74.4% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

2,499 Class of 2019 Graduates

$164,458,597 in academic and athletic scholarships offered to the class of 2019.

91 SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS

- 58 Neighborhood Schools
- 18 Charter Schools
- 6 Partner Schools
- 3 Alternative Programs
- 2 Single Gender Academies
- 70 Title I Schools

293 Bus Routes transport 32,069 students.

21,215 miles per day

5,294 TOTAL TEACHERS

- 3,217 Traditional
- 2,077 Non-Traditional

Projected K-12 2020 Student Enrollment

- 51,551
  - 41,731 Traditional
  - 9,820 Charter

Our student population is: 72.9% African-American, 15.9% Caucasian, 7.6% Hispanic, 2.4% Multi-Racial & 1.3% Other
Dear Students and Families of Atlanta Public Schools,

Welcome to our 2019-2020 school year! All of us in Atlanta Public Schools (APS) remain excited and committed to the work of preparing our students to graduate ready for college and career. With your support and engagement, we are making great progress on our Journey of Transformation and on our path toward becoming a high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage and the community trusts the system.

Now, more than ever, we need your continued engagement in ensuring the success of our students and of APS. I can’t stress enough how much we appreciate and need our APS families and community stakeholders to continue to work with us on our journey.

As part of helping you ensure that our students are prepared and ready to learn throughout the year, I’m excited to provide you with our 2019-2020 Back-to-School Guide. This year’s guide includes important information about the district, key dates, financial and educational data, a comprehensive listing of district contact information, including school addresses and phone numbers and our 2019-2020 school calendar.

To further support you this year, we are going deeper to improve transparency, responsiveness and accountability. At the center of this work is our new customer engagement platform called Let’s Talk, a new tool to enable students, parents, staff and others to communicate with us in one place whether it is by phone, email, online submissions or social media. Our goal is to raise expectations and increase satisfaction for every stakeholder who makes contact with an employee in an APS school or APS department.

APS also remains focused on developing the whole child by incorporating social emotional learning skills into the mix and equipping our kids with the smarts and hearts, as they become the adults and future leaders of our communities.

I love hearing from you and look forward to seeing you in our schools throughout the year. Remember, we are your partner in helping all students in APS succeed.

Welcome back, and let’s make it a great school year!

Sincerely,

Meria J. Carstarphen, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Atlanta Public Schools

Twitter: @CarstarphenMJ  |  Blog: ATLSuper.com
Charter System Operating Model and APS Cluster Planning

As of July 1, 2016, APS officially became a Charter System. This new contract, or “charter,” with the state allows more decisions to be made at the school level by principals, educators, parents and community members, all of whom are closer to students and their school needs. This freedom and flexibility from many state education laws and regulations comes with increased accountability for student achievement.

Aligned with its Charter System operating model, APS engaged the community in a planning process that led to the creation of Cluster Plans that highlight instructional programming across schools within a cluster, Pre-K through high school, and define the future direction for each cluster. This allows our schools and clusters the flexibility and autonomy to use what they know works best for their students while adhering to district and state guidelines.

One focus of the Cluster Plans is the identification and implementation of a signature program. This signature program focuses on the vertical and horizontal alignment of academic programs for schools and neighborhoods. These programs will provide rigor, structure, focus and accountability across the cluster. The programs chosen include:

**International Baccalaureate (IB)**
- IB programs aim to develop inquisitive, knowledgeable and compassionate young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.
- **Participating clusters:** Jackson, Mays, North Atlanta and Therrell.

**STEM**
- This integrated curriculum coordinates the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics through problem solving, discovery and exploratory project/problem-based learning.
- **Participating clusters and schools:** Douglass, South Atlanta, Washington, B.E.S.T. Academy and Coretta Scott King Young Women’s Leadership Academy.

**College & Career Prep**
- This College and Career Preparatory curriculum is based on the essential skills, knowledge and dispositions that children need to succeed as citizens and workers in today’s world.
- **Participating clusters:** Carver and Grady.

The district’s new operating model led to the creation of GO Teams – school-based governance bodies comprised of parents, educators and community members – to assist with decision-making at the school and cluster levels.
Atlanta Public Schools continues to organize into new high school clusters that are focused on major areas or regions of the school. These clusters are formed to encourage teamwork among schools. The clusters model includes teachers, administrators, support staff, students, parents and community members. The cluster model allows APS to provide more support, opportunity and equity, and compete with charter schools to increase student performance.

Each cluster is led by a cluster planning team to improve the quality of education for students in the cluster's region of schools. These teams include teachers, administrators, support staff, students, parents and community members. The cluster model allows APS to provide more support, opportunity and equity, and compete with charter schools to increase student performance.

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