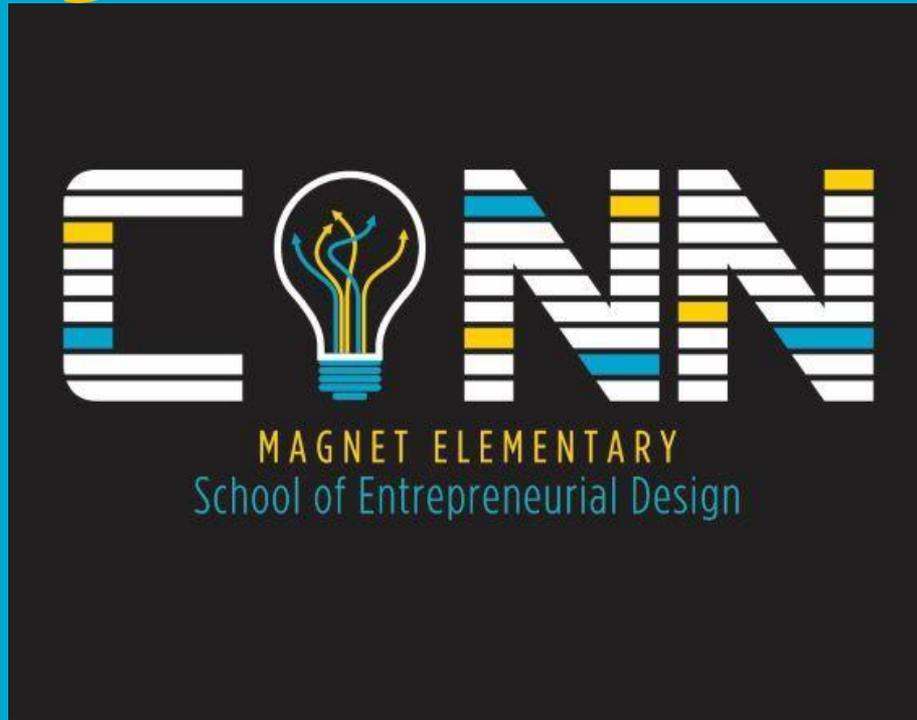


# Kindergarten Orientation



2020-2021

# Meet Our Administration



Ms. Chidester  
Principal  
gchidester@wcpss.net



Ms. Story  
Assistant Principal  
cstory1@wcpss.net

# Our Temporary Location



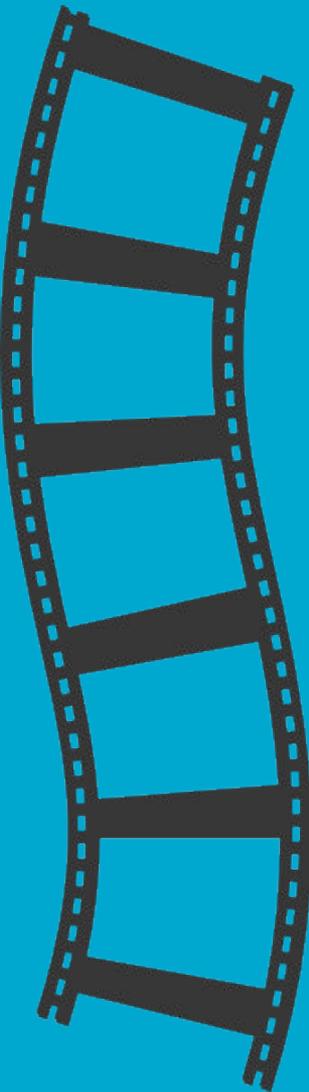
3851 Spring Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC 27616





