



South Atlanta

CLUSTER PLAN

2016
and beyond



MISSION

The South Atlanta Cluster will cultivate a universal culture of excellence through collaboration, academic achievement, personal responsibility, respect and a commitment to service.

VISION

Our vision is to be a high performing cluster where every student graduates with college and career readiness.

Cluster Priorities



- Improve student mastery of core content knowledge.
- Implement STEM program model across all schools.
- Prepare all students to have the essential life skills to be self-aware, collaborative, and accepting of diversity.
- Prepare all students for college and career.
- Improve the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers.
- Build teacher capacity.
- Expand school leadership development opportunities.
- Build systems and resources to support the Cluster Plan, including STEM implementation.
- Build systems identifying and addressing root causes to promote social and academic growth.
- Inform and engage the school community.
- Develop a positive, informed and engaged school culture.

Cluster-wide Performance Measures

Academics

- Increase Graduation Rate (Measure: Four Year Graduate Rate)
- Improve Student Achievement (Measure: College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI))
- Increase Student Attendance (Measure: Average Daily Attendance)

Talent

- Improve Teacher Quality (Measure: Teacher Observation)

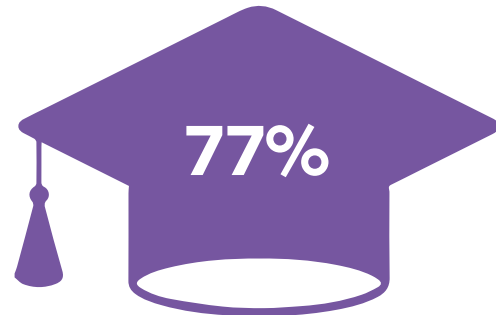
Resources

- Ensure GO Team Effectiveness (Measure: Key Deliverables)

Culture

- Ensure School has High Standards for Achievement (Measure: Climate Survey)

Graduation Rate (2015)



Signature Program

The signature program for the South Atlanta Cluster is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). STEM education is an integrated curriculum (as opposed to science, technology, engineering & math taught in isolation) driven by problem solving, discovery, exploratory project/problem-based learning, and student-centered development of ideas and solutions.

South Atlanta Student Experience

My school...

- Supports me.
- Develops my learning and leadership skills.
- Encourages expression and creativity.
- Prepares me for college and career.
- Allows me to be active in the classroom and the community.
- Challenges me and expects me to succeed.

South Atlanta Graduate Profile

Graduates will be...

- Academically prepared.
- Engaged learners and critical thinkers.
- Community focused and globally aware.
- Skilled problem solvers.
- Effective communicators.
- Confident, resourceful and responsible.
- Technologically savvy.
- Collaborative leaders



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CLUSTER PLAN

Academics

Priority #1 - Improve student mastery of core content knowledge.

- A. Establish foundational academic knowledge.
- B. Provide remediation and acceleration as indicated by data.
- C. Provide Pre-K programs throughout the cluster.
- D. Focus on Pre-K to 2nd grade.

Priority #2 - Implement STEM program model across all schools.

- A. Implement STEM instruction and content.

- B. Implement integrated, project- and problem-based learning projects for grade-level and school-wide implementation.
- C. Implement rigorous and real-world interdisciplinary projects and units.
- D. Integrate technology throughout the curriculum.
- E. Implement the Engineering Design Process.

Priority #3 - Prepare all students to have essential life skills.

- A. Implement Social and Emotional Learning (SEL).
- B. Increase the communication skills of all students.

Priority #4 - Prepare all students for college and career.

- A. Enhance college and career awareness and preparedness.
- B. Develop a K-12 college and career program of study.
- C. Performance-based assessments for children

Talent

Priority #5 - Improve the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers.

- A. Improve the recruitment process.
- B. Ensure the retention of high-quality teachers.

Priority #6 - Build teacher capacity.

- A. Provide targeted professional learning opportunities to improve the quality of instructional pedagogy and focused on the implementation of Standards and STEM.

- B. Implement intentional vertical and horizontal alignment and collaboration throughout schools and clusters.
- C. Provide targeted professional learning opportunities focused on specialized student needs.
- D. Implement on-going STEM specific professional learning opportunities.
- E. Increase math and science

endorsements and certifications.

- F. Develop and implement a cluster-wide professional learning (PL) plan.

Priority #7 - Expand school leadership development opportunities.

- A. Ensure consistent and ongoing feedback as a part of the performance management process.
- B. Identify and develop future school leaders through growth opportunities.

Resources

Priority #8 - Build systems and resources to support the Cluster Plan, to include STEM implementation.

- A. Develop relevant business and education partnerships and establish various effective strategies to enhance communication.
- B. Ensure the necessary technology infrastructure and equipment is available in all schools.
- C. Ensure schools have the resources and budget to support STEM curriculum.
- D. Ensure the required facilities, transportation, scheduling, and staffing allocations align to implement the Cluster Plan.

Priority #9 - Build systems identifying and addressing root causes to promote social and academic growth.

- A. Maximize the use of SLDS to monitor strategies.
- B. Hold consistent quarterly meetings with cluster support staff to collaborate around student success.
- C. Create a digital comprehensive and common bank of resources for stakeholder use.

Culture

Priority #10 - Inform and engage the school community.

- A. Build community awareness, knowledge, and support for STEM.
- B. Implement Adult Education opportunities.

Priority #11 - Develop a positive, informed, and engaged school culture.

- A. Implement "Social and Emotional Learning" for School Staff.
- B. Increase effective internal communication.
- C. Build a strengths-based school community.

For more information about the South Atlanta Cluster Plan,
visit www.atlantapublicschools.us/strongschools