Strategic Objectives:

- Increase student achievement through effective development, instruction, and assessment of Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS).
- Increase student achievement through effective revision and implementation of a Balanced Assessment System, using analysis of results to inform instructional decisions.
- Increase student college and career readiness for all student populations.
The Department of Curriculum and Instruction leads the development of a world class curriculum and the effective implementation of Quality Plus Teaching Strategies. The office promotes the Academic Knowledge and Skills curriculum, supports instruction and assessment of the AKS through a variety of resources, facilitates instructional materials reviews and adoption as well as provides staff development training for teachers and staff. Gwinnett County Public Schools’ Curriculum and Instruction Department houses the curriculum offices that lead and support systemwide instruction and assessment of the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) as well as Online Campus.

The Division of Curriculum and Instructional Support leads the continuous improvement of teaching and learning resulting in system level advancement of the mission and vision established by the Gwinnett County Board of Education and CEO/Superintendent. The Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction ensures that this continuous improvement is achieved through the coordination of the functions of the departments of Curriculum and Instruction, Career and Technical Academies Education, Innovation and Program Improvement, and Instructional Development and Support. The primary focus is to ensure coherence across all program areas in the division.

The Department of Innovation and Program Learning leads the development of GCPS’ innovation incubation, learning, and implementation infrastructure in support of the system’s goal of becoming a system of world-class schools. IPL partners with teachers, principals, clusters, and other departments to pilot innovative programming and system improvements that increase student achievement. The Office of Early Childhood and School Readiness is a part of this department, working to ensure students are ready to learn.

The Office of Early Childhood and School Readiness strives to ensure that all students enter Kindergarten ready to learn at high levels. In creating partnerships with parents, public and private organizations as well as businesses, we are able to align developmental and academic standards for children birth to 5 and develop and implement effective instructional practices aimed at school readiness. Systems for monitoring student school readiness skills are coordinated with local elementary schools and...
The Office of Language Arts provides leadership and instructional support to schools in the area of Language Arts curriculum. The office assists teachers and staff with appropriate resources and training to teach students through a balanced literacy approach to become successful readers, writers, listeners, and oral communicators.

Dr. Anna Mary Smith, Elementary Director
Kimberly Lipe, Middle and High School Director

The Office of Mathematics provides leadership and instructional support to schools in the area of Mathematics curriculum. The office supports the development of students into competent mathematical problem solvers with a deep conceptual understanding of numbers. Students will reason and communicate mathematically, make connections among mathematical ideas, and become proficient with appropriate computational tools and techniques.

Dr. Janet Lewis, Elementary Director (Part-time)
Deborah Johnson, Middle and High School Director

The Office of Science provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Science curriculum and instruction. The office supports teachers and staff with strategies, resources, and training to teach problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills which are embedded in the curriculum throughout the students’ K-12 science experience.

Logan Malm, Elementary Director
Jesica Holden, Middle and High School Director

The Office of Social Studies provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Social Studies curriculum and instruction. The office provides resources to enhance student mastery of the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) through an authentic K-12 approach integrating discipline-based content with interpretative skills focused on maps and globes, information processing, social participation, and problem solving. Therefore, students should develop a strong understanding of themselves and their role and responsibility in society by discovering the heritage of their nation within a global context. Opportunities are provided for students to relate the past to the present and to build an awareness of the similarities and differences that exist between the nations and cultures of the world.

Dr. Jeremy Nix, Elementary Director
Shirelle Tubbs, Middle and High School Director
Office of English Learners Programs (EL)
Lynnette M. Aponte, Director
678-301-7077 / fax: 678-301-7049
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of English Learner Programs (EL) provides leadership and support to ensure that English Learners attain proficiency in English as quickly as possible, programs meet and exceed grade level expectations, and graduate prepared for college or careers. Support services include guidance on research-based best practices for instruction and assessment, quality professional development for teachers and leaders, technical assistance regarding policies and procedures, and clear and concise information regarding federal and state requirements.

Office of Fine Arts
David DuBose, Director
678-301-7015 / fax: 678-301-7203
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Fine Arts provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Fine Arts which includes music, dance, theatre arts, and visual arts. Commitment and support by central and local level administrators, community, parents, and students enable the GCPS Fine Arts programs to achieve quality standards as an essential element in a world-class system of schools.

