

Ashworth Middle School 2015-16 Profile

Achieving, Motivating, Succeeding

Adequate Yearly Progress:

Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) was no longer the state's accountability measure for schools. Title I schools will move from a NCLB needs improvement (NI) status based on AYP to a Reward, Priority, Focus or Alert school status based on definitions provided by the US Department of Education. Also, all content areas (reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) will now be measured to ensure all students are ready to enter the 21st century, college and career ready. The College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI), a new statewide accountability system based on 2012 school year data, was launched as a "study year" in May 2013.

Ashworth Middle School is a Title I school and receives Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Our 2014-15 performance will be reported December 2015 or later, when every school in the state will receive a numerical index score based on 100 points. This score will be considered the school's College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) number and will provide a more complete and comprehensive look at a school's performance.

School Improvement Goals:

READING/ELA:

- All students in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in ELA by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.
- Students with disabilities in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in ELA by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.

MATHEMATICS:

- All students in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in Mathematics by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.
- Students with disabilities in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in Mathematics by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.

SCIENCE:

- All students in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in Science by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- All students in grades 6-8 will increase their achievement in Social Studies by 3% from the 2015 SY to 2016 SY on the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade Test*.

Highly Qualified Status:

At Ashworth, we are committed to providing quality instruction by highly qualified, skilled staff. 96% of our certified faculty members are highly qualified. You can access information on the qualifications and credentials of your student's teacher on our school website. Please visit our website frequently, as we will make updates on a daily basis www.gcbe.org and click on the link to Ashworth. You have the right to request information pertaining to the credentials of your student's teacher and you will be notified if your student is taught by a teacher who has not met "highly qualified" standards in core academic areas as defined by the state.

Curriculum & Instruction:

The Common Core performance standards (Science, Social Studies) and Georgia Standards of Excellence (ELA & Math) drive instruction and assessment in our school. Educators teach to the designated curriculum using a variety of resources for reference. The standards provide clear expectations for assessment, instruction, and student work. They define the level of work that demonstrates achievement of the standards, enabling a teacher to know "how good is good enough." The standards identify the skills needed to use the knowledge and protocol to problem solve, reason, communicate, and make connections with other information. The standards use more complex texts and ask the students to analyze it, which increases the student rigor. Students are also asked to express reasoning with solid facts and data. These standards hope to ensure that all students achieve college and career readiness by the end of their 12th grade.

The workshop model is the primary instructional delivery model for Ashworth Middle School and Gordon County Schools. This model is comprised of three components. The opening is a brief orientation that ties the learner to the standards and provides the opportunity for demonstration and/or guided practice. The work period makes up the bulk of the lesson time. Individual and/or collaborative group work based on performance task(s) that is connected to the standard presented. Effective research based strategies are utilized heavily during the work period. The closing provides the opportunity for students to discuss their learning and analyze their progress. Student work is used to illustrate individual progress made towards mastery of the Common Core standards.

Through our School Improvement Plan we have outlined the specific steps we plan to take to address the continuous improvement of student achievement. Our School Improvement Plan can also be viewed on Ashworth Middle School's website.

Programs:

Ashworth Middle School provides students the opportunity to participate in chorus, band, music appreciation, art, physical education, weight training, career exploration, agriculture, and computer classes. A variety of extra curricular activities are available including sports (football, golf, cross-country, softball, baseball, cheerleading, track, basketball, wrestling, and soccer), as well as Academic Bowl, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Young Georgia Authors, Student Council, Junior Honor Society, FFA, 4-H, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Specialty programs to better serve students also included REACH (gifted) classes, Special Education (both inclusion and resource settings), ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) classes, Remedial math/literacy support classes and Speech classes. Ashworth Middle offers acceleration and remediation, depending on the individual needs of the student in every academic subject. In addition, students who have not met the state benchmarks in math or reading may be provided additional instruction through their connections class.

PTO and our School Governance Council are also in place to offer parents and other stakeholders the opportunity to be active participants in the school improvement process. Because we are a Title I school, it is our obligation to annually review, obtain feedback, and update our School Improvement Plan with parents and the community.

Student Demographics:

Ashworth Middle School has a total student body enrollment rate of 614 students. The student body composition is as follows:

71% White

23% Hispanic

3 % Multi-Racial

2% Black

.5 % Asian

.5% American Indian/Alaskan

.5% Asian/Pacific Islander

5.2% Limited English Proficient

Home/School Connection:

As parents, there are some things you can do to strengthen the academic achievement of your child(ren). The following suggestions are things we believe will support our school's vision as we strive to improve the academic achievement of all our students:

- Hold high expectations for your child.
- Support Ashworth Middle School in its efforts to maintain proper discipline.
- Instill in your child a positive attitude toward school.
- Make sure that your child attends school regularly, arrives on time and has appropriate supplies.
- Communicate regularly with the teachers of your child.

Last updated: 7-28-15