



Caldwell County Schools

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Mission and Vision

Mission Statement

CHALLENGING CHILDREN FOR SUCCESS

Vision

Caldwell County Schools will provide diverse opportunities for all students to achieve success now and in the future.

Board of Education

Darrell Pennell, Chairman

Teresa Branch, Vice-Chairman

Chris Becker

Ann Edwards

BJ Fore

Duane Knight

Joe Sims

Dr. Donald Phipps, Superintendent

Students and Staff

Student Enrollment 10,969 (12/01/21)

Grades K-5 4,663

Grades 6-8 2,489

Grades 9-13 3,532

Pre-K 285

Caldwell Online Enrollment: 314 (middle and high school students)

Academically Gifted Students: 1,289 or 11.7%

Exceptional Children: 1,604 or 14.6%

English Learners (EL) Students: 452 or .04%

Student ethnicity makeup: 75.27% White; 12.68% Hispanic; 5.57% Multi-Racial; 5.45% African-American; 0.91% Asian; and 0.06% Alaskan Native/American Indian

Faculty and Staff: 1,765 Employees



THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 CONTINUE

By executive order, schools closed in March 2020 due to the pandemic caused by an infectious virus, and COVID-19 continues to redefine the operational modes of families, communities, and educational services. In response to the initial onslaught, remote learning became a necessity and now, online learning has found permanent residency in education. In the 2020-21 school year, an average of 1,500 students were enrolled in Caldwell Connect, the remote option. Beginning in August 2021, the online learning platform enrolled 314 students, even though it was more fully developed and renamed to Caldwell Online for middle and high school students. Parents and students indicated a preference for in-person learning. However, at any given time, teachers are trained, prepared, and equipped to go remote.

Class of 2021 ~ 870 Graduates \$16 million in Scholarships

- ◆ 14,490 college credit hours
- ◆ 87% graduation rate
- ◆ 96% of Career Technical Concentrators continued on to post-secondary education , military or employment after high school graduation (average of 99% over the last five years)

100% GRADUATION RATE

The Caldwell Early College High School, innovative high school on the campus of Caldwell Community College, graduated 100 percent in 2021. Students graduate in four or five years with at least one Associate's degree and a jump start on a Bachelor's.



Career Technical Education CTE



(Top 3 in the State)

High schools offer 60 courses covering 13 of the 15 CTE Career Clusters.

- ◆ 36 different Industry Recognized Credentials offered through CTE courses
- ◆ 5,195 Industry Recognized Credentials earned by students (5th in State)
- ◆ 204% Percentage rate of Industry Recognized Credentials earned (3rd in State)

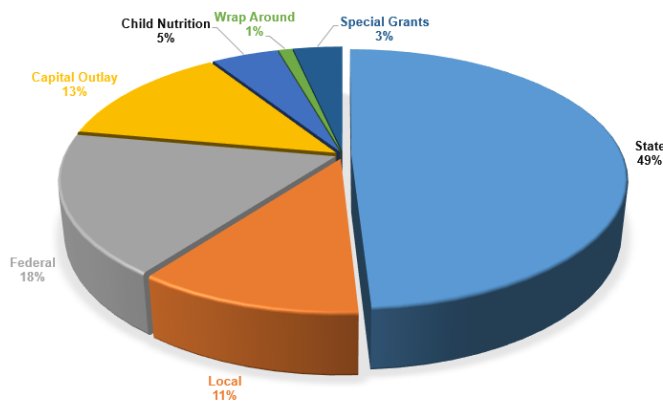
PARTNERSHIPS

Besides the 80+ School Business Partnerships, Faith-based Partnerships, and strong ties with community agencies and post-secondary education, new connections evolved during the pandemic. The Board of Education approved a partnership with the Duke Clinical Research Institute and with Merlyn Mind, an innovative technology digital assistant.

Budget

State: 49%
Federal: 18%
Capital Outlay: 13%
Local: 11%
Special Grants: 3%
 State funds: \$74,396,407
 Federal funds: \$26,651,783.37
 Capital Outlay: \$19,784,000
 Local funds: \$16,877,679
 Special Grants: \$5,239,759.75
Self-supporting enterprises:
 Child Nutrition: \$7,049,222
 WrapAround: \$1,465,800

Funding Sources 2021-2022 Budget



Volunteers

Schools continue to limit the use of volunteers on campus due to fluctuating spikes in COVID-19 cases within the community. Volunteers are gradually reentering the learning environment. Volunteer applications are processed online and all Level 3 volunteers must have an approved background check on file.

Bus Facts (9/01/21)

- ◆ 100 Yellow Buses
- ◆ Approximately 4,200 students ride the bus every day
- ◆ 5,600 miles driven daily
- ◆ Per federal mandate, face coverings are required for all bus passengers

Food Facts

2,431,797

Number of meals distributed to children 18 years and younger in Caldwell County from March 2020 to June 2021. The curbside distribution program, provided by the Child Nutrition Department, was funded by the USDA.

- ◆ Students qualifying for Free/Reduced Meals: 53% (9/01/21)
- ◆ Breakfast and lunch meals are provided to all students at no cost during the 2021-2022 school year.

The Child Nutrition Department is a self-supporting, enterprise business that is a division of the Caldwell County Schools.



Caldwell County Schools
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Caldwell County Schools: 25 Schools

11 elementary grades K-5; 3 elementary/middle grades K-8; 4 middle grades 6-8; 3 comprehensive high schools; two innovative high schools and 2 alternative schools