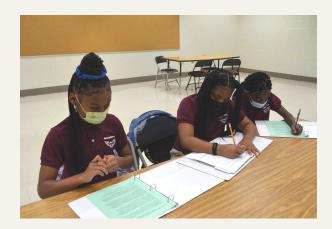






# Partnership Report

December 2021





**Heritage Academy** 

**Miles Elementary** 

#### Highlights

December tournaments saw increased participation from Atlanta Public Schools (APS) coach educators and debaters at all levels. On December 3rd, debaters from Cascade, Continental Colony, Deerwood, Harper-Archer, Heritage, Hutchinson, Kimberly, Miles, Parkside, and West Manor gathered with other AUDL elementary schools for the largest elementary debate tournament this year, with 33 teams comprised of 107 debaters. APS teams led the tournament with the top teams from Deerwood, Heritage, Kimberly, Miles, and Parkside all winning both of their debates!

The APS presence in the middle school division got bigger in December with **Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School**, supported by Coach Johnnie Ford, attending their first AUDL tournament of the year. **Sutton Middle School** continued its excellence in middle school debate producing the **top speaker in the novice division** and the overall 4th ranked team. In the JV division, Sutton also fielded the 3rd best team, and Sutton Coaches **Melanie Burdis** and **Kira Fritsche** were honored as the middle school December **Coaches of the Month**.

APS was at the forefront of high school debate in December with Carver Early College High School, Maynard Jackson High School, and North Atlanta High School all having a strong showing at the last tournament of the calendar year. North Atlanta High School led debate in the high school division, outperforming 23 teams from 10 other schools to go undefeated\_in the high school novice division. Other APS schools also performed well with Carver Early College High School placing 5th and winning the Community Award for December. In the tournament's most difficult division (high school OPEN), North Atlanta High School fielded the only team to win all of their debates!

## **COMMUNITY IN PICTURES**



Miles Elementary and Hutchinson Elementary debate teams celebrate after the end of a debate round at the elementary tournament on December 3, 2021.



Debaters from **Carver Early College** prepare for the upcoming tournament during a **site visit** with Alex Zavell Debate Education Fellow **Elysia Tillman** on December 9th.



**North Atlanta** Coach **Mike Robinson** chats with fellow **Teach for America** cohort member Coach **Timothy Richmond** of **Creekside High School** at the December 11th tournament.



Debaters from **Maynard Jackson** prepare for their next speech during a debate round at the December 11th tournament.



Coach Carla Anderson and debaters from West Manor Elementary get their temperature taken and check-in at the December 3rd tournament.



Coach **Jason Slaven** and debaters from **Carver Early College High School** wait for the award ceremony to begin at the December 11th tournament.

### COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



#### **School Spotlight**

Students debaters from Miles Elementary, supported by Coach Pamela Faith Jackson, and Hutchinson Elementary, supported by Coach Brian Ashley, were inducted as members of the Atlanta Urban Debate League Civic Scholars cohort for the 2021-2022 academic year. The AUDL Civic Scholars program seeks to recognize the contributions of AUDL coaches, debaters, and schools for their civic engagement in our community. Both Miles Elementary and Hutchinson Elementary were honored as civic scholar campuses for their entries in the Marketing and Communications category of the GA State Convention. Students from Miles Elementary used research from this year's debate topic to advocate for reduced consumer emissions of greenhouse gases in their video presentation titled "Emission Remission." Hutchinson Elementary created a Google slideshow presentation, titled "Tree Lives Matter: Tree Loss is Your Loss," to educate viewers on the impact of tree loss on our community.