

The background of the image is a stylized graphic. It features a bald eagle with a white head, yellow beak, and brown and blue wings, perched atop a city skyline. The skyline consists of various skyscrapers in shades of blue and white. The entire scene is set within a circular frame with a red and gold border. The text "GO Team Meeting" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font.

# GO Team Meeting

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**WILLIAM M. FINCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

# 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
Dr. Terence Lester	Community Member
Rekina LeCount	Swing Seat

**I. Call to order**

**II. Meeting Protocols**

- a. Roll Call**
- b. Establish Quorum**

**III. Action Items**

- a. Approval of Agenda**
- b. Approval of Previous Minutes: August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**IV. Discussion Items**

- a. Strategic Plan and Priority Review**
- b. SMART Goals**

**V. Informational Items:**

**a. Principals Report**

- a. Enrollment and Leveling Updates**
- b. APS Forward 2040- Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan Update**

**VI. Announcements**

- a. Pep Squad Performance (Carver vs. Washington) 9/18 @ 6PM**
- b. Go Team G3 Summit- 9/27 at 9AM**
- c. Virtual Learning Day- Monday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>**
- d. Fall Break- Oct. 14-17 for students; Oct. 15-17 for staff**
- e. Next Meeting: October 23, 2025 at 3:30PM**

**VI. Adjournment**



# Action Items



- ❑ Approval of Agenda
- ❑ Approval of Previous Minutes



A photograph of chess pieces on a board. In the foreground, two dark chess pieces (likely pawns or knights) are in sharp focus. In the background, a light-colored chess piece (likely a king or queen) is blurred. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and shadows.

# STRATEGIC Plan & Priority Review

## William M. Finch Elementary

**Mission:** A community school where teachers plan intentionally, students embrace academic struggle, and the community's values align with the school's.

**Vision:** Together, we will provide meaningful, rigorous learning experiences and opportunities that enrich learning for students, staff, and the community in order to make college and career readiness a reality.

### SMART Goals

Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in Reading from 19% to 25%

Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in Math from 14% to 20%

Increase the CCRPI Student Attendance Rate from 76.86 to 82

### APS Strategic Priorities & Initiatives

#### Fostering Academic Excellence for All

Data  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Signature Program

#### Building a Culture of Student Support

Whole Child & Intervention  
Personalized Learning

#### Equipping & Empowering Leaders & Staff

Strategic Staff Support  
Equitable Resource Allocation

#### Creating a System of School Support

Collective Action, Engagement  
& Empowerment

### School Strategic Priorities

1. Focus on Reading & Math as a foundational skill
2. Ensure every student demonstrates content mastery
3. Ensure students are College & Career Ready

4. Create a safe, nurturing, and caring culture for all students
5. Improve teacher efficacy and growth-mindedness

6. Improve leadership capacity and opportunities
7. Build systems and resources to support the school's priorities

8. Inform and engage the school's families and community

### School Strategies

1. Implement rigorous, culturally relevant, and linguistically responsive Reading and Math curriculum with fidelity in all core content areas and instructional best practices in Tier 1 instruction
2. Integrate field experiences (in-person & virtual) for students with a focus on college and career awareness and STEAM.

3. Utilize flexible learning tools, technology integration, and targeted instruction to personalize learning for all students
4. Implement a Whole-Child system of supports that integrates social-emotional learning, behavior, wellness, and comprehensive academic intervention plans

5. Direct training and support for building leadership
6. Identify and increase teacher leader roles and differentiate development opportunities
7. Develop a budget that supports the school's priorities

8. Establish core business partnerships
9. Increase parent engagement, awareness, and knowledge-base as valued stakeholders through fluid communication and active participation of the school's Parent Liaison
10. Implementation of a school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention Support system developed around SEL principles



**FY 26**

# **Overarching Needs & Continuous Improvement Goals**

## **LITERACY**

**#1**

Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in reading from 18% to 23%

## **NUMERACY**

**#2**

Increase the % of grades 3-5 students scoring proficient or above in math 18% to 24%

