

GO Team Organizational Meeting

8.28.25

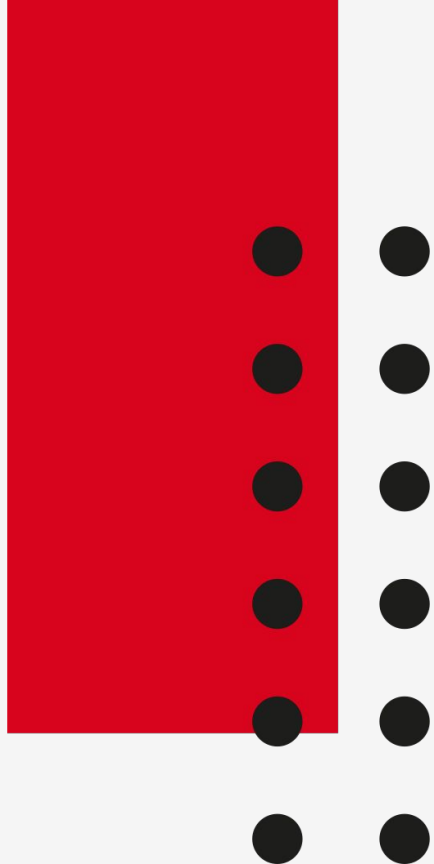


GO TEAM MEMBERS 2025-2026

Roll Call

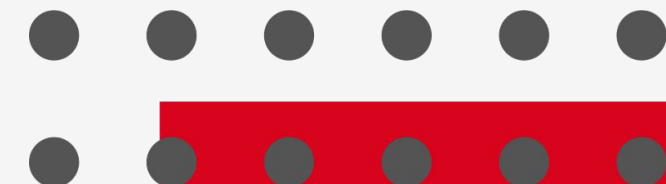


NAME	ROLE
Dr. Tara Spencer	Principal
Kashon Caldwell	Parent
Edwina Lawrence	Parent
Jasmina King	Parent
Erin Gore	Staff
Tesia Germain	Staff
Tatyana McKnight	Staff
Eric Thomas	Community Member
VACANT	Community Member
VACANT	Swing Seat



- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call; Establish Quorum
- III. Action Items
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Fill Vacant Positions
 - C. Fill Open Community Member Seat
 - D. *For High Schools:* Appoint Student Representatives
 - E. Approval of Previous Minutes (*last meeting of 2024-2025 school year*)
 - F. Election of Officers and Representatives
 - i. Chair
 - ii. Vice-Chair
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Cluster Representative
 - G. Review and Approve Public Comment Protocol
 - H. Set GO Team Meeting Calendar
 - I. Review, Confirm/Update, and Adopt GO Team Meeting Norms
- IV. Information Items
 - A. Principal's Update
 - A. Enrollment
 - B. Assessment Overview
 - C. Back to School Basics
 - D. APS Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan (CLRFP) Update
 - D. Discussion Item 2:
- VI. Announcements
 - I. New GO Team Member Training and Orientation
 - II. STEAM DAY- August 29th, 2025
 - III. Labor Day- September 1st, 2025
 - IV. Grandparents Read In Day- September 12th, 2025
 - V. Skate Night- September 12th, 2025
- VII. Adjournment

Agenda



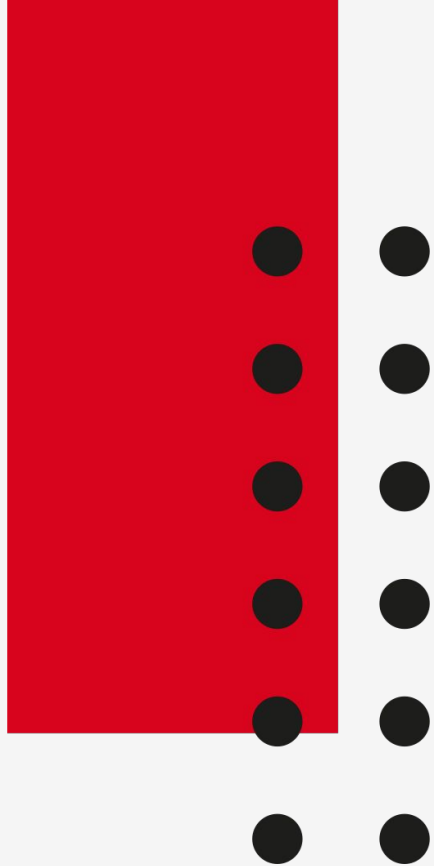
- GO Team will appoint an interim secretary **for this meeting.**
- Interim Secretary will call roll of current GO Team members.
- Secretary will announce if the GO Team has a **quorum.**

The meeting can only proceed if a majority of current members are present.

**Interim
Secretary**

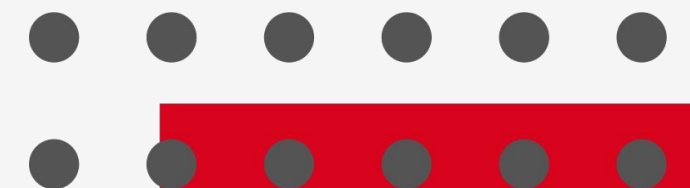
Call Roll

**Establish
Quorum**



- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call; Establish Quorum
- III. Action Items
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Fill Vacant Positions *(if applicable)*
 - C. Fill Open Community Member Seat
 - D. For High Schools: Appoint Student Representatives
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 - i. Chair
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**Approve the
Agenda**



Fill Vacant Seats

- **Vacant Seats** are seats which have been vacated prior to the end of the seat's term.
- Individuals appointed to the seat will serve until the end of the seat's term.
- Principal nominates individuals for each vacant seat.

The GO Team votes on the nomination for each vacant seat.

Fill Open Community Seat

- The new **Community Member** for the open seat will serve for a full two-year term – until June 2027.
- Individuals **cannot** be full-time APS employees.
- Principal nominates the individual for the Community Member seat.

The GO Team votes on the nomination for the Community Member.

Fill Open Swing Seat

- Any GO Team member can nominate someone for the **open Swing Seat**.
- Anyone **except** school administrators are eligible to fill the seat.
- The new Swing Seat member will serve a full two-year term until June 2027.

The GO Team votes on the nomination(s) for the swing seat.

