



MONICA K. ALARCON

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

Chess Teacher, Fundraiser for Morningside Elementary School, Spanish, College Prep Program at Georgia State University, active volunteer at Morningside Elementary and Inman Middle School , Ron Clark Academy volunteer, High Museum of Art, Promoting international studies

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

To help make a difference in my son's and other kid's lives by helping to improve their educational experience.

Describe your vision for our school.

Inclusivity, enrichment and hopefully more of an emphasis on the arts and physical education.



ANGELA BECK

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

I have always been very involved with Karl's education and have actively sought out ways for him to optimize the public school system. Staying abreast of the programs and opportunities that will give him an edge in his higher education is a top priority.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

I would like to be involved with the decisions that will impact Karl's education and all the students who will follow in his footsteps. This is a critical time for the kids and will have a lifelong impact on their academic and career success.

Describe your vision for our school.

While I place a high importance on providing all of the students with the tools to excel beyond high school -- academic and otherwise, I am passionate about them becoming multilingual, cultured citizens who have an understanding and respect for cultures other than their own. Karl is in his fourth year of taking French and Spanish concurrently, and I would like to see a more immersive language learning program. This is currently an initiative of the Georgia educational system and has already been rolled out in some of the APS elementary schools.



MORNA FRANCIS

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

As a parent of a current Grady HS junior and Inman MS senior, I've served at Morningside and Springdale Park Elementary School on the PTA and PTO including Divesity Chair, Dine Out Chair, Secretary, Board Member and President of the PTO at SPARK during its expansion. Other educational involvement include Local School Council (LSC) Parent Rep and Vice Chair at SPARK and Parent Rep for the LSC at Inman MS. Currently, I'm serving out my two year term as the one of the Parent Reps on the Inman GO Team.

I have also contributed to the Cluster planning that took place to shape our Cluster's signature program, mission, vision and strategic plan.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

I would like to continue serving as a GO Team parent rep to continue to participate in the process that helps to shape policies and procedures at the school and Central levels. This in turn allows me to make contributions as a parent representative that allows us as parents to provide the best education for our children in our community. I also want to challenge our community to think outside the box.

Describe your vision for our school.

To make a significant dent in our schools academic gap.

Have all children evidence based ready for college and/or career

Have all students, parents, teacher and staff feel that all are treated the same and have equal opportunity to what Grady has the best to offer in academics and extracurricular activities.



ELIZABETH HEARN

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

I have been a professional educator for 22 years, 14 years as a middle school science teacher and the last 6 as the Director of the CREATE Teacher Residency program. As the founding director of the teacher residency program, I have worked to secure multiple state and federal grants, including \$1.6 million from the Georgia's Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) and additional \$11 million from the U.S. Education Department. All of this has been spent on the development of teachers in Atlanta Public Schools. CREATE has been successful with raising the effectiveness and retention of teachers in the Maynard

Jackson Cluster is now in 13 Atlanta Public Schools. In an effort to improve teacher professional learning, we have also secured \$700,000 in local foundation contributions, and developed a strong partnership with APS'

central office departments of teacher effectiveness and human resources. My work engages three layers of work: 1) a teacher residency training program for new teachers; 2) extensive professional learning opportunities for experienced educators, and 3) an ongoing collaborative effort to reform teacher training by bringing together members of Georgia State University's College of Education and Human Development, Atlanta Public Schools, and school leaders from APS. Finally, I serve as the co-chair of the Jackson clusters Cluster Advisory Team, comprised of GO Team representatives and school principals.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team? Having worked extensively in education and often in a role of facilitating dialogue between different groups to find common ground and seek creative ways to stay on task with improving educator effectiveness, I hope to offer the GO team my skill at facilitating collaboration, my ideas for finding solutions when that is appropriate, a listening ear with experience at promoting reflective dialogue, and committed support during challenging times.

Describe your vision for our school. My vision for Grady is a school where kids are safe and where the adults help them know that they are safe, both physically and emotionally, so that their attention and focus can go to their studies as much as possible. I would like to see a social environment that is continually striving to be more constructive and kind, thus supporting the mutual effort required for the most effective teaching and engaged student scholarship. In this vision, the school climate will be positive, productive and responsive to the students, and the community will be resilient to bounce back and learn from inevitable setbacks. This includes a focused effort to provide equitable opportunities for all students and open, honest dialogue about biases of all sorts -- racism, sexism, classism, to name a few -- which can influence and limit the learning environment. With this approach, I believe adults can help the next generation turn inequities into a source of learning and scholarship and a chance for greater understanding and positive change over time.



TAMARA JONES

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

This is my 11th year as an APS parent, with 8 more to go.

I have served on Local School Councils, Go Teams, and committees for the Grady cluster schools my children have attended. I currently serve on the Howard Design Committee representing Inman Middle School, and as the Grady cluster representative on the District's SPLOST Oversight Committee.