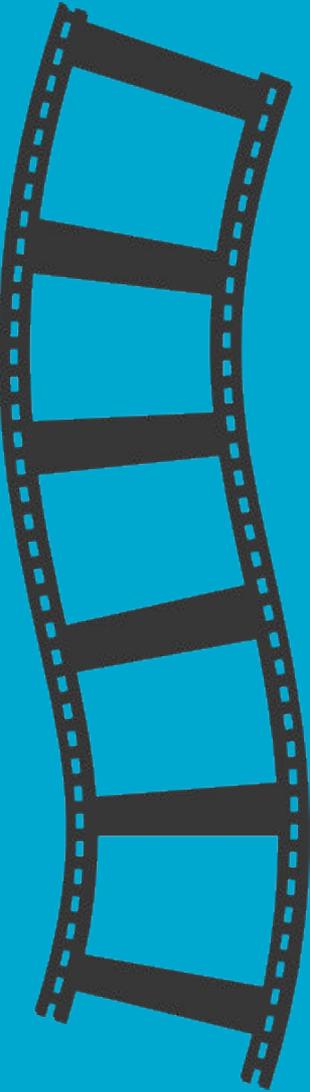






COMING

SOON!





# Our Future is Bright!



MAGNET ELEMENTARY  
School of Entrepreneurial Design





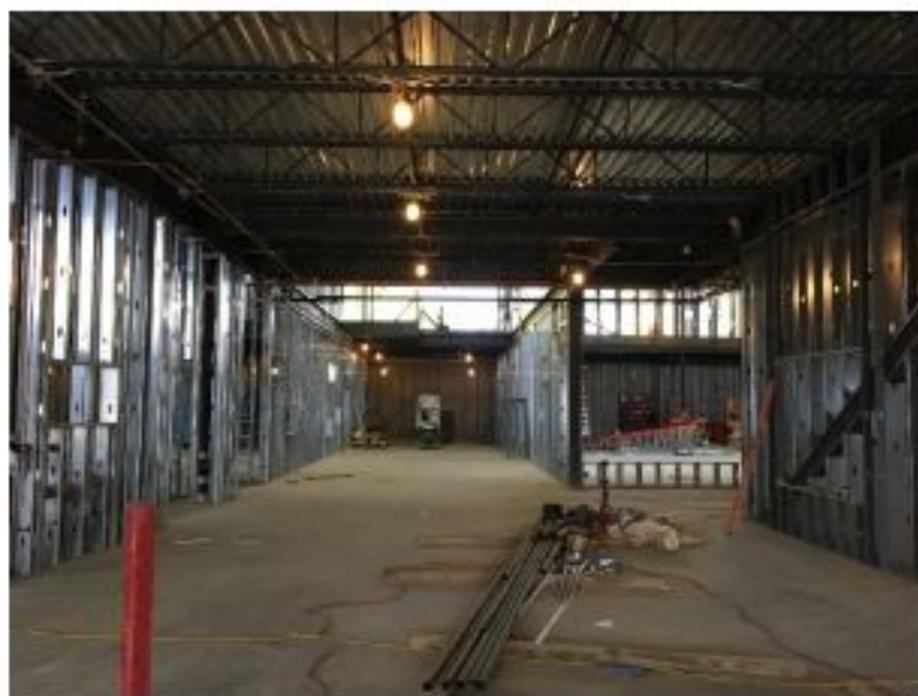
Overall view of Classroom Wing "A"



Overall view of Classroom Wing "B"



Overall view of Level 1 Admin Wing



Overall view of Main Entry Lobby



Overall view of building construction progress, from March 2020

# Meet Our Academic Support Team

Ms. Mariella -  
Instructional Facilitator



Ms. Hanley -  
AIG Teacher

Ms. Smith -  
Literacy Coach

Ms. Bolding -  
Magnet  
Coordinator

Ms. Dameron -  
Interventionist and Testing Coordinator

# Meet Our Student Support Team

Dr. Bennett -  
Psychologist

Ms. Hottle -  
Counselor

Ms. Carpenter -  
Behavior Coach

Ms. Brittani -  
Social-Worker



**Questions or  
Concerns?**

Please reach out to  
Erin Hottle (counselor)!

ehottle@wcpss.net  
919-480-2289

# Meet Our Focus Area Teachers

Ms. Shore -  
Librarian

Ms. Yelton -  
Visual Arts

Ms. Hansen -  
Digital Learning



Ms. Weaver -  
Drama

Ms. Theres -  
Music

Ms. Bowen -  
Dance

Coach Lyons -  
Physical Education

# Special Education

## Special Note for Parents

If your child has a Individualized Education Plan (IEP) you will be contacted soon to arrange a transition in Kindergarten meeting.



