



2024 Annual Report

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Paulding
County
School
District

paulding.k12.ga.us

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Welcome to the Paulding County School District's 2024 Annual Report. In this publication you will find a wealth of information, including facts and figures, that provide a synopsis of the district's efforts to "Engage, Inspire, and Prepare" students and put them on a pathway for "Success, Today and Tomorrow."

This is a high-level snapshot, for there are so many accomplishments of our nearly 32,000 students and 4,000-plus staff members that simply would never fit in a document this size. Some of those 2024 highlights include:

- **Graduation Rate** - The Paulding County School District's 2024 four-year graduation rate climbed to 90.3 percent, well above the state average of 85.4 percent.
- **CCRPI** - The district achieved notable growth in several key performance areas, including gains at the elementary and middle school levels in Content Mastery, significant improvements in middle and high school levels in Progress, and continued strong outcomes in Readiness and Graduation Rate.
- **SAT** - PCSD students defied state and national downward trends, posting a three-point increase in the district's average SAT score for 2024, which also marked the fifth consecutive year the PCSD average has topped the national average.
- **AP Honors** - State Superintendent Richard Woods has named four Paulding County School District high schools to the list of Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Schools for 2024.
- **REACH Scholars** - The district awarded scholarships worth up to \$10,000 to students from each of the five high schools to be applied toward college expenses.
- **Math Leaders** - Three Paulding County schools – East Paulding Middle School, Sammy McClure Middle School, and Paulding County High School – have been named Math Leader schools by the Georgia Department of Education.
- **Recognitions** - The Board of Education recognized hundreds of students and staff members for extraordinary accomplishments in academics, athletics, fine arts, character education, and much more.
- **Special Needs** - The Board of Education recognized dozens of exceptional special needs students at its annual Yes I Can! awards ceremony. Additionally, special needs students shined in competitive events at the Special Olympics.

We hope you enjoy the 2024 Annual Report!



Mission

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.



Vision

The vision of the Paulding County School District is to prepare ALL students for success today and tomorrow.



Beliefs

- We believe preparing students for success is our first priority.
- We believe in fostering a culture of high expectations in student achievement and personal development.
- We believe all students are inspired to learn when provided rigorous and relevant instruction and positive relationships.
- We believe in providing an environment which is safe, challenging, inclusive and, both physically and mentally healthy.
- We believe in the use of collaborative learning communities where best practices are partnered with data driven decisions.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

On behalf of the Paulding County School District, I want to thank you for your support of our 34 schools. With nearly 32,000 students, our district is committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities in a safe and supportive learning environment.

From innovative educational programs to extracurricular activities, we take pride in the many ways our schools engage, inspire, and prepare students for success.

As stakeholders, your involvement is essential to ensuring that every student reaches their full potential. We are excited to share highlights from 2024 and look forward to an even greater 2025!



Steve Barnette
Steve Barnette
Superintendent

"Our Focus is Their Future"



The Paulding County Board of Education has earned the Georgia School Boards Association's (GSBA) 2024 Exemplary School Board recognition for five consecutive years.

BOARD of EDUCATION



From left: Steve Barnette (Superintendent), Adam Clayton (District 3), John Dean (District 5), Theresa Lyons (District 1), Dan Nolan (District 6), Deborah Collett (District 4), Jeff Fuller (At-Large), Nicholas Chester (District 2).

MESSAGE FROM THE BOE CHAIR

As Chair of the Paulding County Board of Education, I appreciate the role our community plays in supporting our students, educators, and schools. Education is a shared responsibility, and our success is strengthened by engaged stakeholders like you.

As we continue to navigate the challenges and opportunities in education, we want to share important information about our district to enhance our collaboration in supporting the children and families we serve.

Your involvement has played a vital role in the progress made in 2024, and we look forward to continuing our work together in 2025 to further strengthen education in Paulding County.



Deborah Collett
Deborah Collett
Chair, Board of Education

ACCREDITATION:

The school district is accredited by Cognia, formerly Advanc-ED. In 2018, Advanc-ED awarded PCSD a five-year accreditation with an Index of Education Quality (IEQ) score of 353.06 on a scale of 100-400. The average of all accredited Advanc-ED institutions is 278.34-283.33. Due to the pandemic, PCSD's follow-up accreditation review was postponed and will be completed by Cognia in 2025.

PCSD AT A GLANCE 2024-2025

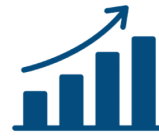


31,684
STUDENTS



34
SCHOOLS

+ 3,317 STUDENTS IN PAST 10 YEARS



11th Largest and
8th Fastest Growing
School District in Georgia

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

| | Caucasian | Black | Hispanic | Other |
|------|-----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 2024 | 46% | 32% | 14% | 8% |
| 2014 | 65% | 21% | 8% | 6% |

5

Academies

Academy of Science, Research & Medicine | PCHS
Academy of Computer Science | HHS
Academy of Engineering & Technology | SPHS
Paulding College & Career Academy
Paulding Virtual Academy

SPECIALIZED STUDENT PROGRAMS

11%

Gifted

15%

Special
Education

7%

English
Learners

54%

Free/
Reduced Lunch

90.3% GRADUATION RATE
2,333 Graduates

162 New Classrooms Completed or Under Construction Since 2023



25,000
Meals Served
Daily



23,000
Bus Miles Driven
Daily



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
1,762 Overall Pathway
Completers
1,285 Industry Credentials Issued



SAFETY & SECURITY

58 Staff Plus **20** SROs

Crisis Alert System at all schools



186,255 School Nurse Visits Per Year



17 Consecutive Audits With Zero Findings



Aa1 Very High Grade - Credit Rating

SPENDING PER STUDENT

State Avg.
PCSD

\$15,338
\$13,785

10% lower



At age **65**
50% Exempt
from School
Property Tax

At age **68**
100% Exempt
from School
Property Tax

COMPARISON TO NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS (Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Douglas)

E-SPOST COLLECTIONS

| | (PER STUDENT) |
|---------------------|---------------|
| PCSD | \$0.41 |
| Local District Avg. | \$1.00 |

MILLAGE RATE

| | PCSD |
|---------------------|--------|
| Local District Avg. | 17.675 |
| | 18.393 |

TAX DIGEST

| | PCSD | RESIDENTIAL | OTHER |
|---------------------|------|-------------|-------|
| Local District Avg. | 86% | 62% | 38% |
| | 14% | | |

EMPLOYMENT



4,068
EMPLOYEES

LARGEST
EMPLOYER IN PAULDING COUNTY
55-60% of Staff Live In-County

72.7%
TEACHERS WITH ADVANCED DEGREES

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

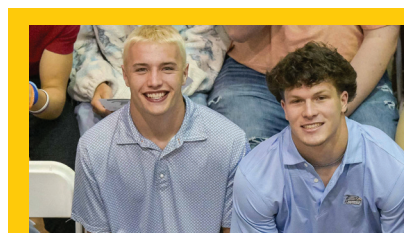
The Paulding County School District leads the state in literacy innovation, with rising AP course enrollment and a consistently high graduation rate. Early literacy initiatives ensure that a significant percentage of students read on or above grade level, building a strong foundation for success.

