

Neuse Charter School Ranked Nationally By U.S. News & World Report



Neuse Charter School Contributed Photo

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Neuse Charter School, the first charter school established in Johnston County and now the top-performing charter school in the county, has been recognized by [U.S. News & World Report as one of the Best High Schools in the Nation](#). Neuse Charter School was also named one of the Best Charter High Schools in the Nation. The rankings evaluate nearly 24,000 schools at the national, state, and local levels, with nearly 18,000 ranked.

The methodology focuses on six factors: college readiness; reading, math, and science proficiency; reading, math, and science performance; underserved student performance; college curriculum breadth; and graduation rates.

“We believe every student deserves access to clear, actionable data when choosing their educational path,” said LaMont Jones, managing editor for education at U.S. News. “In an era where navigating educational opportunities can feel overwhelming for families, the 2025-2026 Best High School rankings help students and parents identify schools that align with their goals and empower informed decisions that shape students’ futures.”

As Neuse Charter continues to grow, the school remains committed to offering families a high-quality public education option built on strong relationships, high expectations, and a shared belief that every child can thrive.

“This recognition belongs to our entire Neuse Charter community,” said Dr. Melissa Blackwell, Superintendent of Neuse Charter School. “Our students are learning not just academics, but perseverance and resiliency. Our staff guides them with care and commitment, continuously challenging them to be their best. We’re proud to serve Johnston County as a public charter school, and this honor reminds us that when schools and communities work together, our kids win.”

Neuse Charter School is the only independently governed and operated K-12 charter school in Johnston County.