

= Baltimore City College =

Baltimore City College , known colloquially as City (also known as City College or BCC) , is a public magnet high school in Baltimore City , Maryland , United States . Established in March 1839 , City is the third oldest active public high school in the US . A citywide college preparatory school with a liberal arts focus , City has selective admissions criteria based on entrance exams .

It is located on a 38 acres (0 @. @ 15 km2) hill @-@ top campus in Northeast Baltimore bordered by 33rd Street , the Alameda , and Loch Raven Boulevard . The school 's main building is a National Historic Landmark . According to the Maryland Historical Society , " The gothic structure , aptly nicknamed ' the Castle on the Hill , ' sits atop the highest point within the city limits . With a singular tower that stands over 200 feet high , the building and campus hold scenic views of the surrounding region . "

= = History = =

The creation of a high school " in which the higher branches of English and classical literature should be taught exclusively " was unanimously authorized by the Baltimore City Council on March 7 , 1839 . Accordingly , the Board of School Commissioners rented a townhouse structure on a small narrow by @-@ way of what was then called Courtland Street (now on the east side of Saint Paul Street / Place . The High School , as it was first called , opened its doors on October 20 , 1839 , with 46 students and one teacher / professor , Nathan C. Brooks (1809 ? 1898) , who also served as first principal .

The school moved several times and was housed in three different locations in its first three years before returning again to the original townhouse building on Courtland Street . Finally , in 1843 , the City Council allocated \$ 23 @, @ 000 to acquire the vacant old landmark Assembly Rooms structure at the northeastern corner of East Fayette and Holliday Streets for the school . The famous Assembly Rooms also served as the intellectual and educational center of town , with the upper floors holding rooms where the new Library Company of Baltimore and the later Mercantile Library were located for several years . In 1850 , the City Council granted the Board of School Commissioners the right to confer graduates of the decade old high school with certificates of graduation , and the following year the school held its first commencement ceremony .

In 1865 , in accordance with a recommendation from the Board of Commissioners of the Baltimore City Public Schools , the school began offering a five @-@ year track , as part of a process aimed at elevating the school to the status of a college so that it could grant its graduates baccalaureate degrees . The following year , on October 9 , 1866 , the school was renamed " The Baltimore City College " (BCC) by the City Council . The Council failed to take any further action , and although the school changed nominally , it was never granted the power to confer Bachelor of Arts degrees .

The building on Fayette and Holliday Streets had been in a state of decline for two decades . It was not until 1873 , when a fire spread from the Holliday Street Theater to the " Assembly Rooms " , that the City Council dedicated the resources to erect a new building for City College . A lot was acquired on North Howard Street opposite West Centre Street and the Council allocated \$ 150 @, @ 000 for the construction of the new building designed by Baltimore architect Edmund G. Lind . The new English Gothic revival @-@ styled building faced east on Howard Street and was dedicated on February 1 , 1875 . The school moved in the following week .

The Tudor Gothic building which housed the school was undermined , in 1892 , by the construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tunnel from Camden Street Station to Mount Royal Station and collapsed . In 1895 , a new larger structure , designed in the Romanesque Revival style by the noted local architects Baldwin & Pennington , was erected on the same site , only facing the Centre Street northern side . This new building quickly became overcrowded and an annex was established on 26th Street . The addition did not help with the increase in school @-@ aged youth beginning to attend City College by World War I. During the 1920s , alumni began a campaign to provide the school with a more suitable building , and , in 1926 , ground was broken for a massive Collegiate Gothic stone castle on Collegian Hill at 33rd Street and The Alameda . This new structure cost

almost \$ 3 million and officially opened April 10 , 1928 .

The school began admitting African American students following the landmark ruling Brown v. Board of Education . In September 1954 , 10 African @-@ American students enrolled at City College . The school board also sent two African American men , Eugene Parker and Pierre H. Davis , to teach at the school in 1956 . Parker taught at City College for 30 years . Davis taught for one year , but returned as the school 's first black principal in 1971 . In 1978 , at the urging of concerned alumni , City College underwent its first major capital renovations . When the campus reopened , the high school welcomed women for the first time . The all @-@ male tradition did not end easily ; alumni had argued for the uniqueness of a single @-@ sex educational system and convinced the task force studying the issue to vote 11 ? 6 in favor of keeping the all @-@ male tradition . The Board of School Commissioners , in a reversal , voted to admit women citing constitutional concerns .

= = Campus = =

Baltimore City College stands on an expansive , tree @-@ shaded 38 @-@ acre (153 @, @ 781 m2) hill @-@ top campus in northeast Baltimore at the intersection of 33rd Street and the Alameda . The campus , which includes an enormous grassy front lawn with large ancient trees , consists of two buildings : the Gothic @-@ style edifice known locally as the " Castle on the Hill " which sits in the center of the campus , and the power plant building east of the castle . In addition to providing the building 's utilities , the power plant originally housed five workshops : an electrical shop , a mechanical shop , a metal shop , a printing shop , and a wood shop . It currently houses the Coldstream @-@ Homestead @-@ Montebello community corporation headquarters . Both buildings were designed by the architecture firm of Buckler and Fenhagen .

The castle features an iconic 150 @-@ foot @-@ tall central tower that is visible from many locations throughout the city , courtyards , stained glass , and gargoyles modeled on the faces of the architects . Just south of the main building is Alumni Field , the school 's stadium , which serves as home to the school 's football , boys and girls lacrosse , and track teams . During a major building renovation in 1978 , a modern gymnasium was added to the southwest corner of the main building . Other athletic facilities include fields for baseball , softball , soccer , and lacrosse , and tennis courts .

