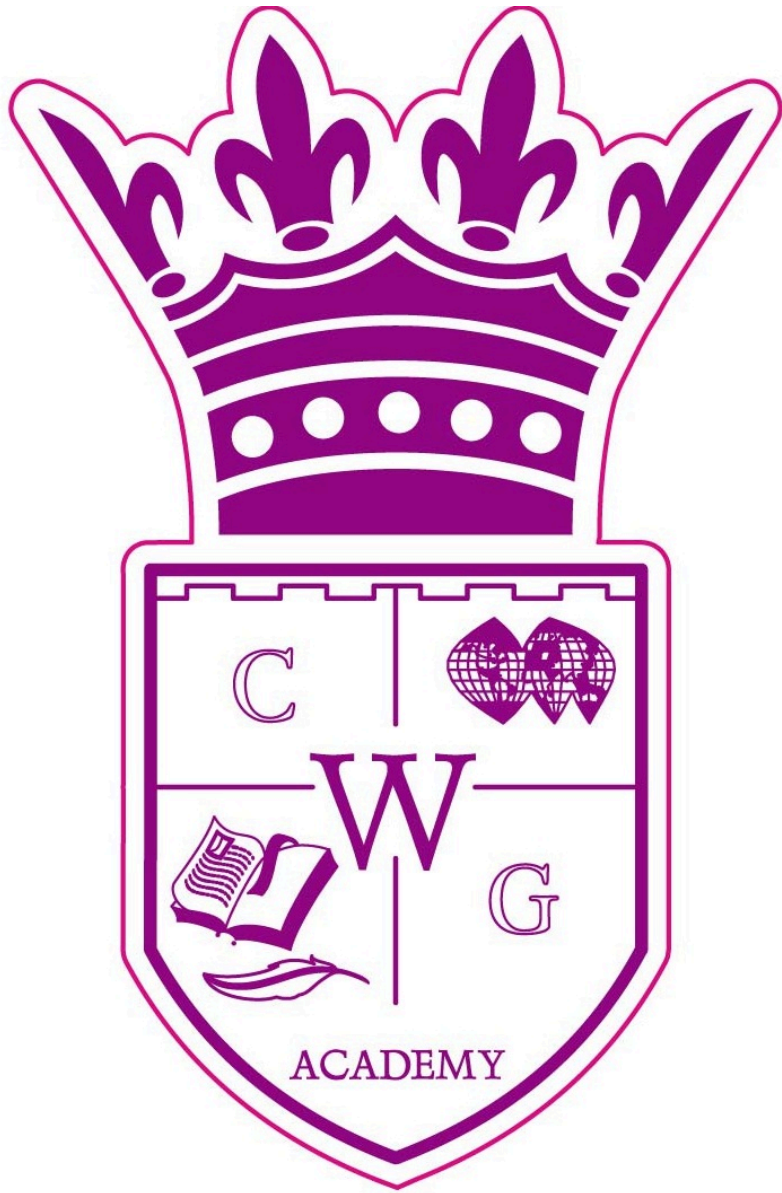








# From Margin to Model:

How Carter G. Woodson Academy Redefines  
Culture, Access, and Opportunity.

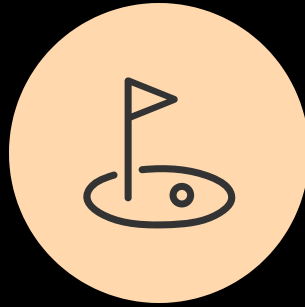
AN OVERVIEW OF THE MISSION, VALUES, AND IMPACT OF  
THE CARTER G. WOODSON ACADEMY, A PROGRAM  
DEDICATED TO CLOSING OPPORTUNITY GAPS AND  
REDEFINING EXCELLENCE FOR MALES IN FAYETTE COUNTY.

# Opening Remarks



## Greeting & Acknowledgment

Good morning, Chairs of the Commission, and thank you for allowing me to share the story of Carter G. Woodson Academy—a program that embodies the district's commitment to unity, belonging, and student efficacy.