Office of Foreign Language
Dr. Jon Valentine, Director
678-301-7020 / fax: 678-301-7209
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Foreign Language provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Foreign Language curriculum and Dual Language Immersion. The office provides resources and training workshops for teachers and staff enabling them to provide quality instruction, encourage interdisciplinary collaboration as they target different languages and diverse cultures.

Office of Accelerated Programs & Gifted Education
Dr. Keena Rylai-Jenkins, Director
678-301-7020 / fax: 678-301-7017
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Accelerated Programs & Gifted Education provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Gifted Education curriculum. The Gifted Education program manages resources and training to enhance learning opportunities that are advanced and accelerated in content and pace. Gifted education classes offer academic experiences that extend the Academic Knowledge and Skills.

Office of Health and Physical Education
Dr. Tasha D. Guadalupe, Director
678-301-7040 / fax: 678-301-7009
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Health and Physical Education provides leadership and support to schools in the area of Health and Physical Education Curriculum and instruction. The office provides resources and training workshops for teachers and staff. Students are encouraged maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness during their adolescent and adult life.

Office of Staff Development
Leilani Esmond, Director
678-301-6143
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Staff Development provides professional growth opportunities, products, and services that are designed to advance the system’s vision, mission, and goals in order to enhance employee performance and to develop employee capacity to lead in a system of world-class schools. We are committed to the development and support of professional learning that is research-based, data-driven, student-focused, continuous, and sustainable over time. We provide learning experiences and opportunities for teachers in content, pedagogy, and processes. These opportunities are sponsored and led by the central office curriculum departments and local schools. Teachers have multiple venues for gaining the knowledge and skills necessary to provide exceptional instruction to the students of our district. Our department also provides learning opportunities designed to increase the knowledge, skills, and overall performance of our support staff. These services range from courses in communication skills to ongoing courses for specific job-related competencies.
Department of Academies, Career and Technical Education
Tim Hemans, Executive Director
678-301-7050 / fax: 678-301-7070
(Instructional Support Center)

The Department of Academies, Career and Technical Education provides leadership and support to teachers in the Technical Education field which prepares high school students for postsecondary education and the demands of the 21st century economy. All courses provide an environment where students can learn the relevance of combining technical skills with academic knowledge. Various resources and training workshops are available to assist teachers and staff in delivering quality instruction in these areas. Development and implementation of the Academies education model in high schools are also led from this department.

Tim Hemans,
Executive Director

Office of Accountability and Assessment
Miranda McLaren, Executive Director
678-301-7025 / fax: 678-301-7202
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Accountability and Assessment provides leadership and support by assisting schools in measuring student performance against national, local, and world-class standards, as well as supporting the needs for students as they work to achieve those standards.

Dr. Kyle Jones,
Director

Office of District Assessment
Karyn Tircuit, Director
678-301-7157
fax: 678-301-7202
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of District Assessment is responsible for leadership in the development, revision and implementation of Gwinnett County developed assessments including District Assessments, Student Performance Goals, Common Unit Assessments, and teacher-created assessments.

Office of State and National Assessment
Todd Salo, Director
678-301-7057
fax: 678-301-7202
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Standardized Assessment provides support for local schools in the administration and score analysis for all standardized assessments including IOWA, Georgia Milestone Assessments, CogAT, High School Gateway and GKIDS.

Office of Accountability
Scott Wilbanks, Director
678-301-7053 / fax: 678-301-7202
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Accountability provides local schools with support in the understanding and use of the Georgia College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI), assists schools in data interpretation, and assists in the fairness, validity, and reliability arguments for assessments.

Office of Gateway Assessment
Elizabeth Blackmon, Director
678-301-7065
fax: 678-301-7202
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Gateway Assessment is responsible for leadership in the development, revision, and implementation of the Gateway assessment program.
Department of Instructional Development and Support

Tricia Kennedy, Executive Director
678-301-7293 / fax: 678-301-7254
(Instructional Support Center)

The Department of Instructional Development and Support facilitates the cross-divisional development and implementation of new instructional initiatives, such as eCLASS and the refresh of the Quality-Plus Teaching Strategies (QPTS). eCLASS is a digital content, learning, assessment, and support system initiative developed by Gwinnett County Public Schools that is used to enhance the QPTS. This multi-year integrated enterprise solution integrates existing technology resources and projects with a number of new resources and applications to enhance student engagement and the teaching and learning process. It brings together curriculum and instructional resources, assessment items, professional development, student information, and gradebook functions in one place, making it easier for teachers to access tools that will help them improve student learning.