# Meet Our Kindergarten Team

## Teachers

Ms. Humeniuk

Ms. Mack

Ms. D'Occhio

Ms. Johnson



## Instructional Assistants

Ms. Wright

Ms. Young

Ms. Williams

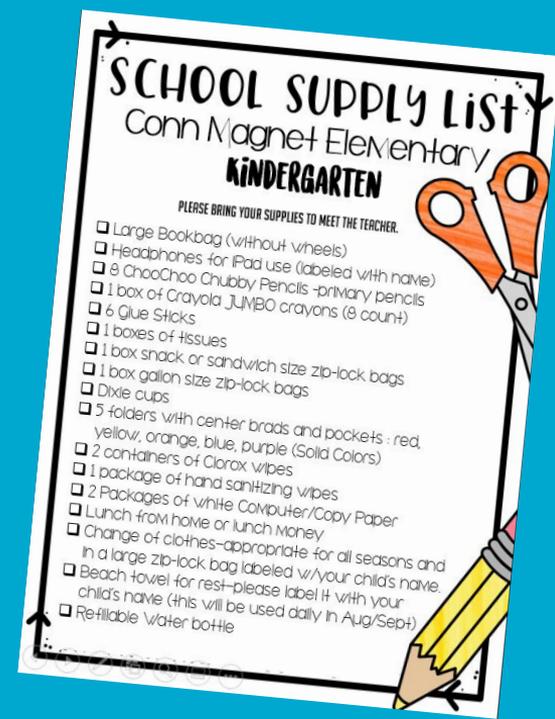
Ms. Copelin

# We've Got Spirit!



# School Supplies

- Large Bookbag (without wheels)
- Headphones for iPad use (labeled with name)
- 1 Pencil Box or Pouch
- 8 ChooChoo Chubby Pencils -primary pencils
- 2 boxes of Crayola JUMBO crayons (8 count)
- 6 Glue Sticks
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 box snack or sandwich size ziploc bags
- 1 box gallon size ziploc bags
- Dixie cups
- 5 folders with center brads and pockets : red, yellow, orange, blue, purple (Solid Colors)
- 2 containers of Clorox wipes
- 1 package of hand sanitizing wipes
- 2 Packages of white Computer/Copy Paper
- Lunch from home or lunch money
- Change of clothes—appropriate for all seasons and in a large zip-lock bag labeled with your child's name.
- Beach towel for rest—please label it with your child's name (this will be used daily in Aug/Sept)
- Refillable Water bottle



**\*Supply lists are subject to change over the summer.**

# Optional Donations

The following additional supplies would be greatly appreciated if you are able to donate:

- Headphones
- Water bottles
- Hand Sanitizer
- Hand Wipes
- Clorox Wipes
- White Paper Plates (various sizes)
- Plastic Utensils (forks, spoons)
- Tissues
- Healthy Snacks (ie. pretzels)



# Staggered Entry

At this time, we are unsure of what the start of school will look like for the 2020-2021 school year. As we receive more information and direction, we will make sure we communicate any information with you all. Below is what staggered entry looks like during a normal start.

- Staggered entry is an activity aimed at helping your child transition smoothly into kindergarten.
- Each kindergarten child will come for one full day during the first week of school. (you will be notified by letter in early August of your child's staggered entry date)
- Smaller group sizes allow the staff to offer individual attention and support as children try new things.
- An informal assessment is integrated into the day through play and learning activities.
- This assessment, along with observations over the first few weeks of school, will allow the staff to plan your child's instruction.

# Meet the Teacher

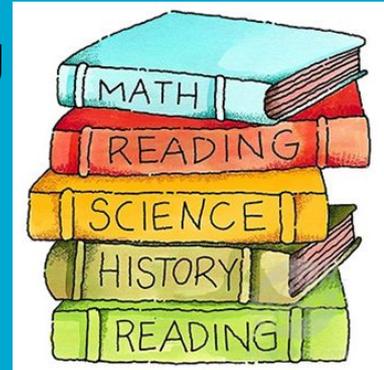
- How will you know who your child's teacher is?  
At the conclusion of staggered entry, you will be told who your child's teacher is for the upcoming school year.
- When is Meet the Teacher?  
The date for this event is to be determined.
- When is the "official" first day of school?  
The date for this event is to be determined.