High schools only

- High school GO Teams will have **two** student representatives; students serve a 1-year term
- Students are **full members** of the GO Team – they contribute to quorum, can vote, and serve in officer positions
- Principal **appoints** student representatives; one should be an elected member of a student governing body (e.g., Student Government Association)

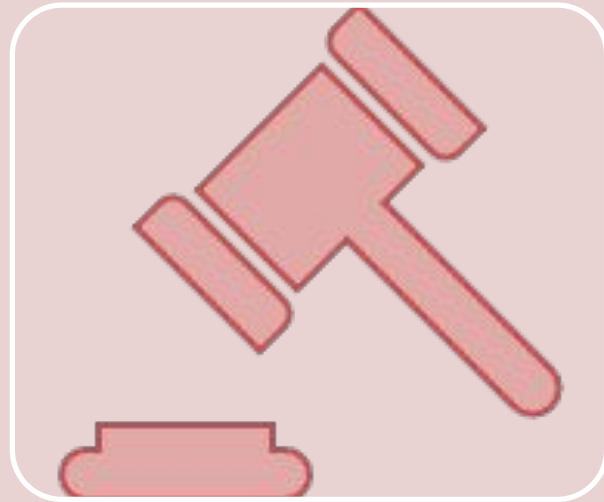
**Appoint
Student
Seats**

- Review minutes from the last meeting of the 2024–2025 school year.
- GO Team will offer amendments and corrections to the minutes.
- GO Team will then vote to approve the previous meeting’s minutes.

Approval of the previous meeting Minutes

*(last meeting of
2024–2025)*

Election of Officers



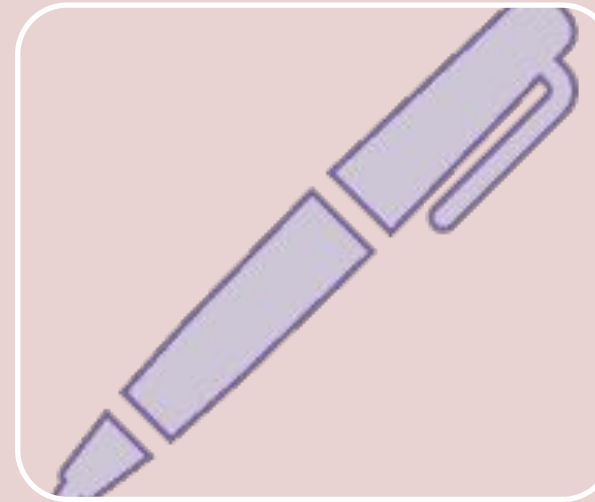
CHAIR

- Works with GO Team to create the agenda
- Leads meetings
- Monitors GO Team compliance with Open Meeting Laws and member training



VICE-CHAIR

- Ensures compliance with parliamentary procedure
- Acts as Chair, if the Chair is absent



SECRETARY

- Takes minutes at meetings
- Ensures compliance with Open Meeting Laws by posting GO Team documents on the school's GO Team webpage



CLUSTER REP

- Attends Cluster Advisory Team (CAT) meetings (about 3/year)
- Reports out at CAT about your school
- Brings cluster report back to GO Team
- Can hold an officer position

Find more information about officer positions in the [GO Team Handbook](#)

The GO Team Office provides additional training and resources for officers.



CHAIR





Chair Responsibilities

The GO Team Chair is the leader of the GO Team and presides at all meetings of the GO Team.

Key Responsibilities

- Leading GO Team Meetings
- Working with the Principal and GO Team to develop meeting Agendas
- Ensuring every GO Team member has an opportunity to be heard
- Monitoring team compliance

Qualifications

- A commitment to the school and its values and an understanding of the school's objectives, organization, and services
 - Knowledge of, and ability to work with, the broader school community
 - Ability to understand concepts and articulate ideas
 - Willingness to learn facilitation skills and provide balanced leadership
- 
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VICE-CHAIR



Vice-Chair Responsibilities

The GO Team Vice-Chair assists the GO Team Chair in providing leadership to the GO Team and presides at all meetings of the GO Team in the absence of the Chair.

Key Responsibilities

- Ensuring the GO Team follows parliamentary procedure
- Working with the Principal and Chair to develop meeting Agendas
- Acting as Chair, if the Chair is not present.

Qualifications

- A commitment to the school and its values and an understanding of the school's objectives, organization, and services
- Knowledge of, and ability to work with, the broader school community
- Ability to understand concepts and articulate ideas
- Willingness to learn facilitation skills and provide balanced leadership



SECRETARY




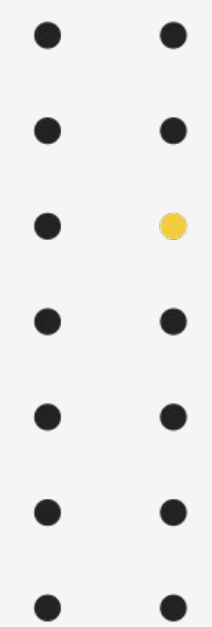
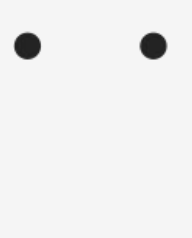
Secretary Responsibilities

The GO Team Secretary is responsible for communication regarding GO Team meetings and documenting the work and decisions of the GO Team.

Key Responsibilities

- Posting GO Team documents (agendas, summaries, and minutes) to the website
- Taking minutes at GO Team meetings
- Ensuring the GO Team is in compliance with Georgia Open Meeting Laws

Qualifications

- A commitment to the school and its values and an understanding of the school's objectives, organization, and services.
 - Knowledge of, and ability to work with, the broader school community
 - Willingness to learn about and ensure GO Team compliance with Robert's Rules of Order and Georgia's Open Meetings and Records laws
 - Organization skills and an ability to adhere to deadlines
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CLUSTER

REP



Cluster Advisory Team Representative Responsibilities

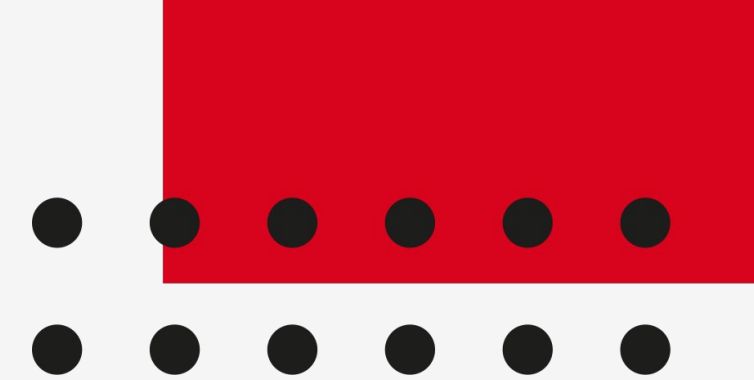
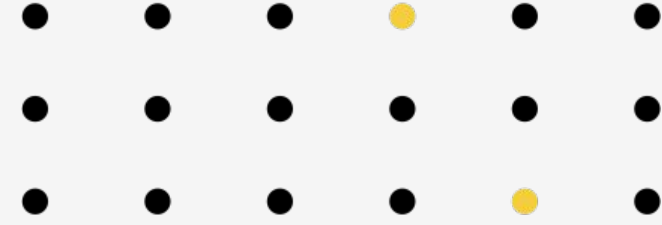
The CAT Representative serves as the voice of their school's GO Team within the Cluster Advisory Team. The CAT Rep may also be the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary.

