

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **GCPS Purchasing and Property Management Department earns national acclaim**

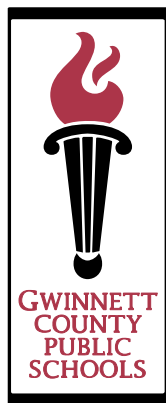
For the fifth year in a row, Gwinnett County Public Schools' (GCPS) Department of Purchasing and Property Management has been recognized as one of the best in the nation. The National Procurement Institute (NPI), a non-profit organization that focuses on leading excellence in public procurement, has named the GCPS Department of Purchasing and Property Management as a 2019 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award winner. GCPS is one of only 12 agencies in Georgia and one of only 23 school districts in the United States to receive the award.

“Winning this award for five years in a row demonstrates a commitment to customer support and effective uses of new technologies and business practices that constantly have to evolve to meet our changing business environment,” said **Matthew Mills**, GCPS director of Purchasing and Property Management. “The Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award from the National Procurement Institute provides a challenging benchmark for us as the scope of the qualifying criteria is comprehensive and areas such as innovation require us to submit examples of processes and business results that change every year. The award reflects the effort and teamwork of the entire department.”

The AEP honor is earned by organizations that demonstrate a commitment to procurement excellence. The continuously evolving criteria are designed to measure innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-Procurement, and leadership attributes of the procurement organization. It also encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually.

For 2019, there were 202 successful applicants, including 42 counties, 67 cities, 25 higher education agencies, 23 school districts, 39 special districts, 4 state agencies, and 2 others.

The NPI is a nationally recognized organization that fosters cooperative relationships between governmental and public purchasing entities and the development of any cutting edge procurement methods and practices.



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**2010 and 2014 Winner of**

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