

GREENVILLE TECHNICAL CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Summary

Founded in 1998, Greenville Technical Charter High School provides a public school alternative to Greenville County students. GTCHS focuses on success in education through academic rigor, technology and career planning and offers GTCHS students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Greenville Technical Charter High School aspires to create an equitable community of learners in which mutual respect, trust, integrity, and the pursuit of ideas are valued and appreciated. GTCHS aims for a seamless transition from high school to higher education and the world of work. With an enrollment of 420 students in grades 9-12, the school offers an academically rigorous four-year program based on Mastery Learning. Many students earn enough credits to enroll in college courses as sophomores. The school's ability to offer individualized academic plans and academic assistance creates an opportunity for success for each student. Teachers use state-of-the-art technology and resources. The school expects parental involvement at a minimum of one hour per week, 50 hours of community service for every student each year, project-based learning that is competency-based, and a capstone senior project prior to graduation.

Demographics

- *Target Settings:* Urban, Suburban, Rural
- *Target Groups Served:* Enrollment is open to all Greenville County students in grades 9-12. GTCHS serves over 420 students; 30% below the poverty level and 12% identified as having disabilities
- *Districts Served:* Greenville County Schools

Research and Evaluation

*What national or other research was considered during the development of this program/initiative?
Describe the evidence that shows the program/initiative works.*

Greenville Tech Charter High has earned "Excellent" report card ratings for six consecutive years and Palmetto Gold Awards for the past five years. It was designated as one of the top 15 charter schools in the nation by the United States Department of Education. In 2007, the school was honored as a National Charter School of the Year by the Center for Education Reform and received a bronze award from US News & World Report as one of America's Best Public Schools in 2009 and 2010. The school also received the 2010 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award, one of only five SC schools with that distinction.

The Class of 2010 :

- Received \$8,422,374.00 in scholarship offerings
- 99% graduation rate
- 8 graduates received Associate's Degrees from Greenville Technical College
- 4 received dual Associate's Degrees
- Average college GPA of 3.25
- 51% of the class received 24 or more college credit hours
- 64 eligible for the SC Life Scholarship
- 11 offered the SC Palmetto Fellows Scholarships
- 1 National Merit Scholar
- 1 Coca-Cola Scholar
- 100% enrolled to attend college
- Many students earn enough credits while in high school to enroll in college as sophomores

Resources

- *Annual Cost:* \$2.87 million
- *Funding Sources:* GTCHS receives state funding, but is allotted only about 80% of the dollars provided to other district students, with no allotments for costs such as transportation, meals and facilities.
- *Staffing Needs:* part-time Social worker, school nurse, and Information Technology support
- *Infrastructure/Equipment Needs:* facility improvements, transportation and college textbooks
- *Partner Organizations:* Greenville Technical College, Middle College National Consortium (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), Coalition of Essential Schools, Greenville Chamber of Commerce, and Phillis Wheatley Association.

Contact Information

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<https://sites.google.com/a/staff.gtchs.org/gtchs/>

See also:

GTCHSpromoted.pdf at <https://sites.google.com/a/staff.gtchs.org/gtchs/home/misc-resources>



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