# Academic Skills

## Foundational Skills

- Reading and writing 1<sup>st</sup> name without a model (have you tried lowercase letters?)
- Identifying letters of the alphabet in random order and producing some letter sounds
- Recognizing the front and back of a book, and the title of a book
- Recognizing when words **do** and **do not** rhyme. Begin to create rhyming words
- Counting objects with 1-1 matching to 20 and counting aloud to 20, recognizing numbers in random order
- Identifying basic shapes and colors
- Naming how shapes are alike and different



# Social Skills

## Self Help

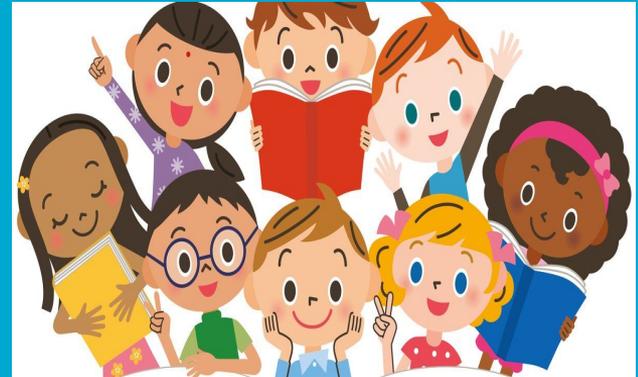
- Expressing wants and needs
- Willing to accept help or suggestions from adults
- Healthy Hygiene—hand washing, covering mouth, blowing nose etc.
- Zipping/buttoning pants and jackets

## Interacting with Peers

- Playing without intruding on a peer's space
- Identifying fairness
- Maintaining composure

## Listening and Speaking

- Using words, not actions, to indicate common objects
- Participating in a conversation with 2-3 interchanges on a given topic



# School Health Tips & Tricks

State law requires every child entering public schools in North Carolina for the first time to receive a health assessment. The assessment must occur within 12 months prior to entering school. You or your medical provider should provide a completed N.C. Health Assessment Form to the school on or before the child's first day of attendance. N.C. Health Assessment Forms are also available at Wake County schools, area doctors' offices or at the Wake County Health Department.

State law requires these vaccinations before a student enters kindergarten and 7th grade.

[Click here to access the Health Assessment Form](#)



# School Nurse

- School Nurses in Wake County typically serve 2-3 schools with WCPSS.
- Nurses provide services one to three days per week in each school.
- One goal of School Health Services is to keep all students healthy and safe in order to improve attendance and educational outcomes.

Please notify or contact our school nurse about...

- Medication
- Allergies, chronic health conditions or other special needs



School Nurse, Ms. Mann, RN, [blmann@wcpss.net](mailto:blmann@wcpss.net)

# Immunizations & Health Forms

- All immunizations and health forms must be current.
- The parent, guardian or responsible person has 30 calendar days from the first day of attendance to present the required written proof of immunizations and health forms. The child CAN be excluded from school until proof is provided.
- If you have any questions about your child's immunizations or health forms please contact the school nurse prior to the start date.



# Medication

- Medications will be administered at school ONLY if a Physician Order for Medication form (1702) is completed, signed by the physician and parent and is in the possession of school officials.
- These forms are available at the front office.
- ALL medications must be brought to school by parent/guardian.
- ALL medications must be in the original pharmacy container with original label on it.
- Parents may bring other medications to be administered at school such as cough drops, Motrin, Tylenol or poison ivy creams, etc. ONLY if a Physician Order for Medication form, 1702 is completed, signed by physician and parent and the medicine is in the original container.



# Chronic Illness

- If your child has a chronic illness such as diabetes, severe asthma, severe allergies or seizures, please contact your school nurse.
- A health care plan can be developed indicating steps to be taken if your child requires medical care at school.