Students continue to excel in core subjects, demonstrating strong performance on state assessments, including Math and Science Milestones and English Language Arts. These achievements reflect the district's commitment to rigorous academics and student success today and tomorrow.



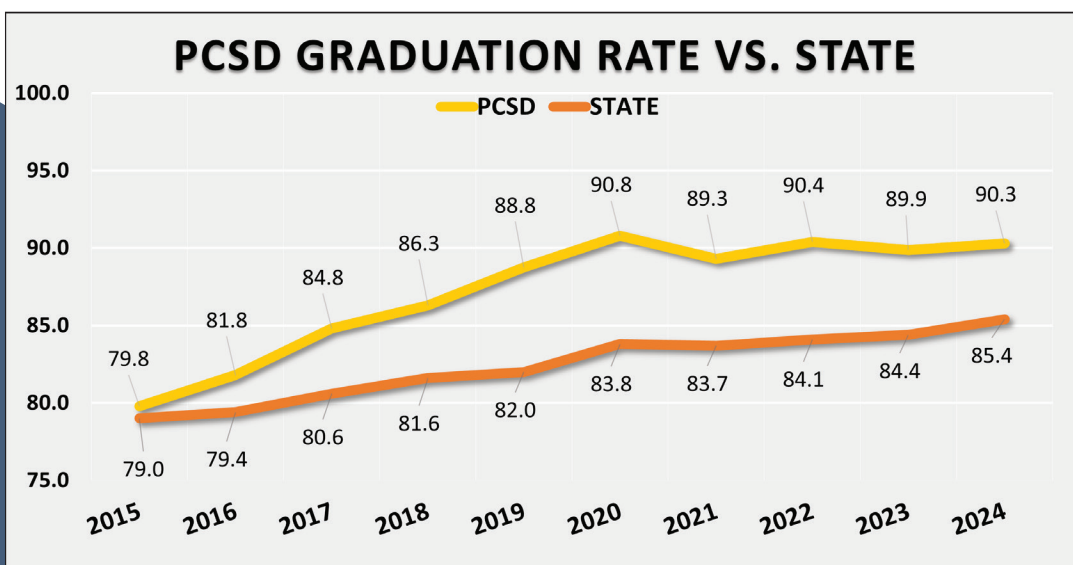
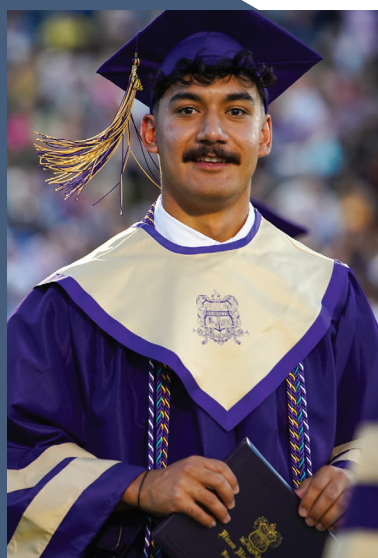
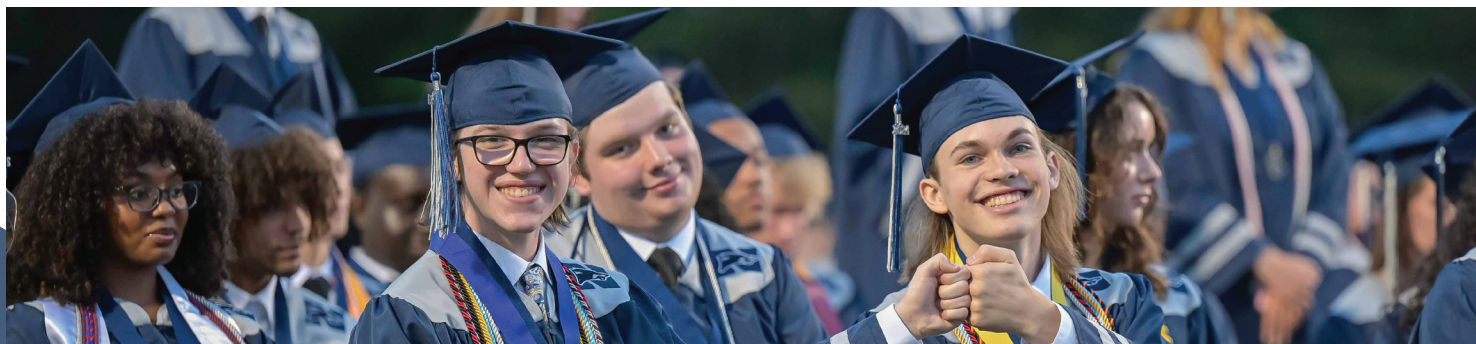
Growth and Success for ALL

- We aim to prepare future-ready graduates for college, careers, military service, and life.
- Designed with district leaders, CTAE/PCCA, K-12 Principals, all school facilities, Wellstar Hospital, Greystone Power, Chattahoochee Tech, and approved by the Board of Education.
- Teams leveraged the most current research on high-demand employability skills.
- The Graduate Profile expands basic academic requirements to include employability skills, life skills, and essential traits.

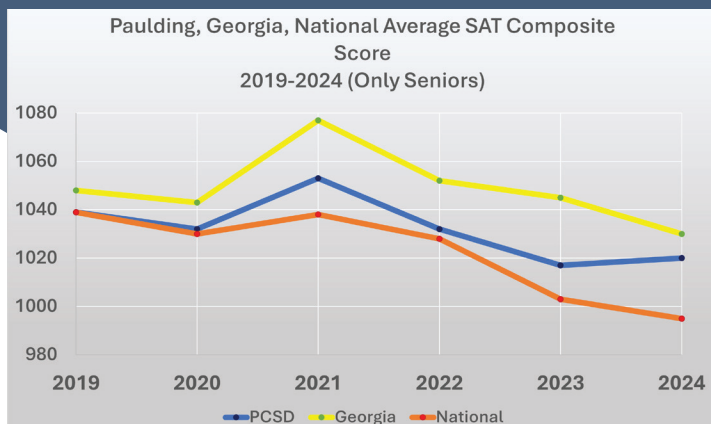


ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Graduation Rate



SAT



Since the COVID-19 pandemic, SAT scores in Georgia and across the nation have steadily declined, but not in Paulding County where the trend turned upward in 2024. PCSD students defied state and national downward trends, posting a three-point increase in the district's average SAT score for 2024, which also marked the fifth consecutive year the PCSD average has topped the national average.

