

# Accountability Report

Issued 2019–20

## Phoenix High School

Niki Ross, *Principal*

Debbie Dees, *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 Phoenix 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.**

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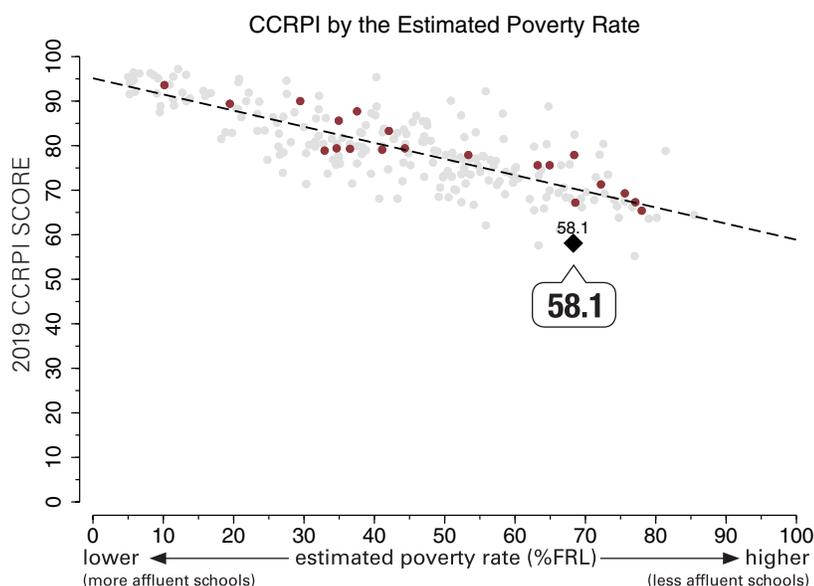


### The School Effect: Putting Phoenix High School's CCRPI score in context

The "school effect"—the impact of what happens in the classroom—acknowledges the work of our faculty and staff in meeting our students where they are academically, and helping them to make progress, no matter where they start. Schools all strive to add value to a child's education from year-to-year, causing students to make academic gains. One way to measure effectiveness in educating *all* students is to review a school's score on Georgia's College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI), adjusting for the level of poverty at the school, to see the school effect on students' academic growth.

This graphic representation plots CCRPI scores for high schools in the state (gray dots) against the percentage of the student population receiving free-and-reduced-lunch (FRL Percentage), a measure of poverty. The plotted points form a trend line representing the typical achievement level of a school in Georgia with its level of student poverty. The graph shows how Phoenix (represented by a large black diamond) and all GCPS high schools (maroon dots) fare when considering expected performance based on poverty measures. Dots above the line are higher-than-expected scores and dots below the line reflect lower-than-expected scores.

*Note: Georgia schools that serve breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost are not included in this comparison.*



## 2018–19 Highlights and Programs

Phoenix High School continues to exist as a complement to the traditional high school program within Gwinnett County Public Schools. Phoenix is organized much like a community college, with students being allowed to choose their classes, instructors, and schedules. Students on this campus also are advised at least once a mini-semester by a faculty member who will make certain that each student remains on the appropriate course of study to complete graduation as quickly as desired by the student.

Phoenix has two formal graduations each year—one in December and one in May. A full-day childcare program is on site to serve young mothers desiring to complete their high school program of study and earn a diploma.

The course of study at Phoenix is organized into four mini-semesters, with all courses offered that complete a college preparatory diploma as well as honors-level coursework. These classes are offered in blocks of time that run from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Students excel in photography, art, and digital media classes at Phoenix. The work produced has earned awards at the county, state, and national levels. Among them are Scholastic Art Awards as well as Congressional Art Awards. Last year, Phoenix had exhibits at the Atlanta Dogwood Festival as well as the Metro Atlanta High School Exhibit at the High Museum.