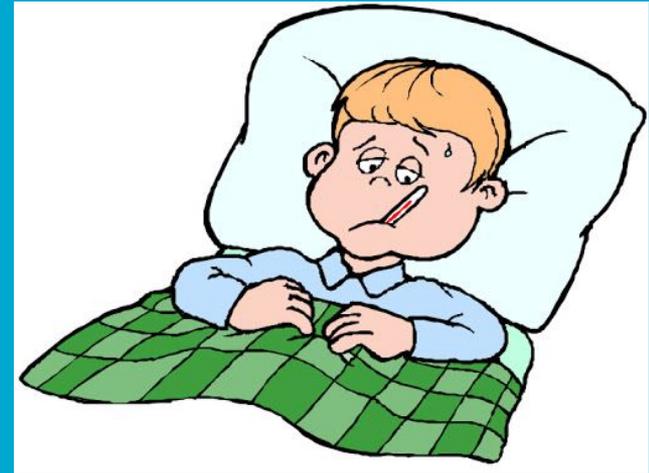
# Stay Home

Children should be kept home from school with:

- Fever of 100 or higher

(Should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school).

- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Severe headache
- Red, watery eyes with yellow drainage
- Undiagnosed rash



# Stay Healthy

- Children learn best when they eat a healthy breakfast and receive adequate sleep. Five year olds require 10-11 hours of sleep every night.
- It is important for your child to attend school daily and to be on time.
- Studies show that frequent hand washing prevents colds and flu.
- Instruct your children in good hand washing techniques.

[Click Here to view hand washing rules!](#)



# Child Nutrition Services

Conn's Cafeteria offers students daily breakfast and lunch.

Kindergarten students can purchase snack on **FRIDAYS** in the cafeteria.

Students have the option to bring a well balanced lunch from home or have a well balanced school provided lunch.

Students have a daily snack time in class. (more info to come from your child's teacher in the fall)

Lunch Number: Your child's NCWISE ID number.



# Meal Plans and Prices

On our school website, you can access information on meal prices, free and reduced meals and how to purchase school meals online!



**CONN MAGNET**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
*School of Entrepreneurial Design*

Gabriel Chidester, Principal  
Main Office: 919-856-7637  
School Hours: 8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.  
2020 Magnet School of Distinction

HOME

OUR SCHOOL

ACADEMICS AND PROGRAMS

STUDENTS

PARENTS

MAGNET



## School Meals

- Menus
- Purchase Meals
- Free/Reduced Meals

Home > Parents > School Meals

### 2019-20 Meal prices

	Elementary	Middle	High
Breakfast Paid	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.50
Lunch Paid	\$ 2.75	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00

Wake County Board of Education [Policy 6221](#): Meal Charges

### PURCHASE MEALS ONLINE

With a MySchool Bucks account paying for school meals is easy. Go to [www.MySchoolBucks.com](http://www.MySchoolBucks.com) or call (855) 832-5226 to enroll. You'll need your child's NCWISE ID number, available in your registration materials or at your school. Once your account is established you may:



Download the **MySchoolBucks** app and get convenient access to meal balances, purchases, and make payments right from your phone!

# Get CONNected!

Conn  
T-Shirts

www.connpta.org  
#COMMUNITY  
#nolimits  
#oneconn

@connpta  
connelementarypta

CONN

I Identify a Problem  
D Develop a Plan  
E Execute the Plan  
A Assess  
S Share

PTA  
Meetings

Volunteer

CONNival/  
PTA  
Events

PTA Website

<http://www.connpta.org/>

Join the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA)!

# Communication

## Staying CONNected

- Facebook: [facebook.com/connmagnet](https://facebook.com/connmagnet)
- PTA Website: [connpta.org/](https://connpta.org/)
- PTA Facebook: [facebook.com/ConnPTA](https://facebook.com/ConnPTA)
- Twitter: [@ConnMagnet](https://twitter.com/ConnMagnet)
- School Website: [wcpss.net/connes](https://wcpss.net/connes)

## During the School Year

- Read your child's Friday Folder
- Utilize your child's Daily Folder
- TalkingPoints
- Email
- Attend special nights and events at Conn
- Read Ms. Chidester's Weekly Message



# CONNTact Information

- Keep your contact information at the school current. The school needs to know of any changes in your home, cell, or work numbers immediately.
- Please make sure that the school has an emergency contact number in case you cannot be reached.

