



# Tusculumbia City Schools

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Superintendent, Mr. Russ Tate  
President, Mr. Ben Wilson ▪ Vice-President, Mr. Steve Finch  
Mr. Grant Gunn ▪ Mrs. Stephanie Smith ▪ Mr. Buddy Whitlock

To All Parents and Stakeholders,

Tusculumbia City Schools had a great first semester and this is due to the support you provide to our system and for this, I say thank you. We are growing in so many areas and your support is bolstering this growth. Here are a few highlights and reminders as we begin the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

1. 2023-2024 State Report Card
  - System Score – 87
  - Deshler High School – 82
  - Deshler Middle School – 83
  - RE Thompson – 85
  - GW Trenholm - 85
  - As a whole, the system is pleased with our scores and especially proud of our students, staff, and administrators for showing growth in all areas of the report card. Our goal next year is a 90.
2. Attendance Counts
  - We understand that there are times when students need to miss school, please limit these as much as possible. As a reminder, a student who misses 18 or more days in a school year is considered Chronically Absent per the Alabama State Board of Education and affects our report card score.
  - If a student must miss school, please send in a parent, medical, or other excuse. State law requires all school systems to report students who have missed over 7 days unexcused to the Juvenile Court System of Alabama.
3. Here are a few highlights the system and schools have already accomplished this year.
  - K-3 students had a 90% literacy rate which is 14 points above the state average.
  - Tusculumbia City Schools saw a 6.5% increase in student enrollment over the past two years. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the state.
  - 100% System Academic Growth and a 5-point increase on Academic Achievement on the 2022-2023 report card.
  - 33% passing rate on Advanced Placement tests, up 14% from last year.
4. Child Nutrition
  - As a reminder, per our Board Policy, please refrain from bringing outside food into our cafeterias in the original packaging. Policy states, *The State of Alabama Policy for Competitive Foods, Alabama Healthy Snack Standards for Foods and Beverages at School, and Vending Machine Policy will be enforced at all schools. In accordance with these policies, foods and beverages displaying product advertising from outside vendors/sources shall not be brought into the cafeteria during meal service times. Board Policy 3.17.1*
  - We encourage you to visit with your children during special times, but we must adhere to these guidelines to ensure that we maintain our current status of providing a free breakfast and lunch to all the students in Tusculumbia City Schools.

5. Online Gradebook


- You can stay up to date on your child's grades with the PowerSchool app. You can find more information on the app [here](#). This has all the up to the minute information for you as a parent on grades and attendance.

6. Tuscumbia Schools app

- The Tuscumbia City Schools app is available from the Google Play Store or Apple Store. Please download the app to stay on top of all the Tuscumbia City Schools information.

Tuscumbia City Schools is committed to providing our students with the best education in the state. Beginning with GW Trenholm laying the foundation, RE Thompson and Deshler Middle strengthening this foundation, and finally to Deshler High School sending out students who are College and Career Ready, we want you to feel confident that your child is provided with the best educational opportunities in the state. This can only happen with support from both you as parents and the City of Tuscumbia. Our partnership must be threefold, parent, school, and community working in unison to continue these great improvements. Tuscumbia City Schools is very blessed to have all of you as partners.

I feel so blessed to be a part of Tuscumbia City Schools and I appreciate all the hard work and support you provide to Tuscumbia City Schools so that we can continue to give back to the City of Tuscumbia.



Russ Tate  
Superintendent  
Tuscumbia City Schools