Office of Instructional Development and Support

Dr. Matt Waymack, Director
678-301-7293 / fax: 678-301-7254

The Office of eCLASS Development supports the use of Technology as a foundational strategy in the district’s Quality-Plus Teaching Strategies. The Office supports the continued development of eCLASS and associated eCLASS instructional applications. The incorporation of instructional technology into teaching and learning, and as it relates to differentiation and personalization of instruction are supported by this office. The Office provides continual strategic guidance in providing resources that will increase teacher effectiveness and improve student learning.

Office of Instructional Support

Elizabeth Moore, Director
678-301-7293 / fax: 678-301-7254
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Instructional Support manages and facilitates cross-department and division communication, training, and support for instructional programs and new initiatives that span program areas, in order to improve student achievement and learning outcomes.

Office of Instructional Resources and Support

Dr. Kim Moore, Director
678-301-6828 / fax: 678-301-6829
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Instructional Resources & Support manages the procurement, distribution, and implementation of quality instructional materials and technology resources to meet the needs of all learners. Schools are supported with the selection, purchase, inventory, and effective implementation of instructional resources. The review, pilot, and adoption process for new instructional resources is managed and directed through this office. In addition, this office also facilitates the process of the annual review of the curriculum through the Gwinnett Educational Management System (GEMS).

International Newcomers Center

Dr. Alicia McCartney, Director
678-985-5200/Fax: 770-277-4524

The International Newcomers Center screens international middle and high school students new to Gwinnett County Public Schools for their proficiency levels in English, the language arts, and mathematics. This includes course and transcript analyses to ensure that the students are on track for graduation. The Center’s services focus on outreach and engagement to parents of English Learners as well as local school consultative support. The INC provides school-level and district-level workshops and classes, translations of district-level documents and interpretations for local school meetings, conferences, and hearings.
The Department of Special Education and Psychological Services supports the Individual Educational Programs of students ages three through twenty-one years of age who are eligible for special education and related services within the district. The special education services are provided on a continuum from the least restrictive to more restrictive environments and are contingent upon educational needs of the student. The department provides a full array of assessment and special education interventions for students requiring such services. The Department works collaboratively with students, schools, families, and the community to increase student achievement and to promote post-secondary success for all students with disabilities.

Office of Instructional Services
Dr. Susan Potts-Datema, Director
678-301-7107/ fax: 678-301-7222
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Instructional Services provides leadership and support for the delivery of special education instructional programs. This office works collaboratively with local schools to assist students with disabilities in acquiring the knowledge and skills specified by their Individualized Education Program, and local and state assessment standards. Staff development opportunities are provided for assistant principals, teachers, paraprofessionals, and central office staff.

Office of Psychological Services
Tom Owen, Director
678-301-7100 / fax: 678-301-7098
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Psychological Services provides an extensive array of psychological services to each of our schools. The services are designed to assist schools with the implementation of research-based interventions for students with academic and/or behavior problems. School psychologists provide comprehensive psycho-educational assessments, participate on Student Support Teams (SST) and special education teams. Psychologists also consult regularly with teachers and parents, counsel students, participate in crisis situations and provide in-services for our teachers regarding a wide variety of topics.

Office of Special Education Compliance
Marlena Wragg, Director
678-301-7104 / fax: 678-301-7222
(Instructional Support Center)

The Office of Special Education Compliance supports schools in legal matters arising from federal and state regulations governing the education of students with disabilities. The duties of the office include coordinating all due process issues such as early resolution conferences, mediations, and due process hearings. The office also coordinates Section 504 issues for students throughout the district.

Office of School Support
Amy Washington, Director
678-301-7115 / fax: 678-301-7222
(Instructional Support Center)

This office supports all GCPS schools with planning, scheduling, progress monitoring, implementation, and improvement of special education programming in order to improve student achievement. We continuously monitor efforts to improve high school graduation rates and assist in the development and application of activities for transition to post-secondary outcomes for student with disabilities.