## Framing Statement

Our 'why' is deeply rooted in purpose: to affirm identity, ignite intellect, and inspire integrity in every scholar we serve.



## Connection to FCPS Vision

Our work aligns with Fayette County Public Schools' New Way Forward Strategic Plan—specifically the priority area dedicated to Unity, Belonging, and Student Efficacy—which guides how we cultivate safe, supportive, and culturally responsive learning environments.

**By establishing the tone, expressing gratitude, and aligning with FCPS goals, the presentation sets the stage for a compelling narrative about the purpose and impact of Carter G. Woodson Academy.**

# Purpose & Mission

The mission of Fayette County Public Schools is to create a collaborative community that ensures all students achieve at high levels and graduate prepared to excel in a global society.

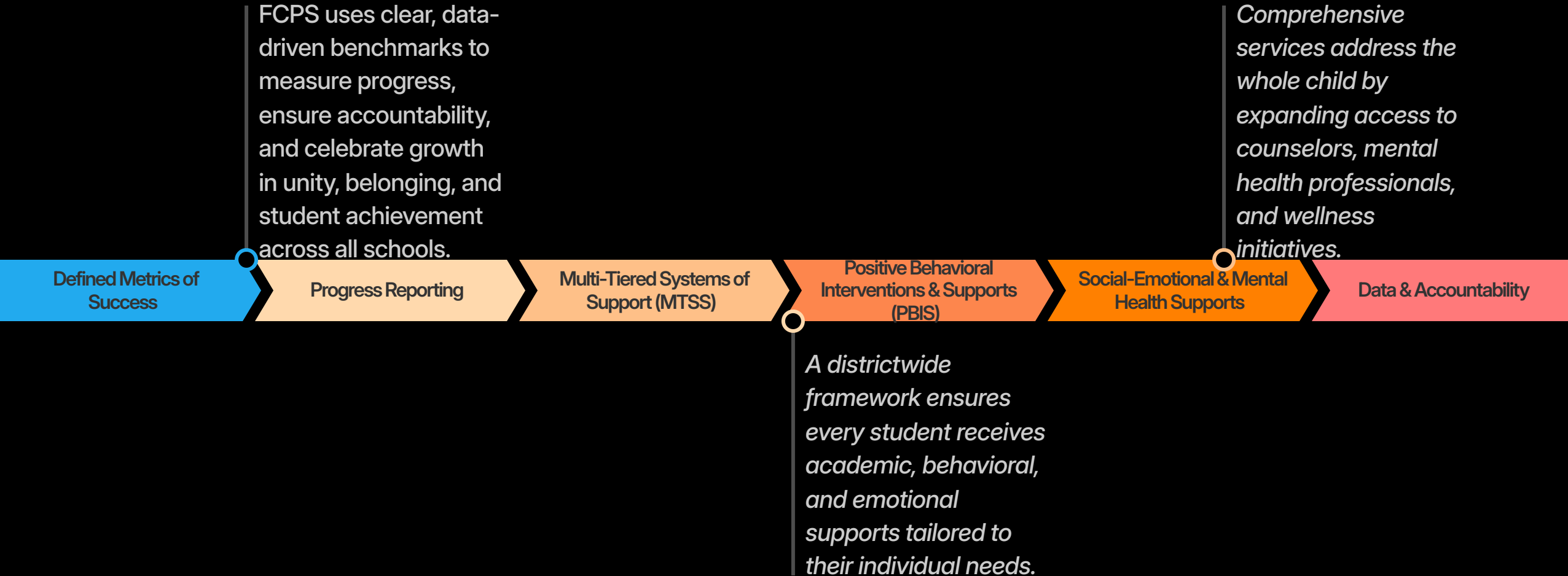


# FCPS COMMITMENT

Fayette County Public Schools is unwavering in its commitment to ensuring every student experiences belonging, representation, and equitable access to opportunity.