Key Responsibilities

- Attend all Cluster Advisory Team Meetings
- Represent your school at the CAT Meetings
- Bring relevant information and reports back to your GO Team

Qualifications

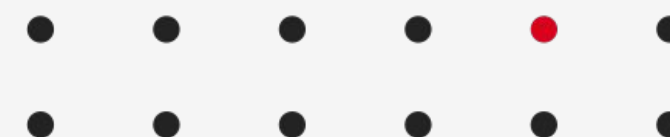
- Willingness to collaborate with schools, principals, and community partners
- Interest in supporting continuous improvement and equity across schools
- Knowledge of, and ability to work with, the broader cluster community



Public Comment Protocol

Requirements

- Opportunities for public comment **shall** be provided at least four (4) times in a school/fiscal year and noted on the GO Team's webpage and meeting agenda;
- GO Team members will **not** provide responses or engage in direct conversation during public comment;
- Each GO Team will determine a consistent method for receiving public comments and for parents and other citizens to sign up to address the team;
- **At least 20 minutes** of time will be allotted for the public to make comments at meetings where public comment is permitted; and
- The public will receive at least 2 business days' notice of the Public Comment Protocol.



Public Comment Protocol Tips

- **Public Comment Is Not Mandatory at Every Meeting**: GO Teams are not required to include a Public Comment period at every meeting, but should be scheduled for meetings involving major action items needing community input.
- **Plan and Structure Public Comment Thoughtfully**: When included, Public Comment should be scheduled at a specific time (e.g., a 20-minute segment with 2 minutes per speaker) and aligned with the school community's availability to encourage participation.
- **Establish a Clear and Transparent Process**: Provide clear instructions for how individuals can sign up to speak. During the Public Comment period, GO Team members should listen without responding, using the input to inform decisions.
- **Encourage Ongoing Community Engagement**: Remind stakeholders that Public Comment during meetings is just one way to share input. Emails to GO Team members and special sessions can also serve as valuable channels for community feedback.


**The GO Team votes on its
Public Comment Protocol**



Meeting Calendar



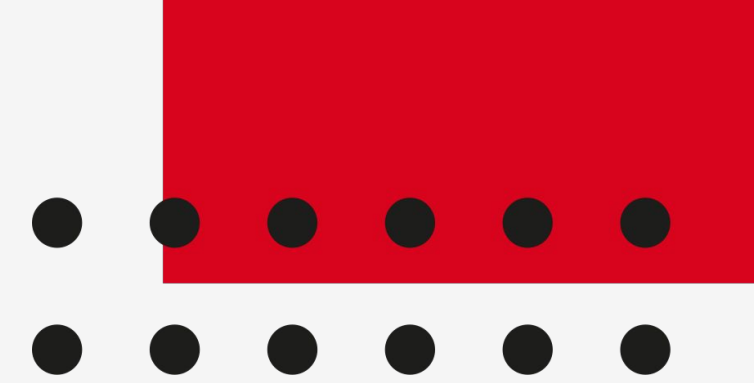
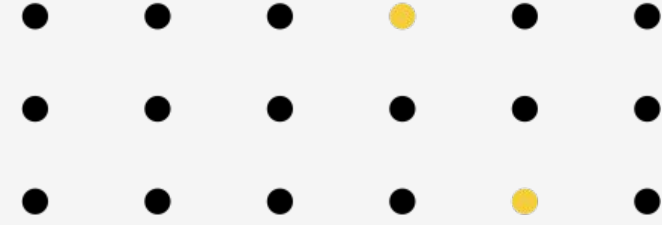
Requirements

- Hold **at least six** (6) business meetings this school year (*this meeting plus at least 6 more*);
 - **At least four** (4) of the meetings must permit time for Public Comment;
 - Meetings **cannot** be held during the instructional school day;
 - Meetings **must** be live-streamed and recorded; and
 - Meeting locations for hybrid meetings must be places which can accommodate the public (*i.e. – not a conference room*).
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Meeting Calendar Considerations

- **Hold at least 3 business meetings per semester**: This will ensure your GO Team has sufficient time to complete its business
- **Fall Semester 2025**: Your GO Team will be developing its 2025-2030 Strategic Plan to align with the District's new strategic plan; allow enough time to complete this work
- **Budget Meetings**:
 - Allocation Meeting: Late January
 - Draft Feedback Meeting: Early February – before February break
 - Finalization Meeting: Early March – after staffing conferences
- **Public Comment**: Select at least **four (4)** of meetings that will allow time for public comment.

The GO Team votes on its Meeting Calendar



Meeting Norms

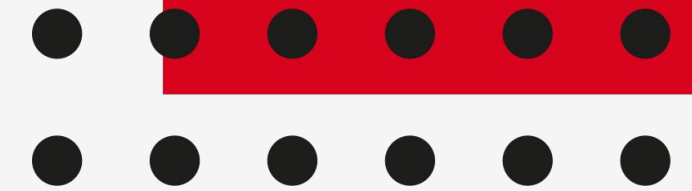
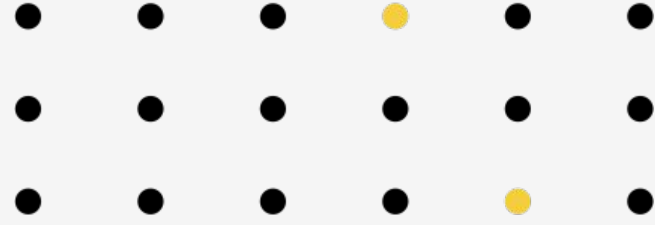
The GO Team may change these norms.

The GO Team votes on its meeting norms.

