

## FY23 CPS Student Competitions and Unique Opportunities

*\*This is a working document and revisions may be made throughout the school year.*

**Art:** Students in grades 1-3 have art class as part of their activity rotation. During art, students can create in various artistic styles.

**Art Show:** All students in grades 1-3 have the opportunity to display a piece of their original artwork in the spring art show.

**Big Jacket-Little Jacket Program:** Students in grades 1-3 in need of a mentor are paired with a buddy from Calhoun High School. Big Jackets visit with their little jackets each week to establish a positive relationship and support the student in his or her academic and behavior.

**Chorus:** Students in grades 2-3 may audition at the beginning of the school year to become a member of the Stinger Singers. Choral groups perform in conjunction with many community service organizations.

**Environmental Education Program:** Students in grades 1-3 participate in a comprehensive Going Green initiative each year. Plastic, aluminum, paper, used markers, etc. are recycled. Raised beds and a composting system give students the opportunity to be involved in a farm-to-table initiative. Students enhance the aesthetics of the campus on planting days adding trees, shrubs, and bulbs.

**Math Mania:** Math Mania is an annual school-level math competition in grades 1-3. Students qualify to compete in Math Mania as a result of their winter MAP benchmark scores. Students compete at the individual level. Medals are issued to the top three individual winners at each grade level.

**Poster Contests:** Students in grades 1-3 have the opportunity to participate in various poster contests throughout the year. Two annual events include Drugs Don't Work, and School Bus Safety. Students complete poster work during art class to coincide with the given theme and specifications. That work is judged and school-level winners are selected. In the Drugs Don't Work competition, the 1-3 winner has his or her work displayed at the Harris Art Center and on a community poster sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. One piece of art is selected 1-3 for the School Bus safety contest submitted to the state for the next round of competition.

**Project-Based Learning (PBL):** All students in grades 1-3 have PBL as part of the activity rotation. PBL gives students the opportunity to engage in a high-interest unit of study outside of their regular curriculum for an extended period of time. Students utilize critical and creative thinking skills while developing their ability to collaborate and communicate to complete given tasks and projects.

**Science Fair:** Students in grades 1-3 may enter a project in the school-level science fair each year. Detailed step-by-step information about the process is communicated to students at the beginning of the second semester. Project due dates are set and students participating meet with judges to explain their process. Medals are awarded to the top three projects in each grade.

**STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math):** Students in grades 1-3 have STEM as part of their special activity rotation. The STEM class will focus on the engineering and design process throughout the year. Classrooms also incorporate the engineering process into units of study in the academic areas. The school designates full STEM days throughout the school year and an annual family STEM night. Within STEM-based activities, students work through the creative and engineering design process to learn through experimentation and adaptation. STEM leads students to the construction of new ideas and innovation.

**Spelling Bee:** Students in 3rd grade have the opportunity to earn a seat in the school spelling bee each year. Spelling is assessed in each classroom to determine who will represent the group. One student per classroom competes in the school-level Spelling Bee held in the spring of the year. Medals are given to the top three places.

**Technology Competition:** Students in grades 1-3 have the opportunity to participate in the district's technology competition. Students placing first at the CCS Tech Competition will compete at the Northwest Regional Tech Competition in January. Students placing first at the regional level will compete at the GA Student Technology Competition in February.

**Young Georgia Authors (YGA):** The purpose of YGA writing competition is to encourage students to develop an enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics. Students in grades 1-3 work through the writing process daily. During the second semester, a piece of writing is selected from each student for refinement. One story is selected per class to compete in the grade-level competition at the school level. Outside judges select the top piece of work at each grade level. School level winners proceed to the RESA level competition and RESA level winners move on to the state competition.