The castle sits on Collegian Hill , the former site of Canton Iron Works industrialist , Horace Abbott with its Victorian @-@ styled twin mansions known as " Abbottston " and " Woodlands " built in the 1870s and later known as the " Gilman @-@ Cate Estate " in the early 20th Century when it passed to his children . Nearby also was the historic " Montebello " estate of the 1790s of General Samuel Smith , (1752 @-@ 1839) , a noted American Revolutionary War hero and officer in the War of 1812 in the Battle of Baltimore , commanding the Maryland state militia forces against the British Army and Royal Navy attack . Smith also served as a local merchant , elected U.S. Representative , and Senator , and near the end of his remarkable eight @-@ decades life , served as the Mayor of Baltimore .

On June 30 , 2003 , the current building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places . The listing of the building coincided with the structure 's 75th anniversary . The immediate past location of the school , on Howard Street in downtown Baltimore , is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places . On April 24 , 2007 , the building was designated a Baltimore City landmark , which means that the building 's exterior cannot be altered without approval of the city Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation . On June 21 , 2007 , the school 's Alumni Association received a historic preservation award from Baltimore Heritage for its leadership role in preserving the building as an historic Baltimore landmark .

= = = City College library = = =

In 2015 , City launched a campaign to build a new library called the Torch Burning Bright campaign . Co @-@ chaired by Kurt Schmoke , BCC ' 67 , former Baltimore Mayor and current President of

the University of Baltimore , and Bob Embry , BCC ' 55 , President of the Abell Foundation , the Torch Burning Bright campaign is working in partnership with the State of Maryland , Baltimore City Public Schools , alumni , parents , students , faculty , and other community partners , including private foundations and individual donors , to " modernize the school 's academic resources to help maintain and expand [its] legacy as an educational leader . "

The \$ 2 million project , which includes a complete overhaul and revisioning of the current library space , will add new spaces for resource stacks , new areas for studying and reading , including a casual reading room in the great hall under the tower , new classroom and seminar spaces and conference rooms , a new location for library archives , a listening and viewing room , and office space . Additionally , the new City College library will feature new computers and access to online databases . Construction of the new library commenced in January 2016 .

= = Academics = =

= = = Mission = = =

When it was founded in March 1839 as the flagship school of what later became the Baltimore City Public Schools , Baltimore City College was charged with providing a unique classics- and liberal arts @-@ based course of study and with holding all members of its school community to the highest standards of academic achievement and personal development . The school 's mission is to prepare its students to succeed in the best colleges In the United States . The faculty and staff of the school strive to engage every student in a rigorous university preparatory study of liberal arts , provide strong extended academic and social support services , and to develop students who enjoy studying and learning . The school 's ultimate goal is to produce competitive graduates who have an appreciation for scholarship , perform well on meaningful assessments , make meaningful contributions to society , behave with civility and respect , and perform as reasonable leaders .

= = = 19th Century Curriculum : The Five @-@ Year Course era = = =

The creation of a male high school " in which the higher branches of English and classical literature should be taught exclusively " was authorized unanimously by the Baltimore City Council on March 7 , 1839 . The school opened its doors October 20 , 1839 with 46 students . Those enrolled were offered two academic tracks , a classical literature track and an English literature track . The sole instructor for both tracks was the educator and poet , Nathan C. Brooks , who also served as principal . To accommodate the two tracks , Brooks split the school day into two sections : one in the morning from 9 am to 12 am , and another in the afternoon from 2 pm to 5 pm . During the morning session , students studied either classics or English ; however , the afternoon was devoted to English . In 1849 , after a decade of service , Prof. Brooks resigned as principal of the school , which had now grown to include 232 students and 7 teachers , excluding Brooks .

Rev. Dr. Francis G. Waters , who had been the president of the Washington College , on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in Chestertown , succeeded Brooks . The following year the city council renamed the school " The Central High School of Baltimore " and granted the commissioners of the public schools the right to confer certificates to the high school 's graduates , a practice still in place today . By 1850 , growing enrollment necessitated a reorganization of the school . Under the direction of Waters , the school day was divided into eight periods lasting forty @-@ five minutes : four sessions were held in the morning and four in the afternoon . In addition to reorganizing the schedule , he divided the courses into seven different departments : Belles @-@ letters and history , mathematics , natural sciences , moral , mental , and political science , ancient languages , modern languages and music . Each of the seven instructors was assigned to a distinct department and received the title of " professor " .

In 1850 , the Baltimore City Council granted the school the authority to present its graduates with certificates of completion . An effort to expand that academic power and allow the then @-@ named

" Central High School of Baltimore " to confer Bachelor of Arts degrees began in 1865 , and continued the following year with the renaming of the institution as " The Baltimore City College " the retitling of its chief academic officer from " principal " to " president " , along with an increase in the number of years of its course of study and the expansion of its courses . However , despite this early elevation effort , it ended unsuccessfully in 1869 , although Baltimore City College continued for a number of years as a hybrid public high school and early form of junior college (later known as community college) which did not fully appear in America until the beginning of the 20th Century . As the importance of college education increased toward the end of the 19th century , the school 's priorities shifted to preparing students for college .

= = = 20th Century Curriculum : The A / B Course era = = =

In 1901 , the course of study at Baltimore City College went through a series of further changes . The most significant was the reduction of the five @-@ year course of study to four years ; though students who entered prior to 1900 were allowed to complete the five @-@ year course . The new course , like the course it replaced , allowed graduates to be admitted to Johns Hopkins University without examination , and provided students with greater flexibility . Instead of requiring students to complete the same set of courses , it allowed students to choose their courses , as long as they completed 150 credits . From 1927 to the early 1990s , the college preparatory curriculum at Baltimore City College was divided into two tracks : the " A " course and the " B " course . Though both tracks were intended to provide students with the skills necessary for college , the " A " course was intended to be more rigorous , enabling students to complete sufficient college @-@ level courses to enter directly into the second year of college . In the early @-@ 1990s , then @-@ Principal Joseph Antenson removed the two @-@ tier system because he believed it to be racially discriminatory .

