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 Craig 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: 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. Craig’s 2020 NPR for 2nd graders taking the Iowa Assessments is 69, compared to the overall GCPS NPR of 60. For 2020, the Craig’s NPR for 5th graders is 68, 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 Craig 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 Craig ES in 2019–20 was 4.31, compared to the GCPS elementary school average of 4.24.
Craig Elementary prides itself on enhancing student achievement while focusing on sustaining a positive relationship with our staff, parents, and community.

Our PTA continued to have strong membership among parents as well as 100% staff membership.

Craig Elementary continued to be a Project School, creating a partnership with the Teachers College at Columbia University.

More than 25 students were members of our National Junior Beta Club.

Our Peer Leaders included 20 5th grade students who served our younger students and the school community. Peer Leaders coordinated various service projects, including Great Days of Service, United Way, and Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

More than 100 students participated in Chorus. Four students were selected for the Gwinnett County Elementary Honor Chorus.

More than 30 students participated in our Science Fair.

More than 100 students participated in National Walk to School Day.

More than 100 students participated in our Safety Patrol Program.

More than 40 students had artwork displayed at Gwinnett County’s Tapestry Art Show.

Six Craig Elementary students participated on our Readers Rally Team.

Craig Elementary was recognized as a Taking Action Green & Healthy School in the Environmental Achievement Awards sponsored by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful.

More than 30 students participated on our Planet Green Team which promotes environmental education and maintains our schoolwide recycling program.

A group of 23 staff members served as mentors to 5th grade girls participating in Ladies to Bee, a mentor/mentee program.

The Craig Robotics team won in the first round and advanced to the next level in the county Robotics competition.

Craig Elementary participated in numerous fundraisers for the community.

Craig Elementary demonstrated a strong commitment to its community by hosting numerous events, including Fall Social, Chorus Performances, Parent Support Sessions, Bingo Night, Grounds Clean-Up Days, a talent show, and STEAM Night.

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.

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