

APS is leading

Our Mission

With a caring culture of trust and collaboration, every student will graduate ready for college and career.

Our Vision

A high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage and the community trusts the system.





Welcomes & Farewells

Grow. Lead. Transform

Welcome to the APS Team!



- **Phillip Luck**, Director of Leadership Staffing,
Human Resources

Congratulations on Your New Job!



- **Travis Norvell**, Senior Program Director, Office of Engagement
- **Adam Danser**, Principal, Maynard Jackson High School

Congratulations on Your New Job!



- **Patrice Laird-Walker**, Media Services Coordinator, Accountability & Information
- **Charity Houston**, Coordinator-Accounting, Finance
- **Seth Coleman**, Assistant Director of Media Relations, Office of Engagement

We Will Miss You!

- **Chris Schwarzer**, Executive Director of Budgeting, Finance

APyeS! Awards

Together We are STRONG!

**And the winners
are.....**

Congratulations to Georgia Department of Education High-Progress Rewards Schools

High-Progress Reward Schools are among the highest 10-percent of Title I schools in the state.



West Manor Elementary School
Reginald Lawrence, Principal

Kipp Strive Academy
Kim Karacalidis, Principal

Kindezi
Dean Leeper, Executive Director

KIPP Atlanta Collegiate
Dave Howland, Principal

KIPP WAYS Academy
Dwight Ho-Sang, Principal

Congratulations to Partnerships and SEL on earning \$117,000 Grant for Second Step Program



The Georgia Division of Family and Children Services awarded APS a grant for \$117,000 for the Second Step Program
Congrats!

[Rachel Sprecher](#), Executive Director,
Office of Partnerships

[Rose Prejean-Harris](#), Director, Social
Emotional Learning

Congratulations to Finch Elementary for scoring an exciting technology grant worth \$108,000



T-Mobile will support Finch with 540 devices and/or data plans.

[Forrestella Taylor](#), Principal
Finch Elementary School

Bringing Comfort In Times Of Crisis

APyeS Award for the APS Crisis Team



For excellent work in comforting students and staff during numerous crisis situations this school year.

Jacquelyn Anthony – Social Work Coordinator
Nzinga Benton - Employee Engagement Coordinator
Maria Grovner – Counseling Coordinator
Jillian Whatley – Psychology Coordinator
Valencia Hildreth – Health Services Manager

52 Schools Recognized for Beating the Odds

Atlanta Public Schools were named “beat the odds” schools in 2017 because they performed better than statistically expected on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) by the Georgia Department of Education.

Beecher Hills Elementary	Crystal Jones
B.E.S.T. Academy	Timothy Jones
Booker T. Washington High	Tasharah Wilson
Brandon Elementary School	Kara Stimpson
Boyd Elementary School	Joi Kilpatrick
Burgess-Peterson	David White
Carver Early College High	Marcene Thornton
Cascade Elementary School	Sylvia Hall Sanders
Centennial Academy	Alison Shelton
Charles R. Drew Charter	Monishae O’Neill
Drew Charter School Junior	Gregory Leaphart
Drew Charter School Senior	Peter McKnight
Cleveland Elementary	Anyee’ Moreland
Continental Colony	Kristen Vaughn

CSKYWLA	Eulonda Washington
Crim Open Campus High	Dawn Parker
Deerwood Academy	Camisha Perry
D.H. Stanton n/k/a Barack & Michelle Obama	Robin Christian
Dobbs Elementary School	Charnita West
Douglass High School	Ellis Duncan
Dunbar Elementary School	Karen Brown-Collier
Forrest Hills Academy	Zawadaski Robinson
Garden Hills Elementary School	Stacy Abbott
Gideons Elementary School	Danielle Washington
Grady High School	Betsy Bockman
Heritage Academy	Trennis Harvey
Hope-Hill Elementary	Maureen Wheeler
Hollis Innovation Academy	Diamond Jack
Humphries Elementary	Melanie Mitchell