In 2024, the Paulding County School District's average combined SAT score of 1,020 topped the national average of 995. The PCSD average SAT score also increased its margin above the national average to a substantial 25 points, while at the same time narrowed the gap on the state average of 1,030 and now trails that mark by only 10 points. The state's 2024 SAT average declined by 15 points, and the national average declined by 8 points. Click [here](#) for more information.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

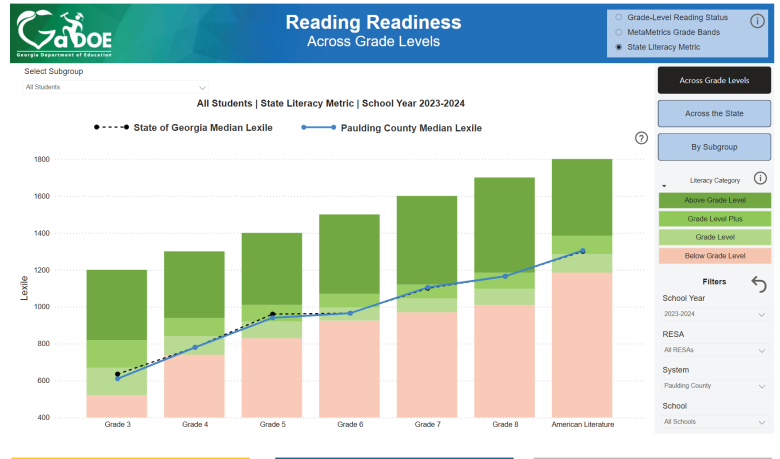
READING AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The Paulding County School District began transitioning to the Science of Reading and systematic literacy instruction in 2016. Despite low PreK participation rates within the community, by 5th grade, more Paulding students read on or above grade level than their Georgia peers, with 73% of fifth graders reaching reading proficiency.

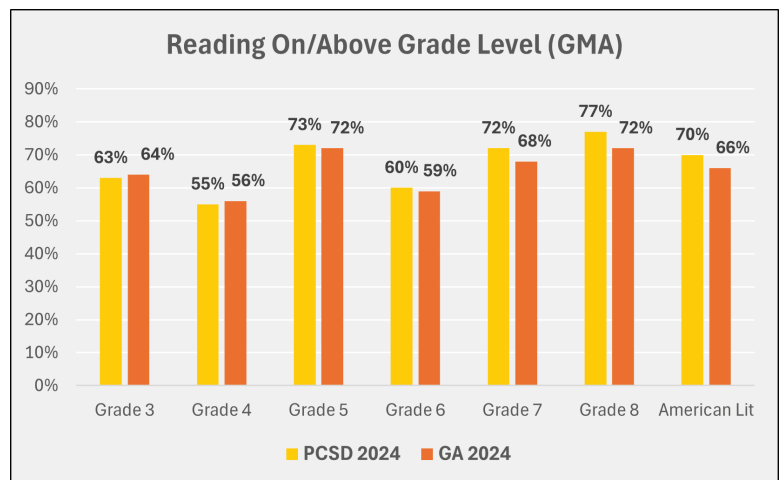
PCSD students also meet Reading Readiness Lexile targets across all tested grade levels and have higher Lexile scores than their Georgia peers in 5/7 tested grade levels. A Lexile score is a number that measures how well someone can read or how difficult a text is to read. Lexile scores are used to match readers with books that are at their reading level.

Research indicates that the materials students first encounter when entering college and careers are 1300L. Paulding graduates are ready for college and career success with 70% reading on or above grade level by 11th grade, 4% higher than their Georgia peers, and a median Lexile score of 1305L.

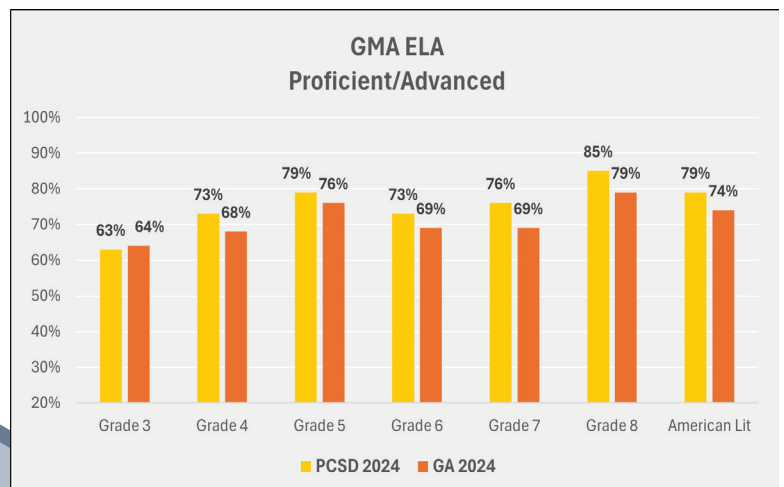
Reading Readiness



Reading On/Above Grade Level (GMA)



GMA ELA Proficient/Advanced



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

MATH

The 2023-2024 school year was a year of transition in mathematics. The Georgia Department of Education adjusted Georgia Mathematics Standards, and the district adopted a new K-12 mathematics curriculum called Illustrative Mathematics. Additionally, high schools began offering year-long Algebra to provide students more time for mastery of foundational Algebra skills.

Considering the major shifts in instruction and curriculum, PCSD students still saw increases with middle school students making the most gains, increasing proficient or advanced scores by 4-8% from 2023. Paulding students met or exceeded state scores in 4/7 tested grade levels.

MATH LEADER SCHOOLS

Three PCSD schools were named Math Leader schools by the Georgia Department of Education for achievement or growth in the percentage of students scoring at the Proficient Learner level or above in mathematics. This new award was created to recognize schools for performance in meeting the new Georgia K-12 Mathematics Standards implemented during the 2023-2024 school year. East Paulding Middle School and Paulding County High School were recognized for growth in mathematics, while McClure Middle School was recognized for both achievement and growth. Click [here](#) for more information.