= = = = The 1960s and 1970s = = = =

Population decline in the city of Baltimore due to the migration of middle @-@ class white populations to the suburbs during the 1950s and 1960s , coupled with the failure of Baltimore City Public Schools officials to address infrastructure improvements needed in the school 's deteriorating , then @-@ thirty @-@ seven @-@ year @-@ old main academic building lead to a gradually declining public perception of the school 's academic reputation . In response , school administrators and faculty developed the " City Forever " strategic plan in 1965 @-@ 66 . The performance improvement plan also served as a call to action for the school community , resulting in formal recommendations from the Alumni Association , a series of student @-@ led demonstrations , newspaper articles and television news segments produced by alumni working as media professionals , letters @-@ to @-@ the @-@ editors of local newspapers submitted by parents and teachers , and routine public comments in support of City College at School Board meetings . The public outcry stunned city leadership , which resulted in the district announcing a recommitment to Baltimore City College and its unique role as the selective flagship high school of Baltimore .

Over the next decade , the local school district failed to delivery on its pledge to adequately fund the revitalized Baltimore City College curriculum and enforce higher admissions standards . In 1975 , City students , faculty , and influential alumni like then @-@ Mayor of Baltimore William Donald Schaefer ' 39 and then @-@ City Comptroller Hyman A. Pressman ' 33 again engaged in a series of coordinated campaigns , urging political leaders and members of the School Board to provide the resources and enforce the high standards the school needs to succeed . As a result , the City of Baltimore announced its plan to advance funds to complete a \$ 9 million renovation of the school 's main building and earmarked funding for a comprehensive , two @-@ year study (1977 ? 79) . Subject matter experts in education and pedagogy , school faculty , parents , alumni , and other members of the school community formed the " New City College Task Force " . The task force , which combed through two decades of previous improvement plans , academic proposals , and experimental curricula , recommended to the School Board a plan that included stricter admissions

and retention standards , a revitalized humanities- and liberal arts @-@ based curriculum , and the autonomy to selectively recruit new , highly qualified faculty and administrators .

The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners ultimately accepted all but one of the task force 's recommendations in 1979 . The group recommended maintaining the school 's then @-@ 141 @-@ year @-@ old tradition of all @-@ male education . Citing concerns over conflicting federal and district court decisions which had not yet been resolved by the U.S. Supreme Court , the school board voted to make City a coeducational school . The board 's action followed trends at the time at all @-@ male colleges and universities like Harvard University , Yale University , and nearby Johns Hopkins University , which admitted women during the 1970s .

= = = The 1990s = = =

By 1990 , enrollment was declining and the academic program at Baltimore City College had once again become subpar compared to its historically high standards . The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools , the organization that had accredited the school for years , began raising questions about the institution 's ability to offer students an academically rigorous course of study . During this period of decline , the " A " Course was discontinued by newly appointed Principal Joseph Antenson , who contended that the program was racially discriminatory and opted for a standardized curriculum . Antenson was dismissed in 1992 after two tumultuous years as head of school and for the first time ever a private contractor was hired to operate Baltimore City College .

In 1994 , Joseph M. Wilson , a lawyer by trade with degrees from Amherst College (B.A.) , the University of Pennsylvania (M.A.) , the University of Southern California (J.D.) , and Harvard University (M.A.) , was appointed principal and with the support of alumni and parents , was able to secure more funding and additional autonomy from the Baltimore City Public Schools . Wilson introduced the IB Diploma Program in 1998 . The turnaround Wilson orchestrated led to a quick resurgence and restoration of the school 's academic reputation . Enrollment , student performance , and the quality of the colleges and universities to which graduates matriculated improved , which attracted critical acclaim from education professionals and international media attention . In 2000 , City College was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School , the highest academic honor bestowed by the U.S. Department of Education . In 2001 , the Toronto National Post reported on its search for the perfect high school in Great Britain , the United States , and Canada . One subject of the prominent feature article was Baltimore City College and its turnaround .

= = = 21st Century Curriculum = = =

International Baccalaureate (IB) is a rigorous , internationally accepted academic program required of all 21st century Baltimore City College students . The IB Middle Years Program is intended to teach freshman and sophomore students to understand how core subjects are interrelated , how to master critical thinking processes , and to increase intercultural awareness . As juniors and seniors , students engage in the rigorous two @-@ year IB Diploma curriculum that requires a comprehensive study of world topics , literature , languages , science , and math . City College 's IB certificate and diploma programs provide upperclassmen access to thirty advanced studies courses , which often translate into credit hours at colleges and universities world @-@ wide .

Controversy surrounded the program briefly in 2007 when the Board of Directors of the Baltimore City College Alumni Association , an influential group that performs several tasks in perpetuation of the school , including managing a nearly \$ 2 million scholarship endowment and coordinating fundraising efforts for capital projects and other initiatives , argued to school officials that the IB Program diverts a significant percentage of the school 's resources to benefit a fraction of the student population . Approximately 30 students were enrolled in the full IB Diploma Program at that time . The Association also argued that the rigidity of the program did not give students enough coursework scheduling flexibility . Citing these concerns , the board of directors of the BCC Alumni Association formally voted to recommend that the school replace the IB Program with the " A course

", which was discontinued in the 1990s , and expand the number of Advanced Placement courses offered to students . The recommendation , though non @-@ binding , was intended to persuade the school to replace the curriculum with what its members believed to be more equitable and flexible . Despite the recommendation , school administrators proceeded with plans to expand the City College IB Program by incorporating the IB Middle Years Program into the 9th and 10th grade curricula . In addition to the IB courses , the school 's academic program offers a small selection of Advanced Placement courses .

