

# 2017–18 GCPS Fast Facts

## A GROWING SYSTEM

- 2017–18 Projected Enrollment: 180,186
- The nation's 13th largest district, GCPS expects nearly 2,000 additional students for 2017–18.
- 139 GCPS schools:
  - 80 elementary schools (*grades K–5*)
  - 29 middle schools (*grades 6–8*)
  - 21 high schools (*grades 9–12*), including 19 cluster high schools, Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology, and Phoenix HS (*open campus school, gr. 10–12*)
  - GIVE Center East (*alternative school, gr. 6–12*)
  - GIVE Center West (*alternative school, gr. 6–12*)
  - Gwinnett Online Campus (*online school, gr. 4–12*)
  - International Transition Center (*program at four high school sites— Berkmar, Central Gwinnett, Meadowcreek, and Norcross*)
  - Maxwell HS of Technology (*career and technical education school, gr. 11 and 12*)
  - New Life Academy of Excellence (*charter school, gr. K–8*)
  - North Metro Academy of Performing Arts (*charter school, gr. K–5*)
  - Northbrook Center (*special education programs*), including ADAPT/STRIVE and The BRIDGE
  - Oakland Meadow School (*special education school*)

## FINANCIALLY SOUND

- FY2018 Budget— \$2.092 billion
- On average, the cost of educating one child in Gwinnett is \$8,853 per year. The direct costs of instruction account for 71.6% of that amount. Putting it in perspective, of the state's 10 largest school systems, GCPS had the 5th lowest per-pupil expenditure in FY2016 (\$643 per student below the state-wide average), yet GCPS' average SAT score was 4th highest among the 10 systems and 44 points above the state average, with 54% of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch.
- GCPS has received the highest possible bond rating (AAA) from the nation's two leading rating agencies. Gwinnett is one of only 17 districts in the United States to hold this distinction, evidence of the district's stellar financial stewardship. Gwinnett is the only school system in Georgia and in the Southeast recognized with this fiscal stamp of approval.
- GCPS is the largest employer in Gwinnett County, employing more than 23,300 staff members, including full- and part-time positions and the pool of substitutes.
- GCPS takes pride in its veteran professional educators. In FY2018, our average teacher will hold a master's degree or higher advanced degree and have 13 years of teaching experience.

## PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

The vast majority of 2017 graduates (85%) planned postsecondary studies. Seniors were offered a record-breaking \$181.3 million in scholarships, not including HOPE scholarships, or full-ride scholarships for 19 QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship recipients. Nineteen student leaders were offered appointments to one of the country's military service academies.

## AN HONORED SCHOOL SYSTEM

*We BELIEVE... in our hard-working and high-achieving students, in our committed and caring staff members, in our award-winning schools, in our supportive community, in the Promise of Gwinnett!* Recent school and system honors include... A number of district honors, including kudos as an outstanding Great District for Great Teachers, AP Honor School among large districts, and awards for literacy leadership, career academies, and instructional technology, plus a nod as one of the country's best communities for music education; international, national, and state wins for students and teams in language arts, mathematics, science, economics, problem-solving, engineering, monologue, creativity, robotics, languages, spelling, theater, finance, technology, fine arts, JROTC, web development, current affairs, community service, marketing, logic, and business; perfect scores on national exams; a U.S. patent; national kudos for school stores; student performances from London to Broadway; U.S. staff honors in entrepreneurship, academy leadership, and mathematics, aerospace, and fine arts teaching; a National Blue Ribbon School; our sixth school approved for International Baccalaureate; national counseling recognition for 28 schools since 2008, including nine repeats; kudos for farm-to-school nutrition, procurement practices, and transportation safety; state recognition from PAGE; seven state-certified STEM/STEAM schools and programs; 21 AP Honor Schools, recognized in both STEM subjects and the humanities; 11 Reward Schools among Georgia's top Title I schools, 87 Beating the Odds Schools, and kudos for 43 PBIS schools and 36 SHAPE Honor Roll Schools; 10 schools honored for Greatest Gains in academic performance and 22 schools recognized for Highest Performance, with six schools noted in both categories; Georgia's Principal of the Year and a state Teacher of the Year finalist; state honors for staff in language arts, social studies, environmental science, classroom innovation, visual arts, languages, career and technical education administration, music education advocacy, marketing, counseling, media services, and stewardship; five winners of Atlanta Families' Awards; 40 nationally Board Certified teachers and more than 80 nationally certified counselors; national certification in procurement and athletic administration; 28 Georgia Scholars and 104 students selected for the prestigious Governor's Honors Program; state and national communication awards, including three EMMY Awards; five state championships in 2016–17 and kudos for sportsmanship; hundreds of awards for graduates; 112 students who caught up with their peers to graduate on time through GCPS' Gear Up for Graduation program; staff, students, and parents serving on local, state, and national advisory councils; staff and students leading state and national organizations; county honors for top teachers, counselors, media center staff, transportation staff, and advocates; staff selected for GCPS and county leadership development programs; more than \$1.06 million raised for Relay For Life by 128 teams, and another \$642,745 pledged to United Way to help Gwinnett families; grants from businesses, foundations, and government to support teaching and learning; and much more!