

Accountability Report

Issued 2017–18

GIVE Center West

Todd Marschke, *Principal*

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About GIVE (Gwinnett InterVention Education) Center West

The mission of GIVE Center West is to provide a structured and supportive alternative school environment which holds high academic and behavioral standards and fosters excellence in GCPS academic knowledge and skills as measured against local, national, and world class standards.

The vision of GIVE Center West is to become a model alternative school which achieves measurable gains in students' academic knowledge and skills in order to enable them to make positive behavioral choices, return to their home school, graduate, and become productive citizens.

The GIVE Center is a unique institution that offers academic opportunity to students whose behaviors have precluded them from attending the traditional school. In addition to awarding academic credit, the staff at GIVE West works diligently to identify and address the individual deficiencies of each student.

The ultimate goal of the GIVE Center is to provide each student with the tools and skills needed to transition seamlessly back to the home school in better academic and behavioral standing than when the student arrived at GIVE West.

The faculty and staff are driven by the belief that working at GIVE West is a privilege, understanding that they must go

above and beyond normal duties and responsibilities to best support the at-risk population that GIVE serves. Having a unified and dedicated staff that believes every student can learn is crucial to the success of each student in the academic and postsecondary setting.

Employees at GIVE are committed to lead, teach, counsel, and serve each student and parent with a sense of urgency that is necessary for the GIVE environment. Every moment that is spent with the students of GIVE must be approached as a valuable teaching opportunity.

The GIVE Center West leadership team is committed to ensuring that every student enrolled is provided with a world-class education in a safe and secure environment. Through creativity, innovation, and research-based practices, our leadership team works to provide staff and students with the information, tools, and training that result in highly engaging teaching and authentic learning.

The leadership team is committed to forming a cohesive, empowered staff that operates to serve the best interests of our children.

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 2016–17 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 2017–18 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 GIVE Center West 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.

GIVE Center West

- GIVE Center West is one of two GCPS alternative schools. GIVE West serves 23 traditional schools with a variety of programs.
- Every GIVE West student is given an individualized schedule and long-term plan, ranging from one year to graduation. In determining a student's plan, we consider academic history and current placement as well as specific aspects of the education program at the student's home school such as block schedule and whether the home school is organized by academies. A unique plan is created for each student so that he or she is put in the best possible situation to succeed and make a smooth transition between GIVE West and the home school.
- Individual needs are addressed through a variety of scheduling strategies and options, including block courses, trailer courses, course acceleration (self-paced), course recovery support, credit recovery support, academic support courses, and West Hope Academy.
- West Hope Academy helps students recover or accelerate their GCPS coursework with the chance to earn college credit through Dual Enrollment. West Hope also acts as the accountability and support system for students who are unable to be a traditional GIVE West student.
- Our Dual Enrollment program is in partnership with Gwinnett Technical College. Students prepare for and take the ACCUPLACER, an untimed, computer-based test that helps colleges evaluate reading, writing, and mathematics skills in order to place students in appropriate courses. GIVE staff members assist West Hope Academy

students as they complete the application process and register for Gwinnett Tech courses, and provide support for students in their college courses. Students may take college courses online, in our West Hope Academy lab, or at Gwinnett Tech.

- Behavior management is addressed through the GIVE Accountability Program (GAP). During Tier II interventions (restorative practices), students participate in a series of exercises dealing with anger management, coping skills, problem-solving, goal-setting, conflict avoidance, positive relationship-building, and life skills. Students are able to complete the session and return to regular classes without a referral. Intensive one-on-one behavior intervention (Tier III), includes check in/check out, classroom observations, daily mentoring meetings for two to three weeks, and anecdotal behavior assessments for special education students who have a Behavioral Intervention Plan.
- Middle schools students who are over-age and not on track for on-time graduation are served through GEAR UP for Graduation. The GEAR UP program provides opportunities for students to complete both 8th and 9th grade coursework in one year. With accelerated instruction and targeted support, 8th graders who have fallen behind get the opportunity to catch up to their peers, enter high school as 10th graders, and get back on track toward their goal of on-time graduation. Students take online courses, participate in a Study Skills period, and take courses to earn high school credit.

Student Data (2014–15 to 2016–17)

	School Year		
	14–15	15–16	16–17
Enrollment	156	195	211
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1%	0%	0%
+Asian*	3%	0%	0%
+Black/African American*	43%	45%	41%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>	46%	47%	47%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *	2%	2%	1%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	6%	7%	10%
Special Education	34%	44%	38%
ESOL	10%	10%	9%
Free/Reduced Lunch	83%	82%	73%
Average Attendance	87%	87%	89%

*Not Hispanic or Latino

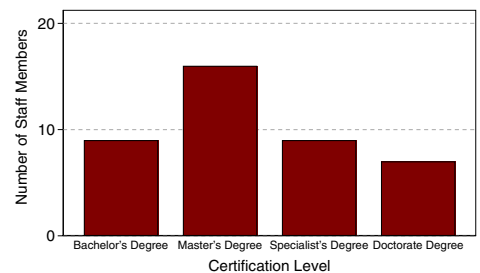
School Safety Perceptions

Based on responses from those with an opinion who responded to the 2016–17 RBES Perception Survey...

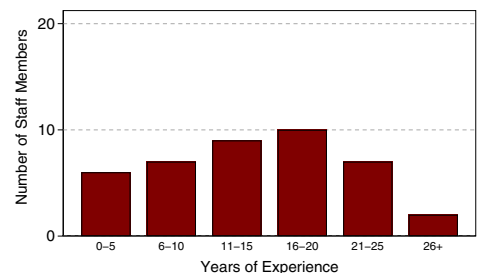
- 75.2% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at GIVE Center West.
- 98.3% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child's school was safe.

2016–17 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.

GIVE Center West

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