# Volunteer

- Register during Meet the Teacher on a school computer (online county wide background check) -or- in the media center
- Weekly volunteers
- Visit for lunch (after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school)
- Chaperone a field trip
- Help prepare our Friday Folders
- Donate items



# Transportation

- Carpool (practice buckling/unbuckling seat belts and sit on the right side of the back seat)
- Buses
- Child care vans
- Before and after school care at Conn



**If your child ever needs to change their transportation, even for a day, we require a written note or a call to the front office prior to 3:00pm. LAST CHECK-OUT prior to 3:15pm.**

# “Little Thinkers, BIG IDEAS”



Conn Magnet Elementary School is the only school in Wake County to offer students with the specialized Entrepreneurial Design program built on experiencing innovation. Daily instruction across all content areas is delivered through the lens of Entrepreneurial Design. Conn’s program offers authentic, hands-on opportunities with local entrepreneurs.



# What is Entrepreneurial Design?



Entrepreneurial Design involves teaching students how to utilize a problem-solving approach when approaching a task. CONNtreprenurs are “thinkers and tinkers” who are taught to: take Risks, utilize Design Thinking, explore new ideas, be innovative, and fail forward!





# Big Idea Week Projects



All students, in all core classes, across all grade levels participate in quarterly culminating “Big Idea” Projects. These project pull together all core-area standards learned from that particular quarter. The students use our IDEAS Design Thinking Process, to problem-solve through STEM-based challenges.

The focus of the Big Idea Projects help students to build comfort and proficiency in utilizing a Design Thinking process in their approach to problem solve.



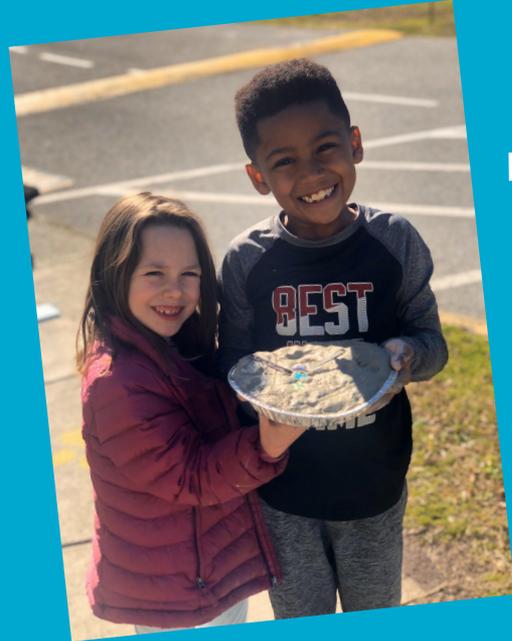
# K-2 BIW Projects

Kindergarteners developed devices to protect Humpty Dumpty from his big fall, with the help of our local community firefighters.



First Graders made stepping stones after studying rocks and minerals.

Second graders created sound mazes with Sphero robots after learning about pitch, vibration and the way sound travels.



# 3-5 BIW Projects

Third graders built pollinator hotels after learning all about plants and pollinators.



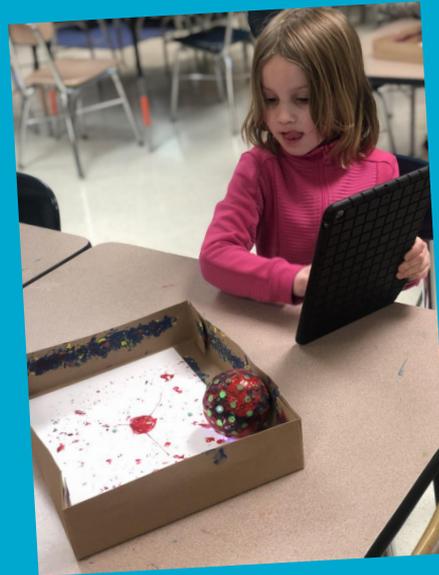
Fourth graders designed exercise and meal plans for astronauts and launch their packages to space.

Fifth graders developed a 3D amusement park based on the systems of the human body.



