



Operations

Provide safe and efficient facilities, maintenance, and transportation services.

Third-Year Focus

The *Whitfield County Schools Five-Year Strategic Plan* lists three objectives for Operations, each with several action steps. We focused on one of those action steps during this third year.



School Entrance Security Upgrades

The district is currently upgrading all school entrances to ensure the safety of our students and staff by enhancing safety measures already in place at every school.

Adding security vestibules and Aiphones are two examples of the upgrades happening in schools around the county.

The Transportation Department continues to conduct driver safety and awareness, first aid, AED, CPR, Stop the Bleed, and National Safety Council Driving Program training.



District Safety Coordinator Richard Knox and Board Chair Bill Worley present Stop the Bleed course participants with their certificates.



School Safety Plan Re-certified by GEMA

The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA) recognized the Whitfield County School System for its efforts to promote safe schools. The district collaborates with various local, state, and federal public safety agencies to ensure WCS students, staff, and guests know how to respond during an emergency. The school safety plan is continually refined based on current best practices.

“Our system’s technology department has worked side by side with the maintenance and transportation departments to develop systems that have greatly increased efficiency and effectiveness.”

—LARRY FARNER – NORTH WHITFIELD MIDDLE PRINCIPAL

Action Steps

Provide better building access for all

Improved accessibility for all students, staff, and visitors in our facilities.



Pleasant Grove Elementary is among three schools to receive a special needs accessible playground approved by the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

\$80,000

in wheelchair lifts and elevator replacement and upgrades at three locations, funded by ESPLOST

\$175,000

in special needs accessible playgrounds installed at three locations, thanks to a combination of private donations and public funding



Driveway construction is underway for Tunnel Hill Elementary School.

\$292,000

in building and athletic facility accessibility improvements at four locations, funded by ESPLOST

\$335K

in special needs accessibility improvements to school facilities

300K

nutritious high-quality school meals served during the 2017–2018 school year

500GB

of video storage on newly upgraded bus video security system

\$200K

in facility security upgrades