Initial Norms

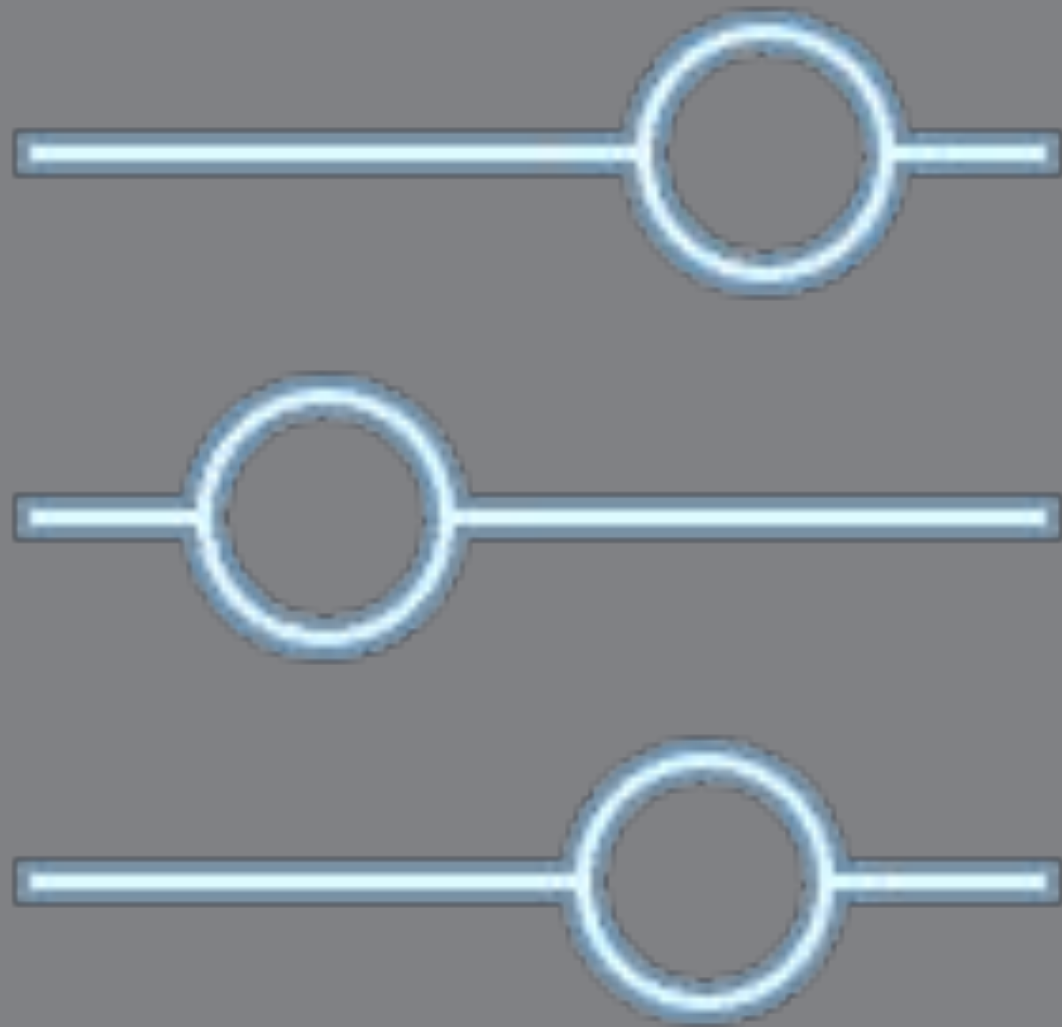
- This is a meeting of the GO Team. Only members of the team may participate in the discussion. Any members of the public present are here to quietly observe.
- We will be fully present.
- We will follow the agenda as noticed to the public and stay on task.
- We will be respectful of each other at all times.
- We will be open-minded.
- We invite and welcome contributions of every member and listen to each other.
- We will respect all ideas and assume good intentions.
- We will approach differences of opinion with curiosity.





Principal Update





Enrollment

Projected Enrollment	259
15-Day Count(08.22.25) Enrollment	266
Difference	+7

LEVELING

Leveling is the process the District uses to adjust school budget allocations to match student enrollment.

Budget Adjustment*

\$ 115,308

**The budget adjustment reflects the impact of the following: enrollment changes, FY25 reserve, adjustments to Title I, Family Engagement and School Improvement Allocations, Security Grants and FY24 carryover funds*

Plan for FY26 Leveling Reserve

\$ **\$73,574**

Priorities	Strategies	Requests	Amount
Continually utilize differentiated small group instruction to close achievement gaps and accelerate learning.	Ensure Instructional Support Personnel are available to consistently deliver instruction through small groups as opposed to being used to support lunch processes.	Purchase an hourly non-instructional aide	\$56,115
Strengthen instructional practices and planning to ensure rigorous, standards-aligned lessons that meet the diverse needs of all learners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure teachers and support personnel are compensated for off contract hours. (I.E. Unit Planning, Tutoring, etc.)• Ensure teachers have necessary materials to provide quality instruction.	<p>Provide stipends.</p> <p>Ensure teachers have the necessary materials to provide quality instruction.</p>	\$17,459

Plan for FY26 Title I Holdback

\$ (0)

Priorities	Strategies	Requests	Amount

Summary of Changes as a Result of FY26 Budget Adjustment

Personnel Changes	Non-Personnel Changes
Increase Hourly Security Monitor to 1 FTE	Stipends
Purchase an hourly non instructional aide	Instructional Supplies



Finch Elementary School

FALL MAP DATA

READING

School	Window	Exams				
Finch	Fall 2022-2023	207	57%			
	Fall 2023-2024	207	56%			
	Fall 2024-2025	181	46%			

Finch	Fall 2025-2026	175	44%			
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MATH

School	Window	Exams				
Finch	Fall 2022-2023	208	49%			
	Fall 2023-2024	208	50%			
	Fall 2024-2025	182	40%			

Finch	Fall 2025-2026	176	36%			
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We Are A **Community of Believers**

Getting Back to Basics



ONE DISTRICT. ONE GOAL. EVERY CHILD.

A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS GETTING BACK TO BASICS

Our Strength is Our Team

Atlanta's students will have effective and engaged teachers, leaders, and staff.

- Increase concentration of highly-effective teachers and leaders
- Prioritize engagement and retention for staff
- Grow and promote strong teachers, leaders, and staff

Our Responsibility Is Shared

Atlanta's students will have supportive families, communities, and partners.

- Build meaningful partnerships
- Expand Atlanta Partners for Education (APFE) impact
- Increase access and engagement for families and communities

Our System Is Efficient & Effective

Atlanta's students will have the schools and resources they need to succeed.

