

2026



Greenbrier
Community School

ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY:
RECE NESTER,
HEAD OF SCHOOL



LETTER FROM SCHOOL LEADERSHIP & OUR MISSION

LETTER

This year marked a period of thoughtful growth and renewed commitment to our mission. With our sights set on full accreditation from the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) this spring, the leadership of a generous donor spearheading the development of a robust endowment, and the addition of outstanding new faculty members, our momentum has been both purposeful and inspiring.

We completed a new addition of two classrooms and a study room to expand our campus to now include 7th and 8th grades for a complete middle school program. We welcomed new families and maintained strong waitlists in our early education and elementary programs. Throughout this growth, we remain grounded in our purpose and mission.

We completed the ISACS Community Survey in 2025 to help assess our strengths and areas for improvement. Please look for those statistics in blue arrows throughout this report.

Guided by strong relationships, inspired teaching, and an engaged community, our school continues to thrive as a place where students are known, challenged, and supported. We are deeply grateful to our faculty, families, board members, and donors whose dedication and partnership make this important work possible.

If you haven't visited recently, I would love the opportunity to show you our wonderful school community.

With sincere thanks,

Rece

MISSION

Our mission is to cultivate an inclusive community, founded on relationships, that nurtures the whole child and inspires creativity, problem solving, and independent thinking through challenging and collaborative learning experiences —empowering every student to grow as an engaged citizen and critical thinker.

BY THE NUMBERS



	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	PROJECTED 2026-2027
STUDENTS ENROLLED	57	62	73	83	96
WAITLIST	5	7	13	24	52
FACULTY MEMBERS	18	19	22	27	29
BOARD MEMBERS	8	8	8	8	8
GRADE LEVELS SERVED	18 Month - 5 th Grade	18 Month - 6 th Grade	18 Months - 6 th Grade	18 Months - 8 th Grade	18 Months - 8 th Grade
OPERATING BUDGET	466,411.00	564,668.00	634,489	\$798,917	\$888,317
FUNDRAISING GOAL	86,200	87,500	105,000	\$112,000	\$116,000
TUITION EARLY ED - ELEMENTARY - MIDDLE SCHOOL	\$5,400 \$8,250 NA	\$5,400 \$8,250 NA	\$5,400 8,150 NA	\$5,900 \$8,650 \$8,650	\$5,900 \$8,650 \$9,150
BOLLING- CLAY SCHOLARSHIP	NA	4	3	3	Unknown
TUITION ASSISTANCE	9	13	8	4	Unknown
HOPE SCHOLARSHIP	18	25	37	46	Unknown

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



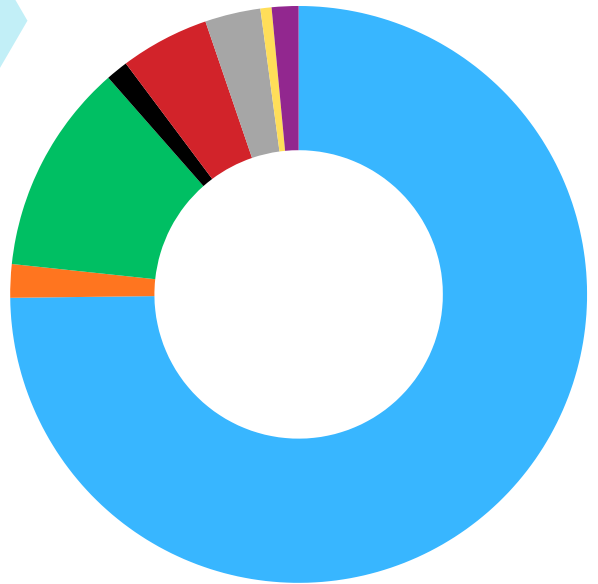
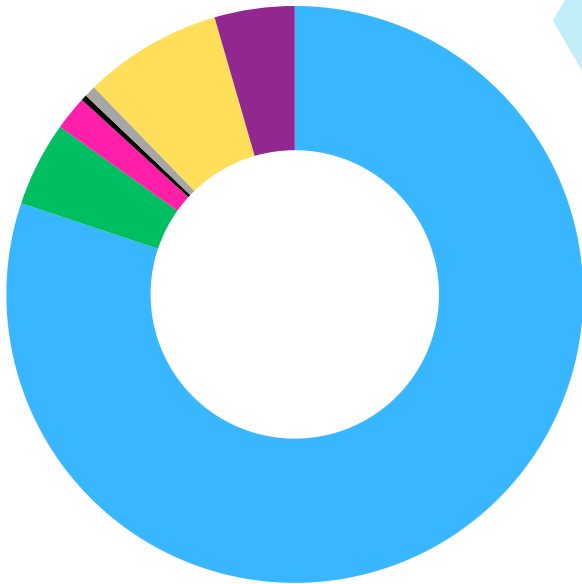
OPERATING EXPENSES: \$798,917

