NEUSE CHARTER SCHOOL

College Profile

Dr. Melissa Blackwell, Superintendent, mblackwell@neusecharterschool.org
Mr. Tyler Grady, Upper Academy Director, tgrady@neusecharterschool.org
Dr. Amanda Swartzlander, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, aswartzlander@neusecharterschool.org
Mrs. Anna Fowler, Testing Coordinator & CCP Liaison, afowler@neusecharterschool.org
Mrs. Keeli McLamb, College & Career Advisor, kmclamb@neusecharterschool.org
Mrs. Amy McGinnis, Upper Academy School Counselor, amcginnis@neusecharterschool.org

Overview

Neuse Charter School (NCS) is located in Smithfield, NC, the county seat of Johnston County. The student body is chosen through a blind lottery system and currently consists of 928 K-12 students. The demographic breakdown is as follows:

- 63% Caucasian
- 12% African American
- 15% Hispanic
- 9% Bi-racial
- .7% Asian
- .3% Other

NCS is the only independent, locally governed, non-profit charter school in Johnston County. NCS is in its 18th year of operation, with a high school enrollment of 232 students. As a public school, NCS is open to all North Carolina students.

Our Mission

Founded in 2007, NCS continues to educate students with our primary mission to educate K-12 students through a personalized approach to growth and achievement. High expectations and a focus on diverse perspectives provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in a global society. For more information, please see our NCS Strategic Plan.

Highlights

- The K-12 student-to-faculty ratio is 18:1. The school has a robust student services department that includes a full-time school counselor, a testing coordinator/ College and Career Promise liaison, a part-time college advisor, and a school scheduling team.

- NCS has a strong partnership with Johnston Community College to operate an Early College on campus. Students can obtain CTE certificates and/or an Associate degree in conjunction with a high school diploma.
- NCS is proudly accredited by Cognia's exceptional standards and accountability team.
- NCS graduated 100% of our students for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- 70% of current students take honors-level or higher classes.
- US News' America's Best High School's Rankings: NCS was ranked #17 among high schools in the Raleigh Metro Area High Schools (2023-24).

Academic Program and Curriculum

The academic program follows a six-period schedule, five days a week, allowing for a minimum of six credits per year. NCS also allows students to participate in the Career and College Promise (CCP) program through Johnston Community College (JCC) and offers CCP courses taught by JCC instructors on campus for dual credit, which can allow for additional credits beyond the traditional six.

Course types are Standard, Honors, Advanced Placement, and Dual Credit courses in the humanities, mathematics, sciences, world languages, and visual and performing arts. Honors courses go into greater depth and breadth than Standard courses and at a faster pace. These courses are similar to those for academically gifted (AIG) students. In Honors or Standard ability-level classes, students should expect 20 to 30 minutes of homework per course per night. In AP and Dual Credit classes, the homework may take from 30 to 45 minutes per night. One credit equals the successful completion of a yearlong course or one-semester block course.

Honors Courses Offered: 19 *Dual Credit On-Site Options: 8*

Grading and Ranking

NCS uses a ten-point, 4.0 GPA scale. Students receive one additional quality point for each AP and CCP course and .5 quality points for each Honors course taken.

Grade point averages are calculated and rounded off to four decimal places. Class rank is based on that four-decimal place of the weighted grade point average. In order to graduate with Latin Honors, a Senior must have a weighted cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above at the end of the third quarter of Senior year.

Letter Grade	Range	Quality Points (QP)	QP Honors	QP AP & CCP
A	90-100	4.0	4.5	5.0
B	80-89	3.0	3.5	4.0
C	70-79	2.0	2.5	3.0
D	60-69	1.0	1.5	2.0
F	<60	0.0	0.0	0.0

Graduation Requirements

NCS requires 24 credits to graduate in the following areas:

- ☐ 4 English
- ☐ 4 Math
- ☐ 3 Science (Environmental as required by NCDPI)
- ☐ 4 History
- ☐ 2 Modern Languages
- ☐ 1 Health and PE with CPR Certification (as required by NCDPI)
- ☐ 6 Electives