- Maximize facility usage for the student and community good
- Leverage data to drive strategic financial investments
- Implement sustainability initiatives

We Are Strengthening Our Instructional Core

Atlanta's students will have high-quality instruction, materials, and targeted support.

- Implement high-quality, relevant, and engaging instructional materials and professional learning in all core content areas
- Target resources towards subgroups (eg. exceptional education, English learners, economically-disadvantaged)
- Accelerate early learning

We Are Caring For Every Child

Atlanta's students will have trusted, supportive adults meeting their unique needs.

- Expand strategies that reduce chronic absenteeism and disproportionate discipline
- Implement systematic culture and climate strategies
- Increase student access to trusted and reliable adults (eg. mentors, coaches, counselors)

We Are Sparking Student Curiosity

Atlanta's students will have access to explore and expand their passions and interests.

- Promote robust arts, athletics, world language, and enrichment offerings
- Expand access to high-interest and workforce-ready offerings (e.g. career programs and pathways, advanced coursework)
- Explore specialized and innovative school models (eg. School of the Arts)



COMPREHENSIVE LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

APS FORWARD 2040: RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/73555>



PURPOSE OF A COMPREHENSIVE FACILITIES PLAN

- **Provide a Roadmap for appropriate facilities infrastructure:**
 - Facilities Condition supports a safe & healthy school environment
 - Facility Condition and Suitability supports appropriate educational spaces
 - Buildings are utilized to maximize programmatically and financially viable schools
- **Support ESPLOST Program:**
 - Plan should inform funding to maximize taxpayer supported dollars
- **Implement APS's Strategic Plan:**
 - 2025 Strategic Plan – Specifically related to “OUR SYSTEM IS EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE”
- **District's Responsibility to Continuously Perform Facilities Reviews**
 - National best practice (and State Law in many States) is to perform a comprehensive facilities capital improvement plan AT LEAST every 5 years
 - Facilities planning should be part of Standard Operations Procedures

KEY CONSIDERATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING SCENARIOS

- **Small School Supplements **WILL NOT BE FUNDED** by 2026 / 2027 School Year**
 - Puts pressure on staffing / resourcing schools
 - Fully funded schools may have to sacrifice programs to supplement underenrolled schools
- **District is operating for 70,000 seats with an Enrollment of 50,000 students**
 - 20,000 underutilized seats stretches financial resources
 - Fully funded schools may have to sacrifice programs to supplement underenrolled schools
 - Leads to Educational and Operational Inefficiencies
- **Finding opportunities for student and family support services**
 - Expanded offerings in early childhood, community hubs, workforce development, and affordable housing
- **Imbalance of enrollment and under-enrollment of schools**
 - Many ES don't have enough students in their boundary to support core program needs for students
 - Clusters look vastly different when addressing over-utilized and under-utilized facilities
 - Utilization is not the driving factor: Enough enrollment and appropriately utilized schools is the focus
- **Continued need for condition improvements across the District**
 - Though overall buildings are in good condition, many still need modernization and systems upgrades
 - District has reimbursable money (up to \$50 million) from the State of Georgia but cannot fully access due to capacity and underutilization across the District