## **WHOLE CHILD/STUDENT SUPPORT**

**#3**

Increase the CCRPI Student Attendance Rate from 67% to 70%

# FALL MAP DATA

## Reading

School	Window	Exams			
Finch	Fall 2025-2026	184	46%	36%	16%

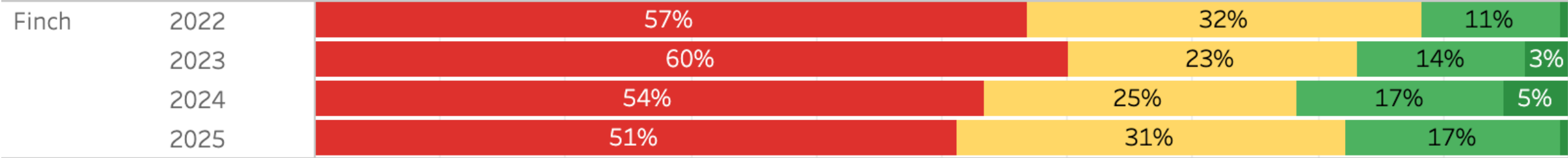
## Math

School	Window	Exams			
Finch	Fall 2025-2026	184	36%	48%	16%

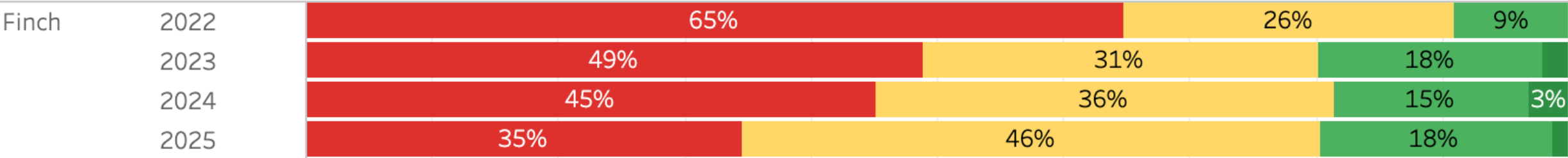


# Georgia Milestones Data: FINCH ES

## ELA



## MATH



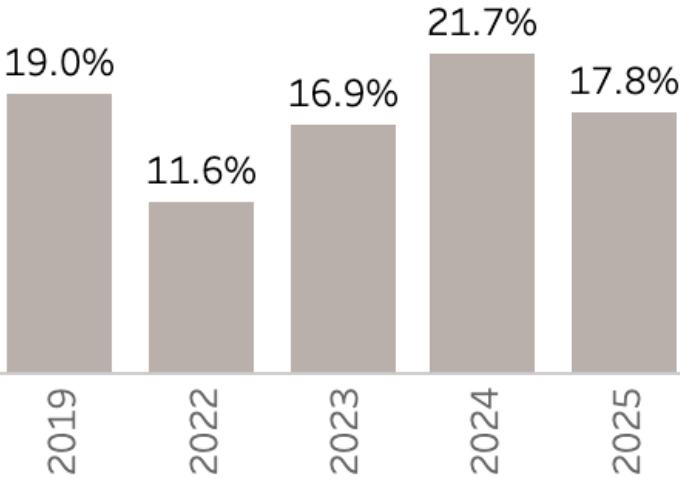
## SCI



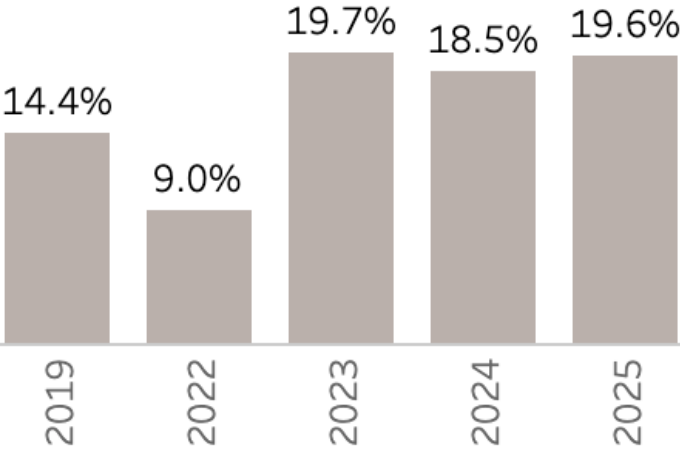
# Georgia Milestones Proficiency

Finch

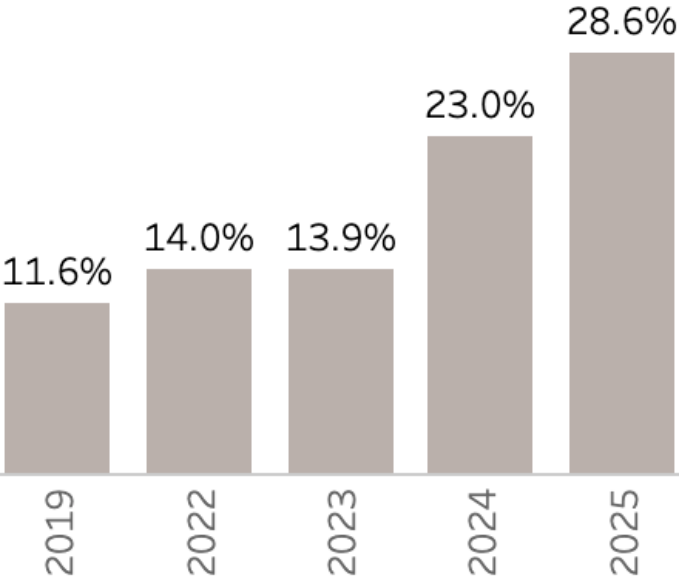
ELA



MATH



SCI



# Engaging ALL Stakeholders at Finch Elementary

## **Build Shared Understanding**

- Clear measurable goals