# Digital Learning

At Conn Magnet Elementary School of Entrepreneurial Design, we embed Digital Learning with Design Thinking across all content areas. Our students have access to iPads, Chromebooks, Robotics, 3D printing and a Glowforge.



# K-2 Technology

K-2 students use iPads within their classroom. Approximate maximum daily screen time is non-sequential with cumulative time no longer than 45 minutes at the highest grade in this span; used in short spans on a rotational basis.

Digital Learning includes:

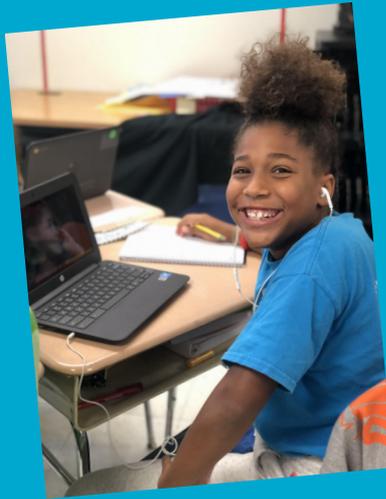
- Dreambox
- Literacy apps and Programs
- Seesaw
- Goosechase
- Google Expedition
- Ozobots
- Sphero Robots



# 3-5 Technology



3-5 students use Google Chromebooks within their classroom. Approximate maximum daily screen time depends on level of need due to complexity of assignment and/or collaborative group work.



Digital Learning includes:

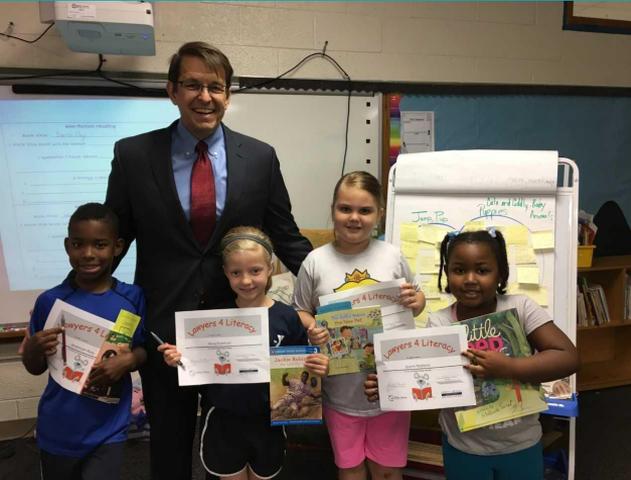
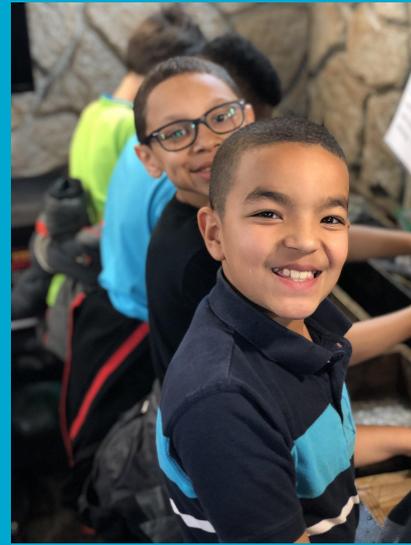
- Dreambox
- Google Classroom
- Google Slides
- Google Docs
- Office 365, OneDrive
- Spheros, Ozobots, Dot and Dash
- NC Wise Owl and Discovery Education
- Student Digital Portfolios



# Community CONNections

Our robust community CONNections have been utilized at Conn for many years; therefore, the school has uniquely positive and impactful relationships with many community leaders and local companies!

