Local school improvement connected to district's strategic direction

Gwinnett County Public Schools’ accountability system for improving schools is called the Results-Based Evaluation System (RBES). RBES fairly and systematically measures a school’s progress, providing a process that clearly communicates expectations; reviews, monitors, and supports school performance; and evaluates that performance. With a waiver from federal requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Georgia Department of Education did not administer state tests in the spring or produce related reports on school effectiveness. This abbreviated report reflects available achievement data from the 2019–20 school year. Using local data, school administrators, teachers, and parent advisory groups developed this year’s Local School Plans for Improvement (LSPI) which outline our improvement goals and guide the work we will do throughout the 2020–21 school year to support student learning. These improvement plans are connected to the school district’s strategic direction and our core business of teaching and learning. Find our school’s LSPI on the website. The Hull school council and school leaders collaborated on the highlights in this accountability report, which also serves as the school’s annual report. Please review this report to learn more about our improvement efforts and progress.

2019–20 Results: Norm-referenced Assessments: PSAT 8/9

Gwinnett’s 8th graders have an early opportunity to set their course for college and careers with the PSAT 8/9, a test that helps determine what students need to work on most so that they are ready for college when they graduate from high school. The PSAT 8/9 is part of the College Board family of assessments that includes the SAT college-admission assessment and the PSAT/NMSQT, a preview of the SAT. The PSAT 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT and PSAT/NMSQT, but in a way that makes sense for 8th graders. The test focuses on the skills and knowledge at the heart of education—what students have been learning in school and what they’ll need to succeed in college—in the areas of mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing. The PSAT 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of college and career readiness as students enter high school. It also gives students a chance to preview the SAT and the PSAT/NMSQT. (Gwinnett 10th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT.)

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2019–20 Student Engagement

The Student Engagement Instrument (SEI) is a survey used to measure how engaged students are at school and with learning. When taking the SEI, students respond to items that cover a variety of topics related to their engagement in their education, including the level of support they receive from teachers, peers, and family, as well as their perceptions of school work and future educational goals. We measure student engagement at GCPS because it is related to important outcomes such as on-time graduation and postsecondary success. The bar graph below shows the average SEI Composite Score—a summary of a student’s responses across all items on the SEI—for Hull Middle School compared with an average of results for all GCPS middle schools. The Composite Score can range from 1.0 to 5.0, with higher scores reflecting stronger student engagement. This chart shows that the average Student Engagement Instrument Composite Score for Hull MS in 2019–20 was 4.08, compared to the GCPS middle school average of 3.97.
Hull Middle School

Other 2019–20 Highlights...

• Hull Middle School was recognized by the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement as a 2019 Greatest Gains School at the Platinum level and as a 2019 Highest Performing School at the Silver level under Georgia’s Single Statewide Accountability System.

• Mrs. Teshia Dula, a Hull Middle school counselor, was named 2020 GCPS Middle School Counselor of the Year.

• Hull students participated in the Georgia Mathematics Association League. Our 6th graders earned 4th place and our 7th graders earned 6th place.

• Hull Middle School’s art teacher was elected Middle Level Division Director-Elect and Director for the National Art Education Association.

• Four Hull teachers received 2019 Jackson EMC Bright Ideas grants—Kari Salomon for “Eco-Safe Communities,” David Schoenrock for “Hydroponics; Transformation,” Dr. Aimée Burgamy for “DrawBots: Giving STEM an A for ART,” and Rick Young for “Exploring the Night Sky.”

• Two Hull Middle School students were selected to participate in the Georgia Department of Education’s Student Advisory Council. Their service project included a meeting with Georgia House Representative Bonnie Rich of District 97 to discuss concerns regarding vaping by teens.

• Several of Hull’s 7th grade language arts students scored 1st place in the nation for the 2019–20 WordMasters Challenge—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annual.

• Hull Middle School was recognized as a Reaching Higher Green & Healthy School in the Environmental Achievement Awards sponsored by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful.