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 Creekland 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 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 Creekland 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 Creekland MS in 2019–20 was 3.88, compared to the GCPS middle school average of 3.97.
Other 2019–20 Highlights...
• More than 60 students participated in Creekland’s Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter. Students placed 1st and 2nd in state competitions. Overall, the school received a Silver Award.
• One staff member was awarded Collins Hill Education Foundation grants totaling more than $1,000 to launch our Sign Language Club. Creekland also received a $5,000 grant from Jackson EMC to support innovation and instruction and a $1,000 grant from Exxon to support instruction and technology.
• Creekland Middle students participated in the PTA’s Reflections competition, expressing their talents through dance, choreography, film production, literature, music competition, photography, and visual arts.
• Creekland’s students participated in Robotics, competing in the LEGO League Regional Tournament.
• Creekland Middle continued to implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS). PBIS encourages positive behaviors with recognition for those students who exhibit appropriate school conduct. SOAR (Service-Ownership-Accountability-Respect) reflects attributes promoted through Creekland Middle School’s PBIS Program. The purpose of SOAR is to analyze behavior data, develop solutions, and implement positive behavior incentives.
• Creekland’s “SOAR” Relay For Life team raised funds to donate to American Cancer Society. Creekland also raised funds to support United Way.
• Creekland hosted the annual community Trunk or Treat Festival for all children within the community.
• Creekland’s STEM program continued to engage students through the Engineering Design Model, providing students with a hands-on learning experience.
• Students performing with Creekland’s Fine Arts programs—band and chorus—continued to garner recognition in regional and state competitions.
• Creekland’s boys and girls basketball teams made it to the semifinals in the county’s middle school playoffs.
• For 2019, Creekland Middle School received a 5-Star Climate Rating for the fifth straight year in the state’s College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI).