

Accountability Report

Issued 2020–21

Five Forks Middle School

Christine T. Douthart, *Principal*

Jay Nebel, *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 Five Forks 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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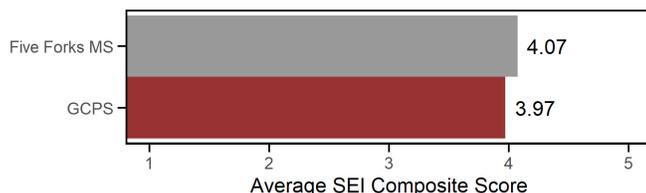
2019–20 Results: Norm-referenced Assessments: PSAT 8/9

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 most 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.)

	Math	Reading/Writing
Five Forks	468	448
GCPS	436	414
State	412	410
National	406	405

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 Five Forks 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 Five Forks MS in 2019–20 was 4.07, compared to the GCPS middle school average of 3.97.

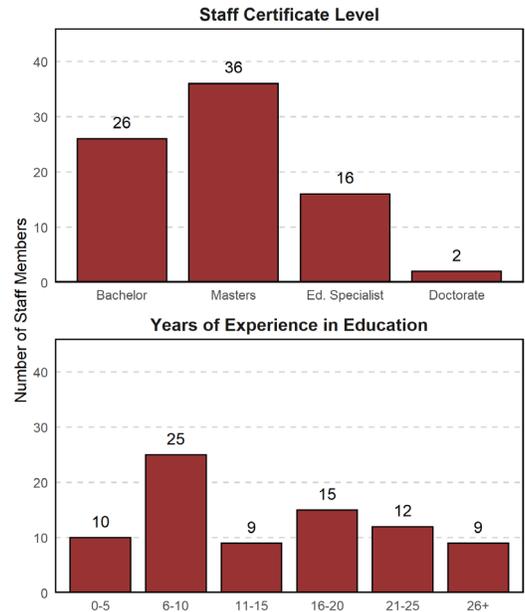


Five Forks Middle School

Other 2019–20 Highlights...

- The Five Forks Middle School (FFMS) Readers Rally Team earned 1st place out of all middle schools for the second year in a row.
- An FFMS educator earned a “School EmPOWERment Grant” from Walton EMC for \$4,100 to secure additional technology for students and staff.
- Our Media Specialist earned a \$6,000 grant from the Brookwood School Foundation to increase collaboration and provide flexible seating areas.
- A teacher won a “Project Lead the Way” grant for \$10,000 to support the Robotics program.
- At the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) Large Group Performance Evaluations (LGPE), our Chorus earned Superior ratings in all areas. Additionally, 23 students were selected to attend District Honor Chorus in Athens, and one student attended All-State.
- Orchestra students earned Superior and Excellent ratings at the Solo and Ensemble evaluations. Two students earned spots in the county Kendall Orchestra. Two students were selected to participate in the All-State Orchestra. Our Honor Orchestra performed for the GCPS Counselor of the Year celebration.
- Five Band students earned a spot in the district band, and one student was selected as an alternate in the GMEA All-State Band.
- The Science Olympiad Team advanced to state competition.
- Our FFMS Relay For Life Team raised more than \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society.
- For her support of the Area 1 Council of PTA, Principal Douthart earned an award for “Principal Recognition” for the 2019–20 school year.
- A Five Forks student won 1st place in 8th grade and 3rd place in the state for her PTA Reflections entry in the area of 3D Visual Arts.
- After participating in a series of events promoting empathy, inclusion, and compassion—both in person and virtually—Five Forks Middle was designated a “No Place for Hate” school this school year.
- As part of our school’s PBIS work, the teachers recognized more than 400 students with “Positive Behavior Referrals” to highlight the traits of Broncos C.A.R.E.

2019–20 Staff Data



Student Data (2017–18 to 2019–20)

	School Year		
	17–18	18–19	19–20
Enrollment	1121	1183	1260
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	0%	0%	0%
+Asian*	18%	19%	20%
+Black/African American*	27%	28%	27%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>	20%	18%	19%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *	4%	4%	5%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	31%	32%	30%
Special Education	12%	13%	11%
English Learner**	11%	13%	15%
Gifted Eligible	29%	29%	27%
Free/Reduced Lunch	40%	37%	38%
Average Attendance***	97%	98%	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...

- 88.2% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Five Forks Middle.
- 99% 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.

Five Forks Middle School

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Gwinnett County Public Schools

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