



**Dr. Beverly L. Hall**  
Superintendent  
Atlanta Public Schools

# Beverly L. Hall, Ed.D. Biography

**W**hen Dr. Beverly L. Hall became the 15th appointed superintendent of the Atlanta Public Schools (APS) on July 1, 1999, she promised to transform the district into a world-class school system, using nationally proven reform models, facility upgrades and business operations redesign. Under her leadership, standardized test scores have risen, aging facilities have been renovated and a new blueprint for business operations is being implemented. The district's vision is that APS will be one of the nation's highest performing urban school systems, where 90 percent of its ninth-graders graduate from high school in four years ready for success in college or career.

In addition to setting an aggressive reform agenda to accelerate student achievement, Dr. Hall has worked actively with the community to gain support for public education in the city of Atlanta. She has developed relationships with the business community, civic organizations, nonprofits and government leaders. As a result, APS has an extensive network of partners who donate time, resources and volunteers to help individual schools.

Prior to her post in Atlanta, Dr. Hall was state district superintendent of the Newark Public Schools, the largest school district in the state of

New Jersey. Before then, she served as deputy chancellor for instruction of the New York City Public Schools; superintendent, Community School District 27, Queens, New York; and principal, Junior High School 113 and Public School 282, Brooklyn, New York.

## ■ PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC AFFILIATIONS AND EXPERT PANELS

Dr. Hall chairs Harvard University's Urban Superintendents Program Advisory Board, mentoring participants in the doctoral program. Working both inside and outside the education arena to address national priorities, she is a member of the board of trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Smart Government Advisory Board of the Center for American Progress. In June 2009, Dr. Hall was elected for a one-year term as secretary-treasurer of the Council of the Great City Schools, a coalition of 67 of the nation's largest urban public school systems.

Locally, Dr. Hall serves on the boards of the Woodruff Arts Center, the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta, Communities In Schools of Atlanta, and Junior Achievement of Atlanta. She is also a member of the Agnes Scott College Board of Visitors.

A nationally recognized educator, Dr. Hall frequently speaks to local, state and national organizations about the importance of improving public education, particularly in urban areas. She has presented to many prominent groups, including the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor, the Aspen Institute's National Education Summit, the Central Atlanta Progress Board, Concerned Black Clergy, the Buckhead Coalition, the Friendship Baptist Church Forum, The Conference Board's Business/Education Council, the National Summit on America's Silent Epidemic, and 100 Black Men of Atlanta.

### ■ HONORS AND AWARDS

Dr. Hall is the recipient of several national and local honors. In 2010, she became the first K-12 school administrator to be honored with the Distinguished Public Service Award from the American Educational Research Association. In 2009, she was named the National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators, the country's top professional honor for a K-12 education leader. In addition, she won recognition as the 2009 State Superintendent of the Year by the Georgia School Superintendents Association. In the 22-year history of both the national and state awards, Dr. Hall is the first superintendent from Georgia and Atlanta, respectively, to receive the honors.

With her June 2009 acceptance of the prestigious Keystone Award for Leadership in Education, Dr. Hall continues to garner accolades for her turnaround of Atlanta Public Schools. She is the first K-12 school superintendent to receive the distinction from the Keystone Center.

Recognized for her leadership of Atlanta's public school system, Dr. Hall also has been honored

with the Council of the Great City Schools National Urban School Superintendent of the Year Award (Richard R. Green Award); the Institute for Student Achievement Distinguished Leadership Award; the National Alliance of Black School Educators Superintendent of the Year Award; the Concerned Black Clergy Education Award; the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Ground Crew Service Award for Education; and the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta Legacy Award. Furthermore, she was honored as the 2009 Georgia Speaker of the Year by the Barkley Forum at Emory University and saluted by the Carnegie Corporation for being an immigrant who represents the "pride of America."

Other honors include the 2009-10 Woodruff Salutes Georgia Arts in Education Leaders recognition from the Woodruff Arts Center, the Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award from the American Association of School Administrators and the inaugural Administrator of the Year Award from the Atlanta Urban Debate League. In February 2007, Dr. Hall was inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame by the Atlanta Business League. In 2007, 2008 and 2009, Georgia Trend magazine recognized her as one of its 100 Most Influential Georgians, as did the Atlanta Business Chronicle in 2007 and 2008 on its list of 100 Most Influential Atlantans.

### ■ PERSONAL

Born in Jamaica, West Indies, Dr. Hall immigrated to the United States upon completion of her high school education. She earned a Doctor of Education degree from Fordham University and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Oglethorpe University. She obtained a Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling from The City University of New York and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Brooklyn College. Dr. Hall is married and has an adult son.