2023-2024 MATH LEADERS

McClure MS

Achievement & Growth

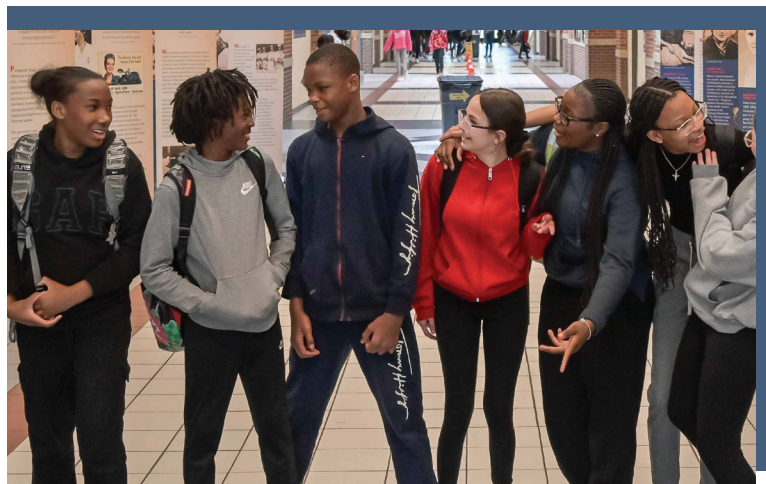
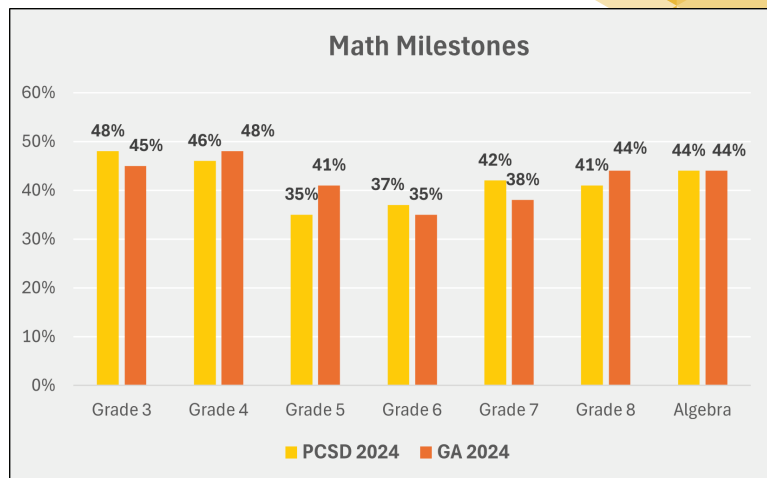
East Paulding MS

Growth

Paulding County HS

Growth

Math Milestones

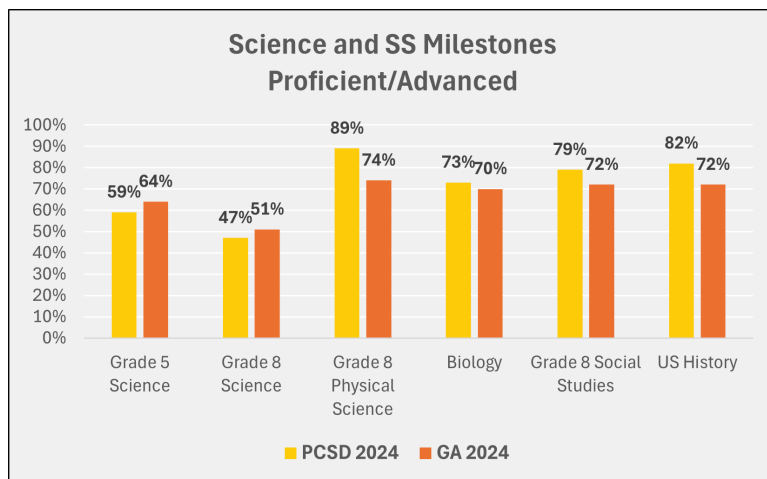


SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Paulding students continue to make great strides in Science and Social Studies. Paulding adopted new K-12 Social Studies instructional materials for the 2023-2024 school year. PCSD students significantly outperformed their state peers in Social Studies, with 7-10% more PCSD students scoring proficient or advanced in 8th-grade Social Studies and U.S. History compared to their Georgia peers.

In addition to Social Studies, Paulding students exceeded state averages in 8th Grade Physical Science and Biology by 3-5%. PCSD is adopting new K-12 science instructional materials for the 2025-2026 school year.

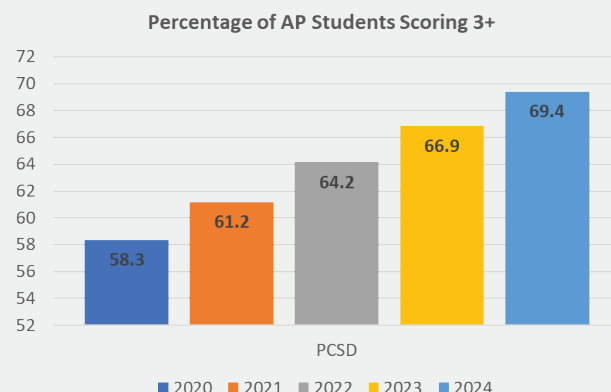
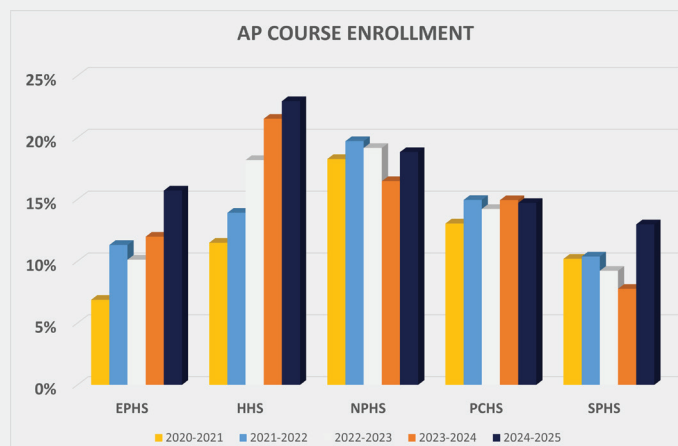
Science and SS Milestone Proficient/Advanced



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Advanced Placement

High school students take more rigorous Advanced Placement (AP) courses to earn college credit by scoring 3 or above.



L4GA LITERACY INITIATIVE

The state Board of Education has awarded PCSD two five-year grants to implement literacy initiatives at all grade levels at select schools throughout the district, and even from birth to kindergarten. The Literacy for Learning, Living and Leading in Georgia (L4GA) grant initiative is producing significant results at the 15 PCSD schools currently receiving interventions. The initiative also has included Professional Learning and curriculum for local childcare centers and parent training through various community agencies to empower parents with essential skills and knowledge to support their child's literacy development.

Initiatives include:

- High Quality Instructional Materials Tier 1 Curriculum K-12
- Science of Reading Professional Learning
- Keys to Literacy
- Suite of Reading Interventions
- Universal Screening & Data Review



AP HONOR SCHOOLS

State Superintendent Richard Woods named four Paulding County School District high schools to the list of Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Schools for 2024. Click [here](#) for more information.