- Wages
- Fundraising Events
- Curriculum
- School Events
- Faculty Development
- Utilities
- Supplies

OPERATING INCOME: \$798,917

- Tuition
- Annual Fund
- Auction
- School Fundraisers
- Extended Care
- After School
- Summer Play Days
- Gym Rental

**TOTAL NET
INCOME:
\$0**



For the first time in 11 years, tuition increased by \$500 in 2025 to better compensate our teachers and strengthen academic programs. Even with growing operational costs, we remain dedicated to keeping tuition affordable and promoting educational equity.

ANNUAL BUDGET

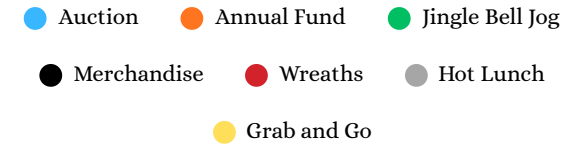
Greenbrier Community School’s budget is developed collaboratively by the Head of School and the Board of Trustees to ensure financial decisions support the school’s mission and program priorities. Each spring, a proposed budget, guided by enrollment projections, staffing needs, and operational costs, is presented to the Board for review and approval. Financial performance is monitored throughout the year through regular reporting and oversight to ensure responsible stewardship and long-term stability.



PHILANTHROPY

2025 - 2026 FUNDRAISING: \$112,000

FUNDRAISING SCHEDULE	
ANNUAL FUND	July 1 - June 30
MERCHANDISE	September
JINGLE BELL JOG	November
WREATH ORDERS	November/December
ANNUAL AUCTION	April
YARD SALE	May



PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

To keep tuition accessible for families while maintaining the quality and strength of our programs, we must raise more than \$100,000 each year through fundraising efforts. These funds bridge the gap between tuition and the true cost of providing enriching educational experiences and resources for our students.

Our Annual Auction is the cornerstone of these efforts, typically **generating about 75% of our total annual fundraising** and bringing together families, friends, and community partners in support of our mission.

While the auction plays a major role, it is the collective generosity of our community that makes this work possible. Every contribution—through donations, sponsorships, participation, or volunteering—helps sustain and strengthen our programs.

Every gift—regardless of size—plays a critical role in advancing our mission.



GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION



Our school is guided by a committed Board of Trustees that provides strategic leadership, fiscal oversight, and long-term vision. Together with families and staff, the Board helps ensure sustainability while remaining true to our values.

Additionally, Board members have made commitments in two primary areas:

- To take an active role in fundraising for GCS;
- To be responsible for chairing committees in their areas of interest and expertise.

The Head of School, appointed by the Board of Trustees, is responsible for the School’s daily operations and finance management, academic program, and overall well-being. Working closely with the Board, the Head implements its policies and goals, oversees education and admissions, supervises and evaluates faculty and staff, and ensures students are supported to reach their full potential.

The Assistant Head of School serves as both Lead Teacher and administrator, supporting the academic functions of the school. Working closely with the Head of School, the Assistant Head helps implement professional duties, supports teachers in evaluating and implementing curriculum and teaching practices, monitors student and faculty performance, ensures effective observations, and provides leadership and mentorship in academic philosophy, curriculum, and subject areas.

The Administrative Assistant works closely with the Head of School to support the overall needs and well-being of the school community. The Admin Assistant helps coordinate daily operations, supports staff and students, and fosters clear communication among families and the broader school community.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION CHART	
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Policies, Fiscal Oversight
RECE NESTER	Head of School
SAMANTHA THOMAS	Assistant Head of School
SHEENA ELIZARRAGA	Administrative Assistant

2025 ISACS COMMUNITY SURVEY RATINGS:

- Administration/Staff Performance 97%
- Board of Trustees Performance 81%

COMMITTEES

Greenbrier Community School values shared leadership and community engagement. The Board of Trustees and administration are supported by committees chaired by board members with members drawn from parents, faculty, and community members.

