



Accountability Report

Issued 2020–21

Peachtree Ridge

High School

Jadd Jarusinski, *Principal*

Dr. Reuben Gresham, *Assistant Superintendent*



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 graduation and 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 Peachtree Ridge 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: College-Admissions Tests

Students are encouraged to take one or both of the college-admissions tests that most colleges and universities require for admissions. The two tests— the SAT and the ACT— both assess college-readiness in language arts/reading and mathematics, with a science section on the ACT, and an optional essay component. SAT and ACT postponed and/or cancelled administrations or reduced sites due to COVID-19.

2019–20 ACT Averages

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Total
Peachtree Ridge	23.9	23.7	24.4	23.8	24.1
GCPS	22.4	22.8	23.4	22.9	23.0
State	21.3	21.0	22.5	21.6	21.7
National	19.9	20.2	21.2	20.6	20.6

2019–20 SAT Averages

	Reading/Writing	Math	Total
Peachtree Ridge	569	560	1129
GCPS	552	545	1097
State	537	516	1053
National	528	523	1051

2019–20 Results: Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are challenging, college-level classes taught by specially trained high school teachers. Students have the option of taking an AP exam at the end of the school year. Many colleges award credit for passing the exams or allow a student to exempt certain courses. The table below shows the percentage of students who took an AP class at Peachtree Ridge High, compared to the county average. The chart also shows the percentage of optional, course-specific AP exams taken, as well as the percentage of test-takers who scored 3 or better on a 5-point scale on one or more AP exams. In 2019–20, 11.8% of courses taken at Peachtree Ridge HS were AP courses, compared to 9.4% at all GCPS high schools. Note that AP exams were administered differently in 2019–20 due to COVID-19.

AP Percentages	School Level	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
% Students Who Took an AP Course	Peachtree Ridge	40.6	40.6	43.0
	GCPS	32.1	31.1	31.4
% AP Exams Taken	Peachtree Ridge	90.1	87.0	91.6
	GCPS	82.7	83.0	82.6
% Test-Takers Who Scored 3+	Peachtree Ridge	80.1	76.6	71.3
	GCPS	66.7	68.3	67.4

2019–20 Senior Report

	Students Completing HS†	Number Who Enrolled in College or Postsecondary School (Fall 2020)*	Number of Honor Graduates†	Seniors with Dual Enrollment†
Peachtree Ridge	794	607	319	89
GCPS	11,887	7,966	3,672	1,928

*Based on the National Student Clearinghouse enrollment records

†Reflects system-reported data as of August 2020

Peachtree Ridge High School

Other 2019–20 Highlights...

- Peachtree Ridge was named a Gold Medalist by *U.S. News & World Report*. Our 2020 graduates included two National Merit Scholars, a U.S. Presidential Scholar, three Georgia Scholars, and four service academy appointees.
- Peachtree Ridge was honored as an Advanced Placement (AP) Honor School in five categories: AP School of Distinction, AP STEM, AP STEM Achievement, AP Humanities, and AP Humanities Achievement. College Board recognized 191 AP Scholars, 76 AP Scholars with Honor, 196 AP Scholars with Distinction, and 50 AP National Scholars.
- Eight students were selected for the Governor’s Honors Program.
- Students were selected for All-State Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, All-State Band, Metro Atlanta Youth Wind Ensemble, All-State Chorus, All-State Reading Chorus, and National All-Honor Chorus. We were region runner-up in One-Act Play.
- In athletics, students had top finishes at State in Wrestling and Boys Swim and Dive. Our Ice Hockey team was AA State Champion. Teams advancing into State competition included Softball (Final Four), Volleyball (Sweet 16), Cheerleading (State Runner-Up), Girls and Boys Swim (7th), and Girls Basketball (Region Runner-Up).

2019–20 Graduation Rate Information

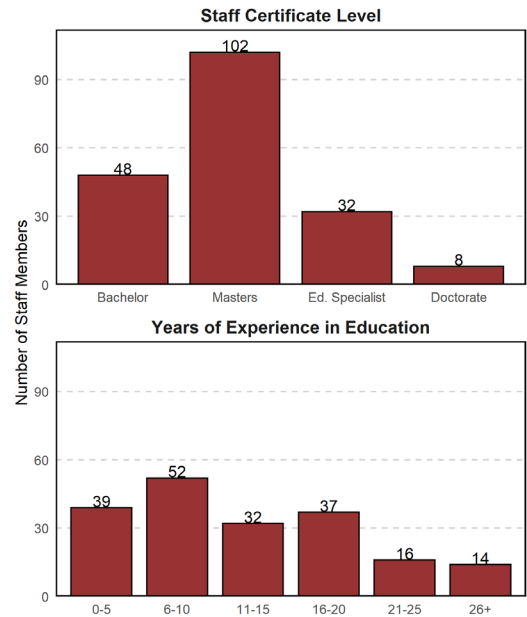
The Graduation Rate is calculated using the number of students who begin 9th grade at the same time and graduate within four

Graduation Rate (2017 to 2020)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Peachtree Ridge	92%	91%	90%	92%
GCPS	81%	82%	81%	83%
State	81%	82%	82%	84%

years with a regular education diploma. Students who take longer than four years to complete high school are not considered on-time graduates for the purpose of graduation rates, but they are not considered dropouts either. Additional students in the cohort will go on to graduate with a full diploma in their 5th year. Data shows that large numbers of students moving in during high school who are behind can have a negative impact on a school’s graduation rate, just as having students move who can’t be accounted for affects the rate. A number of GCPS initiatives— Credit Recovery, Online Campus courses, 7th period classes at Phoenix High, and summer school— offer students more opportunities to get and stay on pace for on-time graduation. GCPS is working to ensure that all students graduate, even if some students need more time to do so, and that all students are college- and career-ready. As a result of COVID-19, the Class of 2020 was granted a one-time waiver of the Gateway assessment requirement.

2019–20 Staff Data



Student Data (2017–18 to 2019–20)

	School Year		
	17–18	18–19	19–20
Enrollment	3275	3271	3317
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	0%	0%	0%
+Asian*	27%	27%	27%
+Black/African American*	29%	29%	29%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>	19%	19%	21%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *	4%	4%	4%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	22%	20%	19%
Special Education	10%	10%	11%
English Learner**	7%	7%	7%
Gifted Eligible	26%	26%	27%
Free/Reduced Lunch	36%	35%	34%
Average Attendance***	96%	96%	96%

*Not Hispanic or Latino

**Since 2017–18, the category for English Learners has reflected both students who qualify for services and those being monitored.

***Based on in-school attendance through March 12, 2020. Students participated in online learning from March 16 to May 20.

School Safety Perceptions

Based on responses from those with an opinion who responded to the 2019–20 RBES Perception Survey...

- 86.9% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Peachtree Ridge High.
- 92.5% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child’s school was safe.

The mission of Gwinnett County Public Schools is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.

Peachtree Ridge High School

1555 Old Peachtree Road • Suwanee, GA 30024
(678) 957-3100 • <http://www.gcpsk12.org/PeachtreeRidgeHS>
Jadd Jarusinski, Principal

Gwinnett County Public Schools

437 Old Peachtree Rd., NW • Suwanee, GA 30024-2978
www.gcpsk12.org

2020 Gwinnett County Board of Education

Louise Radloff (District V), 2020 Chairman;
Carole C. Boyce (District I), 2020 Vice Chairman; Steven B. Knudsen (District II);
Dr. Mary Kay Murphy (District III); and Everton Blair, Jr. (District IV)
J. Alvin Wilbanks, CEO/Superintendent