

HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL SEARCH

SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Savannah, Georgia

savcds.org

Start Date: July 2026



**Carney
Sandoe**
& ASSOCIATES

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Mission Statement

The Savannah Country Day School seeks to prepare students to meet the challenges of college and of life with confidence, imagination, and integrity.

In fulfilling its mission, SCDS subscribes to the following core beliefs:

- In partnership with supportive families, we strive to cultivate in each student the desire and the discipline to grow wise, to lead lives of personal honor, to appreciate beauty, to pursue physical well-being, and to serve others with a generous and compassionate spirit.
- That the ultimate goal of education is to cultivate in each student a lifelong passion for learning;
- That each student’s academic potential is most fully realized through a challenging and varied curriculum under girded with appropriate support;
- That students learn best in a respectful, supportive community of trust where each student’s learning needs and abilities are understood and accommodated as fully as possible;
- That intellectual growth requires not only the acquisition of knowledge, but also its application in analytical, creative, and expressive ways that make learning meaningful to the student;
- That physical and emotional health is critical to the development of each student’s personal potential;
- That each student’s life is enriched in a diverse community where differences among people are affirmed and celebrated;
- That the school shares with families the responsibility for fostering in each student strength of character, a sense of personal responsibility, and an attitude of faith, reverence, and tolerance;
- That the development of leadership in each student should include instilling a commitment to use one’s knowledge, skills and resources in the service of others.

At a Glance



Established
1955



Middle School enrollment
227



Faculty in the Middle School
28



Student-faculty ratio
15:1



Students of color
24%



Financial aid awarded
\$2.6M



Faculty with advanced degrees
71%



Campus size
66 acres

Enrollment: 1,215
Total faculty: 130
Faculty of color in the Middle School: 7%
Students receiving aid: 15%

Endowment: \$10.4M
Annual operating budget: \$30.4M
Athletic teams: 50+



Overview

Founded in 1955 and building upon the legacy of The Pape School (established 1905), Savannah Country Day School is an independent, co-educational college preparatory day school serving over 1,000 students from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. Located on a picturesque 65-acre wooded campus in Savannah's Windsor Forest neighborhood, SCDS combines traditional and progressive educational approaches to help each student reach their fullest potential through a comprehensive curriculum emphasizing individualized support and hands-on learning.

The school is distinguished by its high expectations across ethical, academic, artistic, and athletic domains, paired with exceptional faculty dedication to helping all students meet these standards. As an intentionally diverse community, SCDS offers students extensive opportunities to discover their unique gifts through robust programs in academics, athletics, the arts, and extracurricular activities, including a makerspace laboratory, a membership in the Global Online Academy, and electives in engineering design. In partnership with families, SCDS cultivates students who lead lives of personal honor, appreciate beauty, pursue well-being, and serve others with generosity and compassion.

The Middle School Experience

Savannah Country Day's Middle School serves 227 students in grades 6-8. As the smallest of the school's divisions, it is distinguished by intimate class sizes and a dedicated faculty who focus on developing healthy habits of mind, heart, and action while guiding students through the critical transition from childhood to young adulthood. The middle school fosters an inclusive environment where students feel safe to express themselves, learn from setbacks, and discover their passions. Teachers balance challenging students academically while nurturing their individual needs with patience and sensitivity. The students benefit from a strong advisor program where they meet daily with an advisory group and grade-level faculty teams meet weekly to discuss developmental needs, personal concerns, and addressing topics like bullying, respectful behavior, and accepting differences.



In addition to the strong academic program, SCDS's middle school has an extensive co-curricular program including Student Council, Quiz Bowl, Chess Club, STEM Club, and various other clubs sponsored by teachers. In the middle school, students have the opportunity to represent Country Day in several sports offerings, honing skills while learning teamwork and resiliency. Through these extra-curriculars, students learn to manage their time by choosing among many opportunities and develop leadership skills through community service initiatives that reinforce the school's motto of "Service Through Knowledge and Character." Hallmark programs of the middle school include the Minimester, which offers a grade-free week of experiential learning where students explore real-life skills and interests, while eighth graders can participate in a five-day Outward Bound expedition in the Florida Everglades, where they develop teamwork, navigation skills, and environmental awareness through challenging outdoor experiences.

Opportunities and Challenges

Building upon significant progress in recent years, the next Head of Middle School will need to continue to focus vigilant attention on student well-being, coordinating and supporting efforts of teachers, advisors, grade-level teams, learning specialists and counselors.

Leading, supporting, and sustaining an extraordinarily dedicated, talented and hard-working faculty, the next Head of Middle School will need to be a careful and caring steward of teachers' time, energy, and attention, fostering a supportive environment which allows faculty to focus in the classroom

To continue to offer an extensive, exciting array of co-curricular and extracurricular activities to nurture students' multiple talents, abilities, and interests, the next Head of Middle School will need to attend carefully to the operations of middle school athletics, to the vibrancy of minimester offerings, and to new opportunities not yet imagined.

Working closely with the newly created Associate Head of School as well as the other division heads, the next Head of Middle School will have ample opportunity to enhance the coherence of the school's JK-12 programs, including critical transitions from Lower School to Middle School and from Middle School to Upper School.



Qualifications and Personal Attributes

The next Head of Middle School will:

- Approach leadership with humility, actively seeking input from teachers, students, and families;
- Roll up his/her sleeves and take action, demonstrating a willingness to get involved in the day-to-day work of the division;
- Possess an affable, positive nature that fosters collaboration and builds supportive relationships across the school community;
- Serve as an effective spokesperson for the Middle School, articulating its strengths and needs to parents, the other members of the administrative team, the broader school community, and prospective families;
- Champion and support teachers both in the classroom and behind the scenes, advocating for their professional growth and well-being;
- Have confidence in their decisions and vision while remaining open to feedback and new ideas;
- Bring strong organizational skills that ensure smooth operations, clear communication, and efficient management of the division's many moving parts;
- Take time to understand and appreciate Savannah Country Day's unique culture and traditions before implementing any changes, ensuring continuity while thoughtfully introducing improvements;
- Maintain a visible presence throughout the campus, engaging with students and teachers daily and attending extra curriculars and events;
- Excel at communication, keeping all stakeholders informed, listening actively, and fostering transparent dialogue across the community;
- Cultivate a culture of goodwill where positivity, mutual respect, and a collaborative spirit define the Middle School environment.

Learn More

Click on the links below to learn more about Savannah Country Day School.

[School Website](#)

[School History](#)

[The Country Day Difference](#)

[Cultural Competency & Inclusion](#)

[Middle School Academics](#)

[About Savannah, Georgia](#)



To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

Beth Dietz

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John Allman

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