Wake STEM Early College High School



School Profile

2205 Walnut St, Cary, NC 27518 Phone: 919-694-8130 Fax: 919-589-6209

CEEB Code: 343219 Website: https://www.wcpss.net/stemec



Administrative Staff

Dr. Drew Ware, Principal
lware@wcpss.net
Sophia Overdiep, AP Instruction
soverdiep@wcpss.net
Ryan Haymore, Counselor and Dean of Students
rhaymore@wcpss.net

Wake STEM ECHS By the Numbers

o Total Enrollment: 284

First Generation College Students: 188

Students Served: Grades 9-13

Total Faculty: 26

Student to Teacher Ratio: 18:1

Average Class Size: 22

 Accreditations: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement, North Carolina Cooperative Innovative High School (CIHS)

Background

The Wake STEM Early College High School is a small public school of choice established in 2011. Our school is the result of a partnership between the Wake County Public School System and North Carolina State University. STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. STEM is the theme of our school's program in addition to our identity as an early college.

Mission

The mission of the Wake STEM Early College High School is to provide a highly supportive and academically challenging learning environment for students underserved in a traditional high school setting and underrepresented in the STEM disciplines, including first-generation college-going students, who will graduate prepared to compete globally in careers related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Curriculum

Students take the courses required for the North Carolina Future Ready Core, High School Diploma. These are the same basic requirements as at all NC public high schools. Students must earn 22 credits in specified courses to graduate and earn a high school diploma. Themes of science, technology, engineering, and math are carried throughout the curriculum. Arts courses are not offered in our program because they are outside the scope of our theme and resources. Our school was purposefully designed as a fiveyear program, allowing students to take advantage of free college courses for as long as possible. Students earn many of the credits required for a high school diploma in their first two years. They continue to take at least one high school course every year that they are in the program, up to five years. Students may choose to graduate after four years if they have completed all high school graduation requirements.

North Carolina State University Courses and Credits

Students take college courses starting in the third year of the program. In the fourth and/or fifth years, students are enrolled primarily in college level courses. Starting with students who entered the 9th grade in 2019-20 and continuing in following classes, college courses will factor into high school grade point average. Please note that the original North Carolina State University Transcript is the authoritative source for college grade information.

Graduation Requirements

Students are required to earn a minimum of 22 credits, including the following:

- 4 Credits of English
- 3 Credits of Science
- 4 Credits of Math
- **6 Credits Electives**
- 4 Credits of Social Studies
- 1 Credit of Health

Grading Scale and Honors

Quality Points

	AP/College	Honors	Academic
A = 90-100	5	4.5	4
B = 80-89	4	3.5	3
C = 70-79	3	2.5	2
D = 60-69	2	1.5	1
F = 59-0	0	0	0

Class Rank is determined by weighted cumulative gradepoint average and is displayed on transcripts. Both the weighted and unweighted cumulative grade-point averages are included on transcripts.

Students with a 3.75 – 3.99 weighted grade-point average shall receive the distinction of cum laude.

Students with a 4.0 – 4.249 weighted grade-point average shall receive the distinction of magna cum laude.

Students with a 4.25 or higher weighted grade point average shall receive the distinction of summa cum laude.

ACT and SAT Scores

AVERAGE SCORES	2023-24	2023-24	2024-25	2024-25
	ACT	SAT	ACT	SAT
Composite	26.2	1346	26	1385
English/SAT W.	24.4	654	25	683
Mathematics	27.4	692	26.4	702
Reading	26.7		26.2	
Science	25.6		26	

2025-26 Course Offerings

HN English 1	HN Earth Environmental		
	Science		
HN English 2	HN Physics		
AP English Language	AP Biology		
AP English Literature	Engineering Design 1		
HN Math 1	Engineering Design 2		
HN Math 2	Engineering Design 3		
HN Math 3	CTE Computer Science 1		
HN Pre-Calculus	AP Computer Science		
	Principles		
HN Magnet Projects in Math	+AP World History		
HN Topics in Calculus	AP United States History		
^AP Calculus AB	HN Economics and Personal		
	Finance		
AP Precalculus	Spanish 1		
+AP Statistics	Spanish 2		
HN CTE Project Management	HN Spanish 3		
1			
HN CTE Advanced Studies	Healthful Living 1 (STEM)		
HN CTE Internship STEM			

Students may take various additional elective courses through North Carolina Virtual Public School.

HN Denotes Honors Level Coursework

- + This AP courses were only added in 24-25 and was not available to current seniors or super senior students.
- ^ AP Calculus AB was only available to students starting high school with Math 1, 2 and 3, credit earned in middle school.

Awards and Recognitions

- US News and World Report, Ranked #6 in North Carolina, #2 in Raleigh Metro Area, #1 in Wake County Schools, #261 Nationally in Best High School's Ranking for 2024
- 100% of Seniors earned a WorkKeys National Career Readiness Credential in 2022-23
- National Magnet Schools of America, School of Distinction, 2015-16, 2019-20, 2021-22, 2022-23
- National Magnet Schools of America, School of Excellence, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19
- Secondary Magnet School of Merit Award of Excellence (National Top Secondary Magnet School), Magnet Schools of America, 2019
- North Carolina Model STEM School of Distinction, 2016 and 2024
- 2025 AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award