

# Accountability Report

Issued 2020–21

## Freeman's Mill Elementary School

Angie Pacholke, *Principal*

Dr. Donna Ledford, *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 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 Freeman's Mill 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.**

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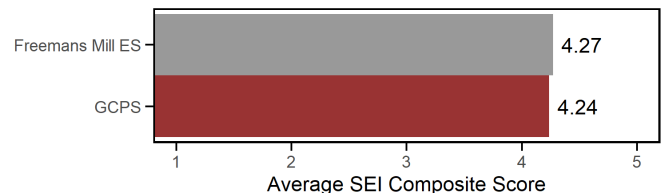
### 2019–20 Results: Norm-referenced Assessments: The Iowa Assessments

The Iowa Assessments measure a student's progress in key academic areas and allow for a comparison of their performance to that of students across the U.S. This nationally norm-referenced test was administered in Gwinnett in grades 2 and 5 in 2019–20. Results from the fall administration help identify students' areas of academic strength as well as areas that need improvement. Teachers and schools use these results during the school year to inform instruction and monitor growth.

Core Composite results reflect overall performance on tests covering a variety of skill areas, including reading, spelling and other language arts conventions, vocabulary, and mathematics, including computation. Scores are expressed as a national percentile rank (NPR), with an NPR of 50 marking typical achievement on the Iowa Assessments. For example, a Core Composite NPR of 60 indicates that students at a school, on average, scored as well as or better than students at 60% of U.S. schools on the test. Freeman's Mill's 2020 NPR for 2nd graders taking the Iowa Assessments is 65, compared to the overall GCPS NPR of 60. For 2020, the Freeman's Mill's NPR for 5th graders is 54.1, compared to the overall GCPS NPR of 48.6.

### 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 Freeman's Mill Elementary School compared with an average of results for all GCPS elementary 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 Freeman's Mill ES in 2019–20 was 4.27, compared to the GCPS elementary school average of 4.24.

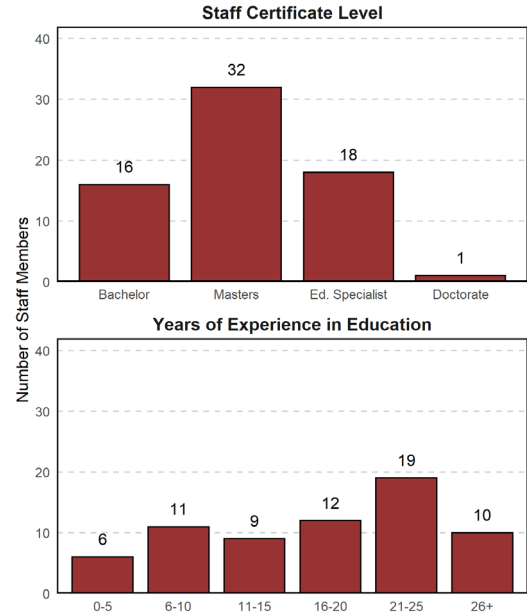


# Freeman's Mill Elementary School

## Other 2019–20 Highlights...

- Freeman's Mill Elementary is proud to continue its tradition of high achievement as a Georgia School of Excellence (2007).
- Once again, Freeman's Mill Elementary earned a five-star School Climate Rating on the College and Career Readiness Performance Index. This is the highest that can be achieved on the rating scale.
- Freeman's Mill Elementary was awarded a visit from the GCPS Book Mobile due to our community support of the program. All students were able to select one free book!
- FMES continued to participate in the Take 5 reading program, which provided students with access to our Media Center's collection over the summer.
- The Freeman's Mill PTA sponsored family and community events throughout the year, including the Bear Share Fun Run, Fall Festival, Polar Express Night, Family Bingo Nights, Muffins with Mom, and the Father/Daughter Dance.
- One FMES student was named a state winner in the Georgia PTA Reflections Program in the category of Film.
- Students and staff were involved in several service projects during the school year, including United Way, Relay For Life, American Heart Association, Toys for Tots, and a canned food drive to support local food pantries.
- The Promoting Incredible Readers (PIR) program continued to be a huge success in encouraging students to become lifelong readers. PIR is fully funded and staffed by the PTA.
- Students continued to enhance their learning through lessons taught in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) lab. Students in grades 3–5 participated in Chorus, Student Council, Readers Rally, Wizzle Pro Math competition, Art Club, Running Club, PE Club and Robotics Club.
- Freeman's Mill Elementary was recognized as a Taking Action Green & Healthy School in the Environmental Achievement Awards sponsored by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful.

## 2019–20 Staff Data



## Student Data (2017–18 to 2019–20)

	School Year		
	17–18	18–19	19–20
<b>Enrollment</b>	872	855	887
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	0%	0%	0%
+Asian*	8%	11%	11%
+Black/African American*	22%	23%	25%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>	21%	21%	20%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *	5%	5%	6%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	44%	40%	37%
Special Education	17%	16%	16%
English Learner**	18%	19%	21%
Gifted Eligible	13%	13%	13%
Free/Reduced Lunch	31%	28%	30%
Average Attendance***	96%	97%	97%

\*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...

- 89.0% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Freeman's Mill Elementary.
- 98.6% 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.*

### Freeman's Mill Elementary School

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