PCSD 2024 AP HONOR SCHOOLS

EAST PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL

AP Access and Support School
AP Humanities School
AP Humanities Achievement School

HIRAM HIGH SCHOOL

AP Access and Support School

NORTH PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL

AP Humanities School
AP Humanities Achievement School
AP STEM School

PAULDING COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

AP STEM School
AP STEM Achievement School

L4GA SCHOOLS RESULTS

| SCHOOL (2023-2024) | BEGINNING of YEAR % At/Above Grade Level* | END of YEAR % At/Above Grade Level |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Allgood ES | 28.89 | 43.07 |
| Burnt Hickory ES | 45.96 | 72.33 |
| C A Roberts ES | 41.61 | 68.83 |
| Floyd L Shelton ES | 40.97 | 64.30 |
| Lillian C Poole ES | 31.09 | 55.22 |
| Northside ES | 29.25 | 58.23 |
| Russom ES | 39.91 | 64.08 |
| W C Abney ES | 38.98 | 63.47 |
| East Paulding MS | 42.25 | 57.47 |
| Herschel Jones MS | 28.14 | 42.77 |
| Lena Mae Moses MS | 31.69 | 43.91 |
| Sammy McClure MS | 47 | 61.72 |
| East Paulding HS | 42.37 | 47.13 |
| North Paulding HS | 46.95 | 47.14 |
| Paulding County HS | 43.71 | 42.84 |

*Not all students were tested during this window due to testing complications with HMH

PROGRAMS & ACADEMIES

Academy Programs

3 High School Academies

1 Paulding College and Career Academy (PCCA)

1 Paulding Virtual Academy (PVA)

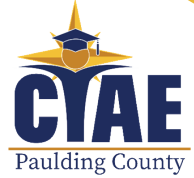


CTAE Programs (24-25)

82 High School Pathways

20 Middle School Pathways

1,762 Pathway Completers (2024)



HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY PROGRAMS

Hiram HS

ACADEMY OF
COMPUTER SCIENCE

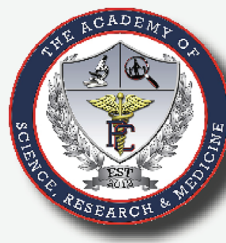


Designed for students who desire to think critically and solve real-world problems while learning Coding, App and Game Development, Programming, and Information Technology.

Vision: To engage, inspire, and prepare students with a globally relevant, CS education that equips them with the tools to positively impact our community and the world.

Paulding County HS

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE,
RESEARCH & MEDICINE

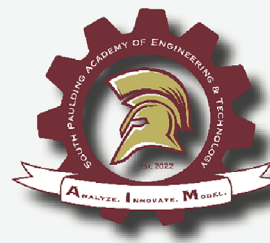


Georgia DOE STEM Certified, offers unique opportunities for highly motivated students who are high achievers, academic risk-takers, and are willing to pursue intellectual challenges in their award-winning Biotechnology pathway and the Allied Health and Medicine Pathway.

Vision: We believe that individual success will STEM from an innovative and interdisciplinary culture of learning that prepares students for college and career readiness.

South Paulding HS

ACADEMY OF
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY



The district's newest Academy, opened at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, and offers students the opportunity to develop skills in Engineering Applications, Concepts, and Technology.

Vision: To forge lifelong learners through Analysis, Innovation, and Modeling to pioneer and lead in the modern world.

WORK-BASED LEARNING:

WBL Students **730**
Wages Earned **\$3,810,500**
Economic Impact **\$15,242,000**
Business Partners mentoring WBL Students **365**
Hours Worked **351,000**
On the Jobs Visits **2,150**



PCCA 2023-2024 STATISTICS

Total Credits Completed **486**
Total Credits Earned **175**
Total Technical College Certificates **50**
Students in Related Field 6 Months Post Graduation **52%**



"The Paulding County High School Academy of Science, Research and Medicine has benefited me by teaching me to be more proactive in my learning experience and to take a more independent approach to learning outside the classroom."

April Badmus

Student at the PCHS Academy of Science, Research & Medicine

DUAL ENROLLMENT

The Dual Enrollment program is a joint partnership with regional colleges and universities to allow qualifying students in grades 9-12 to enroll part-time or full-time to earn both high school and college credit. Dual Enrollment students may graduate from high school with a significant number of college credits or with an associate degree from a college, university, or technical college. Students who take technical college classes may graduate from high school with a certificate or diploma in a particular area. The numbers in the chart at right show students who completed Dual Enrollment classes earning credit during the 2023-2024 school year.

| COLLEGE | CLASSES | COLLEGE | CLASSES |
|-----------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| Chattahoochee Tech | 1,386 | Georgia Tech | 4 |
| Kennesaw State | 551 | Shorter University | 4 |
| West Georgia | 198 | Lanier Technical | 3 |
| Georgia Highlands | 188 | Toccoa Falls College | 3 |
| Georgia Southern | 7 | Georgia State University | 2 |
| Atlanta Metro State | 6 | Augusta Tech. College | 1 |
| College of Coastal GA | 5 | Truett McConnell | 1 |
| West Georgia Tech | 5 | | |

SAFETY & SECURITY

“At PCSD, we are proud to be a leader in school safety innovation through personnel, technology, and maintaining community partnerships – all of which helps ensure our schools are safe learning environments.”

Mike Ruple

Executive Director of Safety & Security



The Paulding County School District remains committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment through comprehensive safety measures and protocols. School safety is bolstered through a long-standing partnership with the Paulding County Sheriff's Office. Our dedicated safety and security staff work diligently to implement proactive initiatives that protect students and staff. Looking ahead, the district plans to transition to a school-centric police force, guided by a philosophy that prioritizes strong relationships, prevention, and a supportive approach to school safety. This initiative reflects our core values of trust, accountability, and collaboration to ensure a secure and welcoming environment for all.

58 Staff + 20 SROs



PCSD partners with the Paulding County Sheriff's Office to provide School Resource Deputies at middle schools and high schools and supplements those positions with additional local staff including School Safety Officers and School Safety Advisors, as well as a new position - School Safety Coordinators - who are P.O.S.T.-certified officers that are being staffed at every school in the district as funding becomes available.

MAJOR SAFETY EXPENDITURES OTHER THAN PERSONNEL INCLUDE:

- Crisis Alert System (Centegix)
- Window Filming
- Tip Line
- Access Control
- Cameras
- Campus fencing
- Canine
- Emergency mass notification system
- Equipment
- Training

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Paulding County School District is committed to student well-being through comprehensive counseling services that provide mental health and emotional support. Our special education programs offer tailored resources to ensure students with disabilities receive the support they need to succeed. Beyond the classroom, students can engage in a variety of extracurricular activities, including clubs, sports, and other programs that foster personal growth and community involvement.