52 Schools Recognized for Beating the Odds

Hutchinson Elementary School	Shuanta Broadway
Inman Middle School	Kevin Maxwell
Jackson Elementary School	Brent McBride
Kindezi	Dean Leeper
King Middle School	Paul Brown
KIPP Atlanta Collegiate	Dave Howland
Kipp Strive Academy	Kimberly Karacalidis
Kipp Vision Academy	Alison Irons
KIPP West Atlanta Young Scholars Academy	Dwight Ho-Sang

Long Middle School	Lisa Hill
M.A. Jones Elementary	Reetha Woolfolk
Mary Lin Elementary School	Sharyn Briscoe
Maynard H. Jackson, Jr. High	Adam Danser
Miles Intermediate School	Thalise Perry
Morningside Elementary	Audrey Sofianos
Slater Elementary School	Lenise Bostic
Springdale Park Elementary	Terry Harness, Jr.
Sylvan Hills Middle School	Artesza Portee
Therrell High School	Shelly Powell
Thomasville Heights Elementary	Nicole Evans Jones
Towns Elementary School	Dione Taylor
Usher-Collier Heights Elementary School	Jerry Parker
West Manor Elementary	Reginald Lawrence

Congratulations to Forrest Hills Academy for earning 5 week \$10,000 film production program

Forrest Hills partnered with re:imagine/ATL to earn a five-week mentoring and film production program worth approximately \$10,000.

Zawadaski Robinson, Principal



Congratulations to Grady High School and Betsy Bockman for winning a competition to create more inclusive and accessible theater opportunities!

Six Grady ninth graders and their teacher recently won a trip to New York City and a \$5,000 grant as part of the Global Impact Challenge's grand prize. They plan to:

- create social connections for children with sensory processing disorders
- develop training for high school volunteers interested in building inclusive practices.



APyeS!!

North Atlanta Student Earns 2 Perfect Scores!!



Richard Hill is one of only six students in the world to get a perfect score on the 2017 AP Calculus AB exam. Richard also scored a perfect score of 36 on his ACT exam.

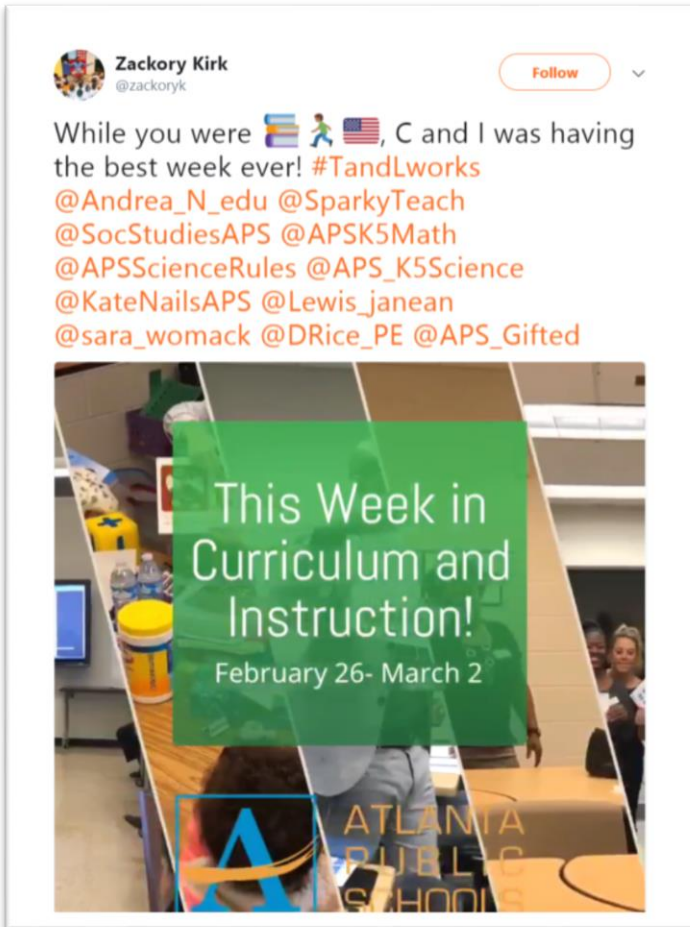
Curtis Douglass, Principal



Atlanta Public Schools Twitter-ific News!

Together We Are STRONG!

“This Week in Curriculum and Instruction” Weekly Recap is Twitterific!



