

# Connect



...with each other ...with our schools ...and with our vision!



## Teacher Connections— Celebrating teachers and their impact on students' lives

Gwinnett County Public Schools is proud to say that its teachers are among the very best in the nation. Each and every year, our teachers earn local, state, and even national recognition. Four key district initiatives are in place to support teachers and to help them grow professionally.

- **Gwinnett Teacher Effectiveness System (GTES):** GCPS' teacher evaluation system focuses on building the professional capacity of teachers... an effort that will have a positive impact on student learning. Through GTES the school district is able to better identify areas of strength and growth for each teacher and individualize professional growth based on a teacher's specific needs.
- **AKS:** In GCPS, our core business is teaching and learning. The AKS curriculum is at the heart of that business, reflecting the knowledge and skills young people need for success in college and careers. Our teachers contribute and collaborate in the development and review of the AKS, ensuring that the Gwinnett curriculum is robust and relevant.
- **eCLASS:** GCPS is transforming how teachers teach and how students learn. The district is incorporating appropriate technological tools and resources into the classroom. These digital tools are available to teachers and help to foster collaboration and nurture creativity and innovation.
- **Leadership Development:** GCPS' leadership development initiative develops leaders at all levels. As a district, we celebrate our teachers as leaders. GCPS offers the Aspiring Leader Program which provides classroom teachers with the knowledge and skills they need to hone their leadership skills so that they become better leaders in the classroom and become effective assistant principals.

### Conversation Starter...

*How has a teacher made a difference in your child's life?*



**Gwinnett teachers are the best!**  
Recent honors earned by our teachers include:

- A "Top 10" Finalist for Georgia Teacher of the Year
- Georgia's 2014 ProStart Teacher of the Year
- Aspirations in Computing Educator Award Winner
- 2014 Secondary Art Educator of the Year
- Georgia Spanish Teacher of the Year
- Georgia Elementary Science Teacher of the Year
- National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor of the Year
- Outstanding Social Studies Educator Award
- Claes Nobel Educator of the Year
- Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Teacher of Promise
- Trade and Industrial Educators of Georgia New Teacher of the Year
- 2014 Georgia Theatre Arts Educator of the Year

**The National PTA recommends the following examples of how you can honor teachers:**

- Write letters and cards of appreciation to your student's teachers throughout the week.
- Nominate your student's teachers for local and national awards.
- Share on Facebook and Twitter how you plan to appreciate your student's teachers using the hashtag #ThankATeacher.