Through key initiatives like Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and comprehensive social-emotional and mental health supports, the district is building a unified, data-driven framework that advances equity, excellence, and student success across every school community.

# Key Initiatives





# Districtwide Equity, Representation & Opportunity



## Culturally Responsive Instruction

Students see themselves represented in texts, visuals, and materials



## Professional Learning & Capacity Building

Training, resources, and coaching provided to all staff on cultural responsiveness, equity-centered teaching, and inclusive leadership



## Policy Review & Equity Audits

Board policies and administrative procedures evaluated for unintended barriers and revised to foster inclusion and equity for historically marginalized groups



## Ongoing Audits for Inclusivity

Ensuring inclusivity in curricula across grade levels

**By embedding inclusive and representative practices, the district ensures all students feel seen, valued, and empowered to achieve their full potential.**

# Expanded Access & Opportunity



## **Restorative practices implemented as proactive discipline approaches**

Use restorative circles and the RESET model to build self-awareness and replace punitive discipline with growth-oriented development



## **Targeted efforts to expand student participation in AP, IB, Dual Credit, and KSU Dual Enrollment**

Rigorous instruction and opportunities to earn college credits through partnerships with local universities, including Kentucky State University (KSU) - the state's only public HBCU



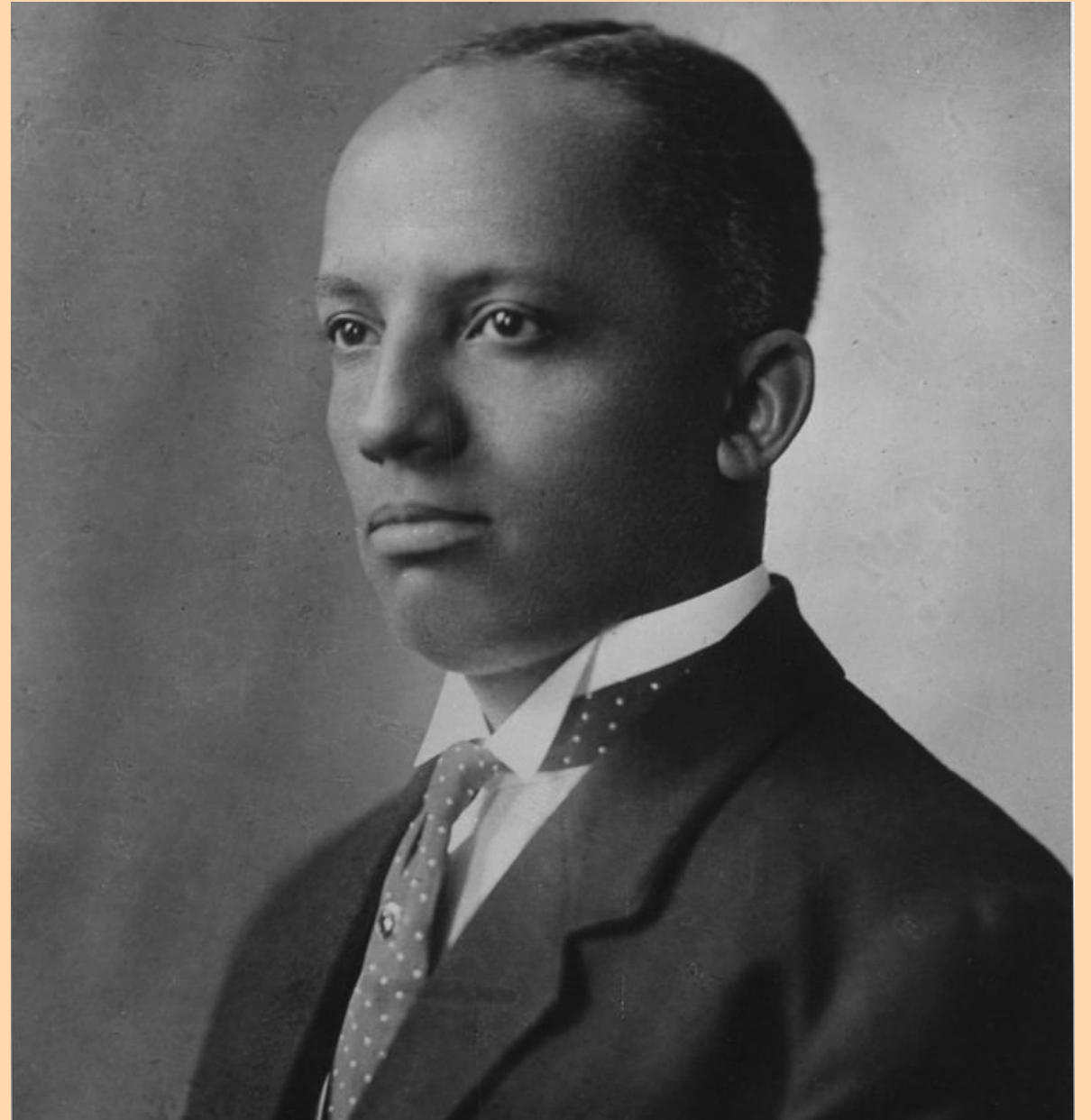
## **Ensuring diversity across special and magnet programs aligns with district demographics**

