



## Cascadia Info Sheet (2026-2027)

Check out this info sheet for the schedule of upcoming prospective parent events the school is offering (remote and in-person options).

### CASCADIA ELEMENTARY AND HCC HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Cascadia will be welcoming new students entering the 2026-2027 school year into the Highly Capable Cohort (HCC) program.** Students who enter into a cohort will be able to graduate from the HCC program.
- **Cascadia's Highly Capable (HC) Programming:**
  - Math curriculum 2 years above grade level.
  - English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum 1 year above grade level. The ELA curriculum also offers enrichment in many forms such as: Mensa poetry, Caesar's English and cursive writing instruction.
- HCC school (e.g., Cascadia, Decatur, and Thurgood Marshall's HC program) is the only way for students to access math acceleration 2 years above grade level in elementary school. HCC students will continue to have 2 years of accelerated math throughout their SPS career.
- **Alternative Math Pathways:**
  - All MS provide the opportunity to advance 1 year in MS math through the  $\frac{7}{8}$  math compression in 7th grade, allowing students to get into Algebra by 8th grade.
  - New: The HC department is offering an online math program for *graduating 5th grade HC students who attend a neighborhood school and plan on attending a HC pathway middle school*. Graduating 5th graders may take advantage of an online math 6 course in the summer. Additionally, students may show mastery of 6th grade standards using their MAP RIT (details will be announced soon). These two pathways will allow HC students in neighborhood schools to be placed in the  $\frac{7}{8}$  math compression in the 6th grade, Algebra I in grade 7, and Geometry in grade 8 at an HC pathway middle school.

## **SCHOOL PROGRAMS, SUPPORT, AND A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY**

- Cascadia offers: music, PE, choir, art, a gardening program, an iLab (a tinkering/STEM program), a newspaper club, Global Reading Challenge, a weekly library class, technology skills education in a computer lab, and selected affinity groups.
- Cascadia provides a Math Interventionist to ensure all students are supported in the math acceleration. Cascadia also has a general academic interventionist for those needing ELA support.
- The Cascadia PTA:
  - Hosts a variety of school-wide events throughout the school year such as a: Spelling Bee, Science and Engineering Night, Fall Festival, Talent Show, Culture Night.
  - Organizes meetups to welcome incoming and returning students over the summer break.
- After school enrichment: robust programming includes Orlov's Chess, Pokemon Club, coding, cooking, stop-motion animation, theatre, carpentry, debate, and more.
- Busing is available for students in the catchment area. Route assignments are issued late August.

## **UPCOMING PROSPECTIVE PARENT EVENTS**

### **1. [Prospective Family Open House](#)**

- January 15, 2026 from 6-7:30 pm (Thursday)
- February 12, 2026 from 6-7:30 pm (Thursday)

Families do not need to RSVP for these evening events. The open house will start at 6 pm with a presentation from the principal and Q&A in the gym (approx. 40 min), after which families will be able to tour the building. There will be a staffed classroom open in each grade-level wing and all of the specialist classrooms will be open for viewing (iLab, art and music rooms). PTA volunteers will be present if you have any questions. Students are welcome! Sign up via the [Cascadia school website](#) here:

<https://cascadiaes.seattleschools.org/news/prospective-family-night/>

**2. Student-Led School Tours:** For parents with elementary-age students currently identified as HC. (These tours are for parents only. PTA members and current parents will be available after the tour to answer questions.)

- January 15, 2026 from 9 am-1 pm (Thursday)
- January 22, 2026 from 9 am-1 pm (Thursday)
- February 12, 2026 from 9 am-1 pm (Thursday)

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FADA728A7FAC07-60856520-student#/>

### **3. Cascadia PTA Q&A for Prospective Parents**

The Cascadia PTA will also be offering online Q&As for prospective families. Please join us for one of our virtual Q&A sessions. Check the Cascadia PTA website and calendar for additional prospective family events. Sign up for the December Q&As at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4DAEA72BA6F58-60910693-public#/>

- December 8, 2025 12-1 pm (Monday)
- December 10, 2025 8-9 pm (Wednesday)
- December 12, 2025 12-1 pm (Friday)
- December 13, 2025 10-11 am (Saturday)
- December 15, 2025 12-1 pm (Monday)
- December 17, 2025 8-9 pm (Wednesday)

Questions about prospective events? Email: [vicepresident@cascadiapta.org](mailto:vicepresident@cascadiapta.org)

## **HOW TO OPTION INTO CASCADIA OR APPLY FOR THE HCC PROGRAM**

The District has posted a timeline on their website under the [Identification and Eligibility page](#) within the Highly Capable section. Starting in the 2025-2026 school year, the identification procedures and timelines have changed.

### **Process and Timeline for Students Attending SPS schools:**

- **Only grades 1 and 4 will undergo universal screening. (New)** Students in grades 2, 3, 5-7 are only screened based on referral from teachers, parents, or students themselves. If you want your child screened you must make sure they are referred.
- **The opt-in windows are shorter (New for this year only)**
  - Students with existing HC identifications from prior years: school choice timeline is from **January 5-31, 2026**.
  - Newly identified students: **February 7-23, 2026**.
  - Appeals: appeals decisions will be released by **February 27, 2026**.

### **Process and Timeline For Students at Private School Wishing to Transfer to the SPS HC Program:**

- Students who would like to transfer into the HC program from private schools or homeschool may apply through a separate process outlined on the [New to SPS Highly Capable Application Process](#). (New this year)
- Here is the timeline provided by the HC Dept:
  - December 1, 2025 private school application opens
  - January 16, 2026 private school application due
  - February 7, 2026 Saturday testing at Cascadia
  - February 17, 2026 Tuesday testing at Thurgood Marshall
  - February 25, 2026 Multidisciplinary Placement Committee (MPC) reviews all data and makes final determination
  - March 6, 2026 Decisions Released
  - Aug. TBD New to Seattle testing dates, portfolio review

Email any questions regarding the choice timeline or the transfer process to Highly Capable Services at [HiCap@seattleschools.org](mailto:HiCap@seattleschools.org)

\*\*\*We believe you must both consent to your child receiving HC services AND you must opt-in to sending your child to Cascadia during the open enrollment window. You should contact Highly Capable Services at the above email address to confirm.