

FOCUS LEARNING ACADEMY OF CENTRAL COLUMBUS

2025–2026

Annual Report

More than a school. A place to learn, belong, and grow together.



Overall 5-star rating, 2025–26

107.0%

Performance Index

100%

Third grade reading proficiency

Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus

Grades K–4• Public community charter school

1880 E Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229• Phone # 614-696-9060

www.focusacademycentral.org



A Message from Our Founder

At Focus, we believe that when schools and communities grow together, students thrive.

We are proud to be a school deeply rooted in the community we serve. Our commitment goes beyond the classroom walls: we actively engage families, local organizations, and community partners to create a network of support that empowers every student and their family. Through meaningful partnerships and consistent outreach, we ensure that every voice is heard and every family feels connected.

Academically, we hold ourselves to a high standard and provide strong, student-centered instruction designed to meet learners where they are and help them reach their full potential. Our dedicated educators focus on building critical thinking, fostering curiosity, and preparing students for long-term success.

Equally important is our focus on behavioral and mental health. We recognize that students learn best when they feel safe, supported, and understood. That is why we are expanding our physical and mental health programming to provide access to counseling, social-emotional learning, and wraparound services that support the whole child—academically, emotionally, and socially.

Our school is not just located in the community—we are part of it. We celebrate its strengths, respond to its needs, and work every day to build a brighter future. Together, we are more than a school—we are a community.

Abdirizak Farah
Founder, Focus Learning Academies (FLANC & FLACC)

Our Leadership Team

Governing Authority

Yasir Ali , President	Aden Mohamed , Member	Abdi Soofe , Member
Abdifatah Abdi , Member	AbdulQadir Moallim , Member	

Superintendent	Treasurer	Principal
Travis Budd	Cynthia Mercer	Sid Casino

YEAR IN REVIEW

Academic Performance

The grades are in. On its 2025–26 Ohio School Report Card, Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus (FLACC) earned an overall rating of five out of five stars—the state’s highest designation, meaning the school significantly exceeds state standards.

107.0%

Performance Index

100%

Annual performance goals met (Gap Closing)

100%

Third-grade reading proficiency

2025–26 Ohio School Report Card

Component	Rating	What it means
Overall	★★★★★	Significantly exceeds state standards
Achievement	★★★★★	Significantly exceeds state standards in academic achievement. Performance Index: 107.0%.
Gap Closing	★★★★★	Significantly exceeds state standards in closing educational gaps. Annual performance goals met: 100.0%.
Early Literacy	★★★★★	Significantly exceeds state standards in K–3 early literacy. Third-grade reading proficiency: 100.0%.
Student Progress	Unrated	The 2025–26 report card does not assign a Progress component rating to this school.

Full state report card: reportcard.education.ohio.gov/school/print/019235

Two years. Five stars.

This year’s rating builds on last year’s success. FLACC earned an Overall 5-Star Award from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce for 2024–25, followed by an overall five-star rating on the 2025–26 report card—back-to-back recognition of a community moving forward.

Back-to-back 5-star results

2024–25: Overall 5-Star Award (Ohio Department of Education and Workforce recognition)

2025–26: Overall 5-star rating, significantly exceeds state standards

Our mission

Our history

A large group of graduates in blue gowns and caps are celebrating their graduation at Focus Learning Academy of Northern Columbia. They are throwing their caps into the air in a gymnasium setting. The graduates are diverse in age and ethnicity, and many are wearing hijabs. The background features a banner with the school's name and a list of awards. The atmosphere is joyful and celebratory.

Our values

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TEACHING AND LEARNING

Academic Programs

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Our staff is highly trained and qualified to teach children who are new to the country, helping them bridge the gap between their native language and English.

Mathematics

Aligned with Ohio standards, we use Zearn Math to integrate personalized digital learning with our curriculum, helping students learn the precise math content they need to master.

S.T.E.A.M.

