

Centennial Academy

Centennial Academy is a newly converted charter school serving diverse neighborhoods from Atlantic Station in the north, Downtown Atlanta in the south, Howell Station in the west and Centennial Place in the east. Centennial Academy strives to develop creative, critical thinkers through a STEAM-focused curriculum. Strong partnerships within our community support this effort including Georgia Tech as our premier partner, Georgia State, the Georgia Aquarium, and the YMCA of Metro Atlanta.



What grades does Centennial Academy serve?

Beginning next school year, 2014-2015, the school will serve grades Kindergarten through 6th Grade. We will add a grade each year to serve through 8th grade.

What is a STEAM-focused curriculum?

A STEAM-focused curriculum recognizes the importance of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics education for future careers – STEM occupations are growing at 17% per year – and its relevance to experiencing the world we live in. By adding the “A” for Arts, we recognize the importance of infusing arts into education and its fundamental connection to STEM. Our premier partner, Georgia Tech, will utilize the school as its “lab” and assist with the development of K-8 STEAM education.

What is a conversion charter and why convert?

Centennial Academy will be the first conversion charter in Atlanta Public Schools. This means that we were a traditional public school but have decided to ask for more autonomy to create an educational program specifically designed to serve our community and better utilize our partners. In exchange for this autonomy, the school will be held to very rigorous performance standards.

What area does the school serve?

Centennial Academy will maintain its current school zone.

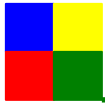
How do I enroll at Centennial Academy?

Anyone wishing to enroll at the school must live within the City of Atlanta. Whether in-zone or out-of-zone, everyone must complete an application. Applications will be available in late February. If you live outside the school zone, a lottery will be held in early April for any open slots.



How can I learn more?

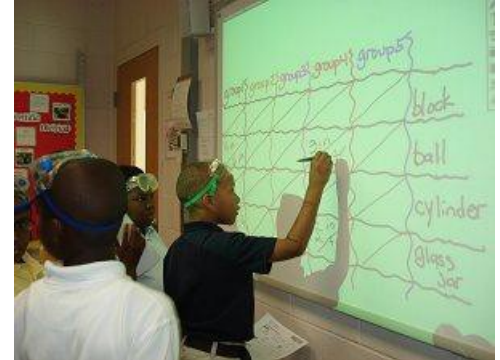
Our new website is expected to be up and running by mid-June at www.centennialplaceacademy.org. Until then, visit the school’s current website at <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Page/6176>.



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What makes Centennial Academy different?

Centennial Academy's STEAM-curriculum and project-based inquiry learning (PBIL) will be unique to the Grady cluster and to APS. Engaging Georgia Tech, Georgia State, and the Georgia Aquarium as our partners, we will become a lab school for how to best deliver STEM in an elementary setting. As various districts across the country pilot *Next Generation Science Standards*, our teachers will be trained by our partners who have created those standards. Project-based inquiry learning means solving real world problems using all the academic disciplines to find a solution. Examples currently in development include working with Georgia Tech using technology to analyze sidewalks and transportation systems, the Ferst Center constructing apps for architecture and space utilization for Arts performances, and with the Georgia Aquarium on better managing our water supplies. By 8th grade, our students will work in year-long internships with our partners.



What kind of technology will be used at the school?

Centennial Academy will infuse technology into every aspect of teaching and learning. The school already houses an impressive array of technology that teachers and students use every day – Promethean Boards in all rooms, a Mac Lab, the latest Virtual Desktop Infrastructure computer systems in every classroom, and two additional computer labs. When school opens in August, there will also be a Mac Book Air Mobile Learning Lab (30 total), an iPad Air Mobile Learning Lab (30 total), Promethean Active Tables, and enough Notebooks to provide 1:1 technology for our 3rd through 6th graders

Is the school year different than a traditional school?

Centennial Academy will operate on a modified year round calendar. School will begin on August 4th like the traditional APS system and end the first week of June. The calendar will include two week-long Intersessions that provide enrichment and remediation opportunities followed by a week-long break. Those breaks will coincide with the traditional APS calendar to make it easier for families with children in multiple schools. Camps and other enrichment programming will be offered both onsite and nearby during break periods.



What does the school day look like?

Centennial Academy's school day is from 8am – 3pm. The daily schedule will reflect the introduction of project-based inquiry learning and will look very different from what you remember in elementary and middle school. Imagine spending time learning math in a traditional classroom setting on Monday; spending Tuesday in the Math Lab doing hands-on math learning; spending Wednesday in a blended setting learning from a teacher, tutors, and online; spending Thursday in the Engineering lab using math, science, and social studies to address a problem; and spending Friday at Georgia Tech's Maker's Space. Freeing ourselves from conventional schedules makes the possibilities endless.

Join us on this journey to educational excellence!

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