= = = International Baccalaureate course offerings = = =

As of the 2015 @-@ 2016 school year , the International Baccalaureate courses below are offered at the school . Some courses are offered at the higher level (HL) and standard level (SL) .

Biology
Business and Management
Chemistry
English A Literature
Environment and Society
Film
French B
French AB
German B
History
Latin
Literature and Performance
Math Studies
Mathematics
Music
Physics
Psychology
Social and Cultural Anthropology
Spanish B
Spanish AB
Theater
Theory of Knowledge
Visual Arts

= = = Graduation requirements = = =

Students who successfully complete the school 's required curriculum earn the Baltimore City College diploma upon graduation , which has been granted since 1851 . The requirements are more stringent than those designated by the State of Maryland .

Requirements for the Baltimore City College Diploma :

Successful completion of a minimum of one IB Diploma- or Certificate @-@ level course , or AP course

Successful completion of the IB Personal Project

Physics or an advanced @-@ level IB / AP science

Two Fine Arts courses (requirement waived for IB Diploma candidates)

Successful completion of the College Writing seminar (requirement waived for IB Diploma candidates and students enrolled in IB English IV)

Minimum cumulative GPA of 70 %

Submit admission applications to a minimum of four colleges (including FAFSA submission)

Take the SAT or ACT at least two times

75 hours of documented Service Learning activity

== Admissions ==

Admission to Baltimore City College is selective but is open to residents of Baltimore City and the surrounding counties in the metropolitan area, though non-Baltimore City residents must pay tuition. Applicants must meet all requirements for promotion to ninth grade, as determined by the Maryland State Department of Education. Additionally, applicants must earn a minimum composite score of 610, calculated by Baltimore City Public Schools. Generally, candidates for admission must have a 3.0 overall numeric grade average (B letter grade; 80 or better percentage grade), have at least a 3.0 average in both Mathematics and English, rank in the 65th percentile or better among all Maryland students in Math and English on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA), and have 90% or better attendance rate. Due to the highly competitive nature of the City College admissions process, successful applicants typically exceed the aforementioned minimums. J.D. Merrill, BCC '09, is the school's current Director of Admissions and Institutional Advancement.

== Enrollment ==

There were 1,309 students enrolled at Baltimore City College in 2015. Of those students, 43 percent were male and 57 percent were female. 85 percent of the total student body identifies as African-American. 10 percent of students at the school identify as Caucasian. Roughly two percent of City College students identifies as Hispanic. One percent of the total student population identifies as Asian.

== Athletics ==

Interscholastic athletics at Baltimore City College date back over 120 years. Though varsity sports were not formally organized until 1895, interscholastic athletics became a fixture at the school earlier in the 19th century. In the late 1890s, City competed in the Maryland Intercollegiate Football Association (MIFA), a 9-member league consisting of colleges in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. City College was the lone secondary school among MIFA membership. The 1895 football schedule included St. John's College, Swarthmore College, the United States Naval Academy, University of Maryland, and Washington College. Between 1894 and 1920, City College regularly faced off against the Johns Hopkins Blue Jays and the Navy Midshipmen in lacrosse.

Baltimore City College began competing against other secondary schools in 1919 when it was invited to join the Maryland Scholastic Association (MSA) as a founding member. After 75 years of governing Baltimore metro area boys high school athletics, the Maryland Scholastic Association dissolved in 1993 when its 15 public school members, including City College, withdrew from the league to join the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA). The Knights currently compete with other public secondary schools in the MPSSAA (Class 3A, North Region, District 9), more commonly referred to as the Baltimore City League (Division 1), but routinely schedule contests against area private schools in various sports.

The current City College varsity athletic program consists of 18 sports: six for boys, seven for girls, and five coeducational teams. The boys sports includes baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, and wrestling. The girls sports are badminton, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, softball, and volleyball. The five co-ed sports are cross country, indoor track and field, swimming, outdoor track and field, and tennis. Girls sports were added to City's athletic department in the Fall of 1978 when the school became coeducational for the first time in its then 139-year-old history.

The school's football, track and field, and girls basketball teams are currently outfitted by Under Armour, while the boys basketball team and others are outfitted by Nike.

== = Championships == =

Baltimore City College 's championship pedigree predates World War I. Since winning its first championships (baseball and ice hockey) in 1903 , the Knights ' athletic success has spanned every sport offered by the school . Though it no longer sponsors bowling , fencing , golf , and ice hockey , City has won titles in 20 different sports in its history .

The list below includes championships won in single @-@ sport leagues before the school joined an athletic association in all sports in 1919 , championships earned between 1919 and 1993 as members of the Maryland Scholastic Association (now Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association) , and Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) district , regional , and state championships won by the Knights since joining the MPSSAA in 1993 .

Badminton (17 championships)

Pre @-@ MPSSAA Championships ? 1990 ? 92

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1993 , 1995 ? 97 , 2004 ? 09 , 2011 ? 14

Baseball (12)

Pre @-@ MSA Championships ? 1903 , 1915

MSA Championships ? 1926 , 1934 ? 38 , 1940 , 1942 , 1962

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1994

Boys Basketball (24)

Pre @-@ MSA Championships ? 1916

MSA Championships ? 1922 ? 23 , 1934 ? 35 , 1938 ? 40 , 1961 , 1963 , 1965 ? 67 , 1969

MPSSAA State Championships ? 2009 , 2010 , 2014

MPSSAA Regional Championships ? 1997 ? 99 , 2009 ? 10 , 2014

MPSSAA District Championships ? 2014

Girls Basketball (4)

MPSSAA State Championships ? 2009

MPSSAA Regional Championships ? 2004 , 2005 , 2009

Bocce (2)

MPSSAA District Championships ? 2013 , 2014

Boys Bowling (7)

