



State Charter School Spotlight: Baconton Community Charter School

260 East Walton Street, Baconton, GA 31716

Year Open: 2000

Grade Levels Served: PK-12

Baconton Community Charter School's mission is *to provide a safe, nurturing environment for a diverse community of learners to develop academic potential and ethical character leading to productive citizenship in the 21st century.*



How would you describe your school's mission, and what is your school especially proud of?

The mission began 25 years ago with a goal of creating an environment where students could truly grow and succeed. That mission has remained a guiding force as the school expanded from serving Pre-K through 5th grade to educating over 900 students in grades PK-12. Alumni are now enrolling their own children, making Baconton Community Charter School a generational place of learning. The school is proud of its strong academic and athletic growth and its integral role in developing productive citizens who contribute to the community.

What are you most proud of academically, and what has contributed to that success?

We're proud of the strong academic growth our students have shown—especially in ELA, math, and social studies—over the past three years. This progress reflects our teachers' commitment and the effectiveness of our instructional approach. Literacy has been a long-standing focus, supported by direct instruction and an emphasis on skill mastery. Our growing CTAE program offers courses in graphic design, the arts, and computer science, while many high school students thrive in dual enrollment and succeed in their first college classes.

What's student life like at your school?

BCCS is active from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Students take part in a wide range of clubs and activities, including 4-H, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Serve, FCA, Student Government, Drama Club, Robotics, and Athletics. The campus is full of energy every day.

Can you share a memorable moment from student life this year?

We've had many memorable moments this year—our Blazers played at Truist Park, our FCA hosted a multi-county event, and several students won awards in writing and art competitions. These milestones, along with countless small moments, create lasting memories.





What's one thing your students love most about your school?

Many of our students grow up on this campus and consider BCCS part of their family. They feel safe, supported, and connected to their teachers.

What makes your team special, and how do you support their growth?

Our team is deeply committed to meeting students' needs—academic, behavioral, social, and beyond—and works together as a true community. We support their growth by protecting planning time and encouraging collaboration on curriculum and school improvement. Professional development is anchored in the work of Dr. John Almarode, helping teachers provide students with clarity about what they're learning and how to measure success.

What makes your school unique, and how do you engage with the broader community?

Baconton Community Charter School is a close-knit campus within the larger Baconton community, where service and connection are part of everyday life. Students participate in service projects at every grade level—locally and beyond—through efforts like our SERVE team, which provides meals, lawn care, and home visits. Other programs like EMT certification, an expanding CAN program, and a student-led graphics department further connect students to real-world experiences. These opportunities, along with a strong sense of support among students, families, and staff, foster both personal growth and community impact.



What lessons have you learned, and what are your goals for the future?

Over the past 25 years, we've learned the importance of maintaining high expectations and showing up every day for our students, staff, and community. Looking ahead, we remain focused on academic achievement, community service, and developing strong, ethical citizens.

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