

# Accountability Report

Issued 2019–20

## Paul Duke STEM High School

Dr. Jonathon Wetherington, *Principal*  
Anthony Smith, *Assistant Superintendent*



### Local school improvement connected to district’s strategic direction

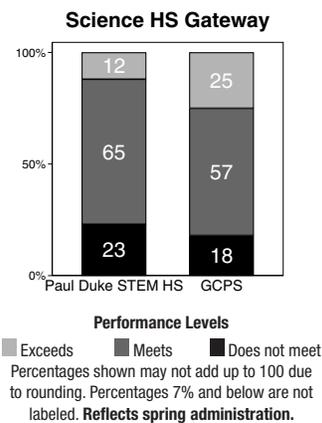
Gwinnett County Public Schools’ accountability system for improving schools is called the Results-Based Evaluation System (RBES). RBES fairly and systematically measures a school’s progress, providing a process that clearly communicates expectations; reviews, monitors, and supports school performance; and evaluates that performance. This report reflects achievement data and state data reporting from the 2018–19 school year, as well as consolidated information on the school’s effectiveness, based on multiple measures and student characteristics. Using the data in this report, 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 2018–19 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 Paul Duke STEM 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.**

### 2018–19 Results: High School Gateway Assessment

Gwinnett students must pass the school system’s High School Gateway Assessment as a requirement for earning a regular diploma. Typically given in the 10th grade, the Gateway measures students’ ability to write effectively about what they have learned in three courses taken in the first years of high school— Biology, Chemistry, and World History. Students write an essay on each topic, using their own knowledge and document-based information. Students regularly write essays and take assessments in class that mirror the Gateway format. This experience helps develop proficiency in content knowledge and writing skills required for college, career, and citizenship. To assist students, GCPS offers additional resources, tutorials, and practice opportunities. While most students are successful on their first try, those who are not have additional opportunities to take and pass the test. In the 2019 school year, there were no Social Studies Gateway results for Paul Duke STEM HS given there was a limited cohort to take this exam. As Paul Duke STEM HS continues to grow, incoming cohorts will be take the Social Studies Gateway Assessment.



### 2018–19 State Results: End of Course (EOC) Assessments

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state content standards for core subjects. High school students took an End of Course (EOC) assessment for courses designated by the State Board of Education. The higher bar set by Milestones is aimed at better preparing students for college and career and providing a more realistic picture of academic progress. The results factor in as 20% of a student’s second-semester grade in the high school courses tested.

Assessment	Paul Duke STEM	GCPS	State
9th Grade Lit. and Comp.	69.5	67.2	58.8
Biology	53.4	54.9	48.0

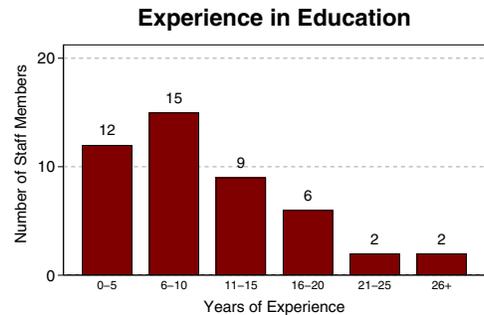
*Note. Results reflect a weighted average of winter and spring scores. EOC results for high school math and science courses taken by 8th graders are reported in middle school results.*

# Paul Duke STEM High School

## Other 2018–19 Highlights...

- Paul Duke STEM High School was the first high school in Gwinnett to earn recognition from Common Sense for its implementation of digital citizenship lessons. The designation as a Common Sense School speaks to the school's commitment to helping students think critically and use technology responsibly to learn, create, and participate.
- Rebecca May Fischer, a computer science teacher, was selected to participate in the NASA's Lift-Off Summer Institute which was held at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.
- An \$11,000 STEM Grant from The Bosch Company funded our Robotics teams and helped increase the number of students who are immersed in STEM learning experiences.
- Two students were accepted into the Governor's Honors Program, a prestigious residential summer program for academically and artistically talented Georgia students funded by the state.
- The Orchestra earned straight Superior ratings at the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE). One orchestra student was selected for Georgia All-State ensembles.
- Paul Duke STEM's Band earned Superior and Excellent ratings at GMEA's LGPE. One student was selected for Honor Band
- One student was awarded a 2019 Aspiration in Computing Award by the Georgia Affiliate National Center for Women and Informational Technology.
- Our school was selected to partner with Georgia Tech's Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CEISMC) to create models of sustainable, school-based STEAM programs that focus on Engineering while integrating the arts in authentic and compelling ways in the GoSTEAM project.
- Art students were recognized at the Capital Art Exhibit, multiple exhibits at the High Museum, the Dogwood Festival, and Shutter Sense and Nonsense Photography Competition
- Two students won top honors at the Gwinnett Science, Engineering + Innovation Fair and placed 2nd in their category at state.
- One student was selected to participate in the Summer Scholars Program at Emory University.
- Our charter PTSA earned two National PTA grants, a National PTA Take Your Family to School Week Grant and a National PTA Be Internet Awesome Grant by Google, and an Award of Distinction from Area II Gwinnett County Council of PTAs.
- Five students earned a 5th place or higher at the Technology Student Association state competition

## 2018–19 Staff Data



## Student Data (2016–17 to 2018–19)

	School Year		
	16–17	17–18	18–19
<b>Enrollment</b>			614
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*			0%
+Asian*			8%
+Black/African American*			25%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>			50%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *			2%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*			0%
+White*			14%
Special Education			7%
ESOL		2	11%
Free/Reduced Lunch			68%
Average Attendance			96%

\*Not Hispanic or Latino

## School Safety Perceptions

Based on responses from those with an opinion who responded to the 2018–19 RBES Perception Survey...

- 85.1% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Paul Duke STEM High.
- 100% 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.*

### Paul Duke STEM High School

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 Dr. Jonathon Wetherington, Principal

### Gwinnett County Public Schools

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[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

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