ATHLETICS

The interscholastic activities in the Paulding County School District are an important part of the overall educational process. The activities provide expanded learning opportunities which include teamwork, respect for self and others, the desire to win, mental and physical self-discipline, and pride in their school.

The five high schools in Paulding County are Paulding County High School (Region 3-AAAAAA), East Paulding High School (Region 5-AAAAA), Hiram High School (Region 7-AAAA), North Paulding High School (Region 5-AAAAAA) and South Paulding High School (Region 5-AAAAA).

All schools are members of the Georgia High School Association (GHSA).

FALL 2024 SUMMARY

Football

- EPHS advanced to second round of state playoffs.
- HHS and NPHS advanced to first round of state playoffs.

Flag Football

- PCHS went undefeated, won region, hosted first round of state playoffs.
- HHS and SPHS made the playoffs.

Cheer

- NPHS placed fourth in state.

Softball

- EPHS advanced to Elite 8 in state playoffs.
- SPHS and NPHS advanced to first round of state playoffs.

Cross Country

- NPHS girls and boys qualified for state meet.
- EPHS boys qualified for state meet.
- HHS had one female qualify for state meet.

Volleyball:

- SPHS finished fourth in the region and advanced to first round of state playoffs.
- EPHS finished second in the region and advanced to first round of state playoffs.

Other Sports:

- All five high schools have active Riflery, One Act Play and Literary participation.



WINTER 2024 SUMMARY

Basketball

- Four out of five varsity girls' basketball teams reached first round of state tournament. NPHS, SPHS, HHS, PCHS.
- NPHS girls reached second round of state tournament and finished the season 24-1, 12-0 in the region and finished first in region.
- SPHS boys' varsity basketball reached first round of state tournament.

Wrestling

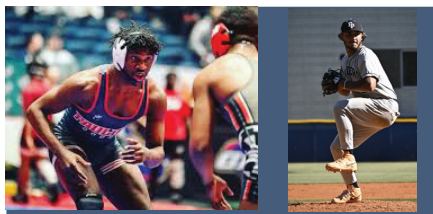
- All five high schools had both individual girls and boys compete in the state meet. Several individual girls and boys placed in the top 10 of the state from five out of five schools to include NPHS, SPHS, EPHS, PCHS, HHS.

Swimming

- Four out of Five Schools had individual swimmers compete in the state meet to include NPHS, PCHS, EPHS, and SPHS

Other Sports/Activities:

- Other winter opportunities for PCSD include fishing, dance, E-Sports, and Literary.





FINE ARTS & EXTRACURRICULARS



The Visual and Performing Arts in Paulding continually seek to grow and improve the quality of fine arts education in the Paulding County School District so all children receive an equitable access to an enriching arts education.

Students who complete a Fine Arts pathway in Paulding have open access to rich career opportunities in Georgia as careers in the creative industries are on the rise in our state with more than \$1.3 Billion in arts and culture spending and more than 19,000 jobs.

Here are a few Fine Arts highlights from 2024:

- PCSD Fine Arts won a Dallas First Award with the City of Dallas for our partnership with the city through various visual arts special projects.
- Paulding County was designated as a Best Community for Music Education by the National Association for Music Education based on our rigorous programming, community partnerships and award winning music education programs.
- Hosted a county-level Honor Chorus for all three levels.
- Hosted a county-level Honor Band for middle schools and high schools
- Hosted a county-wide Marching Exhibition for all schools with an exhibition band from a local university
- Refreshed middle school kilns for visual arts programs
- Repaired and serviced existing kilns
- Hosted the largest Fine Arts Day in PCSD's history
- Redesigned the Middle School Visual Arts Curricular Design
- Increased Fine Arts pathway completers as evidenced by State Fine Arts Diploma Seal applications



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Paulding Partners In Education program, a partnership between the Paulding County School District and the Paulding County Chamber of Commerce, makes it easy for anyone in the community to become involved in our school district. Partners in Education share their expertise, time, ideas, experience, and resources with the students and education staff by partnering with one school, multiple schools, or the entire District. Another partnering option is providing PCSD Employee Incentives to our staff.

Goals for PPIE:

- Strengthen the community's commitment to education;
- Stimulate academic achievement and lifelong learning; and
- Support area businesses in developing and preparing students to enter the workforce.

Partnership Criteria:

- Improving academic performance;
- Growing career opportunities;
- Enriching the life experience of students; and
- Developing and enriching the faculty experience.

Ways Partners In Education Support Schools and District:

- Principal's meetings – breakfast sponsors
- Bus Driver Appreciation
- Nurse Appreciation
- Teacher Appreciation
- Administrative Assistant Appreciation
- Ambassador Appreciation
- School staff meetings
- Administrative Pre & Post planning meetings
- Career Fairs
- STEM nights
- CTAE STEM Expo
- Monetary donations to schools
- Gift card donations for recognitions

**16 New
District PIEs
in 2024**



"The Partners in Education Program has allowed Chick-fil-A to provide students, teachers and administrators with resources and opportunities they may not otherwise have, strengthening the school-community relationship that is vital for student success."

Kristie Summers
Director of Marketing
Chick-fil-A Dallas-Hiram



\$70,000+ Student Scholarships
\$26,000 Teacher Classroom Grants



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

WHAT MAKES PAULDING COUNTY UNIQUE?

The District continues to be a low wealth school district due to a limited commercial and industrial tax base and the large number of school-aged children per household. Below are FY2025 rankings against the 36 large school districts in Georgia with more than 10,000 students.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 31,684 students (11th largest in Georgia)
- 3-year growth rate of 2.0% versus 0.2% average
- Non-residential tax digest of 14% versus 35% average

FUNDING

- 26th of 36 largest districts in revenue per student
- PCSD collects \$1,567 less per student than the large district average
- 4th largest recipient of Equalization Grant funds of all Georgia districts
- 145th of 180 school districts in Georgia in total revenue per pupil

SPENDING

- 67.1% of the budget is spent on instruction (7th of 36)
- 8.7% of budget spent on total school/district administration (34th of 36)
- 3.0% of the budget is spent on General Administration (30th of 36)
- 6.3% of the budget is spent on Maintenance and Operations (36th of 36)



Engage

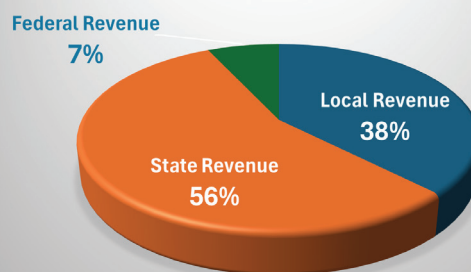
Inspire

Prepare

PCSD BUDGET SNAPSHOT

| REVENUES: | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| State | \$215,923,738 | \$227,174,722 | \$247,847,514 |
| Local | \$125,219,662 | \$149,897,467 | \$175,994,219 |
| Federal | \$50,369,052 | \$50,079,398 | \$43,045,534 |
| TOTAL | \$391,512,452 | \$427,151,587 | \$466,887,267 |

PCSD FUNDING SOURCES FY2024



The Business Services Department has been awarded the Meritorious Budget Award for excellence in the preparation and issuance of the budget for five consecutive years. Additionally, the school district boasts an Aa1 Very High credit rating, and district finances have been audited for 17 consecutive years with zero findings, which means that an independent auditor has reviewed a company's financial statements and found them to be accurate, complete, and in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). A clean audit gives stakeholders confidence that the school district's financial position is fairly and accurately represented.