- Data walls & dashboards
- Goal-setting workshops

## **Empower Staff**

- PLCs & coaching
- Real-world connections
- Recognize & celebrate milestones

## **Engage Families**

- Family literacy & math nights
- Practical home tips
- Attendance action plans

## **Activate Students**

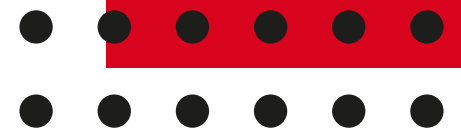
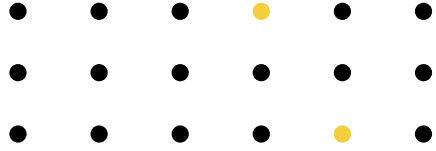
- Goal trackers & logs
- Student voice & leadership
- Reward growth & effort

## **Leverage Community Partners**

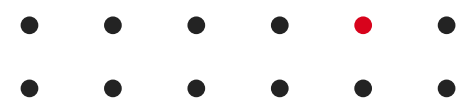
- Local business & nonprofit support
- Mentors & volunteers
- Address attendance barriers

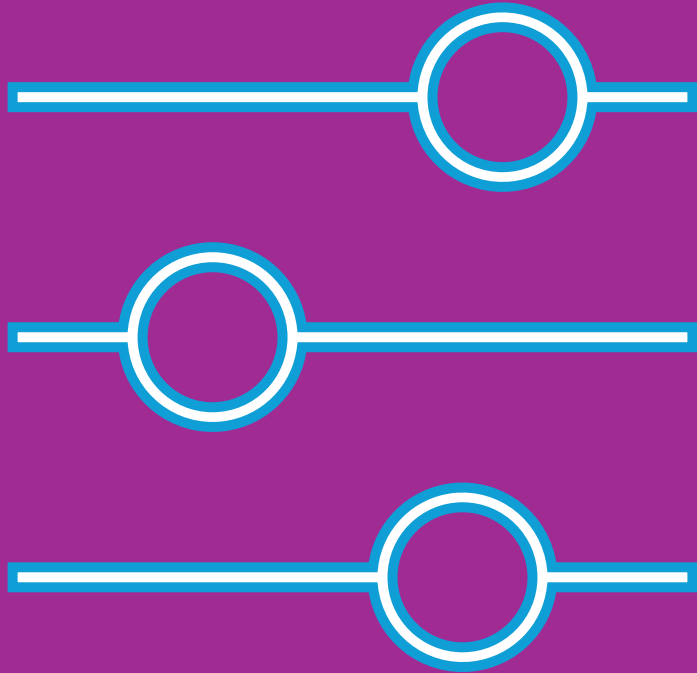
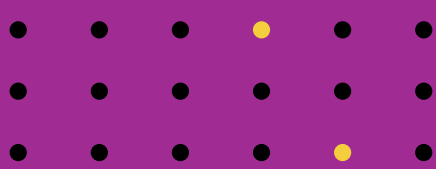
## **Celebrate Progress**