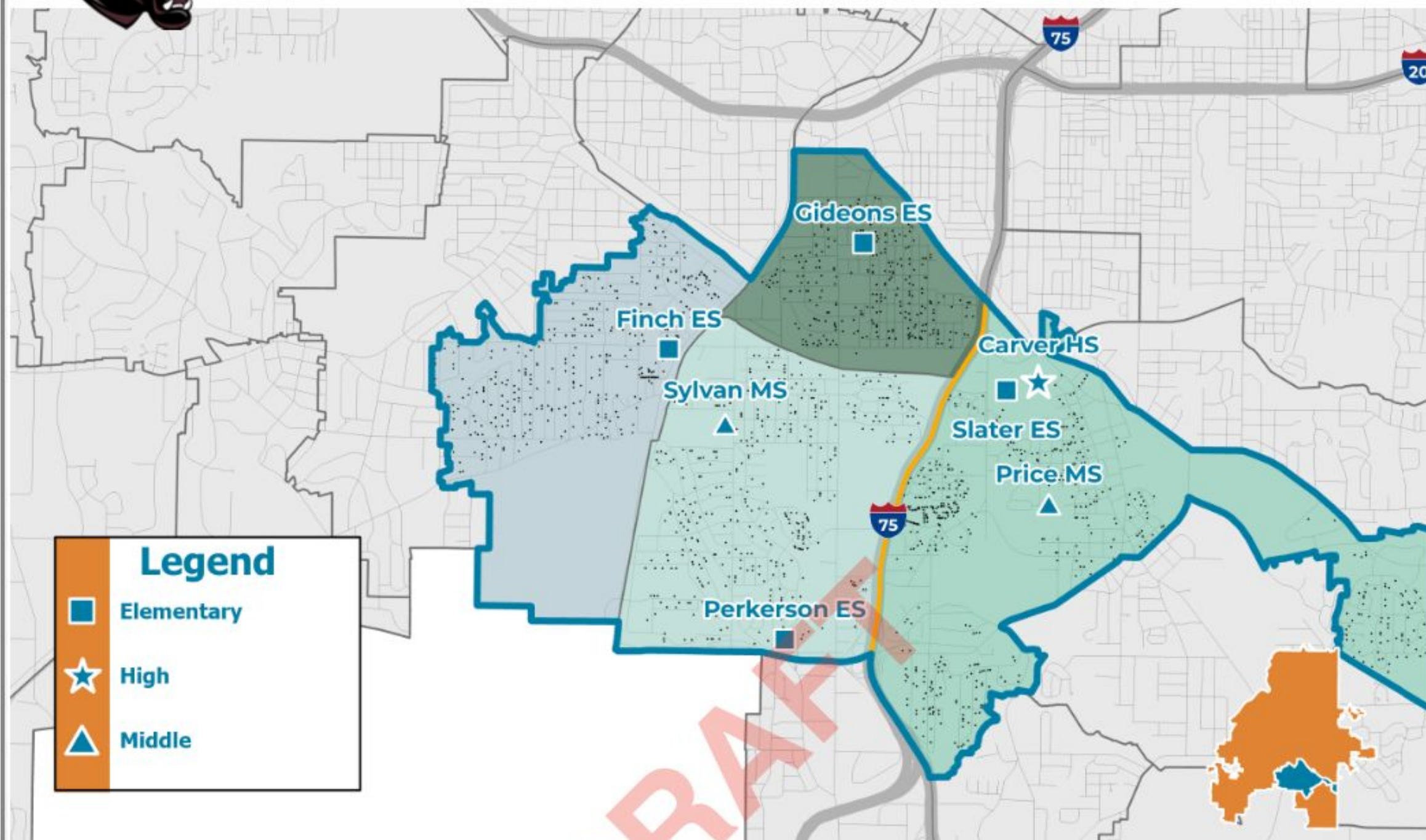


APPROPRIATELY ENROLLED PROGRAMMATICALLY STRONG

- **Supports complete programs:**
Enables full academic and extracurricular offerings
- **Aligns with district goals:**
Meets size targets for program diversity and funding eligibility.
- **Promotes continual support for student outcomes:**
Program opportunities to serve students at all learning levels
- **Enables full staffing models:**
Less reliance on small school supplement and leveling funding
- **Frees up local funding:**
Resources can be reinvested into enriching current and new programs
- **Strengthens school stability:**
Fully utilized campuses reduce uncertainty and promote long-term planning
- **Operationally Efficient = State Reimbursement:**
Reimbursement for building condition improvements from State