CHALLENGES & PLANNING

In addition to the financial challenges highlighted in the above section, “What Makes Paulding County Unique,” the school district also faces a range of academic challenges. Some schools are designated Title I schools which means they receive federal funding to be applied to additional services, support, and resources in support of enabling all students to achieve academic success. More information about PCSD’s Title I program, including accountability data, can be found here: <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Page/384>

Additionally, there are currently zero Paulding County schools on the Georgia Department of Education’s Comprehensive Support & Improvement list, which identifies for additional support the lowest-performing Title I schools, high schools with graduation rates below 67%, and schools with persistently underperforming subgroups. One Paulding County school is currently listed on the GaDOE’s Targeted Support & Improvement list, which identifies schools for additional support if they have low-performing subgroups. Click [here](#) for more information about the TSI identification process.

PCSD TITLE I SCHOOLS

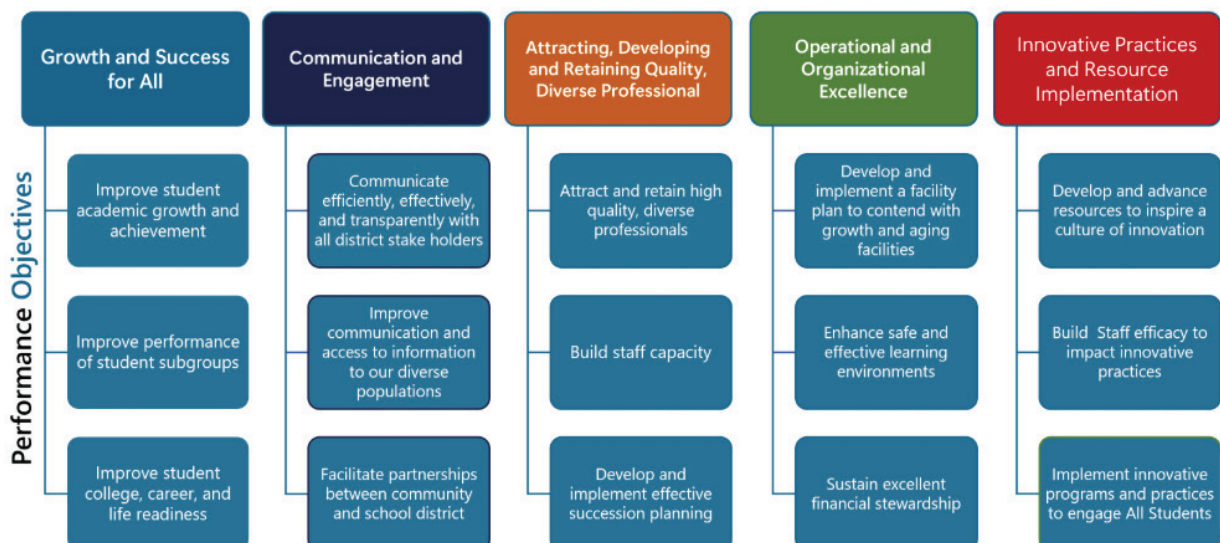
Allgood Elementary
Baggett Elementary
Dallas Elementary
Hiram Elementary
Hutchens Elementary
Panter Elementary
Dobbins Middle
Herschel Jones Middle
P.B. Ritch Middle



To address academic, financial, and operational challenges and set targets for improvement, PCSD has implemented a five-year Strategic Plan to guide operations in five critical areas: Growth and Success for All; Communication and Engagement; Attracting, Developing and Retaining Quality, Diverse Professionals; Operational and Organizational Excellence; and Innovative Practices and Resource Implementation. More information on each Strategic Goal Area can be found at the link below.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK: <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/domain/237>

STRATEGIC GOAL AREAS



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

E-SPLOST

On November 7th, 2023, the citizens of Paulding County voted to renew the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for Education (E-SPLOST VII) for five years. E-SPLOST is a one-cent sales tax to help fund capital improvements and debt repayment, and is the primary funding source for capital projects, in addition to various state grants, including the State Capital Outlay Program. Over the next five years, E-SPLOST has or will result in:

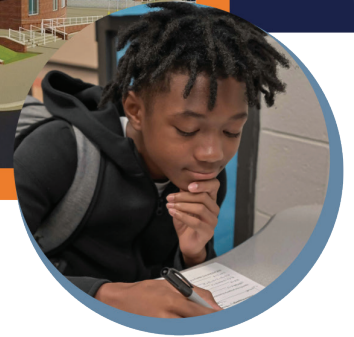
- More than \$60 million in debt retired;
- Completion of Crossroads Middle School;
- Completion of classroom additions at Moses MS, Russom ES, Burnt Hickory ES, and North Paulding HS;
- Renovations at Dobbins MS, Moses MS, Allgood ES, Baggett ES, Roberts ES, Poole ES, and Hiram HS.

Active and Upcoming E-SPLOST and Construction Projects:

- Classroom additions at North Paulding HS, Roberts ES, and Northside ES;
- Renovations at Poole ES, Moses ES, and South Paulding HS;
- New construction of ES #20;
- New construction of ES #21;
- Multi-Purpose Building with Female Locker Rooms at HHS, NPHS, PCHS and SPHS



North Paulding High School 40-classroom addition



RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
CROSSROADS MIDDLE SCHOOL
JULY 22, 2024



162 New Classrooms Completed or Under Construction Since 2023



SCHOOLS & FACILITIES



+ 3,317 STUDENTS IN PAST 10 YEARS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Abney Elementary School

770-443-2756
1186 Colbert Road
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/abney

Allgood Elementary School

770-443-8070
312 Hart Road
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/allgood

Baggett Elementary School

678-460-1570
948 Williams Lake road
Powder Springs, Ga 30127
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/baggett

Burnt Hickory Elementary School

678-363-0970
80 N Paulding Drive
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/BurntHickory

Dallas Elementary School

770-443-8018
520 Hardee Street
Dallas, Ga 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/dallas