Honors Sample Course Progression by Grade

8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English I Honors	English II Honors	ENG 111/ 112	ENG 231/ 241	English Elective
Math I Honors	Math II Honors	Math III Honors	MAT 171	Math Elective
Spanish I Honors	Earth & Environmental Science Honors	Biology Honors	Chemistry Honors	
World History Honors	Civic Literacy Honors	HIS 131/ 132	Economics & Personal Finance Honors	
	Health/ PE	Elective	Elective	SPA 111/ 112
	Elective			

Standard Sample Course Progression by Grade

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English I	English II	English III	English IV
Math I	Math II	Math III	Math IV
Earth & Environmental Science	Biology	Chemistry	Elective
World History	Civic Literacy	American History	Economics & Personal Finance
Health/ PE	Spanish I	Spanish II	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective

Sample Elective Options

Students in grades 9-12 will have the option to take a variety of elective courses based on their interests. Elective choices vary from year to year based on interest:

America at War
Anatomy & Physiology
Astronomy
Band
Botany
Chorus
Creative Writing
Dance
Forensics
Graphic Arts
Lifetime Sports
Life Skills
Psychology
Spanish
Sports Media
Theater Arts
Visual Arts
Weight Training

Standardized Testing Information

2023-2024 ACT Composite	
NCS	17.0
NC	18.5
USA	19.5

2023-2024 EOC Scores

NCS is the top-ranked public high school in Johnston County compared to other non-selective public high schools based on the EOC Composite data below:

School	Composite	English II	Math I	Math III	Biology
Neuse Charter HS	70	70	63	76	72
Corinth Holders HS	60	66	42	60	67
Cleveland HS	55	63	44	62	69
Princeton HS	54	60	34	60	59
North Johnston HS	48	49	49	53	42
West Johnston HS	49	60	36	47	54
Clayton HS	52	55	44	46	69
South Johnston HS	43	58	31	46	32
American Leadership Academy	40	51	30	55	34
Smithfield-Selma HS	43	49	27	45	38

High School Athletics

NCS offers a wide variety of competitive athletics opportunities that include the following:

- Men's Baseball
- JV and Varsity Men's Basketball
- Women's Basketball
- Men's and Women's Cross Country
- Men's and Women's Cheerleading
- Men's and Women's Soccer
- Men's and Women's Track & Field
- Women's JV and Varsity Volleyball
- Men's and Women's Winter Track
- Men's Wrestling

Clubs & Honors Societies

- Debate Club
- National Honors Society
- Robotics
- Start with Hello
- Student Council/ Student Government Association
- Unified Club

Academic Enrichment Programs

- Career & College Promise
- Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Program
- NC Governor's School
- Student Athlete Summer Institute
- Tar Heel Boys State

Class of 2024

There were 44 graduates in the Class of 2024. As a class, they earned $1,095,238 in scholarships.

4-Year Institution:	43%
2-Year Institution:	39%
Workforce:	11%
Other/Gap Yr:	7%
Military:	0%

4.0 weighted GPA or higher:	23%
3.5-3.9 weighted GPA:	25%
3.0-3.49 weighted GPA:	16%

After Graduation Acceptance History

Appalachian State University
Bates College
Belmont Abbey College
Campbell University
Cape Fear Community College
East Carolina University
Elon University
Florida Southern College
George Mason University
High Point University
James Madison University
Johnston Community College
Lees-McRae College
Lenoir Community College
Liberty University
Mars Hill University
Meredith College
Methodist University
Nash Community College
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
North Carolina State University
Pitt Community College
Stanford University
University of Alabama
University of Central Florida
University of Hawaii
University of Mississippi
University of Mount Olive
UNC Asheville
UNC-Chapel Hill
UNC Charlotte
UNC Greensboro
UNC Pembroke
UNC Wilmington
University of Richmond
US Army National Guard
Virginia Wesleyan University
Wake Technical Community College
Wayne Community College
West Virginia University
Western Carolina University
William Peace University
Winston-Salem State University