COMMITTEES	BUILDING & GROUNDS	SCHOLARSHIP	FINANCE	PR & MARKETING	DEVELOPMENT	EDUCATION
CHAIR HEAD	Lance Syner	Janice Cooley	Matt Mandel	Pete Beebe	Lauren Miller	Mary Catherine Tuckwiller

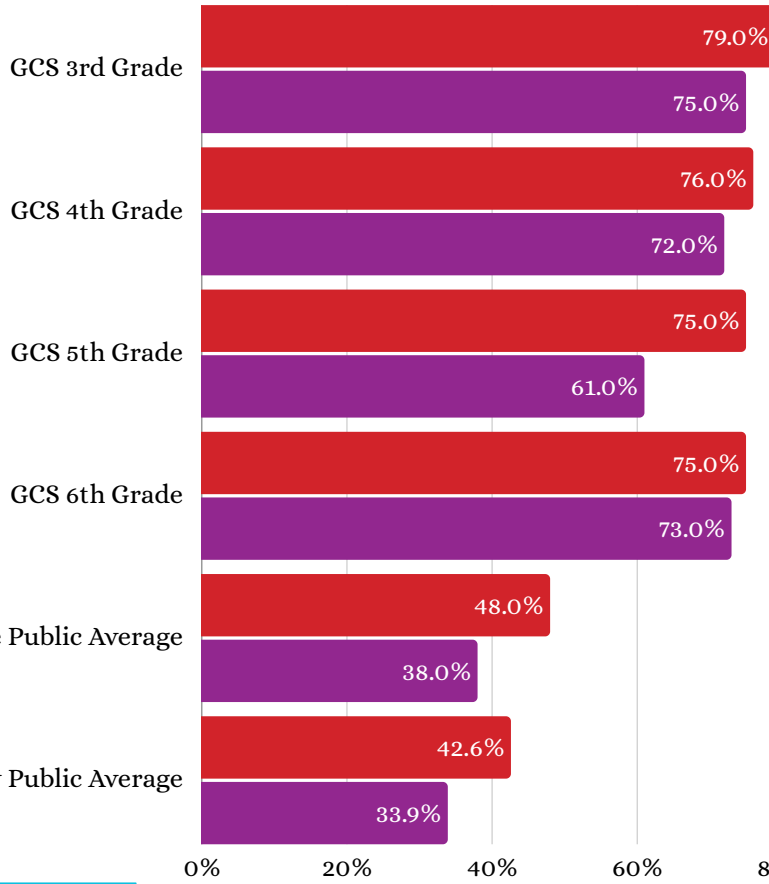
2025 STANDARDIZED TESTING & ACHIEVEMENTS



2025 National Percentile Rank

Iowa Assessment - Seton Testing

● Reading ● Math



NATIONAL PERCENTILE RANK

- 75th Percentile: The student performed as well as or better than 75% of the national norm group.
- 99th Percentile: The student is in the top 1% of test-takers nationally.
- 20th Percentile: The student outperformed 20% of their peers, while 80% scored higher.