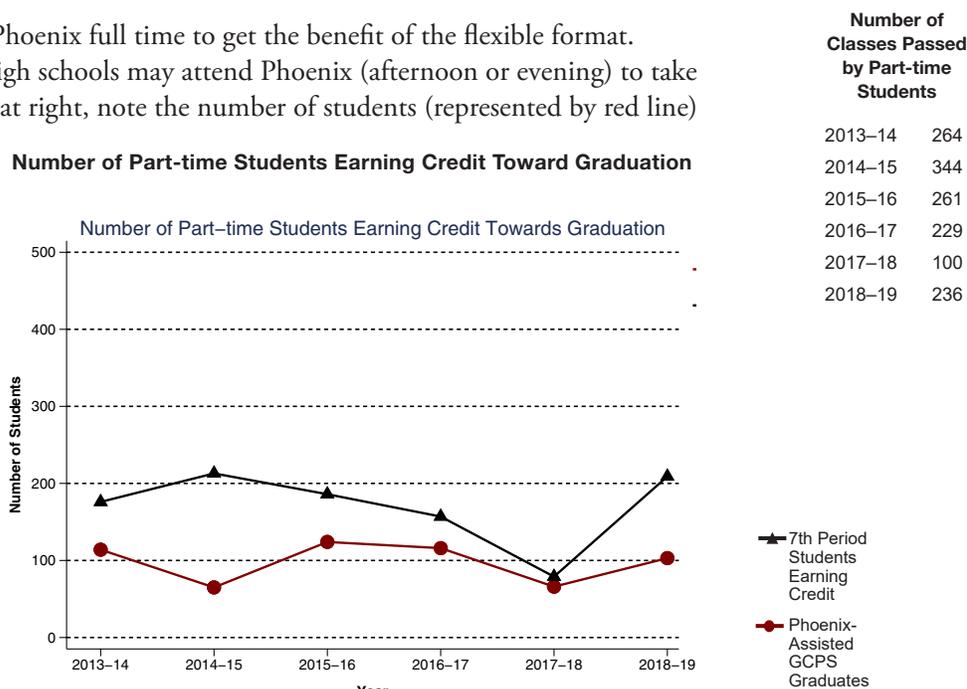
Community service is an important element to students' program of study, with many students completing hundreds of hours of volunteer service to the community in the form of tutoring, working at local elementary schools, providing support at festivals, and supporting faith-based community programs for the needy.

Students attending Phoenix also have the opportunity to participate in Work-Based Learning, allowing students to receive high school credit for career-focused work. This program is very popular at Phoenix and has an average enrollment of 30 students per mini-semester.

Phoenix HS Graduates by Graduation Year, Number of Years to Graduate, and Total Graduates						
Graduation Cohort	# and (%) Graduated within 4 years	# and (%) Graduated within 5 years	# and (%) Graduated within 6 years	# and (%) Graduated within 7 years	# and (%) Graduated within 8+ years	Total Number Graduates
2014	22 (12%)	86 (48%)	41 (23%)	16 (9%)	14 (8%)	179
2015	20 (11%)	89 (48%)	36 (19%)	25 (13%)	17 (9%)	187
2016	38 (17%)	112 (49%)	44 (19%)	19 (8%)	16 (7%)	229
2017	30 (14%)	102 (49%)	42 (20%)	23 (11%)	12 (6%)	209
2018	47 (19%)	111 (44%)	53 (21%)	24 (10%)	17 (7%)	252
2019	44 (29%)	61 (40%)	28 (18%)	15 (10%)	4 (3%)	152

## 7th Period (Part-time) Students Earning Credit Toward Graduation

Students don't have to attend Phoenix full time to get the benefit of the flexible format. Students from other Gwinnett high schools may attend Phoenix (afternoon or evening) to take one or more classes. In the chart at right, note the number of students (represented by red line) from other Gwinnett high schools who earned credit toward graduation by attending Phoenix. More than 90% of seniors taking 7th period classes (black line) graduated from their home school in four years ("on-time") by completing coursework at Phoenix.



## 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.

Percentage of EOC Assessments scored Proficient/Distinguished

Assessment	Phoenix	GCPS	State
9th Grade Lit. and Comp.	33.8	67.2	58.8
11th Grade American Lit. and Comp.	22.0	53.7	46.2
Geometry	24.5	53.3	44.5
Biology	13.8	54.9	48.0
U.S. History	31.7	56.6	47.1
Economics	29.6	53.4	47.7

*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.*

## 2018–19 State Reporting: Georgia's College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI)

The College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) is the state's accountability system. Redesigned in 2018–19, it assesses how well students are prepared for college and careers and ensures that schools are focused on improving achievement among all students. The CCRPI recognizes a school's levels of student test performance as well as those students' improvements in performance across years and the school's progress in closing achievement gaps with traditionally underserved subgroups of students.

Schools earn CCRPI points based on indicators that vary by grade and school level and align with measures of college- and career-readiness. For 2018–19, high schools earned up to a set number of points in five main categories, for a total of 100 possible points. Here are the factors considered in awarding points at the high school level in each category:

- **Content Mastery points** increase with greater percentages of students performing at high levels on the state's End of Course (EOC) assessments.
- **Progress points** are tied to the level of academic progress students make from year to year.
- **Closing Gap points** are earned as schools work to close the gaps between different groups of students, including students learning English, students living in poverty, and students with disabilities.
- **Readiness points** take into account factors that have an impact on students' college- and career-readiness, including reading ability; attendance; completion of accelerated coursework (AP, IB, or Dual Enrollment) and advanced academic, career/technical education, world language, or fine arts pathways; achievement of college-readiness scores on college-admission tests; success on End of Pathway assessments or completion of a work-based learning program; and preparation for coursework at a college/university in the Georgia Technical or University systems.
- **Graduation Rate points** are earned for four- and five-year graduation rates.

