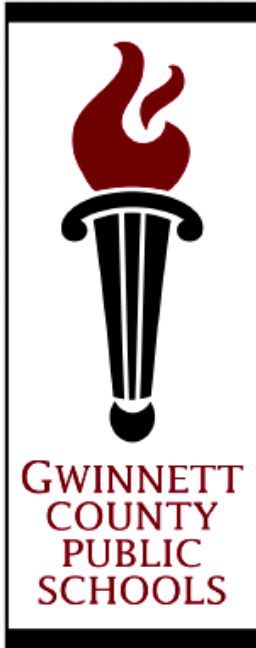


# NEWS RELEASE

**For release:** July 8, 2005



## **More Gwinnett schools making AYP; Gwinnett schools make progress in student achievement/school improvement**

**89 percent of Gwinnett County public schools met the state's accountability goals** according to information released today by the Georgia Department of Education. Gwinnett schools continue to make progress under No Child Left Behind (NCLB) as evidenced by the state's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) listing of Georgia schools. **90 of Gwinnett's 101 schools made AYP** for the 2004-05 school year. **The number of schools *not* making AYP dropped** from 14 in 2003-04 to 11 schools last year. This is particularly noteworthy as the state's bar for achievement (percentage of students at each school required to be on grade level) went up for elementary and middle schools in Georgia.

"This year's results reflect our system's commitment to school improvement and its focus on teaching and learning," says **CEO/Superintendent J. Alvin Wilbanks**. "As a system we are focused on the ABC's of No Child Left Behind—Accountability for all, Better teaching, and Continuous improvement. As a result, Gwinnett students are doing better academically than ever before, and our schools are meeting the rising expectations set by the state."

Of particular interest is the success of two Gwinnett schools which have seen student achievement rise, showing consistent progress to move off the Needs Improvement list this year. **Meadowcreek ES** and **Rebecca Minor ES** offered choice and tutoring last year, but having achieved two consecutive years of making AYP are no longer required to offer choice or tutoring. In addition, six other Gwinnett schools (**Beaver Ridge ES, Lilburn MS, Richards MS, Duluth HS, Norcross HS, and North Gwinnett HS**) that had faced consequences for not making AYP in the past made AYP in 2005.

**Dr. Cindy Loe**, associate superintendent for Organizational Advancement, is encouraged by this year's results. "Despite the higher state standard, more schools made AYP. We are especially proud of the schools that moved off the Needs Improvement list, as well as those that made positive gains and are one year closer to moving off the list. The teachers and leaders of these schools should be commended. Their focus on teaching the Academic Knowledge and Skills curriculum, assessing student learning throughout the year, and adjusting instruction to meet the individual needs of students is making a difference."

The state's complete listing of AYP determinations is available at [www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org).

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Daniel D. Seckinger,**  
*Chairman*

**Dr. Robert McClure,**  
*Vice Chairman*  
**Carole Boyce**

**Dr. Mary Kay Murphy**  
**Louise Radloff**

**J. Alvin Wilbanks,**  
*CEO/Superintendent*

### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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

P.O. Box 343  
Lawrenceville, GA  
30046-0343  
770.963.8651  
[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

*-more-*

**Schools Offering Choice and Supplemental Services**

Of Gwinnett's 11 schools that did not make AYP, five do not face consequences because they had made AYP the previous year. The remaining six have not made AYP for two or more years and are considered in need of improvement and must offer choice and/or supplemental services during the 2005-06 school year.

- Two of these schools—Summerour MS and Meadowcreek HS are Title I schools. Meadowcreek HS will offer choice and supplemental services. Summerour MS will offer choice. Because these schools are Title I schools based on their higher population of students on free and reduced lunch, students from these schools whose families opt for choice will be reimbursed for transportation.
- Two schools—Oakland School and Sweetwater MS-- are non-Title schools in the Needs Improvement status for the second year. Sweetwater MS will offer choice; however, parents will not be reimbursed for transportation. In addition, instructional extension services funds from the Georgia Department of Education will be used to provide additional support for struggling students. Attendance at Oakland School, a special education facility, is based on a student's Individualized Education Plan.
- Two schools—GIVE Center and Snellville MS-- are non-Title schools in the Needs Improvement status for the first year. Snellville MS will offer choice; however, parents will not be reimbursed for transportation. The GIVE Center is an alternative education program that serves students on long-term suspension.

Six other Gwinnett schools (Beaver Ridge ES, Lilburn MS, Richards MS, Duluth HS, Norcross HS, and North Gwinnett HS) made AYP but must do so again this year before moving off the Needs Improvement list. These schools also will offer choice this school year.

Schools offering choice and/or supplemental services will notify parents of their school's status and of the process for requesting a transfer to another school through the choice option. The school system will accept requests for transfers from students of these schools through July 28. Approved transfers are effective the first day of school.

**2005 AYP  
Determinations,**  
*Page 3 of 3,  
July 8, 2005*

**Gwinnett Schools Not Making AYP in 2005**

| <b>School</b>     | <b>Area(s) Not Achieving AYP in<br/>2005</b>  | <b>Status</b>                              | <b>Consequences</b>   |
|-------------------|---|--|---|
| Summerour MS      | Students with Disabilities in Math  | Needs Improvement-<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> year | Choice  |
| Sweetwater MS     | Students with Disabilities in Math and English Language Arts  | Needs Improvement-<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> year | Choice (parent pays for transportation) & Instructional Extension funds will provide additional support |
| Meadowcreek HS    | Limited English Proficient (LEP) students in Math; and Hispanic and LEP students in English Language Arts                                   | Needs Improvement-<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> year | Choice and SES  |
| Oakland School    | Second Indicator (attendance and graduation rate)   | Needs Improvement-<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> year | Special Education School  |
| GIVE Center       | Participation and attendance  | Needs Improvement-<br>1 <sup>st</sup> year | Alternative School Program  |
| Snellville MS     | Students with Disabilities in Math  | Needs Improvement-<br>1st year             | Choice (parent pays for transportation)   |
| Simonton ES       | Students with Disabilities in Reading/English Language Arts   | Non-AYP,<br>1st year                       | None- 1 <sup>st</sup> year of Non-AYP   |
| Berkmar MS        | Students with Disabilities and Limited - English Proficient students in Reading/English Language Arts                                       | Non-AYP,<br>1st year                       | None- 1 <sup>st</sup> year of Non-AYP   |
| Louise Radloff MS | Students with Disabilities in Math; and Students with Disabilities and Limited English Proficient students in Reading/English Language Arts | Non-AYP,<br>1st year                       | None- 1 <sup>st</sup> year of Non-AYP   |
| Pinckneyville MS  | Limited English Proficient students in Reading/English Language Arts  | Non-AYP,<br>1st year                       | None- 1 <sup>st</sup> year of Non-AYP   |
| Shiloh MS         | Students with Disabilities in Mathematics   | Non-AYP,<br>1st year                       | None- 1 <sup>st</sup> year of Non-AYP   |

**Gwinnett Schools Making AYP in 2005 But Still Required to Offer Choice**

Beaver Ridge ES (also offering supplemental educational services)  
Lilburn MS (also offering supplemental educational services)  
Richards MS  
Duluth HS  
Norcross HS  
North Gwinnett HS