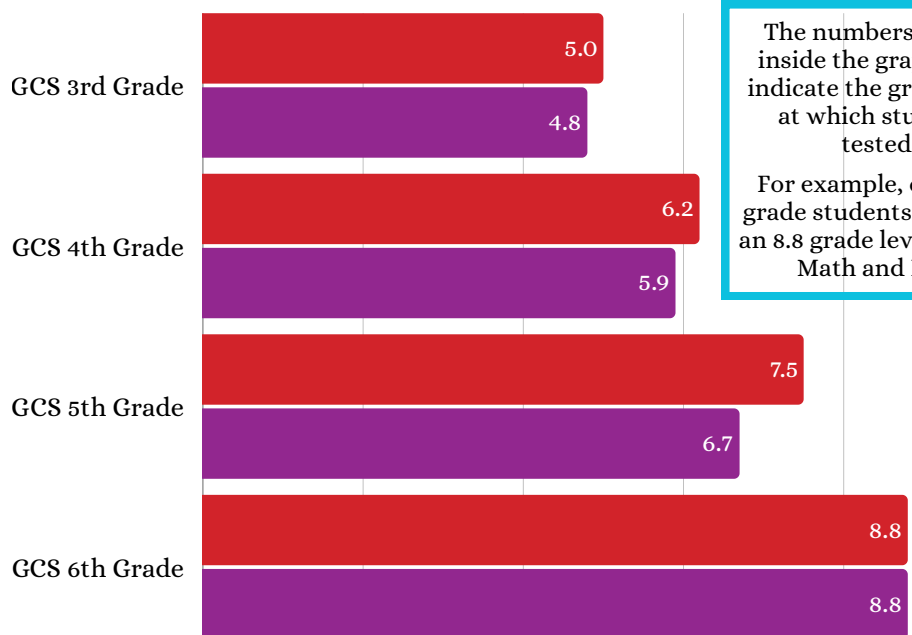
STUDENT AWARDS

Students participate in a number of community programs and contests.

- GCS & Regional Science Fair Winners - both moving onto States
- GCS Social Studies Fair Winners moving onto Regionals
- Creative Writers Contest 7th and 8th grade winners at the county level - our 7th grade winner is moving onto States
- Martin Luther King Essay Contest Winners (4th, 5th & 6th grades)
- Martin Luther King Art Contest Winner (2nd grade)
- Carnegie Hall's Creative Youth Art Exhibit

Grade Equivalent of Average Standard Score

● Reading ● Math



The numbers shown inside the graph lines indicate the grade level at which students tested.

For example, our 6th-grade students tested at an 8.8 grade level in both Math and ELA.

Grade Level Equivalency: 0

2

4

6

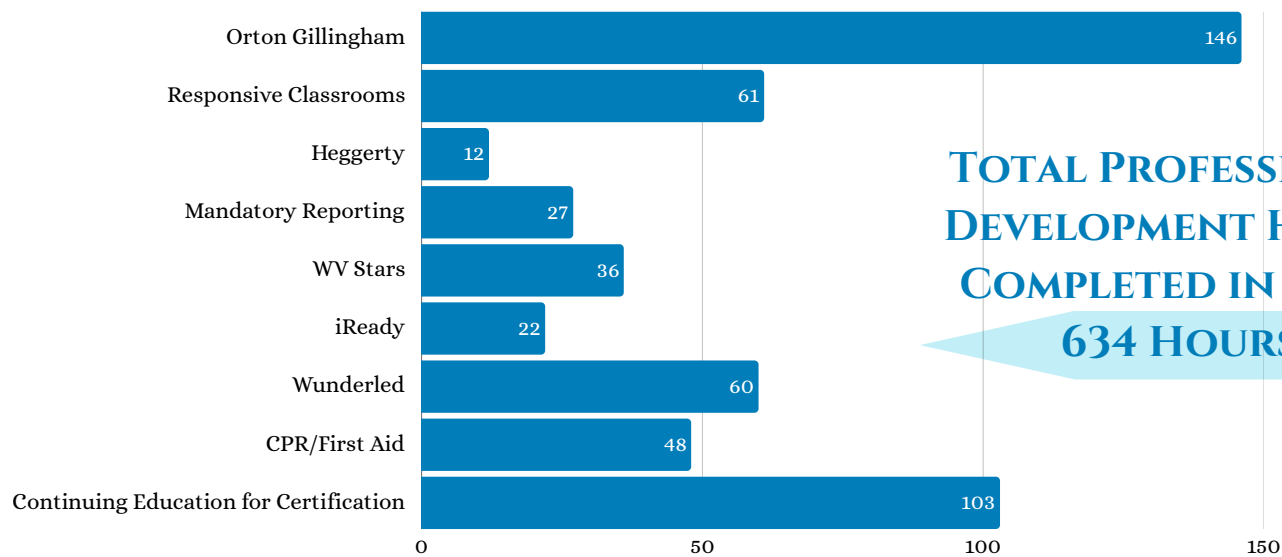
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FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Our 27 faculty members are the heart of our school. Their dedication to professional growth, innovative instruction, and meaningful relationships ensures that every student is supported academically, socially, and emotionally.

Faculty collaboration across grade levels strengthens curriculum continuity and reinforces our mission of educating the whole-child.

