



# NEWS RELEASE

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*News Media Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020*

## **McConnell Middle School students to speak to astronauts on International Space Station**

Students at **McConnell Middle School** will soon be able to speak to people who are not on this planet. The school is one of a handful selected by the **Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS)** to host Amateur Radio contacts with International Space Station (ISS) crew members during the first half of 2020. The school is in the process of developing a plan to contact the space station. Once that plan is approved by ARISS, a date and time for communication with the ISS will be scheduled. McConnell Middle School is the only Gwinnett County school and one of only two in the state selected for this “out of this world” experience.

The primary goal of the ARISS program is to engage young people in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) activities and raise their awareness of space communication, radio communication, space exploration, and related areas of study and career possibilities.

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*is to pursue excellence  
in academic knowledge,  
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for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

437 Old Peachtree Road, NW  
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978  
678-301-6000  
[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

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