Congratulations to the Teaching and Learning team for using Twitter to engage and educate your followers with weekly recaps!

Zachary Kirk, Director

Carver High School Junior Antonio Pierce Receives 2018 Georgia Youth Leadership Award



L.E.A.D. Ambassador and Carver High School junior Antonio Pierce is a recipient of the 2018 Georgia Youth Leadership Award. Named one of the top 20 youth leaders for the 10th Annual Georgia Youth Leadership Awards.

Yusuf Muhammad, Principal

Booker T. Washington Atomic Robotic Dogs Win Innovation Award. Grady G3 Robotics Wins Spirit Award. First Tournament of the Season – FIRST Power Up! Congrats! Tasharah Wilson, Principal, Washington Betsy Bockman, Principal, Grady



Attendance! Awards

Together we are strong

Key Updates

Deeds to APS Property

- The Atlanta City Council voted to transfer 31 of 52 APS properties to Atlanta Public Schools
- We are working on transferring the remaining 21 properties to APS



School Changes

Morningside Elementary

On December 4, 2017 the board approved a three phase action to address the capacity issues in the Grady Cluster and specifically the immediate need to address overcrowding at Morningside Elementary

Phase I: Rezoning Effective for School Year 2018-2019

- Students located in the Armour Drive Corridor and 1989 Cheshire Bridge Road and other similarly situated, yet to be occupied, properties from Grady Cluster to North Atlanta Cluster

Phase II: Morningside Annex Effective for School Year 2018-2019

- Authorization to begin negotiations over a contract for a suitable annex location or to take additional steps in Spring 2018 to address overcrowding if a suitable annex location is not found

The district has been exploring different leads for a kindergarten annex within a 4-mile radius MES

*18 organizations contacted
3 potential suitable locations*

Locate portables on campus at MES providing up to 8 additional classrooms

- Morningside Administration & GO Team created an information gathering survey allowing parents and staff to provide feedback for addressing the capacity issues; Over 900 responses received!

Phase III: Long-range Grady Cluster Capacity Plan

- Conversations with the Grady cluster community to start in Spring 2018; The district will work to finalize this plan by March 2020

Perkerson Elementary

On March 5, 2018 the board approved the reconstitution of Perkerson Elementary School

Background: In its March 2016 action adopting the Atlanta Public Schools Turnaround Plan, the Board of Education included school reconstitution, an operating model change, among the options of interventions and supports for schools with the greatest needs. Perkerson Elementary School was identified as one of the sixteen schools in need of targeted support interventions, the greatest level of support granted to the district's lowest achieving schools.

Approved Proposal: Reconstitute Perkerson Elementary School with the goal of rapidly re-establishing the school's academic performance under the leadership of principal Tony Ford.

What is Reconstitution?

- School reconstitution is defined as one of many “corrective action” strategies for “turning around” low-performing schools.
- Reconstitution is a major tool that has been shown to create improvement in performance by implementing various systematic changes within a school.
- School reconstitution means the staff will not be automatically renewed, but must reapply for their position at Perkerson (or apply for other vacant positions within the district).

Summer Programming

Our approach considered:

- The specific needs of individual schools and clusters and their unique ability to attract students to a summer experience if they have ownership of the program
- The existing community-based and district-wide partnerships that have the ability and desire to expand their impact
- The needs of students beyond those who are in need of intense remediation
- The opportunity to create leadership development experiences for aspiring leaders in alignment with the district's talent strategy
- The flexibility allowed with the consolidation of federal funds



2018-2019 School Calendar

- Moving Spring Break to the week of Monday, April 1, 2019. The current calendar has Spring Break starting on Monday, April 8, 2019.
- Building in inclement weather days into the calendar

Final Approval – 3/5/2018

APS Student Calendar 2018-2019



Upcoming Events

BACK **TO**
SCHOOL
BASH

JULY 28
9AM TO 1PM
GEORGIA WORLD
CONGRESS CENTER
HALL C1



Employee Engagement

Employee Engagement

Engagement GrandMean

3.87

GrandMean K-12 Organization
Level Percentile

32nd

Associate Engagement
Index

**Engag
ed
40%**

**Not Engaged
47%**

**Actively Disengaged
13%**

2017 Engagement
Ratio

3.1:1



77%
Participation in
2017
(4,544 Associates)