MSA Championships ? 1938 , 1944 , 1945 , 1946 , 1948 , 1949 , 1954

Boys Cross Country (20)

MSA Championships ? 1936 ? 37 , 1939 , 1941 , 1943 , 1950 , 1955 , 1958 , 1960 ? 69 , 1983 , 1989

Fencing (11)

MSA Championships ? 1930 , 1932 , 1936 , 1938 , 1940 , 1947 , 1949 , 1951 , 1954 ? 56

Football (25)

MSA Championships ? 1937 ? 42 , 1961 , 1964 ? 68 , 1986 ? 88 , 1991 ? 92

MPSSAA Regional Championships ? 1996 , 2005 , 2006

Boys Golf (10)

MSA Championships ? 1935 , 1940 ? 42 , 1944 , 1954 ? 57 , 1960

Ice Hockey (2)

Pre @-@ MSA Championships ? 1903

MSA Championships ? 1941

Boys Lacrosse (18)

MSA Championships ? 1933 ? 35 , 1941 , 1955 , 1957 ? 62 , 1984 , 1987

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1993 , 2008 ? 10 , 2015

Girls Lacrosse (6)

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1998 , 1999 , 2000 , 2009 , 2011 , 2013

Boys Soccer (11)

MSA Championships ? 1934 , 1935 , 1938 , 1939 , 1941 , 1963 , 1982 , 1985 , 1986 , 1987

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1994

Girls Soccer (3)

MPSSAA District Championships ? 2000 , 2012 , 2013

Softball (2)

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1994 , 1996

Swimming (34)

MSA Championships ? 1930 ? 42 , 1943 ? 44 , 1946 ? 47 , 1949 ? 53 , 1986 ? 90

MPSSAA District Championships ? 2007 ? 08 , 2010 ? 2013

Boys Tennis (14)

MSA Championships ? 1923 , 1925 ? 27 , 1929 , 1933 , 1935 , 1944 , 1946 , 1954 , 1958 , 1959 , 1961 , 1988

Co @-@ Ed Tennis (6)

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1990 , 1991 , 1992 , 2007 ? 09 , 2011

Boys Track and Field (22)

MSA Championships ? 1903 , 1906 , 1936 , 1939 , 1941 , 1956 ? 67 , 1969 , 1986 ? 87

MPSSAA Regional Championships ? 1997

Volleyball (4)

Pre @-@ MPSSAA Championships ? 1980 , 1982

MPSSAA District Championships ? 1996 , 2010

Wrestling (15)

MSA Championship ? 1923 , 1938 , 1940 , 1942 , 1956 , 1963 ? 64 , 1967 ? 70 , 1973 , 1975 ? 76

MPSSAA District Championships ? 2008

= = = Boys basketball = = =

Basketball has been played at Baltimore City College for more than a century . One of the earliest recorded results in program history is a one @-@ point overtime road loss to the University of Maryland Terrapins (then known as the Maryland Agricultural College Aggies) on January 25 , 1913 . The most successful head coach in school history was George Howard " Jerry " Phipps , who led the Knights to a record of 133 ? 27 , four Maryland Scholastic Association (MSA) championships , and a streak of forty straight games without a loss spanning two seasons between 1960 ? 1968 . In all , the school won twelve MSA A @-@ Conference basketball championships (1922 , 1923 , 1934 , 1935 , 1938 , 1939 , 1940 , 1961 , 1963 , 1965 , 1966 , 1967 , 1969) .

Baltimore City College currently competes in District 9 (Baltimore City League) of the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) . Since 2007 , City College has earned berths in every MPSSAA state tournament and has posted seven 20 + win seasons . The Knights have won three MPSSAA state championships (2009 , 2010 , and 2014) , one of just five schools in Maryland that have won three or more boys basketball state titles since 2000 . City has advanced to the MPSSAA state tournament semifinals six times (1997 , 1998 , 1999 , 2009 , 2010 , and 2014) , third most all @-@ time among Baltimore City League teams . The Knights won the Baltimore City League Division I championship in 2014 and also appeared in the district championship game in 2011 .

With a record of 27 ? 0 in 2014 , City College posted the third undefeated season in school history (1966 , 1967) and became the first Baltimore City League team since 2008 ? 2009 to finish the season without a loss . The Knights ended the 2014 season as the No. 18 @-@ ranked team in the country in the final USA Today Super 25 and Student Sports Fab 50 national boys basketball polls , the team 's highest national ranking since beginning the 2011 ? 12 season as the No. 21 @-@ ranked team in the preseason USA Today national poll . Daryl Wade is the current City College head boys basketball coach . In addition to winning the 2014 MPSSAA state championship , Wade has guided the Knights to three additional MPSSAA state semifinal appearances and has a 133 ? 42 win @-@ loss record in nine seasons at the school , including a 30 @-@ game win streak between December 2013 and December 2014 . Coach Wade was named Baltimore Sun All @-@ Metro Coach of the Year in 2014 , the school 's second Coach of the Year award winner since 2010 .

=== Football ===

The Baltimore City College football program began in the mid 1870s, and has won more than 20 Maryland Scholastic Association (MSA) A Conference and Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) championships in its history. The Knights primarily competed against colleges and universities throughout the 1880s and 1890s because few secondary schools existed at the time. The program began competing against other high schools at the beginning of the 20th century, and has held since 1941 the record for the longest streak of games played without a loss in MSA and MPSSAA history. The Knights played 54 consecutive games without a loss between 1934-1941. Harry Lawrence, who guided the Knights to a 38-game undefeated streak between 1936 and 1940 (including 35 wins, three ties, and four MSA championships), remains City College's most successful head football coach.

