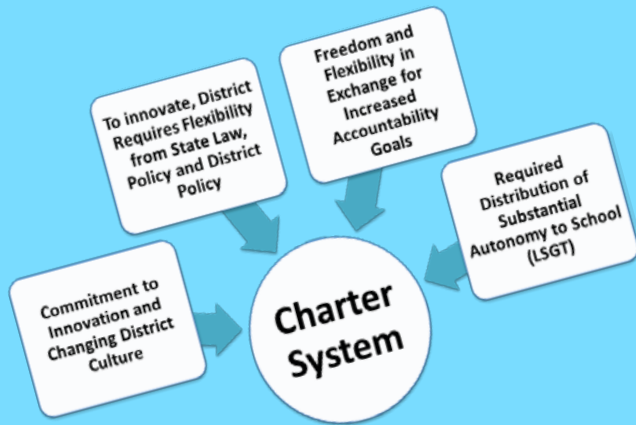


# Charter System 101



A contract (charter) between the district and the State to increase student achievement in exchange for freedom from certain state laws

District leaders agree to give local school communities freedom and flexibility to decide what changes their schools need to make in order to increase student performance

This is done through each school creating a local school governance team (LSGT)

## Examples of how freedom and flexibility from the state laws will be used in the district under a Charter System model

Flexibility in instructional time and pacing to afford a school day, school year, and intersession programming that meets the needs of students

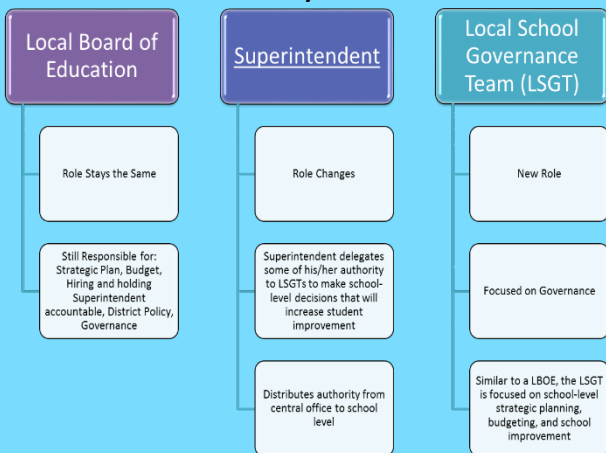


Allocation of resources to afford wrap-around (psychological/social/emotional) services, increased instructional support (instructional coaches, coordinators), etc.

Creation of a College and Career Academy



## Governance in a Charter System



## What exactly is an LSGT?

School-level body that has delegated power from the Superintendent in these areas: (1) Personnel Decisions, (2) Financial Decisions and Resource Allocations, (3) Curriculum, (4) School Improvement, and (5) School Operations

## What will the LSGT structure look like?

9 voting members, except for High School LSGT, (1 student voting member at HS level):

- 3 parents/guardians elected by parents/guardians
- 3 instructional staff members elected by staff members
- 2 community members nominated by principal
- 1 swing seat recruited by principal/or members of LSGT and ratified by LSGT
- Principal (non-voting member)
- 1 student (voting member) at high school level, nominated by LSGT

## Charter System and Cluster Planning

- As clusters develop and implement the plans for their schools, the flexibility of a charter system will be a critical means of removing impediments to student success.
- Cluster planning teams laid the groundwork through the creation of cluster-wide vision, mission, priorities, signature programming, and strategic plans for what will become Cluster Advisory Teams (CATs)
- CATs will maintain the aligned vision for a pipeline to college and career readiness across schools and support each LSGT within their cluster to ensure all schools have the capacity to reach their goals.
- This advisory team will be made up of 2 LSGT representatives from each school plus additional community members

## When does this begin?

- If approved, APS will begin its five year contract term in July 2016
- For 2015-2016 school year, Atlanta Public Schools will be holding several events to continue educating and build understanding around the charter system model

## How can I get more information or get involved?

If you are interested in serving on your Local School Governance Team, go to: <http://atlanta.k12.ga.us/candidatebank>

For more information: [www.atlantapublicschools.us/strongschools](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/strongschools)