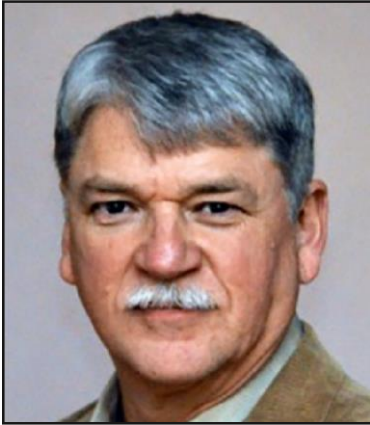
Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

I am committed to seeing a resolution to our facilities deficits. I have a professional background in facilities master planning that could positively contribute to the upcoming discussions.

Also, process-building is more important to an institution than any individual personality, similar to the way solid civic infrastructure allows for a multitude of expressions to coexist.

Describe your vision for our school.

A learning community of adolescents and adults in which all members feel valued, safe, empowered, interconnected, seen, and supported in their mutual lifelong learning journey.



JOEL MARKWELL

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

I've been helping at my 3 kids' schools since they were at DHUMP. I served on the Board there and created their first website.

At SPARK I was a bus captain for Mr Q's 571 bus, then helped if a need arose (like movie night).

At Inman I was Transportation rep. Mary Stouffer & I worked a Safe Kids seminar on school safety and I ran the Volunteer Crossing Guard program. This year in July I got very sick so I've been unable to help until now but I'm better and I'm ready to help however I'm needed.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

Individuals & families make communities. For families schools are the heart of a community and the children that go there are the heart of their families.

Wherever I've lived I have felt like I owed something to the community and to its people for my life and my family's life there. So volunteering is my way of giving back and making the community a better place for my children and their future.

Describe your vision for our school.

My 42-year-old son went to Grady HS in the 80s and struggled as an indifferent student. He's a fine man now, a ship Captain for The Aggressor Fleet. He would only partly recognize today's Grady. It's a better school, but it's always been a great school for academically-strong kids. I'd like to help Grady be better for all kids no matter their distractions in school or at home. Grady has made great strides. I'd like to be a part of the next steps ahead for Grady in our great Community.



GAIL PRICE

What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?

I currently serve as co-VP of Operations for the Inman PTO, a member of the Howard M.S. Project Design Committee, and am a regular volunteer in Grady's CCC. I have volunteered in the Grady Cluster over the past 10+ years in many capacities, including being a member of the Inman PTA/PTO's Executive Committee for 4 years and as co-PTA President at Morningside E.S.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

Grady High School is facing the challenge of over-crowding for the foreseeable future. Our school cluster has long required capital investment due to the rapid growth of the Intown student population, and I believe that a strong GO Team is critical to demanding the resources and support Grady needs to continue its growth.

Describe your vision for our school.

With strong support from the community and APS, Grady can become Georgia's premier public high school. We must continue to strive for a 100% graduation rate; challenge all students with demanding coursework appropriate to their future careers and/or college goals; and highlight Grady's place as a true representation of Atlanta's growing population's diversity of ideas and backgrounds.

**LAWRENCE TONER*****What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?***

My son, James Toner has attended Atlanta Public Schools since kindergarten, starting at Springdale, moving on to Inman, and now Grady. During that time I've been a regular supporter of the PTO/PTA. I've also guest lectured at Grady High to students regarding career / life choices and how to create meaningful relationships at a professional level.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

Now that my son attends Grady High I've become more interested and active in his successful learning experience and how it translates to college preparation. I'm also concerned with our ongoing challenges with cyber bullying, school safety, and educational expectations for a 21st century workforce.

Describe your vision for our school.

I'd like to see a school environment that is first and foremost safe. The challenge with that expectation is building a landscape that doesn't feel oppressive, overly insulated, or dismissive of student's privacy or individual rights. Unfortunately, these are not easily accomplished in today's backdrop of school violence. I'd like to work with other stakeholders in crafting sensible, common sense approaches to this issue. I believe these goals are attainable when everyone understands what's at stake.

I would like to continue to build on the success of Grady High's push for a diverse curriculum and educational activities.

I would also like to see an inclusive environment for all students where they feel supported by teachers, educators, and parents.

**JEFFREY ZWEBEN*****What has been your personal involvement with education in our community?***

My family and I are relatively new to Atlanta. However, at my children's previous school in Chicago, my wife and I were room parents, I served as the co-chair of the schools Holiday Fair for two years, I coached the boys and girls middle school and high school soccer teams and organized after school programs for family members.

Why would you like to serve on the GO Team?

I am interested to stay connected with my daughters and the school community in which they are enrolled. I believe strong schools (academically and

financially) are, in significant part, a function of parent participation. I am eager to make a difference in my children's school and for them to see their father give back to the community and their school through active participation.

Describe your vision for our school.

A community where children, parents, teachers, staff and administration all function cooperatively, where diversity of people, cultures and ideas are encouraged and listened to, and where individual and school excellence is a goal, but where achievements are also measured based on the individuals capabilities.