Professional Development Hours



THE 2025 ISACS COMMUNITY SURVEY RATINGS:

- Students feel known 100%
- Caring environment 100%
- Faculty performance rating 97%
- Teachers support academic achievement 100%
- Innovative education rating 94%
- Overall academic performance rating 97%

OUR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LEAD TEACHER INFORMATION:

- 7 Lead Teachers
- 5 of whom hold a master's degree and/or a state teaching certification. The other two are working toward teacher certification.



ENRICHMENT & PROGRAMS



ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES

In addition to academic studies, students take the following classes with specialized teachers:

- French
- Theater
- Physical Education
- Music
- Visual Art

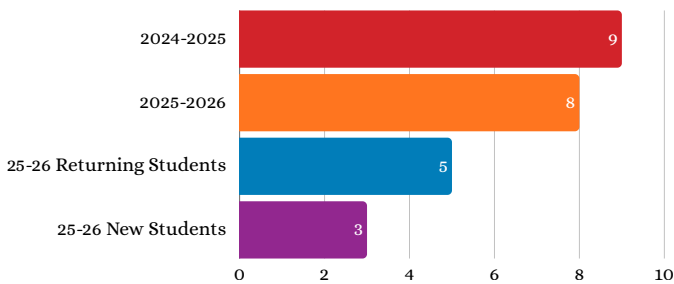
LIBRARY

Thanks to the incredible donation from Architectural Wood, a locally based manufacturing woodworking facility, we now have a beautiful library with custom shelving.

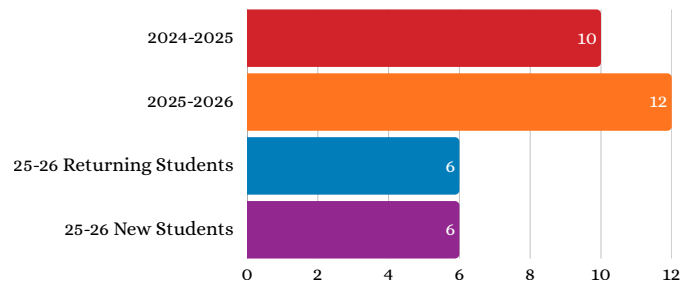
OTHER PROGRAMS

- We provide after-school tutoring in collaboration with GCS co-teachers and through our partnership with medical students from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) and local high school students who are members of The National Honor Society.
- Our early education students may extend their day by enrolling in Sleepy Town (nap time) or Busy Town (enrichment activities and crafts), offered from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m., as well as our After School program from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- During June and July, we also offer a small summer program two days per week to help students remain connected, engaged, and prepared for the upcoming school year.