George Young became head football coach in 1959 and guided the Knights to six Maryland Scholastic Association A Conference championships. Young left the program after the 1967 season to join the National Football League as an offensive line coach for the Baltimore Colts and would later become the general manager of the New York Giants. One of his star players was quarterback Kurt Schmoke, who later became States' Attorney for Baltimore City and served two terms as the Mayor of Baltimore, the first elected African American mayor in the history of Baltimore City.

George Petrides was named head football coach in 1975 and remained in the same position for 40 years. Petrides, a 1967 graduate of the school, retired in 2015 with a coaching record of 257-144-1 and as the second winningest active coach in Maryland high school football. During his tenure, City had a 29-game winning streak en route to two Maryland Scholastic Association A Conference championships in 1991 and 1992. Coach Petrides guided City College to appearances in the semifinals of the MPSSAA state football playoffs in 1996, 2001, and 2005. The Knights finished the 1987 and 1992 seasons ranked in the top 20 nationally in the USA Today high school football poll. In August 2015, Daryl Wade was named the 27th head football coach in Baltimore City College history, the first African American head football coach in school history.

=== City Poly rivalry (1889-present) ===

The City Poly football rivalry is the oldest American football rivalry in Maryland, and one of the oldest public school football rivalries in the United States. The rivalry began in 1889, when City College met the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly) at Clifton Park for a football scrimmage in which City's freshman team beat Poly. City remained undefeated in the series until 1908. In the 1920s, the rivalry turned so fierce that riots erupted on the streets of downtown Baltimore on the day before "The Game" when opposing parades clashed resulting in the sons of both the Mayor of Baltimore and the Governor of Maryland were arrested in 1928. By the 1930s a "Peace Pact" was sworn annually and signed by student government leaders of both schools before the cameras of the press in the Mayor's Ceremonial Office in City Hall. Several student disturbances at games or on transit buses afterwards in the late 1960s and early 1970s threatened to put an end to the athletic tradition reflecting the tense tenor of the times, but goodwill eventually prevailed again by the quieter 1980s. By the 1950s, it had become a Baltimore tradition that after a morning of church services, parades and rallies, the two Catholic high school football powers of Loyola High School (Loyola Blakefield) and Calvert Hall College would play on Thanksgiving Day morning at 10 a.m., followed at 2 p.m. by City Poly as the two public school rivals at Memorial Stadium on 33rd Street. That evening's TV news and sports casts led off with the scores and highlights of "The Game" and half-time shows and parades. Next day's The Sun and The News-Post and American had special sections and stories covering all facets of the day before.

One of the most memorable City Poly games occurred on Thanksgiving Day 1965, at Baltimore's Memorial Stadium, with some 25,000 fans in attendance. City beat Poly 52-6, and completed a 10-0 season with the team finishing the season ranked eighth in the nation by a

national sports poll . City 's 52 ? 6 victory over Poly in that game is the largest margin of victory in the history of the series . Former Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke was the quarterback and Maryland Delegate Curt Anderson was the captain . The game is no longer played on Thanksgiving or at Memorial Stadium , but is now located at the home of the Baltimore Ravens , M & T Bank Stadium , at Camden Yards in downtown Baltimore . City College won the 127th meeting in 2015 by routing Poly by a final score of 42 ? 6 , the school 's fourth consecutive victory in the series . Poly now leads the series 62 ? 59 ? 6 .

= = Extracurricular activities = =

Baltimore City College offers more than 20 student clubs and organizations . These activities include chapters of national organizations such as the National Honor Society (established at the school in 1927) and Quill and Scroll . Service clubs include the Red Cross Club and Campus Improvement Association . Other activities include the Drama Club , which produces an annual play , the Art Club , Model UN , Band , Dance , and One City One Book , an organization that invites the entire school community to read one book selected by faculty and invites the author of the book for a reading , discussion , and question and answer period . In 2007 , Pulitzer Prize winner , MacArthur Fellow , and novelist Edward P. Jones discussed his book *Lost in the City* . The school store is operated by students and managed by the Student Government Association . One of City College 's most notable academic teams is the It 's Academic team which participates on It 's Academic , a local television show .

= = = Speech and debate / literary and debating societies = = =

The Baltimore City College debate team has a long and storied tradition that dates back over 150 years . The speech and debate teams are formally referred to as the Bancroft and Carrollton @-@ Wight Literary Societies . The school 's first formal debate team within a literary society was established in 1876 as the " Bancroft Literary Association " . In 1878 , a second competing society , the " Carrollton Literary Society " , was formed , named for Maryland 's famous longest @-@ living signer of the Declaration of Independence , the only Roman Catholic member , Charles Carroll of Carrollton , (1737 @-@ 1832) . That society was later renamed the " Carrollton @-@ Wight Literary Society " , in honor of the program 's first advisor , Charles Wight , a celebrated faculty member during the 1870s .

Today , the speech and debate team competes in various speech events , Student Congress , Mock Trial , Lincoln @-@ Douglas debate , and Policy Debate against teams throughout Maryland and routinely travels around the United States to compete on the " national circuit " . The team currently participates in four competitive debate leagues : the " Baltimore Catholic Forensic League " , the Baltimore Urban Debate League , the Chesapeake region of the National Catholic Forensic League , and the National Forensic League . Several community partners , including the Abell Foundation and the Baltimore Community Foundation , which endowed the Gilbert Sandler Fund for Speech and Debate in 2008 , help provide financial support to the program .

In 2012 , City College won the Baltimore Urban Debate League championship . In the same year , the school hosted the 61st National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament in Baltimore and earned a third place national finish in policy debate . In recent years , the team has advanced to final rounds at the Harvard Invitational Tournament and the National Forensic League National Tournament . Baltimore City College debate has sent multiple policy debate teams to the Tournament of Champions , the most elite high school debate competition in the United States . In 2013 , City 's Speech and Debate beat Chicago 's top @-@ ranked Whitney Young Magnet High School to win the prestigious National Association of Urban Debate Leagues (NAUDL) policy debate national championship . BCC Debate again won the NAUDL national championship in 2015 .