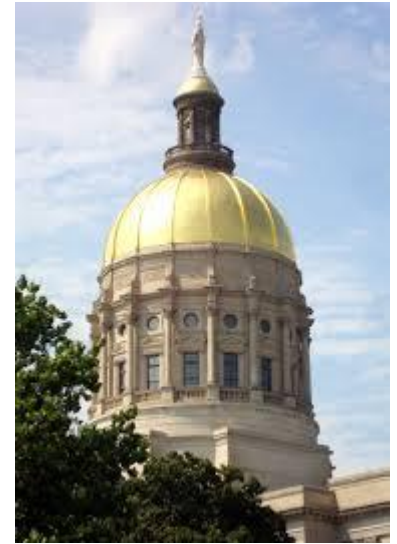
Note: Percentiles from Gallup's 2017 Q12 K-12 Organization-Level Database.

FY19 Budget

Legislative Priorities

Tax Assessment Legislation

- HB 820, legislation addressing the tax digest issues in the City of Atlanta, passed the House (164-5) and goes on to the Senate, but does not include Atlanta Public Schools.
- APS continues to work with our local Atlanta delegation to address this local tax revenue issue in a way that offers consistency and relief for homeowners as well as the district. We are anticipating the introduction of legislation that would eventually bring the tax digest to full value, reasonably increase the homestead exemption, and cost the district \$38 million, instead of \$60 million.



Other Legislation

Passed Either the House or the Senate

- Legislation requiring local school systems to **advertise bid opportunities**: passed the House and goes on to the Senate
- Legislation requiring government agencies, including school districts, to record by video the **public comment** portion of meetings: passed the House and goes on the Senate.
- Legislation requiring certain public employers (including school districts) to make **employer and employee contributions to TRS** on behalf of previously retired workers who return to work: passed the Senate and goes on to the House

Did Not Make It Out of Committee or Failed the Vote

- **Annexation** legislation
- **Voucher** legislation
- **Instant replay** legislation
- Legislation authorizing **home study students** to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities in the student's resident public school system

Expenditure Walk-through

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Comments</u>
FY2018 Budget*	\$773,367,495 FY2018 original budget less \$4 million due to Fulton County digest freeze and DeKalb County corresponding 20% reduction to digest
Traditional School (enrollment only)	(\$9,503,629) Enrollment declines and shift of Carver High from traditional to partner school
Charters	\$11,940,291 FY2018 midyear enrollment adjustment = \$5 million, additional growth for FY2019 = \$6 million
Partners	\$10,560,854 Carver High school transitioning to Partner school
TRS increase of 4%	\$16,000,000 Increase of TRS from 16.81% to 20.90%
3% Compensation Package	\$12,000,000 Salary equivalent of 3% for compensation package TBD
Unfunded Pension	\$1,700,000 Annual 3% increase to unfunded pension contributions
State Health Increase from FY2018	\$1,500,000 Increase for 2017 applied to full fiscal year
Additional Substitute Funds	\$1,000,000 Based on annual trend in actual expenditures for substitutes
Consolidation Funds (fund 150)	(\$781,666) Only 85% or previous year allocations
CLL Cuts	(\$4,000,000) Corresponding administrative cut based on shifts of enrollment from traditional schools to charter and partner schools.
School Holdback	(\$4,500,000) Equivalent of 1% local digest increase held back pending additional revenue information
Lapsed Salary	(\$2,000,000) Placeholder assuming a certain percentage of vacancies over the course of the fiscal year
FY2019 Forecast	\$807,283,345
Difference	\$33,915,850 4.39%

Likely Budget Scenario for FY19

Assumes all categories of Fulton County digest increase or decrease at the same rates as previous year (i.e. residential remains frozen but substantial growth in industrial at 13% and commercial at 11%)

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY2018 Budget*</u>	<u>FY2019 Forecast</u>	<u>Change</u>	
Local	\$541,545,423	\$564,765,410	\$23,219,987	4.29%
State	\$197,539,352	\$195,784,574	-\$1,754,778	-0.89%
Other	\$13,493,197	\$10,805,000	-\$2,688,197	-19.92%
Transfers In	\$12,340,424	\$11,558,758	-\$781,666	-6.33%
Fund Balance	\$8,449,099	\$0	-\$8,449,099	-100%
Total Revenue	\$773,367,495	\$782,913,742	\$9,546,247	1.23%
		GAP	-\$24,369,603	

Safety and Security

Safety & Security

- The posting or reposting of threats of violence against schools on social media is against federal and state law and these actions are punishable with jail time, fines or both.