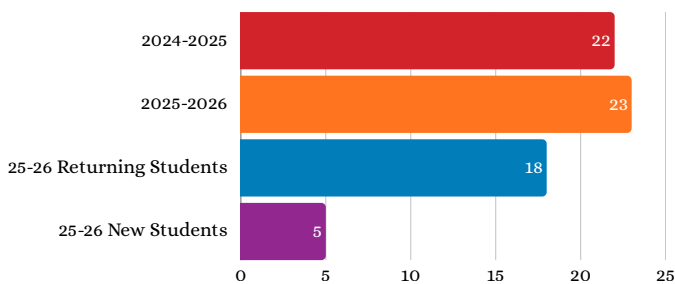
Sleepy Town



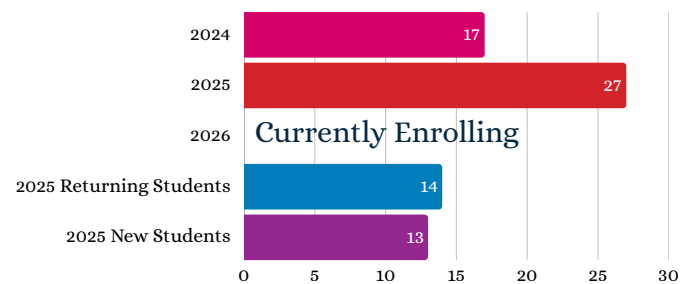
Busy Town



After School



Summer Play Days



2025 ISACS COMMUNITY SURVEY RATING:

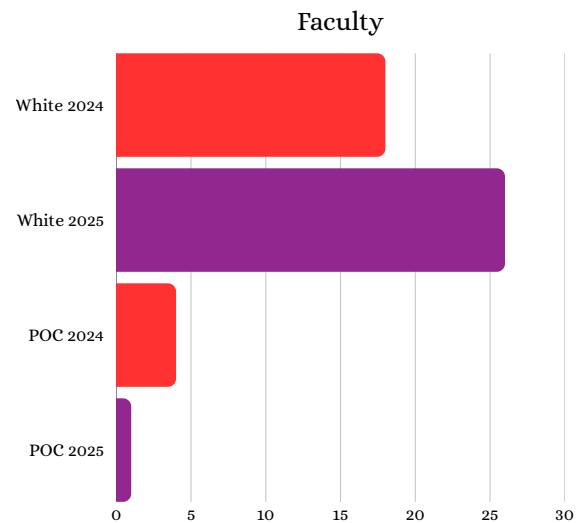
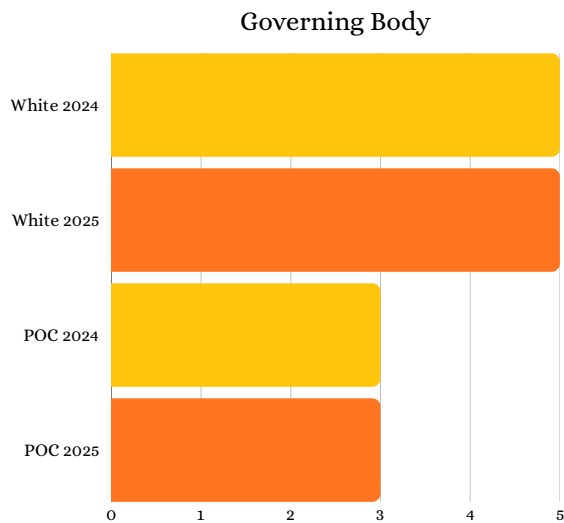
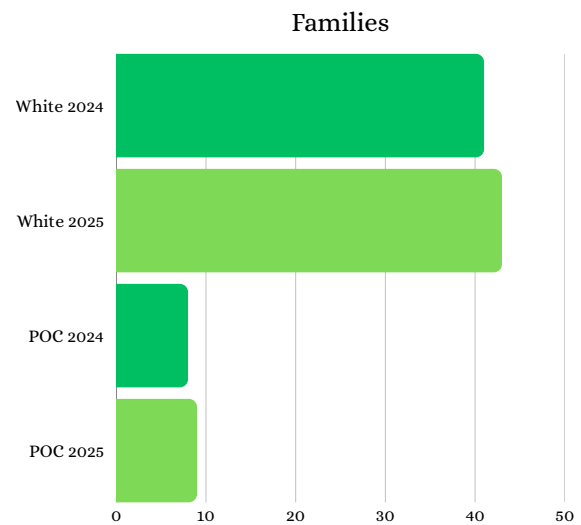
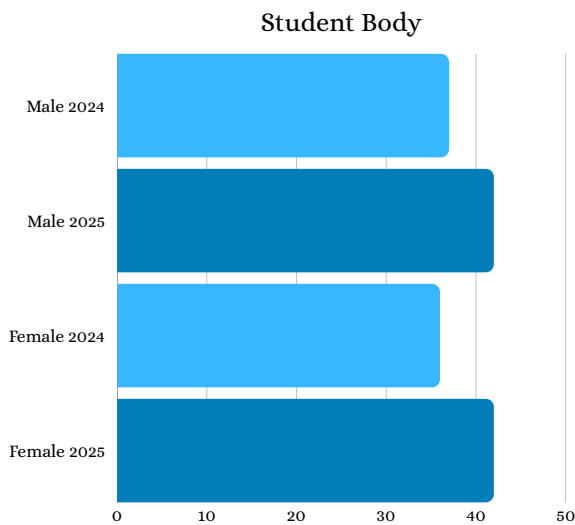
- Extended Day Program - 93%
- Skill Development - 94%
- Academic Program - 94%

ADDITIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO OUR STUDENTS:

- Birth to Three offers in school assessment and services through Birth to Three.
- Greenbrier County Board of Education provides in school assessment and services for Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy.
- Our middle school students are able to participate in public school extracurriculars (such as: band, choir, sports, etc.)