= = = Bands and Orchestra = = =

The marching band at Baltimore City College was created in the late 1940s . At the time , the instrumental music program consisted of the orchestra , concert band and marching band . The director who brought the band to prominence was Dr. Donald Norton . In 1954 , while on sabbatical , he was replaced by Professor Charles M. Stengstacke . The 65 member concert band doubled as a marching band in the fall . During halftime performances at home the band would form the shape of a heart or a car , but always ending the performance by forming the letters C @ - @ I @ - @ T @ - @ Y .

In the 1980s , under James Russell Perkins , these groups grew in size and changed styles , adding " soulful " dance steps . Perkins 's groups toured and traveled the east coast . They received superior ratings at district and state festivals . Perkins is responsible for the creation of the City College Jazz Band , the " Knights of Jazz " . In 1994 , Alvin T. Wallace became Band Director . During his tenure , a wind ensemble was added and the marching band grew to include over 150 members . In 1999 , the band swept the top categories in the Disney World high school band competition . In 2006 , the wind ensemble received a grade of superior at the district adjudication festival and marched in the Baltimore Mayor 's Christmas Day Parade .

= = = Choirs = = =

The Baltimore City College choir was founded in 1950 by Professor Donald Regier . Originally a co @ - @ curricular subject with only 18 members , by 1954 it had developed into a major subject of study with 74 students enrolled . Under the direction of Linda Hall , today 's choir consists of four groups : the Mixed Chorus , the Concert Choir , the Singin ' / Swingin ' Knights , and the Knights and Daze Show Choir .

The Mixed Choir is opened to all students at City College and currently has a membership of approximately 135 students . The Concert Choir is a more selective group consisting of about 50 students , who must audition for their places in the choir . The Singin ' / Swingin ' Knights is an even more selective group composed of 25 students . The Knights and Daze Show Choir is a group of students , who perform a choreographed dance routine while they sing . With the exception of the Knights and Daze Show Choir , which performs jazz and pop music , the choir 's repertoire consists of gospel music , spirituals , and Classical works by composers such as Handel and Michael Praetorius .

The choir has traveled to Europe on several occasions . Its first trip was in 1999 , after receiving an invitation to perform at the Choralfest in Arezzo , Italy . In 2003 , the choir returned to Italy to perform at the annual Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change . The choir has also performed in France and Spain . On October 2 , 2007 , the Weill Institute of Music at Carnegie Hall announced that the City College choir was one of four high school choirs selected to participate in the National High School Choral Festival on March 10 , 2008 . The four choirs will perform Johannes Brahms ' A German Requiem under the direction of Craig Jessop , Mormon Tabernacle Choir Director . The choirs will also be led by their own directors in performing choral selections of their choosing .

= = Student publications = =

= = = The Green Bag = = =

The Green Bag is the senior class annual at the Baltimore City College . Published continuously since 1896 , The Green Bag is the oldest publication still in existence at the school and one of the oldest high school or college yearbooks in America . G. Warfield Hobbs Jr . (later an Episcopal priest) , president of the 1896 senior class and first editor @ - @ in @ - @ chief of The Green Bag , gave the publication its name in recognition of the role of City College graduates in political leadership . Historically , the famous green " carpet bag " in the 19th century containing the lists of

political appointees (also known as " patronage ") of the Governor of Maryland to be approved by the General Assembly of Maryland has long been known as the " green bag " , though the derivation of the term is unknown . So the term became synonymous with " good news " and " glad tidings " , such as could be applied to the feelings that recent graduates felt when seeing and reading their new yearbooks published soon after their graduations .

The first yearbooks contained sketches of faculty and seniors , and included recollections , anecdotes , stories , and quotes significant to the student body . Underclassmen were included for the first time with individual portraits in the growing student body in 1948 . In 2007 , The Green Bag released its first full @-@ color edition , one of the most colorful since color printing of photographs was first introduced in The Bag in 1963 and again in 1967 . For many years the annual was printed by the local well @-@ known printer / publisher of H.G. Roebuck and Son , owned by a City alumnus up to 1970 The most controversial issue of The Green Bag was published in 1900 when members of the senior class used the annual to make fun of their professors . The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners attempted to censor the edition by requiring The Green Bag to be reviewed by Principal Francis A. Soper . The yearbook had already been printed , and in defiance of the school board , the editors refused to have the edition censored and reprinted . The School Board responded by withholding the diplomas of six of the editors and the business manager and by preventing the school from holding a public commencement ceremony . One of the boys expelled , Clarence Keating Bowie , became a member of the School Board himself in 1926 . The infamous cartoon was later printed for the first time in a " Bag " in an opening segment on school history in 1972 .

= = = The Collegian = = =

The Collegian has been the school student newspaper of record at Baltimore City College since it was first published as a bi @-@ weekly newspaper in 1929 . There have been other similar publications , such as The Oriole , the student magazine which started printing in 1912 , however The Collegian is oldest , continuous student @-@ run publication . Originally , the newspaper was both managed and printed by students . During the 1930s , The Collegian won numerous awards including second place in the Columbia Scholastic Press Association 's annual contest for five years in a row . Since 2000 , printing of the publication has been scaled back . The Collegian is now published quarterly , often with a bonus issue around the time of the annual City @-@ Poly football game . Since 2014 , The Collegian also actively engages students and alumni through various social media platforms .

= = Alumni Association = =

The Baltimore City College Alumni Association Inc . (BCCAA) was established in 1866 as a support network for City College . The BCCAA holds an annual meeting at the school every November and its Board of Governors meets the first Monday of each month at the school .

