

School Uniform

All students are required to wear grade-specific uniform shirts:

- ◆ 6th Grade: Black Polo
- ◆ 7th Grade: Light Blue Polo
- ◆ 8th Grade: Gold Polo
- ◆ High School (9th-11th): Navy Blue Polo
- ◆ 12th Grade: Gold Polo

Appropriate khaki or solid black pants or black jeans are also permitted. Shorts in khaki or blue shorts are allowed.

Distinguished Acknowledgements

- ◆ The Academic Decathlon Team won the 2024 Rookie Team of the Year award
- ◆ BEST Boys Go Global - Spain/Morocco, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Mexico, Colombia, Nicaragua, Guatemala
- ◆ College Tours: NC, NY, Washington, DC
- ◆ Delta Airlines National Flight Academy
- ◆ Dual-enrollment
- ◆ Gates Millennium Scholars (4)
- ◆ Georgia's sole JROTC cadet awarded the Legion of Valor Award for 2024
- ◆ Gettysburg Leadership Exploratory Trip
- ◆ Nissan Ready Resume Event
- ◆ Notre Dame Summer Scholars
- ◆ Polo Club - the only one in APS
- ◆ Posse Scholars (5)
- ◆ Project ENGAGES internship with GATech
- ◆ REACH Scholars (13)
- ◆ U.S. Naval Academy STEM Exploratory Trip

Hub /Marta Transportation

Our transportation system offers HUB bus stops for out-of-zone students attending BEST Academy, allowing parents to drop-off and pick-up their children at the nearest APS high schools. Additionally, MARTA passes are provided for students living outside the Douglass Cluster.

Extra-curricular Activities

- ◆ 100 Black Men - Project Success & Pathways of Development to Success (PODS)

- ◆ Academic Decathlon
- ◆ After-School All-Stars
- ◆ Atlanta Urban Debate
- ◆ Band
- ◆ Baseball
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Bike Club
- ◆ Boy Scouts (ASAS)
- ◆ Chess Club
- ◆ Esports
- ◆ Football
- ◆ Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl
- ◆ National Honor Society
- ◆ SkillsUSA
- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ Technology Club
- ◆ Track/Cross Country
- ◆ Yearbook



Parent Center

The Parent Center is open Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 3:30 pm. Here, you can access educational materials, seek support for your child's learning, get school-related information, explore local resources, and join serve a Parent Volunteer.

For additional information, contact our Parent Liaison:
Mrs. Stanley-Turner, at (404) 802- 4964 or email at
lastanley.turner@atlanta.k12.ga.us

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: bestacademy6-12
Twitter: @apsbestacademy
IG: @apsbestacademy



BEW/10-24

B.E.S.T. Academy
at The Thomas W. Dortch Jr. Institute

School Profile 2024 - 2025



1190 Northwest Drive, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Phone: 404-802-4950

Mr. Robert Williams, Principal

Mr. Shannon Williams, Assistant Principal
Mr. Casey Landsman, Assistant Principal
Ms. TiJuana Kelley, Business Manager

<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/18374>

Accreditation

Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges (SACS) and the Georgia Department of Education

Cognia STEM Accreditation

Our Mission

The mission of the B.E.S.T. (BEST Engineering, Science and Technology) is to provide a caring, collaborative and rigorous single-gender STEM environment where the community of share-holders empowers scholars to be college and career ready .

Our Vision

Our Vision is to create a high-performing single-gender STEM exemplar that produces transformational leaders who contribute to the community.

Community/School

COMMUNITY - Our school is situated in Atlanta, Georgia, within the 30318 zip code, which is the city's third-largest and the fourth-largest in Fulton County. Atlanta is home to the state government, Georgia Tech, Georgia State, Morehouse, and the Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

SCHOOL - BEST Academy is a single-gender all-male STEM-focused school, educating 325+ students in grades 6 through 12. We offer courses at the College Preparatory, Dual-enrollment, and AP levels. Our student body comprises 94% African-American, 1% White, 4% Latino, and 1% mixed heritage students. BEST Academy is part of the Atlanta Public School District.

FACULTY - We have 45 faculty members, with over 90% holding advanced degrees.

B.E.S.T. Academy Facts

CURRICULUM: Our academic program follows a 4/8 alternating A/B block schedule. Students have four 88-minute block classes daily, with each class meeting every other day on an alternating schedule. We operate on a two-semester, four-quarter system. Full-credit courses run for the entire year, while half-credit courses last for a semester. A full course load includes eight credits per year.

We offer a multi-level instructional plan, allowing students to pursue their individual goals. Courses are categorized as College Preparatory (CP), Dual-enrollment, and Advanced Placement (AP). Eligibility for advanced courses (AP) is determined based on test scores, grades, faculty recommendations, and a commitment to rigorous study.

Career Pathways

AVTF: The Audio-Video, Technology and Film pathway (AVTF) is for students aspiring to work in the audio and video production industry. This program provides the skills needed for careers in broadcasting, AV technology, and graphic design.

ENGINEERING: The Pathway To Engineering (PTE) program is a series of courses that emphasizes hands-on, practical problem-solving. In PTE, students learn and use the design process, build teamwork and communication skills, and develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. They explore how products are made and the processes behind their creation.

JROTC: In Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), students delve into civilian, industrial, and military science, enhancing their leadership abilities. They explore the rich history of the military and the future of military technology, with the opportunity to earn physical education (PE) credits.

WORLD LANGUAGE: Our high school language pathways include courses that meet the 2-year World Language graduation requirement. Students studying Spanish can also take College Board approved Advanced Placement courses in the language.

Dual-Enrollment

Students have the opportunity to take courses for both high school graduation and post-secondary requirements at Atlanta Technical College and Georgia State University. Participation requires approval from the student's high school guidance counselor and parents.

Additionally, 8th-grade students can earn high school credits in subjects like Math, Science, AVTF and World Language.

Graduation Requirements

To qualify for the state diploma in Georgia, students must earn twenty-four units of credit designated as follows:

English/ Language Arts - 4	Physical Education / Health 1.5
Mathematics - 4	Electives - 4
Science - 4	Community Service - .5
Social Studies - 3	Foreign Language - 2
CTAE/Fine Arts - 1	

Graduation Classes Profile

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
86.3%	77.6%	92.7%	96.3%	93.8%	94.1%

Colleges Attended By BEST Graduates

Albany State	George Washington	Notre Dame
Alabama State	Georgia State	Paine
Allen University	Georgia Tech	Stanford U.
Atlanta Metro	Grambling	Savannah State
Bard College	Kennesaw State	Stanford
Benedict College	Liberty U.	Tennessee State
Brandeis U.	LSU	Tuskegee U.
Clark-Atlanta U.	Mercer U.	U. Michigan
DePauw U.	Miles	U. South Carolina
Fort Valley State U.	Morehouse	West Georgia