DEMOGRAPHICS

Even within a county and state with limited ethnic diversity, we are proud to cultivate a vibrant and intentionally inclusive school community. Guided by our mission, equity and inclusion are woven into the fabric of daily instruction, community life, and decision-making, ensuring every student feels valued, supported, and empowered to thrive. Through thoughtful practices and equitable access to opportunity, we nurture a strong culture of belonging, empathy, and shared responsibility—one of the true strengths of our school and a commitment we continue to champion as our community grows.



2025 ISACS COMMUNITY SURVEY RATINGS:

- Diverse enrollment 90%
- Equal opportunity 97%

ACCORDING TO CENSUS.GOV:

- 92.6% of West Virginia’s population is white.
- 94.1% of Greenbrier County’s population is white.

vs.
83.02% of GCS’s population is white



COMMUNITY BUILDING

Our inclusive community thrives on partnership—between educators, families, students, and supporters—creating a shared investment in student success.

OUR MEMBERSHIPS

- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Independent School Association of the Central States (ISACS)
- Greater Greenbrier Chamber of Commerce

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine
 - Tutoring, Health Classes, Scoliosis Screening,
- Greenbrier Historical Society
- Greenbrier Technologies and Electric
- Carnegie Hall
- Greenbrier Valley Theater
- Appalachian Headwaters
- Forest Service
- Greenbrier Humane Society
- Child and Youth Advocacy Center
- Access to Dorie Miller Park

FIELD TRIPS & EXPERIENCES

- Appalachian Headwaters
- Colonial Williamsburg
- Greenbrier Historic Society
- Barracks Archeology Dig
- Greenbrier Humane Society
- White Sulphur Springs Fish Hatchery
- Local Blessing Boxes
- Greenbrier Outfitters Falconry Presentation
- The Yew Mountain Center
- Greenbrier Valley Airport
- Hanna Farmstead & Pumpkin Patch
- NASA Rocket Launch
- Snorkeling at Blue Bend
- Lewisburg City Hall
- Lewisburg Fire Department
- WV School of Osteopathic Medicine

2025 GYM RENTALS - COMMUNITY CENTER

- Recreation Rentals (Monday - Friday) - 272 Hours
 - Soccer leagues, basketball leagues, baseball & softball drills, roller skating teams, individual & team practices
- Celebrations/Party Rentals (Weekends) - 175 Hours
 - We offer a non-profit rental rate

GCS SHOWCASES & GATHERINGS

- Parents Night
- Soup Social
- Fall Festivities
- Grandparent’s Day
- Drama Performances
- Festival of Lights
- Holiday Happenings
- Night at the Museum
- Talent Show
- Field Day
- Passing of the Light



FAMILY INVOLVEMENT: MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTH

- Human Body & First Aid/CPR Certification
- Brain, Behavior, Emotions and Mental Health
- Nutrition & Health
- Human Development & Sexual Health
 - concluded with a birth simulation at WVSOM
- Speech and Language Therapy Overview
- Ophthalmology Overview
- Dermatology Overview
- Dental Health Overview
- Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM)

2025 ISACS COMMUNITY SURVEY RATINGS:

- Positive School Spirit 100%
- Community Service Performance 82%

LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to the future, our priorities include:

- Maintaining small class sizes,
 - 18 - 36 Months not to exceed 1:4 teacher to student ratio
 - Pre-K not to exceed 1:6 teacher to student ratio
 - K-8th not exceeding 1:9 teacher to student ratio
- Obtaining full accreditation with ISACS
- Paying off our Middle School Construction Loan of \$789,901.54
- Launching an Endowment
- Adding benefits for full-time faculty members
- Adding additional parking
- Full-time Middle School faculty
- Adding a Learning Support Specialist to our team

With continued community support, we are well-positioned to deepen our impact and serve more students while preserving the values that define our school.

CONTACT US

304-793-2420

rnester@greenbriercommunityschool.org

www.greenbriercommunityschool.org

413 Oak Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901



THANK YOU

We extend our sincere gratitude to our families, faculty, board members, donors, and community partners. Your steadfast belief in our mission, your generosity of time and resources, and your unwavering encouragement make all the difference. Because of your support, our students are given the opportunity to explore new ideas, discover their strengths, overcome challenges, and reach their fullest potential. You help create an environment where curiosity is nurtured, creativity is celebrated, and every child feels seen, valued, and inspired.

Together, through our shared commitment and partnership, we are not only supporting today's students, we are investing in tomorrow's leaders.