- Monthly updates
- Assemblies & events
- Visible fun rewards



# 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.

13

Budget Adjustment*	\$ 115,308
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*\*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*



## FY2026 Leveling Change Request Form

Location Code	School Name		
0105	Finch Elementary		
FY2026 Projection	259		
Day 15 Enrollment	266		
Leveling Difference	7		
	Leveling Change at Base Weight \$5,962	\$	41,734
	School Reserve Funds	\$	73,574
	Change in Title I Part A Funds	\$	-
	Change in Title I- Family Engagement Funds	\$	-
	Hold Harmless	\$	-
	<b>Total Adjustment</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>115,308</b>

Position Changes	
1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10
11	12
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20
21	22
23	24
25	26
27	28
29	30
31	32
33	34
35	36
37	38
39	40
41	42
43	44
45	46
47	48
49	50
51	52
53	54
55	56
57	58
59	60
61	62
63	64
65	66
67	68
69	70
71	72
73	74
75	76
77	78
79	80
81	82
83	84
85	86
87	88
89	90
91	92
93	94
95	96
97	98
99	100

Add/Reduce	Position	FTE	Dollar Amount
Add	Non-Instructional Aide	1.0	\$ 55,792
Add			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -

[illegible]

Type	Account	Dollar Amount
Hourly	Hourly Paraprofessional	\$ 18,000
Stipends	Teacher Stipends	\$ 20,000
OtherNonSalary	Contracted Services for Professional Development	\$ 10,000
OtherNonSalary	Teaching/Other Supplies	\$ 11,516
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
	Total NonSalary Changes	\$ 59,516

	<b>Total For All Changes</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>115,308</b>
	<b>Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>0</b>

## 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"> <li>Ensure teachers and support personnel are compensated for off contract hours. (I.E. Unit Planning, Tutoring, etc.)</li> <li>Ensure teachers have necessary materials to provide quality instruction.</li> </ul>	<p>Provide stipends.</p> <p>Ensure teachers have the necessary materials to provide quality instruction.</p>	\$17,459

## Review from August 28<sup>th</sup> Go Team Mtg



## COMPREHENSIVE LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

### APS FORWARD 2040: RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

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





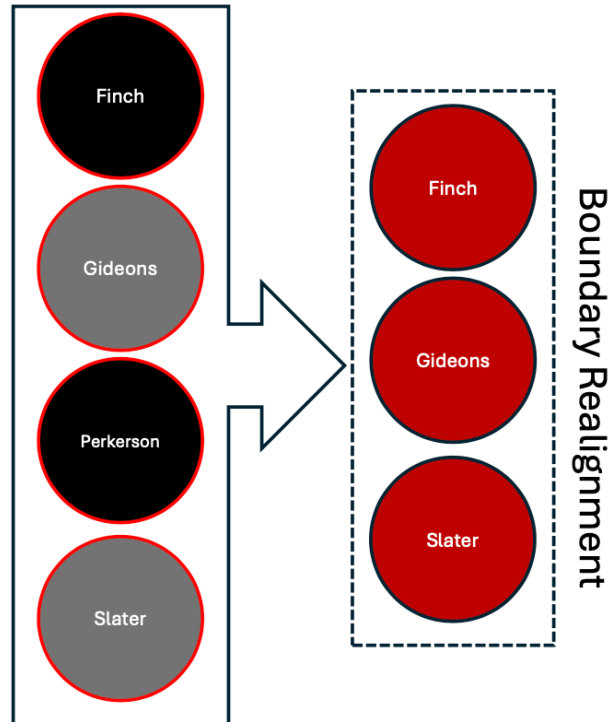
## KEY CONSIDERATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING SCENARIOS