Proactive measures to promote representation and equitable access to specialized programs, reflecting the diversity of the student population

**By expanding access, implementing restorative practices, and strengthening accountability, Carter G. Woodson Academy exemplifies Fayette County Public Schools' commitment to creating equitable opportunities and cultivating a sense of belonging for all students.**

**"When you  
control a man's  
thinking, you  
do not have to  
worry about his  
actions."**

**DR. CARTER G. WOODSON**





# VISION

**"To educate, motivate, and activate the potential  
for excellence that lies within every male"**

*is the core purpose of the Carter G. Woodson Academy.*

Rooted in the legacy of 'The Father of Black History', we aim to affirm the identity, ignite the intellect, and inspire the integrity of the young men it serves.

# The WHY of Carter G. Woodson Academy



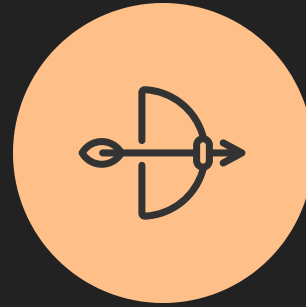
## Founding Context

Carter G. Woodson Academy (CGWA) was founded to close opportunity gaps and redefine what excellence looks like for young Black males in Fayette County.



## Namesake Legacy

Named after Dr. Carter G. Woodson, "The Father of Black History," symbolizing the power of education as liberation.



## Core Purpose

To educate, empower, and equip young men academically, socially, and morally to become leaders of character and consequence.



## Cultural Foundation

The "WELL" Principles—Well Behaved, Well Mannered, Well Dressed, Well Spoken, Well Read, Well Traveled, and Well Prepared—anchor the culture and serve as daily expectations of excellence.

By rooting the story of Carter G. Woodson Academy in its mission, history, and cultural intent, we establish the foundation for understanding how this school embodies the district's commitment to unity, belonging, and student efficacy.

# Alignment with FCPS Strategic Priorities

- **Unity, Belonging, and Student Efficacy**

CGWA is a living model of this FCPS strategic priority—students are seen, valued, and held to the highest standards.

- **Integrated Accountability Systems**

CGWA uses data and reflective practices to measure belonging, engagement, and success among scholars.

- **Holistic Support Systems**

The Academy fosters belonging through restorative practices, brotherhood circles, mentorship, and culturally responsive teaching.

- **Addressing Systemic Barriers**

CGWA's success directly responds to historical inequities in access and representation for underrepresented populations.

- **Districtwide Initiatives in Practice**

PBIS, MTSS, representation, and continuous professional learning are embedded in CGWA's approach.

# Cultural Identity & Climate



## Brotherhood and Belonging

Scholars call one another "brother", fostering a shared accountability culture rooted in respect and unity.



