

Student-Focused Learning

Initiative Owner: Amy Barger, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching

At Fulton County Schools (FCS), our ultimate goal is to prepare all students to graduate ready to pursue and succeed on their chosen paths. However, our results show that we have room to improve in ensuring we meet the needs of *all* students. At the same time, our district serves a diverse set of students with varying strengths, challenges, interests, and experiences. This initiative will provide strong, personalized core instruction and choice programs that provide additional supports and opportunities, in order to ensure that individual student needs are met and all students are prepared for their chosen paths.

When we're done...

By 2022, we will ensure:

- Improved performance on the student achievement goals identified in our Strategic Plan 2022, including third grade literacy, middle school proficiency, on-track for graduation, graduation rate, and readiness to pursue and succeed on chosen paths.
- More students report they are engaged in school.
- More students report positive mindsets and demonstrate student success skills.

We believe that student-focused learning will help us achieve these results because this work will draw upon the best practices of what we know works based on research and experience. This initiative isn't new but builds on foundations of the work we began under our previous strategic plan. We expect that as we continue to refine our approach, we will better understand and address student needs, our support will continue to improve, and our impact on students will increase.

What will we do to get there?

To achieve these 2022 outcomes, we will:

- **Ensure strong core instruction that is personalized to meet student needs.** Specifically, we will:
 - Provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum that helps students meet the standards, through the Standards Mastery Framework
 - Provide support for high-quality instruction, as articulated in the personalized learning principles and frameworks to support literacy, numeracy, continuous achievement, intervention, and instructional coaching
 - Provide effective counseling services to help students navigate their chosen paths
- **Provide choice programs to meet additional student needs,** including but not limited to: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) high schools; magnet programs; a College and Career Academy, virtual schools, the AVID program, International Baccalaureate (IB), dual enrollment, internships, SAT and ASVAB preparation, career and technical education, and Advanced Placement (AP)

For each of the programs and frameworks that make up this initiative, we will leverage four strategies to support implementation, including:

- Designing and delivering professional learning
- Providing supporting resources
- Establishing and managing support systems, including processes for monitoring and accountability
- Promoting effective communication and shared understanding