CARVER CLUSTER



Legend

- Elementary
- High
- Middle

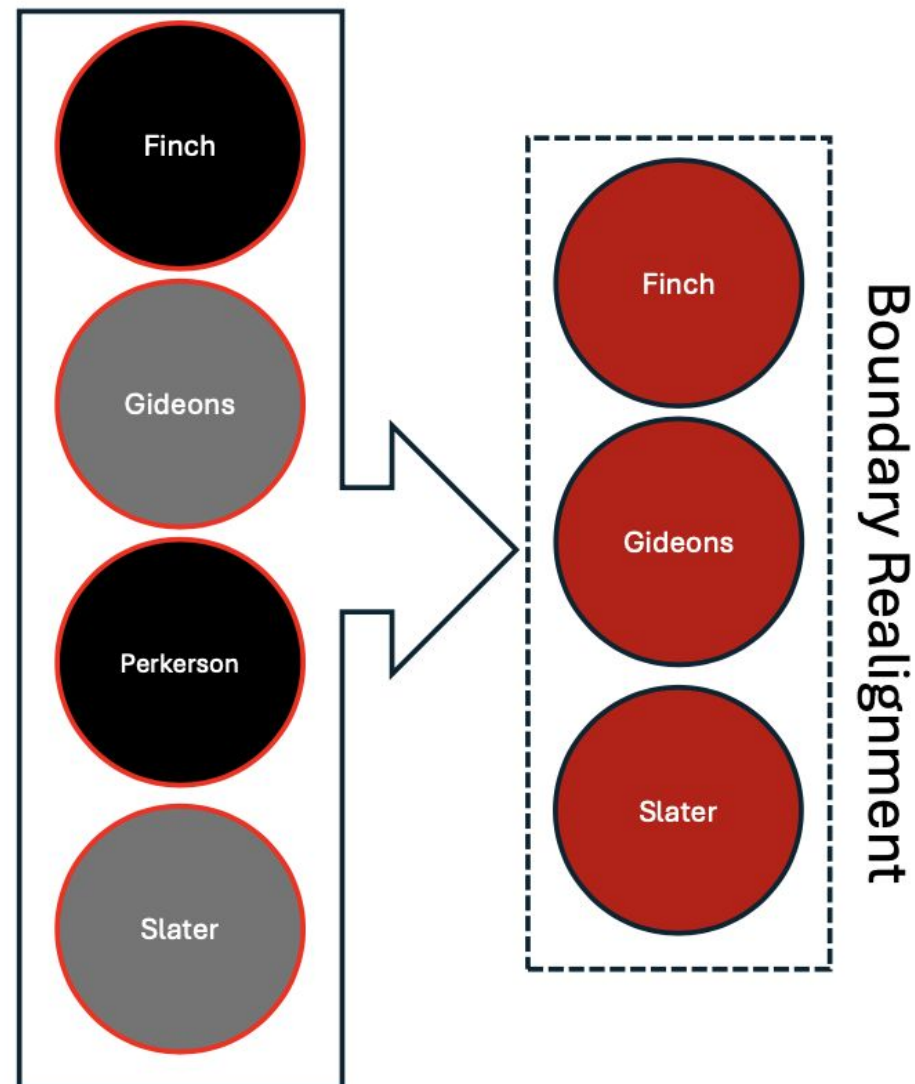
4
ES
Facilities

2
MS
Facilities

1
HS Facility
(2 Schools)

APPROPRIATELY ENROLLED – PROGRAMMATICALLY STRONG

Carver Elementary Schools Scenario 1: Repurpose Perkerson ES



Scenario 1

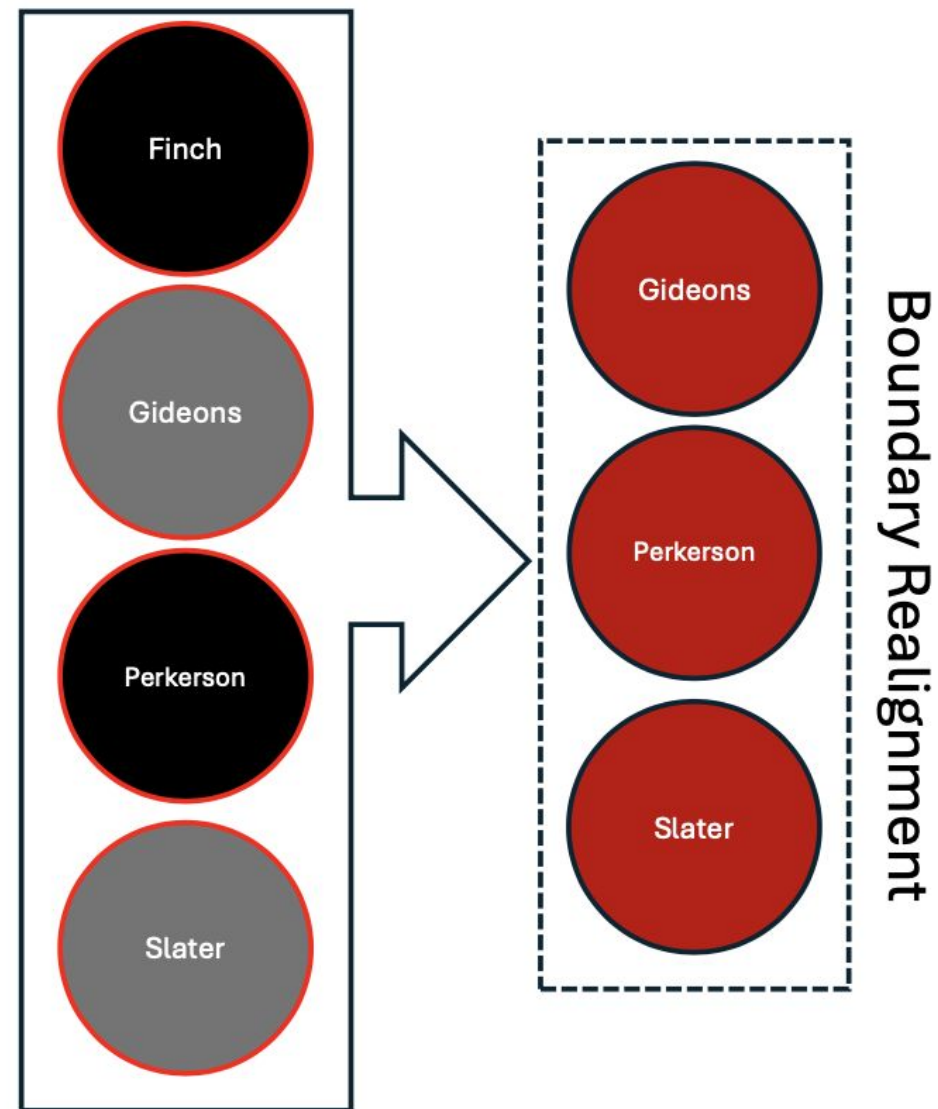
School	Building Capacity	2029-30 Projected Live-In	2029-30 Projected Non-Charter Live-In	Scenarios Capacity	FCA (Condition)
Finch ES	775	295	223	775	82.2
Gideons ES	575	322	235	575	97.8
Perkerson ES	575	462	333	-	80.3
Slater ES	675	456	349	675	74.8
ES Total	2,600	1,535	1,140	2,025	

Carver Elementary Schools Scenario 1	Current	Proposed
Average Capacity	650	675
Average 2029-30 Projected Enrollment (Non-Charter)	285	380
Average 2029-30 Projected Utilization (Non-Charter)	44%	56%

Table Highlight Legend
Building Repurposed
Change in Grade Configuration

APPROPRIATELY ENROLLED – PROGRAMMATICALLY STRONG

Carver Elementary Schools Scenario 2: Repurpose Finch ES



Scenario 2

School	Building Capacity	2029-30 Projected Live-In	2029-30 Projected Non-Charter Live-In	Scenarios Capacity	FCA (Condition)
Finch ES	775	295	223	-	82.2
Gideons ES	575	322	235	575	97.8
Perkerson ES	575	462	333	575	80.3
Slater ES	675	456	349	675	74.8
ES Total	2,600	1,535	1,140	1,825	

Carver Elementary Schools Scenario 2	Current	Proposed
Average Capacity	650	608
Average 2029-30 Projected Enrollment (Non-Charter)	285	380
Average 2029-30 Projected Utilization (Non-Charter)	44%	62%

Table Highlight Legend
Building Repurposed
Change in Grade Configuration

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Board of Education Updates

Planning Framework

May 5, 2025 Board Meeting

Process Update

August 11, 2025 Board Meeting

Scenarios Go Public

Week of August 18

First Read

November Board Meeting

Second Reading

December Board Meeting

*Recording Posted to Website after the meeting is adjourned.

**Additional Meetings may be added or considered as needed.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public Meetings

Planning Framework

Future Virtual Meetings

August 25, 2025 - 12:00 PM

[Attend via Zoom](#)

October 20, 2025 - 12:00 PM

[Attend via Zoom](#)

November 10, 2025 - 12:00 PM

[Attend via Zoom](#)

In-Person

Center for Learning and Leadership (CLL)
130 Trinity Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30303

August 25, 2025 - 6:00 PM

October 20, 2025 - 6:00 PM

November 10, 2025 - 6:00 PM

*Dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

*Online surveys will also be available to provide feedback

COMMUNITY TASK-FORCE

Community Task Force

Options Review

August 5, 2025 - 6:00 PM

Recommendation

Oct 9, 2025, 6:00 PM

Community Outreach Meetings

We'll Come to YOU!

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Hub – Gymnasium
601 Thomas Cole Jr Way SW, Atlanta, GA 30314
(Formerly 601 Beckwith St SW)

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Crawford Long Middle – Auditorium
3200 Latona Dr SW, Atlanta, GA 30354

Thursday, August 28, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sutton 7th & 8th Grade Campus – Auditorium
2875 Northside Drive, Atlanta, GA 30305

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Jean Childs Young Middle School
3116 Benjamin E Mays Dr SW, Atlanta, GA 30311

Announcements





GO Team Members

Remember to complete your training.

As outlined in Section 2.14 of the GO Team Handbook, GO Team members are **required to complete** orientation within **one year** of joining the team and must be renewed every four years.

Failure to complete this training will result in removal from the GO Team

Contact the GO Team Office if you have any questions.



FULL STEAM AHEAD!!!

**STEAM DAY IS COMING: AUGUST
29th**



Labor Day is Monday, Sept. 1st



Grandparents Read In Celebration
Friday, Sept. 12th

Work
Hard
Play
Hard



ATLANTA
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

One District. One Goal. Every Child.

FINCH
Elementary

PRESENTS...

SKATE
NIGHT

@ Cascade Skating
3335 Martin Luther King Dr. SW
Atlanta, Ga. 30315

Friday, September 12th
6pm -8pm

Admission \$13 per person

IN-PERSON

Bring the full GO Team

Come ready to collaborate, contribute, and
create the future!

Come learn more about:

- Your school's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan
- Stakeholder Engagement
- APS Forward 2040

...and much more

SAVE THE DATE

G3 Summit

Go.Grow.Govern.

