.



An SRO is a certified law enforcement officer who is permanently assigned to provide coverage to a school or set of schools. The SRO is specifically trained to perform three different roles: acting as law enforcement officers, provide legal guidance to students and act as links to support services both inside and outside the school, and to share their special law enforcement expertise in the classroom.

Transportation

The Macon County Schools transportation department provides transportation for 2,500 students each day. This department maintains and routes 51 buses, traveling over 514,000 miles per year. This includes four special needs buses that travel an average of 400 miles per day to five schools. Students and staff have twelve activity buses available for athletic and enrichment studies. Our goal is to provide safe, efficient travel for all students and staff in Macon County.