## Visual and Environmental Culture

Murals, banners, and affirmations highlight excellence in the African diaspora, making cultural pride visible and daily.



## Restorative and Reflective Culture

The RESET model and restorative circles replace punishment with growth, empathy, and recommitment.

**The cultural identity and climate at Carter G. Woodson Academy create a transformative environment where scholars feel seen, valued, and empowered to achieve.**



# Signature & Replicable Practices

- **Culturally Rooted Curriculum**

Integrates African and African American history across disciplines to connect learning with identity and purpose. Promotes critical consciousness alongside academic mastery—helping students think deeply and act responsibly.

- **Mentorship & Male Leadership Pipeline**

Sustained partnerships with male educators, fraternities, and community leaders. Cross-age mentoring among scholars builds intergenerational accountability and leadership capacity.

- **Dual Enrollment with Kentucky State University (KSU)**

Scholars earn college credit through CGWA's partnership with Kentucky State University—the Commonwealth's only public HBCU. Strengthens academic rigor and college readiness while providing culturally affirming exposure to higher education. Serves as a replicable model for school-to-HBCU pipelines across Kentucky.

- **Family Engagement Model**

Parents are "village partners" in scholar success. Family nights integrate literacy, wellness, and celebration, aligning with the FCPS Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) goal of deepening family engagement.

- **Discipline through Culture, Not Compliance**

The RESET model and restorative circles emphasize reflection, empathy, and personal accountability. Builds self-awareness and replaces punitive discipline with growth-oriented development.

- **Global & Local Exposure**

Cultural travel, HBCU tours, and community internships extend learning beyond the classroom. The "Well-Traveled" principle fosters global citizenship and college readiness.

- **Visual Culture of Excellence**

Aesthetic design communicates value and belonging—murals, portraits, and affirmations of Black excellence. Reinforces identity, aspiration, and pride daily.

# Family Engagement & Working Conditions Connection



## Family Engagement Goal

CGWA actively practices what the district promotes—partnership, transparency, and collaboration with families as key stakeholders.



## Working Conditions Goal

The school fosters a highly effective and culturally responsive workforce, aligning with FCPS's emphasis on educator wellbeing and cultural intelligence.

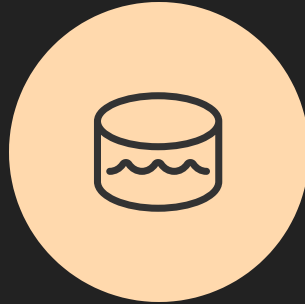
By prioritizing family engagement and cultivating a thriving school culture, Carter G. Woodson Academy directly supports Fayette County Public Schools' Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) goals.

# Community Impact & Broader Implications



## Impact

Scholars graduate with a strong sense of identity, academic competence, and community responsibility. Families and the broader community see significant shifts in confidence and engagement.



## Replicability

The CGWA model proves that intentional culture-building, mentorship, and academic rigor can close opportunity gaps districtwide.



## Call to Action

Investing in cultural belonging is investing in academic achievement—when students see themselves positively reflected, they rise to what they can become.

The success of Carter G. Woodson Academy demonstrates the transformative power of culturally responsive education, and its model can be replicated to drive positive change across Kentucky and beyond.

# Clubs at Carter G. Woodson Academy

- **SGA**

Student Government Association - Empowering scholars to develop leadership skills and advocate for their peers

- **Beta**

Honors society that promotes academic excellence and community service

- **STLP/MEDIA Arts**

Student Technology Leadership Program and Media Arts club  
- Fostering digital literacy and creative expression

- **Engineering**

Engineering club - Developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills through hands-on projects

- **Spanish**

Spanish language and culture club - Celebrating diversity and building global competence

- **FFA**

Future Farmers of America - Connecting scholars to agricultural sciences and community-based initiatives

- **Green Team**

Environmental club focused on sustainability and stewardship of natural resources

- **Woodson Institute**

Institute for Leadership, Education, and Race Relations - Empowering scholars to become agents of positive change

# **Woodson Scholars Leading Kentucky's Future in STEM**

## **Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics**

1 Graduate

Morehead State University

A two-year residential early college program for academically exceptional Kentucky students. Focus: STEM innovation, undergraduate research, and leadership development.

