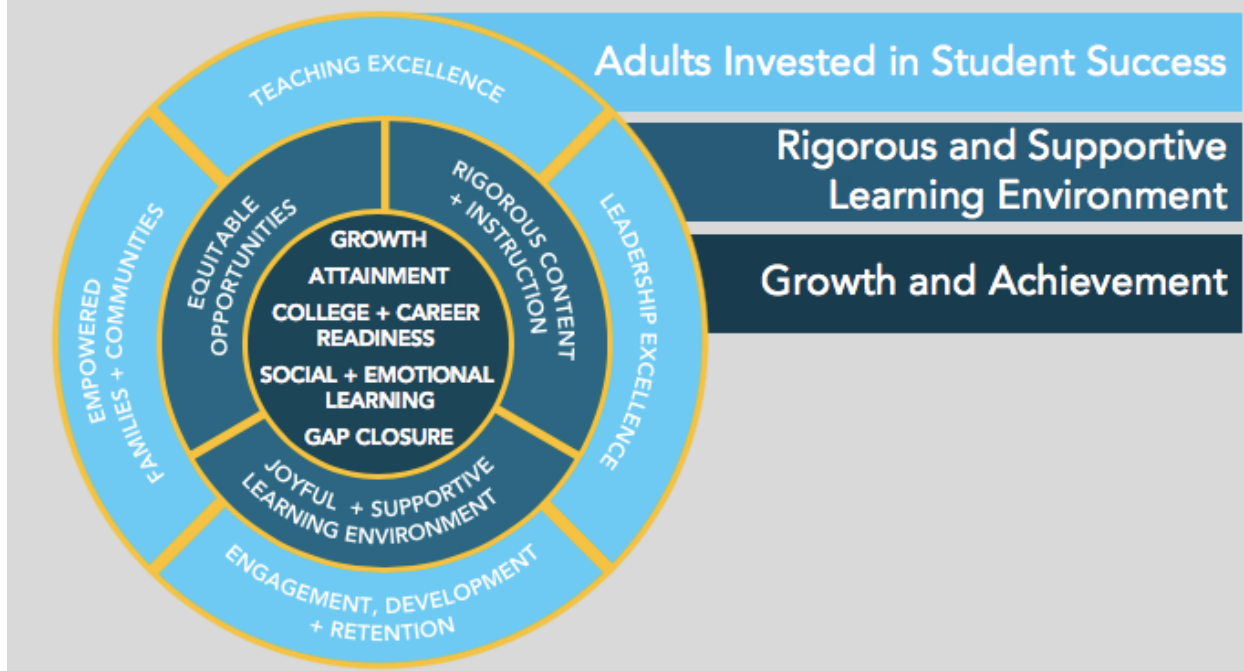




Atlanta Public Schools' System of Excellent Schools Framework For Board Consideration - March 4, 2019

Excellent schools exist within a broader System of Excellence, anchored in APS' Strategic Plan, that ensures supports and services are efficient, effective and equitable.



APS' commitment to equity is woven throughout the framework, as various indicators speak to the need to *remedy opportunity and learning gaps and create a barrier-free environment that enables all students to graduate ready for college and career*. In April, 2019, the Board will consider a new equity policy, after which the representation of APS' equity focus will be re-evaluated within the Vision.

The Vision represents Atlanta's unique definition of school excellence and stands out from other frameworks reviewed from across the nation in several ways. First, the concentric rings that outline the Vision's three domains posit a "theory of action" or logical relationship where having adults invested in students creates the needed foundation to establish the enabling conditions of a rigorous and supportive learning environment that can then, in turn, lead to outcomes for students. Second, the Vision comprehensively incorporates stakeholder perceptions and feedback (from students, parents and staff) across each of the three domains. Third, while the Vision draws from and seeks to build upon Georgia's College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI), it is distinct from CCRPI in its inclusion of a holistic set of indicators, such as students' social and emotional development.

APS recognizes also that school excellence is dependent, in part, on creating a broader System of Excellence across the district, as outlined in APS' strategic plan and depicted visually by the



Atlanta Public Schools' System of Excellent Schools Framework For Board Consideration - March 4, 2019

Vision of Excellence sitting within a broader box. The district is committed to creating a service-oriented ecosystem in support of school excellence and to soliciting and responding to school feedback about the quality and desirability of supports and services offered by central office. Ensuring and measuring central office excellence and the efficiency, efficacy and equitability of specific supports and resource allocation decisions should therefore be a priority of the district's next strategic plan.

The Vision's three domains and twelve indicators are described in more detail below.

Domain 1 ADULTS INVESTED IN STUDENT SUCCESS

The school strategically leverages and supports teachers, school leaders, families and community partners in serving as equal and effective stewards of student success.

Indicators for Domain 1

1A. Teaching Excellence: Teachers are advancing achievement for all students and adults hold high expectations of students

1B. Leadership Excellence: School leadership is effective; allocates people, time and money toward priorities; and holds high expectations for adults and students

1C. Engagement, Development and Retention: Staff feel supported, are developing their skills, deepening their connections with each other, growing their social and emotional competencies, and are retained at the school over time

1D. Empowered Families and Communities: Families are equipped with the information and resources they need to advocate for their students, the community trusts the school, and partners are invested in its mission

Domain 2 RIGOROUS AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The school has a safe, trusting, and collaborative environment conducive to learning, where all students are exposed to rigor and needed interventions, are challenged to achieve, take ownership of their academic journey, and are deeply and joyfully engaged in learning.

Indicators for Domain 2



Atlanta Public Schools' System of Excellent Schools Framework
For Board Consideration - March 4, 2019

2A. Rigorous Content and Instruction: All students are exposed to rigorous and relevant content and instruction that is standards-based, culturally responsive and challenging

2B. Equitable Opportunities: All students have equitable support services and opportunities for enrichment and holistic development

2C. Joyful and Supportive Learning Environment: The school environment is clean and safe; students, families and staff have strong, trusting interpersonal relationships; students are supported with needed interventions; students feel supported to take risks and take ownership of their academic journey; and students' learning experiences are joyful and challenging

Domain 3
GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

The school ensures that all students, regardless of background, attain the skills, knowledge bases, mindsets and dispositions they need to succeed in college, career and community. Students of all backgrounds make needed annual growth to ensure they graduate with the social, emotional and academic skills needed for success and this growth results in the closure or elimination of gaps between student subgroups.

Indicators for Domain 3

3A. Growth: Students of all achievement levels are making annual growth

3B. Attainment: Students are performing at or above grade level expectations

3C. College and Career Readiness: Both before and during high school, students are increasing their readiness for college and career so they can enter postsecondary education without remediation and are competitive in the job market

3D. Social and Emotional and Whole Child Learning: Students are actively developing social and emotional competencies and mindsets needed for lifelong citizenship and a social justice orientation

3E. Gap Closure: Inequitable learning gaps between student subgroups are closing



Atlanta Public Schools' System of Excellent Schools Framework For Board Consideration - March 4, 2019

Portrait of a Graduate

The administration is in the process of developing a Portrait of a Graduate that it will use internally to support communication about the knowledge, skills and mindsets it expects excellent schools will develop in their graduates. The working draft is included here:

APS Definitions of
Student Excellence

DRAFT

Profile of a Graduate

