



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 8, 2019**

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## **America's Best Employers for Women 2019: Gwinnett County Public Schools makes Forbes' "Best Employers for Women" list**

For the second year in a row, Georgia's largest school district has been named the best employer for women in the state of Georgia and one of the best in the nation according to *Forbes* magazine. **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) ranks 19th** on the *Forbes* 2019 list of *Best Employers for Women*. GCPS is one of only two school districts, and the highest ranked one, to make the list of 300 employers. With nearly 23,000 employees, 78% of which are women, Gwinnett County Public Schools is the largest employer in Gwinnett County and one of the largest employers in Georgia.

*Forbes* partnered with market research company Statista to rank America's best employers for women. In an article about the process used to determine the ranking *Forbes* reported:

"To compile the list, Statista surveyed 60,000 Americans, including 40,000 women, working for businesses with at least 1,000 employees. All the surveys were anonymous, allowing participants to openly share their opinions. Respondents were first asked to rate their organizations on criteria such as working conditions, diversity and how likely they'd be to recommend their employer to others. These responses were reviewed for potential gender gaps. So if women, for example, rated an organization poorly on diversity, but men rated it highly, Statista would take that into account and adjust the company's score accordingly. Statista then asked female respondents to rate their employers on factors such as parental leave, discrimination and pay equity. These respondents were also asked to nominate organizations in industries outside their own. The final list ranks the 300 employers that both received the most recommendations and boast the most gender diverse boards and executive ranks."

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for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools  
not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex,  
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
employment practice, educational program,  
or any other program, activity, or service.

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The Estée Lauder Companies claimed the top spot on the Forbes list, up 21 spots from last year. At number 19, GCPS ranks ahead of several noteworthy companies like JetBlue Airways (25), Coca-Cola (28), and Starbucks (31).

“We are proud of Gwinnett County Public Schools’ reputation and recognition as a top employer,” says **J. Alvin Wilbanks**, CEO/superintendent. “The fact that this recognition was earned based on the responses of ‘our people’ and their views of GCPS as an employer means a lot. The very things that *Forbes* surveyed respondents on— working conditions, diversity, and how likely employees would be to recommend their employer to others— are key to our district’s efforts to recruit and retain our employees. We are a people business and our people are our most important resource. With that in mind, we work tirelessly to be a school system of choice for current and future employees.”

The complete listing of *Forbes* Best Employers for Women 2019 can be found at <https://www.forbes.com/best-employers-women/#1eae89e57de9>