## **The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science**

2 Graduates

Western Kentucky University

Nationally ranked program for gifted Kentucky students in advanced mathematics and science. Focus: College-level coursework, global research, and mentorship.



# Carter G. Woodson Academy

BY THE NUMBERS





Total Enrollment | Middle School and High School

**302**

Academic & Career Readiness (2-Year Avg)

**67%**

Postsecondary Success & Advanced Placement

**100%**

Attendance

**95%+**

Total Scholarships Offered

**1.8Million**

Graduation Rate

**100%**

High School Dual Enrollment

**90%**

PATHWAYS

**100%**

72.19%   
African American

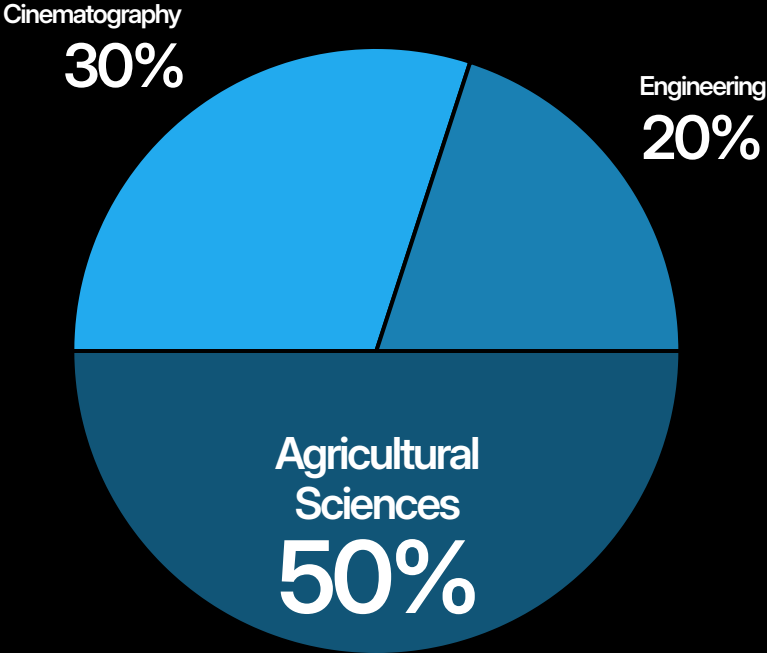
9.6%   
Hispanic

4.97%   
White

9.6%   
Two or More

3.31%   
Other

# PATHWAYS



| Cinematography                                                                                                                           | Engineering                                                                                                                                 | Agricultural Sciences                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Students can explore agricultural sciences and connect to community-based initiatives through the FFA club at Carter G. Woodson Academy. | The Engineering club provides hands-on projects and activities that develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills for CGWA scholars. | The STLP/Media Arts club at CGWA fosters digital literacy and creative expression, including opportunities in cinematography and artificial intelligence. |