**About CCRPI Star Ratings...** Under CCRPI, schools are awarded star ratings in two areas— school climate and financial efficiency— using a five-star scale.

- **The School Climate rating** takes into account discipline and attendance data as well as perceptions of the quality and character of the school and its learning environment. Phoenix was awarded a School Climate star rating of ★★★★★.
- **The Financial Efficiency rating** is a measure that compares a school's spending per student to the overall academic performance of its students. The School Financial Efficiency ratings for 2018–19 were not published at the time 2018 CCRPI results were released in the fall. Once available, parents can find them here: <http://www.gadoe.org/CCRPI/Pages/default.aspx>.

	Phoenix	GCPS	State
<b>CCRPI Total Score</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>77.0</b>
Content Mastery (30%)	48.2	78.8	69.4
Progress (30%)	93.2	80.0	82.1
Closing Gaps (10%)	69.4	82.5	80.0
Readiness (15%)	41.7	76.9	74.5
Graduation Rate (15%)	16.8	82.0	82.6
<i>All CCRPI scores are out of 100 possible points. The Total Score is made up of five weighted subscores, each accounting for a percentage of the total score. The calculation for Phoenix HS's Total Score of 58.1 is 30% of 48.2 + 30% of 93.2 + 10% of 69.4 + 15% of 41.7 + 15% of 16.8.</i>			

# Phoenix High School

## 2017–18 Senior Report

	Students Completing HS†	Number Who Enrolled in College or Postsecondary School (Fall 2018)*	Number of Honor Graduates†	Seniors with Dual Enrollment†
Phoenix	166	20	0	4
GCPS	11636	7791	3061	1213

\*Based on the National Student Clearinghouse enrollment records

†Reflects system-reported data as of August 2018

## Student Data (2014–15 to 2017–18)

	School Year		
	16–17	17–18	18–19
Enrollment	535	499	555
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1%	0%	0%
+Asian*	3%	2%	2%
+Black/African American*	30%	35%	31%
+Hispanic or Latino, any race	53%	51%	54%
+Multiracial, two or more races*	2%	2%	4%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	11%	10%	9%
Special Education	0%	0%	0%
ESOL	5%	9%	8%
Free/Reduced Lunch	65%	68%	68%
Average Attendance	94%	94%	96%

\*Not Hispanic or Latino

## About Our Staff

Phoenix High School is staffed with 100% highly qualified teachers. Each teacher at Phoenix High is committed to:

- personalizing learning for each student,
- planning for student-centered learning,
- using consistent criteria for learning, and
- developing and using assessments that are criterion- and performance-based.

This commitment ensures that each Phoenix teacher takes the time to get to know each student on an individual basis. Students also are expected to meet specific standards on the essential knowledge and skills in order to earn course credit. Our philosophy of shared teaching commitments is why students at Phoenix High School are successful on local, county, state, and national tests.

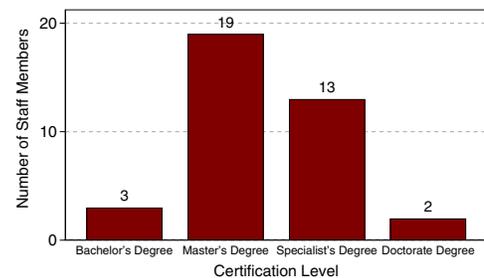
## School Safety Perceptions

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

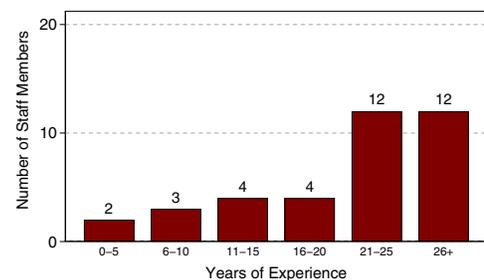
- 87.1% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Phoenix High.
- Full-time security personnel are on campus 13 hours each day and a School Resource Officer is on call.
- Phoenix High School students continue to demonstrate strong ownership of our academic program each year.

## 2018–19 Staff Data

### Staff Certification Level



### Experience in Education



*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.*

**Phoenix High School**  
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Niki Ross, Principal

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