

Frequently Asked Questions

Non-Traditional Schools & Programs

What is the proposed change with Non-Traditional Programs?

The Administration is proposing the adoption of a new design for non-traditional programs that includes the performance learning center model, virtual learning and other recovery and acceleration programs. This would include closing Alonzo A. Crim High School and reconstituting West End Academy.

When would these changes go into effect?

Pending Board approval, these changes would be effective beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Crim HS closure would be phased-out in order to allow current 11th grader to graduate from Crim HS in 2020.

Will programming be available next school year (2019-2020)?

Yes. This proposal restructures existing programming for students. Students will still have access to non-traditional programming in 2019-2020.

Why is Atlanta Public Schools considering changes with the Non-Traditional Programs?

The consolidation of the existing programs at Crim HS, Atlanta Virtual Academy and West End Academy would improve effectiveness and efficiency for the students who receive differentiated supports through these programs.

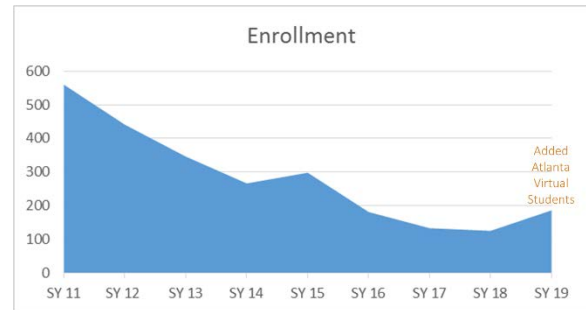
APS currently provides 3 non-traditional options for high school students:

- Crim High School
 - Serving 9th – 12th grade
 - 100% on-campus students
 - Receive their diplomas from Crim
- Atlanta Virtual Academy
 - Serving 9th – 12th grade
 - 100% online students
 - Receive their diplomas from Crim

- West End Academy
 - Serving 11th -12th grade
 - 100% on-campus students
 - Receive their diplomas from home/zone school

Crim has faced declining enrollment trends over the past 9 years. Both Crim and West End have sufficient capacity to accommodate and serve additional students.

In addition, given the current structure, significant staff is required to serve a relatively small population of students.



Who will be the principal?

Dr. Evelyn Mobley, current principal of West End Academy, will be recommended as the principal of the new comprehensive alternative program.

What does this mean for students?

The proposed consolidation would create more coherence in non-traditional programs and better enable students to choose their best option toward graduation. Bringing the alternative programs in alignment with the Atlanta College & Career Academy would give students from across the district access to a variety of pathways with Georgia Department of Education courses that are currently unavailable to them. The emerging program will be tailored to students and include a combination of face-to-face instruction, virtual learning and a blended program.

What does this mean for staff?

Consistent with past practices with restructured schools and programs, all staff from Crim and West End will be required to apply for a position at the newly created comprehensive alternative program. All staff members will have priority interview status to apply for positions at the new program and any other vacant positions within Atlanta Public Schools. Staff members from the Office of Human Resources will meet with all employees, after the initial Board discussion in February to provide draft details regarding the proposed reemployment process. HR will meet with employees again in March, if the Board approves these proposals on March 4, to provide the final instructions.

What is the timeline for this work?

Jan. 9	Jan. 10-12	Jan. 17	Feb. 4	Feb. 5
Associate Supt. meet with Crim and West End staff about operating changes	Meeting with students and send out letters to parents regarding the proposal	Parent Meeting 6 p.m. @ Crim 256 Clifton St SE, 30317	Atlanta Board of Education reviews proposal 6 p.m. @ CLL 130 Trinity Ave SW, 30303	1 st Public Hearing: 6 p.m. @ Crim 256 Clifton St SE, 30317
Feb. 27	Mar. 4	Mar. 5-8	Mar. 12	Apr. 1
2 nd Public Hearing: 6 p.m. @ Tuskegee Airmen Global 1654 S Alvarado Terrace SW, 30311	Atlanta Board of Education votes on proposal 6 p.m. @ CLL 130 Trinity Ave SW, 30303	APS HR Team meets with impacted staff <i>(pending BOE approval)</i>	Parent & Community Meeting 6 p.m. @ Crim 256 Clifton St SE, 30317	All staff members will be notified of their employment status. <i>(pending BOE approval)</i>

Note: Timeline is subject to change

Where will the new alternative program be located?

The new program will remain on the current Crim campus for the 2019-2020 School Year and if the decision is made to relocate the program the district will identify the optimal location in the Facilities Master Plan.

What information came out of the January 17, 2019 parent meeting?

When asked about what is important to you, the parents focused on the following areas:

- Maintain small class sizes & individual student attention
- Have options for students
- Maintain partnerships and supports for students
- Employ a well-educated and well-connected staff
- Provide multiple opportunities to reach graduation
- Implement a strategy so students have a clear vision of their post-secondary career
- Increase and/or ensure transportation options

Is this recommended change final and definite? How can I express my support or concern about any of the recommended changes?

None of the potential changes are definite at this time. The earliest opportunity for the Board to act on any recommendations will be at its next meeting on Monday, March 4.

The public can reach out to:

- General Questions externalaffairs@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- District 3 Board Member Michelle Olympiadis Michelle.Olympiad@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- Board Chair Jason F. Esteves jesteves@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- Superintendent Dr. Meria Carstarphen suptoffice@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- School Updates Website <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/schoolchanges>