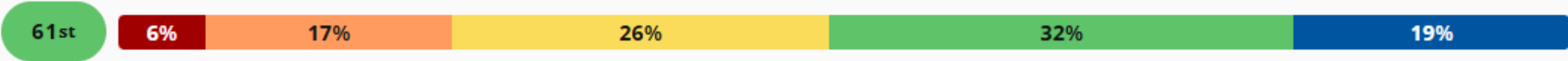
# Growth and Achievement Overview

Carter G. Woodson Academy | Reading

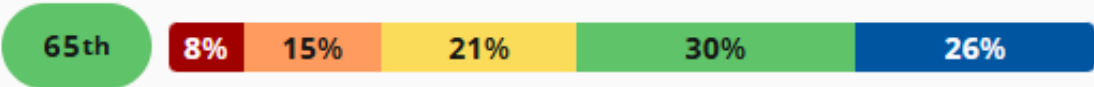
Grade

All Grades

Growth Median and Distribution



Achievement Fall 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



Achievement Spring 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



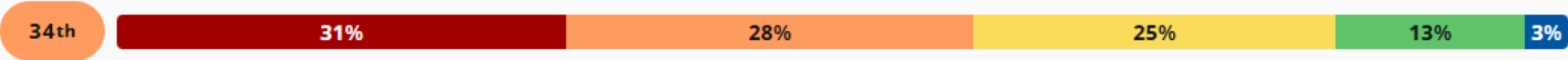
# Growth and Achievement Overview

Carter G. Woodson Academy | Math K-12

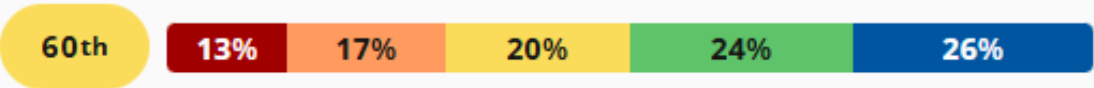
Grade

All Grades

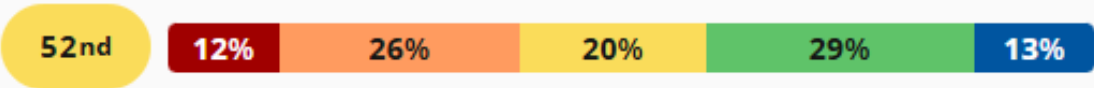
Growth Median and Distribution



Achievement Fall 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



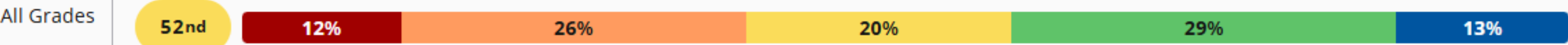
Achievement Spring 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