Focus Learning Academies employ the Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Music (STEAM) education model. We believe every part of STEAM is integral to the intellectual, emotional, and mental growth of our students.

Arabic Language Instruction

Focus Learning Academies offer dedicated Arabic language instruction for all enrolled students. In the elementary years, the curriculum focuses on the alphabet and penmanship.

SUPPORTING EVERY LEARNER

Student and Family Support

- **Educators.** Our teachers truly care. They work hard to help and motivate students and deliver a top-rated curriculum.
- **Classrooms.** We keep our classrooms and facilities clean and fully equipped for 21st-century learning.
- **Guidance.** Each student has guidance counselors and success coaches to help them do their best.
- **Resources.** Students have access to modern technology and hands-on opportunities to explore and learn.
- **The Whole-child Approach.** We are expanding physical and mental health programming to address the social, emotional, cognitive, physical and psychological needs of the child.

Free for every family

Free tuition· Free transportation· Free after-school tutoring· Free breakfast, lunch, and snacks

SCHOOL BUDGET AND FINANCE

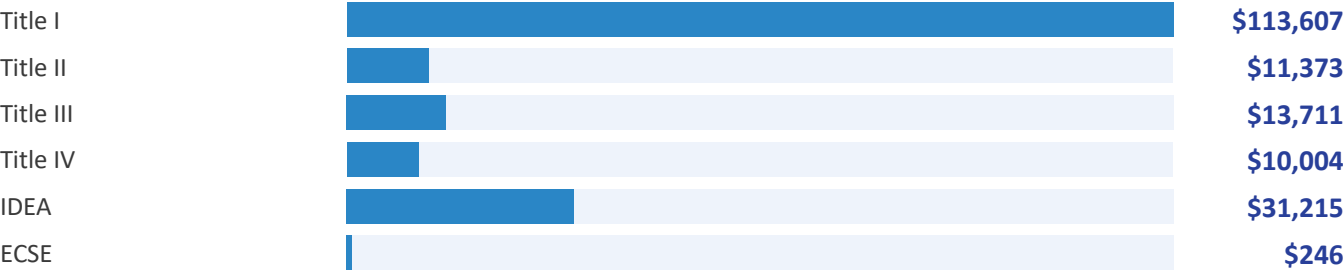
SCHOOL BUDGET AND FINANCE

Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus adheres to auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. In addition to school treasurer, three members of the Board of Directors are designated as Audit Committee. This committee conducts a comprehensive monthly review of the school’s financial position, financial transactions, and procurement processes.

Key Financial Highlights Fiscal year 2025/26



Federal grants \$180,159 in total



Assets and liabilities Liabilities include net OPEB and net pension liabilities*



* The school liabilities noted above include the net Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) and Net Pension Liabilities (NPL).

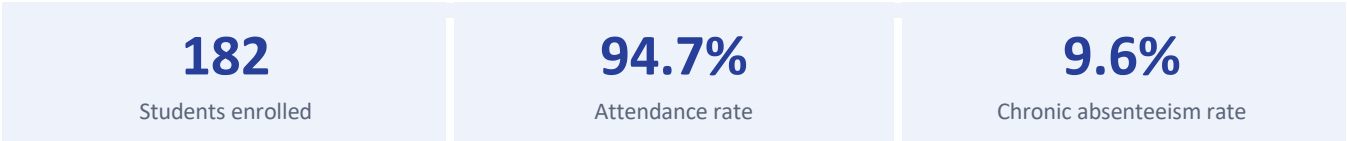
Additional Information

For additional information related to the school’s financial position please contact cmercerc@focusacademycentral.org

