



# Why Choose Chatham Charter School?

## School Overview

Chatham Charter was among the first group of schools in North Carolina to receive a charter in 1996 after having been founded in 1993 as a private K-8 school, Chatham Academy. A high school expansion opened in the fall of 2013. As a K-12 public charter school, Chatham Charter focuses on college readiness with strong instructional technology integration.

Enrollment increased from 126 in 1997 to over 570 by 2019. The 85+ acre campus is home to three buildings, one of which includes a gym, and a set of outdoor athletic facilities used by sports with multiple middle and high school teams.

## K-12 Support Services

### **Student Support Specialist**

Fills school counselor and social worker role

### **School Nurse**

Full-time registered nurse addresses medical needs and works with other Student Support Services initiatives

### **Teacher Assistants**

One in each K-3 classroom and two in the Exceptional Children Department

### **Technology Specialist**

Coordinates campus technology infrastructure and supports instructional technology

### **College Liaison**

Bridges high school and postsecondary experiences

### **Additional Licensed Faculty**

Two licensed teachers who directly support upperclassmen as they take college level courses as well as other high school students taking online courses through the NC Virtual Public School

### **Student Assistance Team**

Support Specialist, College Liaison, School Nurse, and Exceptional Children teachers meet weekly

## Unique Elements

- Students from 6 counties form a single school community
- Interaction between students K-12
- Small class size
- Low student to teacher ratio (15:1)
- Hallmark “family atmosphere” including Knights Family Weekend the first weekend of October

## Lower School

### K-8 Academic Highlights

- There is a full-time assistant in each K-3 classroom.
- K-5 students have daily K-5 blocks of math and literacy.
- Students in grades K-5 have a daily music or art enrichment and physical education or recess within the instructional day.
- Students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade have P.E., percussion ensemble, and a skills-based course as electives. Band is also an elective option.
- Students in grades 7&8 have a semester each of French, marketing, P.E. and visual arts as elective courses. Band is also an elective option.

### K-8 Opportunities for Students

- After school tutoring sessions with teachers and/or Senior Beta Club members
- Knights in Service club
- Presidential Service Award program and volunteerism
- Middle school Junior Beta chapter
- Sports (for grades 6-8): cross country, tennis, soccer, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, cheerleading, baseball, golf, and softball
- Archery Club (grades 4 and up)



# Why Choose Chatham Charter School?

## High School

### Custom High School Program Design

Our comprehensive high school program is designed to equip students to seamlessly move into a full college experience after graduating from high school. We have a blend of innovative teacher instruction; aspects that are similar to a college atmosphere; and an additional focus on teaching life skills like responsibility, organization, and time management. The skills also allow graduates to transition into the military or workforce.

### Family Nights

Students and their families attend a Family Night with specialized topics for each grade level once a semester. School staff and expert guest speakers present the sessions. Continually helping everyone keep the “big picture” of our high school program in mind while focusing on what is most important over the next six months through session topics.

### Upperclassmen Seminars

Eleventh and twelfth graders have a weekly seminar in addition to their regular classes during which they concentrate on building additional skills to prepare them for post-secondary life.

### Unique Schedule

- Calendar year with two semesters separated by a December winter break
- “Zero period” (prior to first period) time for club meetings, finishing homework, working with teachers, and visiting with friends
- Upperclassmen “in good standing” can leave campus for lunch and have an early afternoon dismissal option.

### Extracurricular Opportunities

- Sports: cross country, tennis, soccer, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, cheerleading, baseball, softball, track, and golf
- Clubs and co-curricular opportunities
- The Great House System (team building)

### Academic Support

#### **Teacher Office Hours**

High school teachers and community college instructors have advertised office hours and also meet with students at other times by appointment.

#### **Tutoring**

- Zero period (mornings before first period)
- Dedicated classroom for working lunches
- Community college learning lab
- Peer tutoring

#### **Extra Instructional Time**

- Working lunches with teachers for athletic teams needing to leave early for games/matches
- Pre-class preparation (During times they are not in a class, upperclassmen can work with teachers during their planning periods.)

#### **Senior Mock Interviews**

- Business and community members interview seniors during a mock interview event to help in preparing them for college, scholarship, and job interview settings.

### College Tour Field Trips

#### ***(On a schedule for entire grade levels)***

Campbell University  
Catawba College  
Central Carolina Community College  
Elon University  
Guilford College  
High Point University  
North Carolina State University  
Pfeiffer University  
UNC Chapel Hill  
UNC Greensboro

#### ***(Rotating summer tour destinations)***

Greensboro College  
Guilford Technical Community College  
North Carolina A&T State University  
Sandhills Community College  
UNC Pembroke  
UNC Charlotte  
Wake Technical Community College  
William Peace University