- **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

## Carver Elementary Schools

### Scenario 1: Repurpose Perkerson ES



**Scenario 1**

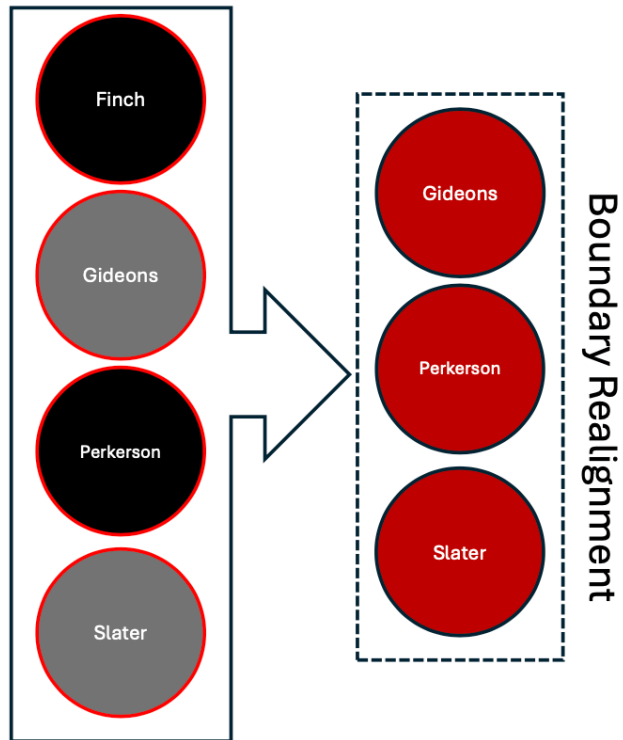
School	Building Capacity	2029-30 Projected Live-In	2029-30 Projected Non-Charter Live-In	Scenarios Capacity	FCA (Condition)
Finch ES	775	295	223	775	82.2
Gideons ES	575	322	235	575	97.8
Perkerson ES	575	462	333	-	80.3
Slater ES	675	456	349	675	74.8
<b>ES Total</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>1,140</b>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

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
<b>ES Total</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>1,825</b>	

Carver Elementary Schools Scenario 2	Current	Proposed	Table Highlight Legend
Average Capacity	650	608	Building Repurposed
Average 2029-30 Projected Enrollment (Non-Charter)	285	380	Change in Grade
Average 2029-30 Projected Utilization (Non-Charter)	44%	62%	Configuration



# Virtual Engagement Opportunities

**September 24, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Comprehensive Long Range Facilities Plan

**[Register for the Zoom Meeting](#)**

**September 25, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m.**

Comprehensive Long Range Facilities Plan

**[Register for the Zoom Meeting](#)**



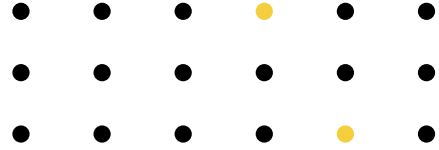
## COMPREHENSIVE LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

→  
**APS FORWARD 2040: RESHAPING THE  
FUTURE OF EDUCATION**

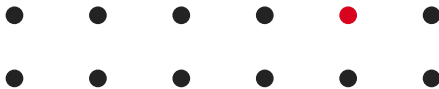
**REMINDER!**

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





# Announcements





# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Pep Squad Performance (Carver vs. Washington) 9/18 @ 6PM**
- **Go Team G3 Summit- 9/27 at 9AM**
- **Virtual Learning Day- Monday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>**
- **Fall Break- Oct. 14-17 for students; Oct. 15-17 for staff**
- **Next Meeting: October 23, 2025 at 3:30PM**



# 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

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