The BCCAA publishes the class reunion guide , established and maintains a life membership endowment fund , presents Golden Apple Awards annually to faculty members , sponsors the Hall of Fame selection and induction , publishes a semi @-@ annual newsletter , maintains an alumni database , and assists with projects designed to enrich student life and improve the school 's facilities .

= = = Trustees of the Baltimore City College Scholarship Funds = = =

The Trustees of the Baltimore City College Scholarship Funds , Inc . , was established and incorporated in 1983 , and replaced a similar entity that was established in 1924 . The Trustees manage endowments , most of which provide annual scholarships to graduating seniors based on criteria stipulated by the donors . Combined endowment assets are currently valued at or around \$ 1 @. @ 68 million (adjusted for inflation) covering thirty @-@ four annual scholarships . To recognize

the custodianship provided by the Trustees , the BCCAA has placed a bronze plaque in the main hall of the school which carries an individually cast nameplate for each of the thirty @-@ four permanent endowments held by the Trustees .

= = = Baltimore City College Hall of Fame = = =

The Baltimore City College Hall of Fame induction ceremony is held annually in October . Alumni that have demonstrated extraordinary service to the school , city , state , country , or world are elected to the Hall of Fame , with former inductees , alumni , and students attending the two @-@ hour ceremony . Inductees included Vice @-@ President at Goldman Sachs Robert Hormats in 2007 , and Maryland State delegate Curt Anderson in 2013 .

= = Notable alumni = =

Many City College alumni have become civil servants , including three of the 10 individuals currently representing the state of Maryland in the U.S. Congress ? Congressman Elijah Cummings , Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger , (also former County Executive of surrounding suburban Baltimore County) , and Senator Ben Cardin . Among graduates with significant military service are two Commandants of the U.S. Coast Guard - Rear Admiral Frederick C. Billard and Admiral J. William Kime , as well as 2nd Lieutenant Jacob Beser of the U.S. Army Air Corps the only individual at the end of World War II to serve on both atomic bomb missions over Japan , on the B @-@ 29 bomber planes , the " Enola Gay " , when it dropped the device " Little Boy " on Hiroshima , and second plane " Bocks Car " when it dropped the " Fat Man " bomb on Nagasaki in August 1945 , and was one of the very few crewmen who had an inkling of atomic energy theory . In addition , three City College alumni are also recipients of the congressional Medal of Honor , the nation 's highest military award .

The list of BCC alumni includes prominent scientists , such as Dr. Hugh Dryden , associate administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) during the early U.S. space exploration program and missions to the Moon in the 1960s , theoretical physicist John Archibald Wheeler , who coined the term black hole and received the 1997 Wolf Prize in Physics , Martin Rodbell , who received the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his discovery of G @-@ proteins , and Abel Wolman , the nationally famous " father " of chlorinated drinking water and a National Medal of Science recipient who brought the Baltimore metropolitan areas public water supply system to be among the best in the country , Alexander Ashley Weech (Class of 1913) , a pioneer pediatrician and scientist who treated the first patient in the U.S. with an antibiotic (1935) and was awarded the John Howland Medal (1977) . Notable writers such as Leon Uris , author of the novel Exodus , inspiring the motion picture , Pulitzer Prize @-@ winning poet Karl Shapiro , and Pulitzer Prize @-@ winning author , New York Times columnist , and host of the Masterpiece Theatre anthology programs on PBS , Russell Baker are also alumni . Businessmen , who have graduated from the school , include David M. Rubenstein , co @-@ founder of The Carlyle Group , and David T. Abercrombie , namesake and co @-@ founder of Abercrombie & Fitch .

= = Notable faculty members = =

Blanche F. Bowlsbey , first female teacher (1935 ? 1955)

Ed Burns , Edgar Award @-@ winning writer for The Corner and The Wire

McFadden Newell , first principal , Towson University

ZZ Packer , author , Guggenheim Fellow

Pierre Davis , first African @-@ American teacher (1956) , first African @-@ American principal (1971)

Eugene Parker , first African @-@ American coach (1956 ? 1986)

George Petrides , longest serving faculty member (1972 ? present)

Mellasenah Morris , Dean , Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University (2008 ? present)

George L. P. Radcliffe , U.S. Senator

Henry E. Shepherd , superintendent , Baltimore City Public Schools ; president , The College of Charleston (1882 ? 1897)

Robert Herring Wright , first president , East Carolina University

George Young , NFL Executive , General Manager New York Giants

= = Principals = =

Nathan C. Brooks , (1839 ? 1849) , first principal of " The High School " , then first established in rented townhouse on west side of Courtland Street (now St. Paul Street / Place - " Preston Gardens ") , by East Saratoga Street , later moved briefly several times . Noted classical scholar / educational leader of the era , later only President of the Baltimore Female College until the 1880s , one of earliest institutions of higher learning for women - predecessor to later Goucher College

Rev. Francis G. Waters , (1849 ? 1853) , second principal of the then Central High School of Baltimore , when located in old " Assembly Rooms " former social hall at northeast corner of Holliday and East Fayette Streets . Later President of historic Washington College in Chestertown , Maryland on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay

Francis A. Soper , (1890 ? 1911) , longest serving tenured principal

Wilbur F. Smith , (1911 ? 1926) , when BCC then in second structure at southwest corner of North Howard and West Centre Streets , just prior to construction of current " Castle on the Hill " . Later first Chancellor of the University of Baltimore , (1926 ? 1933)

Pierre H. Davis , (1970 ? 1974) , first African @-@ American faculty member in 1955 , later principal

Cynthia (Cindy) Harcum , (2010 ? present) , one of the first female graduates of the Baltimore City College , after its major physical renovation of 1977 ? 79 , reorganization / stiffening of curriculum and admission standards , becoming co @-@ educational for the first time . Later to become its principal .