BY THE NUMBERS

Enrollment, Demographics and Attendance

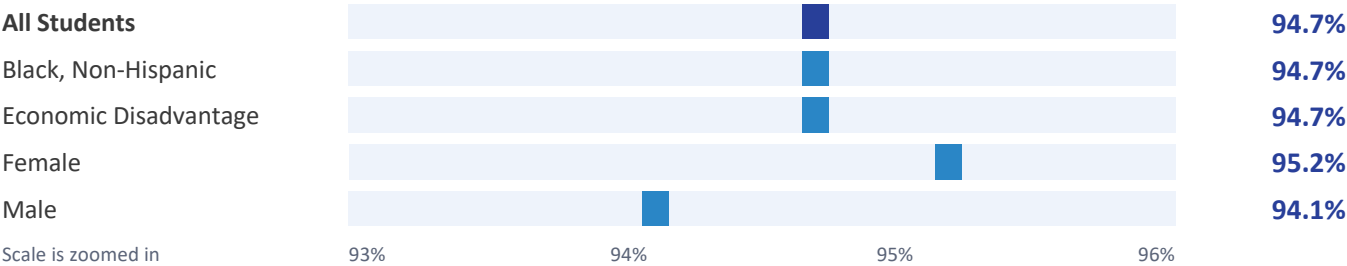
Our enrollment, our student demographics, and our attendance and chronic absenteeism record for the 2025–2026 school year.



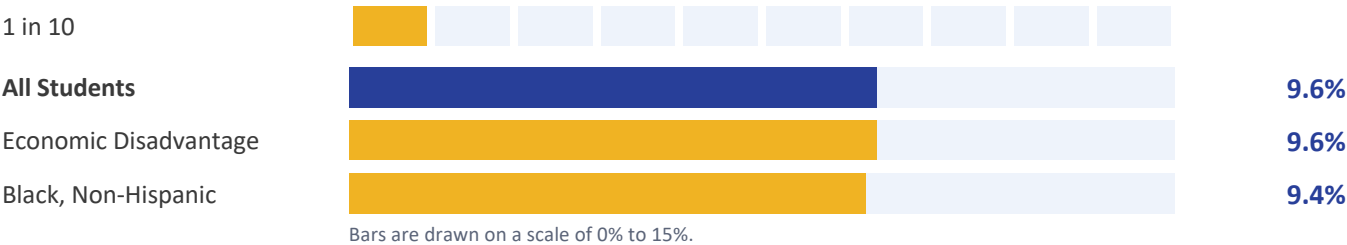
Enrollment Share of all 182 students



Attendance rate Every reported group falls between 94% and 96%



Chronic absenteeism About 1 in 10 students



Student groups reported as “NC” on the school report card are not shown: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, Multiracial, White Non-Hispanic, Students with Disabilities, and Migrant.

BELONGING

Our Community

This is an empathetic and passionate community of avid learners. We believe we are made better by embracing the ways in which we are different. Through partnerships with families, local organizations, and community partners, we stand out among charter and public schools in Ohio for both academic performance and community engagement.

5/5 Review rating on GreatSchools.org	2006 Year founded	1,000+ Students served across Focus Learning Academies
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Looking ahead

- Build on back-to-back five-star results in achievement, gap closing, and early literacy.
- Continue expanding physical and mental health programming, including counseling, social-emotional learning, and wraparound services.
- Deepen partnerships and outreach so every family feels heard and connected.

New Behavioral Health & Mental Health Program

- We have developed an organized services designed to support the mental health wellbeing of our students, manage stressors, and treat conditions related to mental and behavior health. The program provides individual and group therapies, counseling, and medication management.

Expanded Parent Academy

- This program is designed to education, empower and engage parents and guardians so they can better support children’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Courses for parents include ESL class, financial literacy courses, internet safety trainings, and more.

Join our community. Every student has a place to shine.

Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus · 1880 E Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229 · Call 614-696-9060, Monday–Friday, 7:40 AM–4:00 PM. Ask about enrollment and a school visit.

Sources

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, 2025–26 School Report Card, Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus (IRN 019235). 2025 Overall 5-Star Award listing. GreatSchools.org reviews. Focus Learning Academies school materials.