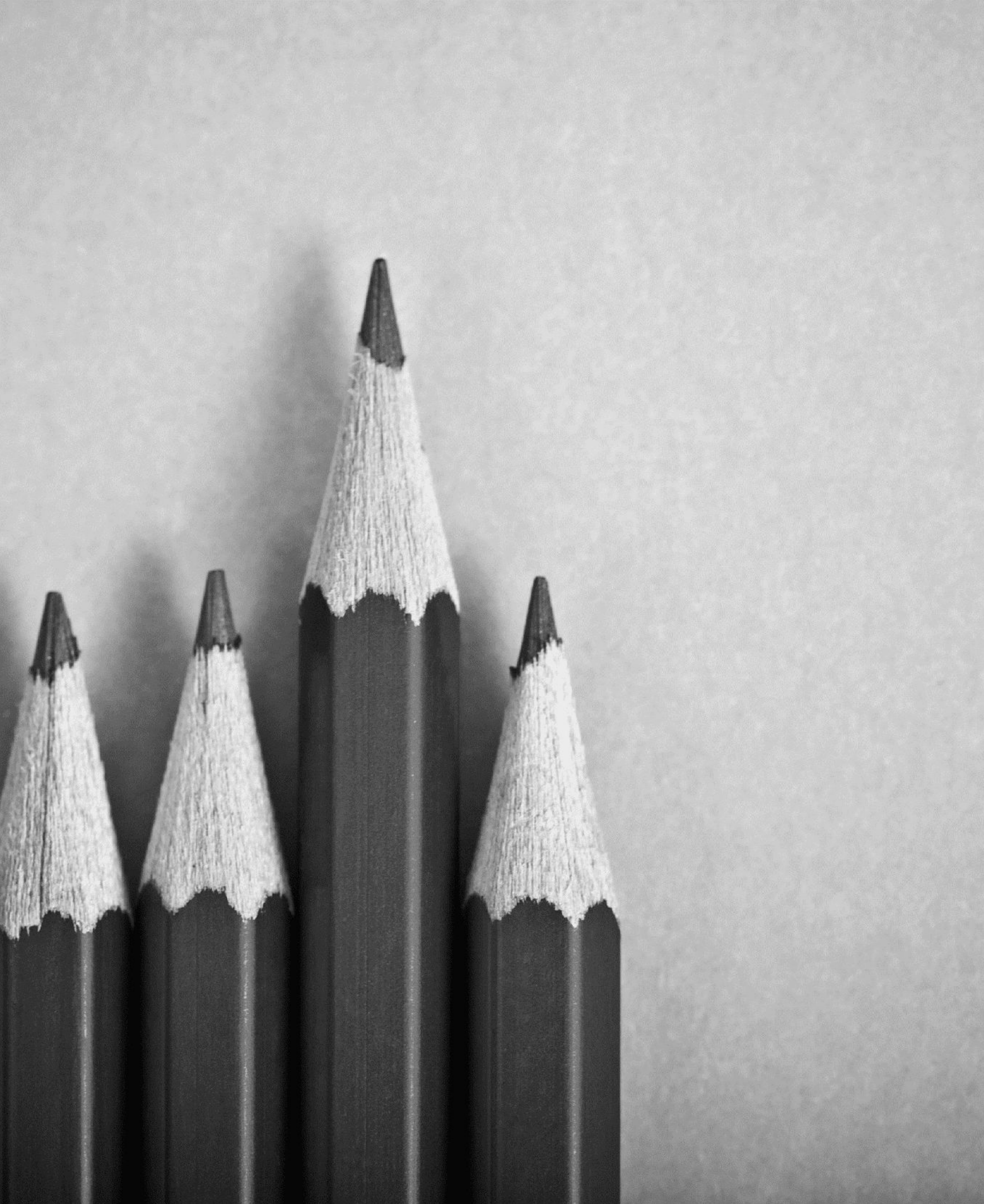
Saturday

September 27

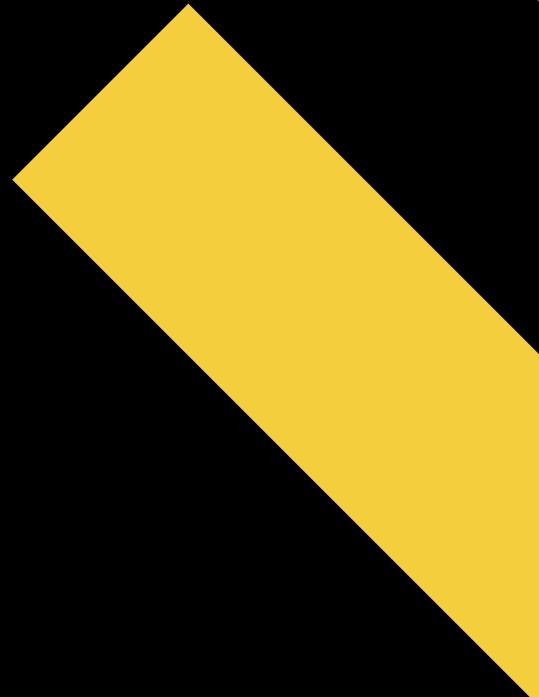
8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

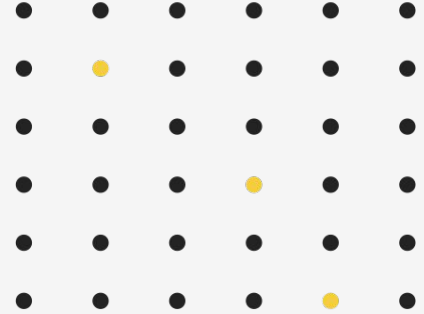
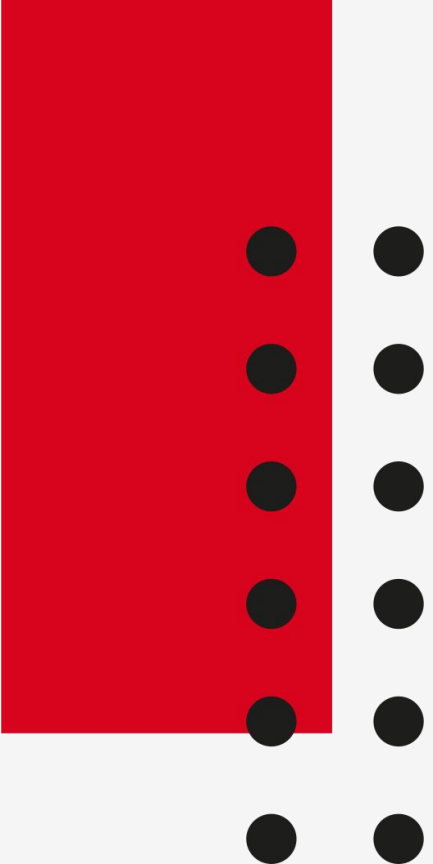
Atlanta College & Career Academy

1090 Windsor St SW



Adjournment





THANK YOU

We're looking forward to a great year!

