

Connect



...with each other ...with our schools ...and with our vision!

Making Teaching and Learning Connections: Focusing on Our Core Business

Gwinnett County Public Schools' core business is teaching and learning. Not surprisingly, the district's four major initiatives connect with the district's efforts to improve teaching and learning and increase student achievement.

- **Gwinnett Teacher Effectiveness System (GTES):** Effective teachers in the classroom support increased student achievement. The new teacher evaluation system assesses teachers using 10 research-based performance standards, with standards 1–6 directly tied to curriculum, instruction, and assessment.
- **AKS:** In GCPS, our core business is teaching and learning. The AKS curriculum is at the heart of that business, reflecting the knowledge and skills young people need for success in college and careers. Check out the GCPS website for a number of curriculum resources and information about the AKS.
- **eCLASS:** eCLASS is transforming how teachers teach and how students learn. Our work with the Curriculum and Instructional Tool, ABC Analytics, and BYOD initiatives ensures that students are engaged and we are meeting their needs.
- **Leadership Development:** Gwinnett leaders promote a performance culture in which everyone contributes to teaching and learning. They understand there are only two types of employees in the district— those who teach and those who support those who teach.

The district's four initiatives are fundamental components of the one "main thing" — our core business of teaching and learning. They are connected! What's more, they are directly linked to the strategic direction outlined in Gwinnett County Public Schools' Strategic Priorities for 2010–2020.



Gwinnett County Public Schools' Strategic Priority for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Gwinnett County Public Schools' core business is teaching and learning with an emphasis on learning. Curriculum, instruction, and assessments will be rigorous, integrated, and aligned. Innovative and challenging learning activities will be student-centered and designed for collaboration and flexibility. Proven, research-based Quality-Plus Teaching Strategies and appropriate technology will be used to engage students and to tailor instruction for different learners and learning styles. In meeting the needs of all students, schools will accelerate instruction not only for students who excel but also for those who are academically behind. Reading, writing, and mathematics—the foundations of learning—will be integrated into all content areas including languages, arts, sciences, and technology. In addition, Gwinnett's curriculum will emphasize development of media, technology and information-processing skills. A variety of assessments that are appropriate, timely, and ongoing will be employed as essential tools for measuring academic progress, evaluating performance, and guiding instruction. Teachers will use data to improve instruction and to increase academic achievement for each student. Continuous improvements in curriculum, instruction, and assessment will help students develop the skills required for success in a changing, competitive, global environment.

Conversation Starter...

How does the alignment of the AKS with the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards support a world-class education?