Dugan Elementary School

770-949-5261
1362 Winn Road
Douglasville, Ga 30134
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/dugan

Hiram Elementary School

770-443-3392
200 Seaboard Avenue
Hiram, GA 30141
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/HiramES

Hutchens Elementary School

678-838-2683
586 Clonts Road
Douglasville, GA 30134
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/hutchens

McGarity Elementary School

770-445-9007
262 Rakestraw Mill Rd
Hiram, GA 30141
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/mcgarity

Nebo Elementary School

770-443-8777
2843 Nebo Rd
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/nebo

New Georgia Elementary School

770-445-3597
5800 Mulberry Rock Road
Villa Rica, GA 30180
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/newgeorgia

Northside Elementary School

770-443-7008
2223 Cartersville Highway
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/northside

Panther Elementary School

770-443-4303
190 Panther School Rd
Hiram, GA 30141
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/panther

Poole Elementary School

770-505-5541
1002 Wayside Ln
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/poole

Ragsdale Elementary School

770-443-2140
528 Holly Springs Road
Rockmart, GA 30153
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/ragsdale

Roberts Elementary School

770-443-8060
1833 Mt. Tabor Church Rd
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/roberts

Russom Elementary School

678-574-3480
44 Russom Elementary School Ln
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/russom

Shelton Elementary School

770-443-4244
1531 Cedarcrest Rd
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/shelton

Union Elementary School

770-443-4191
206 Hwy. 101
South Temple, GA 30179
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/union

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Austin Middle School

770-942-0316
3490 Ridge Rd
Douglasville, GA 30134
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/austin

Crossroads Middle School

678-460-1580
200 Timberwolf Drive
Acworth, GA 30101
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Domain/6559

Dobbins Middle School

770-443-4835
637 Williams Lake Rd
Powder Springs, GA 30127
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/dobbins

East Paulding Middle School

770-443-7000
2945 Hiram-Acworth Hwy
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/epms

Herschel Jones Middle School

770-443-8024
100 Stadium Dr.
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/hjms

McClure Middle School

770-505-3700
315 Bob Grogan Dr.
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/mcclure

Moses Middle School

770-443-8727
1066 Old County Farm Road
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/moses

P.B. Ritch Middle School

770-443-1449
60 Old Country Trail Road
Dallas, GA 30157
<https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/pbritch>

Scoggins Middle School

770-456-4188
1663 Mulberry Rock Road
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/scoggins

South Paulding Middle School

770-445-8500
592 Nebo Road
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/spms

HIGH SCHOOLS

East Paulding High School

770-445-5100
3320 East Paulding Drive
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/eastpauldinghs

Hiram High School

770-443-1182
702 Ballentine Dr.
Hiram, GA 30141
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/hiramhs

North Paulding High School

770-443-9400
300 N Paulding Drive
Dallas, Ga 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/nphs

Paulding County High School

770-443-8008
1297 Villa Rica Highway
Dallas, GA 30157
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/pchs

South Paulding High School

770-949-9221
1364 Winn Road
Douglasville, GA 30134
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/southpauldinghs

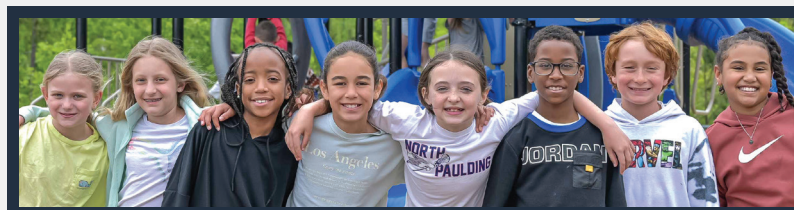
DISTRICT PROGRAMS

New Hope Education Center

770-445-2656
4555 Dallas Acworth Highway
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/newhope

Paulding College & Career Academy

470-648-6264
4555 Dallas Acworth Hwy.
Dallas, GA 30132
www.paulding.k12.ga.us/pcca





2025

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2025 PAULDING COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

SENATE DISTRICT 30

SEN. TIMOTHY BEARDEN
121-F STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-463-5257

SENATE DISTRICT 31

SEN. JASON ANAVITARTE
323-A CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-656-0085
jason.anavitarte@senate.ga.gov

HOUSE DISTRICT 16

REP. TREY KELLEY
504-G CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-656-0188
trey.kelley@house.ga.gov

HOUSE DISTRICT 17

REP. MARTIN MOMTAHAN
501-A CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-656-0178
martin.momtahan@house.ga.gov

HOUSE DISTRICT 18

REP. TYLER PAUL SMITH
408-C CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-657-1803
tyler.smith@house.ga.gov

HOUSE DISTRICT 19

REP. JOSEPH GULLETT
501-D CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-656-0178
joseph.gullett@house.ga.gov

HOUSE DISTRICT 64

REP. KIMBERLY NEW
612-F CLOB
ATLANTA, GA 30334
404-656-0178
kimberly.new@house.ga.gov

Safety & Security



Advocate for dedicated line-item funding for an armed P.O.S.T. certified school safety professional at every PCSD school.



Promote increased and dedicated funding for student mental health programs, school counselors, social workers, and other mental health professionals at PCSD.



Support programs and line-item funding for PCSD safety initiatives, including cybersecurity and cyber safety initiatives to protect our students and staff.



Explore changes to state law that bolster the efficient and safe transfer of students from other school districts to PCSD.

Financial Sustainability



Require fiscal notes for education-related legislation that impacts PCSD funding and oppose unfunded mandates and/or indirect obligations.



Champion legislation that would provide funding for capital improvements for large, fast-growing, low wealth school districts like PCSD.



Support efforts to modernize the Quality Basic Education (QBE) Act, including support services and socioeconomic adjustments, to more accurately reflect the cost of public education and the limited availability of local funding in Paulding County, and advocate for the full, inflation-adjusted funding of the formula. Additionally, oppose Equalization Grant changes that would negatively impact PCSD funding.



Fully fund changes to the state literacy initiatives including literacy coaching and teacher stipends for mandatory professional learning outside of the school day.

Strengthening the Teacher Workforce



Support programs, funding, and incentives, including the protection of the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), to strengthen the teacher pipeline at PCSD. This includes flexibility for return-to-work programs, as well as efforts to recruit, train, mentor, and retain quality educators.




When addressing the teacher pipeline, also advocate for and support programs, funding, and incentives for support services at PCSD, including classified employees.

Please note: Paulding County School District is one of the largest, fastest-growing and low-wealth school districts in Georgia, highly dependent on and vulnerable to legislative changes, including changes in State funding.

3236 Atlanta Highway | Dallas, Georgia 30132 | (770) 443-8000 | Fax (770) 443-8089

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Office of Communications