- Local Business Partnerships
- Expert Speakers
- Community Excursions
- STEM Collaborative Network Member

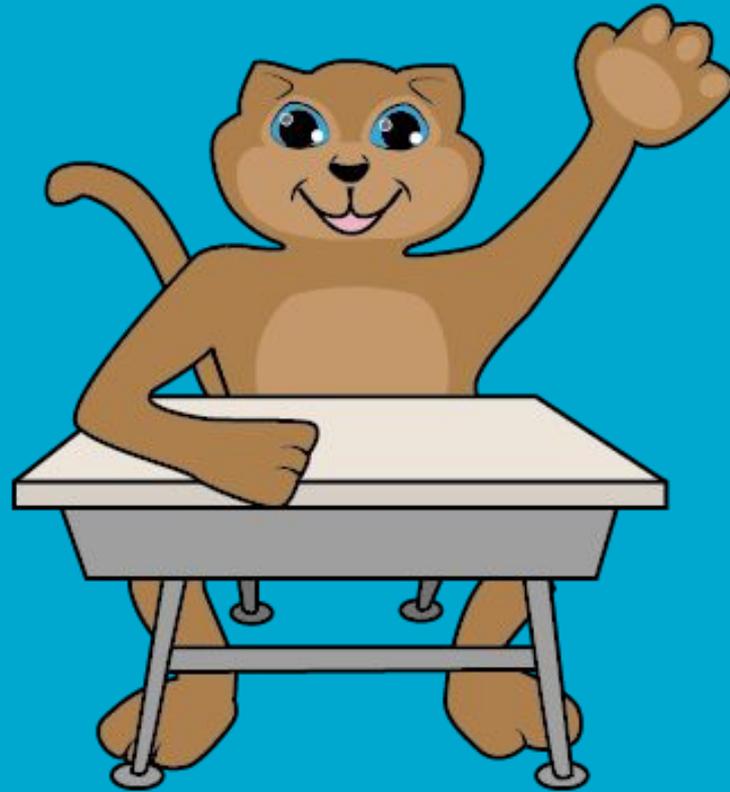


# Focus Areas

- Dance
- Drama
- Digital Learning
- Visual Arts
- Music
- Physical Education



# Frequently Asked Questions



# Frequently Asked Questions



## 1. What are your school hours?

Our instructional day is 9:15 am to 3:45 pm. Students may be dropped off as early as 8:45 We are considered a late start elementary. We are also on the traditional calendar.

## 2. Does Conn have before or after school programs?

Yes, before school care is run by our teacher assistants and begins at 7:00 am. The afterschool program is offered through the Alexander YMCA, they provide rotation-based activities for students including technology, physical activity, homework help, crafts, and more. This is available until 6:00 pm.

## 3. What time is lunch?

Each class receives 25 minutes for lunch. Class lunch times are staggered from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

# Frequently Asked Questions



## 4. What is the daily schedule like?

We follow the district wide minute requirements for each subject area. Students have daily lunch, recess and focus areas. Below is example of the kindergarten schedule.

8:45 am - 9:15 am

9:15 am - 9:25 am

9:25 am - 11:00 am

11:00 am - 11:25/30 am

11:35 am - 12:05 pm

12:15 pm - 12:45 pm

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm

1:55 pm - 2:40 pm

2:45 pm - 3:30 pm

3:30 pm - 3:40 pm

Morning Work

Family Time

Literacy (90 mins)

Lunch

Recess

Literacy Continued (30 mins)

Math

Specials

Science

Prepare for dismissal

# Frequently Asked Questions



## 5. How is instruction differentiated?

- Teachers daily planning time
- Teacher collaboration with content specialists
- Weekly Professional Learning Teams
- Data-driven instruction
- Full-time AIG instructor
- K-3 Junior Explorers program

## 6. When is recess?

Students receive 30 minutes of recess daily.

## 7. What is the average class size?

We follow state mandated class size laws. The average class size for K-3 classrooms is 18 students.

# Frequently Asked Questions



## 8. Do the classes have an Instructional Assistant?

Our kindergarten and first grade classrooms each have an instructional assistant.

## 9. How many students are at Conn?

Currently, we about 500 students enrolled.

## 10. How do students choose their focus areas?

K-1st grade students attend focus areas on a rotational basis. 2nd-5th grade students receive a focus area choice form before the focus area quarter begins. The students will rate their choices. Students are placed in their assigned focus area. Students typically always get their first or second choice.



*Thank you for joining us!*



Stay CONNected with CONN

Facebook: [facebook.com/connmagnet](https://www.facebook.com/connmagnet)



Twitter: [@ConnMagnet](https://twitter.com/ConnMagnet)



School Website: [wcpss.net/connes](http://wcpss.net/connes)