# Achievement Overview

Carter G. Woodson Academy | Math K-12

Grade Achievement Spring 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



Percentiles Key 1st - 20th 21st - 40th 41st - 60th 61st - 80th >80th

Rostere

# Achievement Overview

Carter G. Woodson Academy | Reading

Grade Achievement Spring 2024-2025 Median and Distribution



Percentiles Key 1st - 20th 21st - 40th 41st - 60th 61st - 80th >80th

Rostere



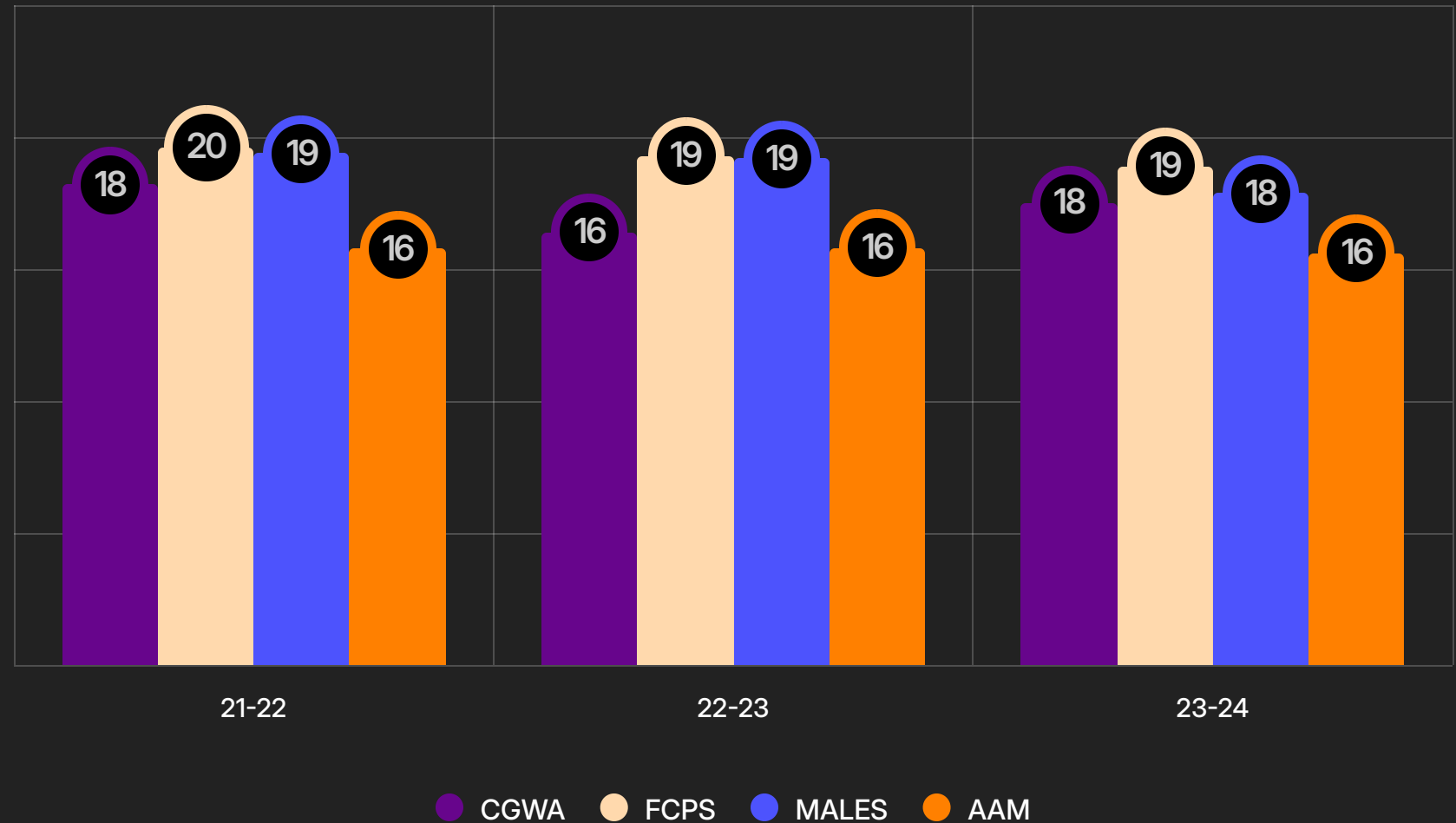
# 10.43%

CGWA consistently outperform African American males across Fayette County by an average of 10%.

# 46.3%

THE GAP BETWEEN CGWA AND THE DISTRICT AVERAGE HAS NARROWED BY NEARLY HALF SINCE 2022-23.

## ACT Performance Composite Analysis: CGWA vs. Comparison Groups



# KSA Performance Dashboard Highlights

*Nearly half of scholars meet or exceed grade-level expectations in Reading.*

## **Literacy Leads the Way**

***CGWA scholars outperform  
district trends in literacy and  
communication.***

*Nearly half of scholars meet or exceed grade-level expectations in Reading.*

**46% Reading Proficiency**

*Proficient or Distinguished across all subjects.*

**4 in 10**

**Grammar & Mechanics Mastery**

**35%+**

*More than half of scholars are Proficient or Distinguished in On-Demand Writing.*

**55.9% Writing Mastery**

*Proficient or Distinguished in Mathematics.*

**1/3**

**Approaching Mastery**

**37%**



# 100% GRADUATION RATE

A 100% graduation rate at Carter G. Woodson Academy underscores a culture of accountability, brotherhood, and academic excellence, proving that when students are seen, supported, and believed in, every scholar can cross the finish line prepared for what's next.

**By investing in cultural belonging, Carter G. Woodson Academy empowers young men to achieve academic excellence and develop into leaders of character and consequence.**

**This model demonstrates the transformative power of centering identity, building community, and providing holistic support – key strategies that align with FCPS's vision for Unity, Belonging, and Student Efficacy.**