Meria Joel Carstarphen, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Phone: 404-802-2820
Fax: 404-802-1803



February 26, 2018

Dear Parents:

The tragic school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14 has led to a national dialogue on school safety and violence. I want to take this opportunity to update you on Atlanta Public Schools' commitment to the safety and security of our students and staff and our plan of action around two issues evolving because of this national dialogue.

Threats Against Schools on Social Media

In the wake of the tragedy in Parkland, Florida, school districts around the metro Atlanta area have seen an increase in threats of violence against schools made on social media. Specifically, on Friday, February 23, Atlanta Public Schools was made aware of a threat against Maynard Jackson High School, South Atlanta High School, Carver High School, and Washington High School posted on Instagram. I can't emphasize enough that the safety and security of our students and staff is our top priority and we take every threat very seriously. We have put a safety and security plan in place to address this threat.

While I am unable to share the confidential components of our plan, I can tell you that Atlanta Public Schools Police Department (APSPD) began an investigation of the threat immediately in coordination with the Atlanta Police Department's homeland security, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. Out of an abundance of caution, we are implementing comprehensive security measures at our schools. You should expect to see an increased APSPD and Atlanta Police Department presence on our campuses, all safety and security protocols will be strictly enforced by our staff in accordance with district policy, and students will be reminded of the seriousness and criminal consequences of posting or reposting threats of violence on social media.

National School Walkout Day on March 14

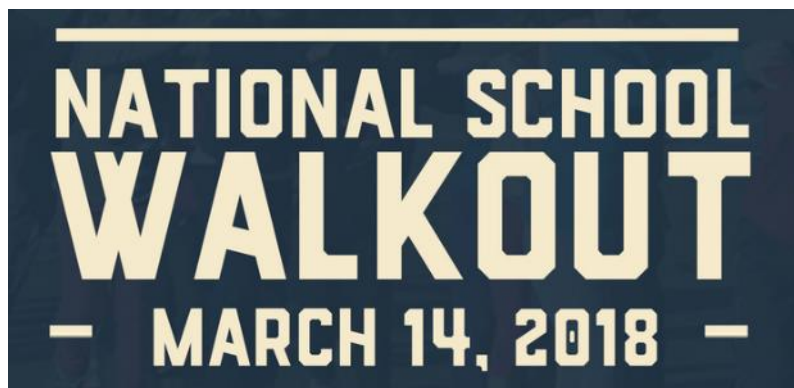
In addition, you may have seen information on social media and on websites encouraging students, teachers, and their allies around the country to organize a National School Walkout Day on March 14, 2018, at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes to insist that Congress take legislative action on keeping schools safe. There are two additional dates for student civic engagement proposed for March 24 and April 20.

As the birthplace and school district of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Atlanta Public Schools (APS) takes seriously our responsibility to prepare our students to succeed beyond high school and to help them become well-rounded individuals equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary for actively engaging in society. To support student engagement around a national dialogue on National School Walkout Day, our schools are planning to work with our students and student leaders to develop a structured plan that will be implemented during that 17-minute walkout. Some schools are already getting prepared for the learning experience!

It will be supported by our Teaching & Learning team. They are recommending age-appropriate instructional activities to support teachers' efforts in facilitating this conversation around civic engagement and social responsibility.

Atlanta Public Schools • 130 Trinity Avenue, SW • Atlanta, GA 30303 • 404-802-3500
www.atlantapublicschools.us

Safety & Security



- National Student Walkout Day on March 14 at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes to protest violence in schools
- Supportive of student-led, pre-approved, non-disruptive civic engagement in designated areas in our middle and high schools
- Participation in these non-disruptive activities is voluntary.