





Charles R. Drew Charter School opened in 2000 as the City of Atlanta’s first public charter school. Drew’s innovative Project-Based Learning (PBL) approach with an integration of the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) curriculum and a strong foundation in literacy helps all students reach their highest potential. Serving more than 1,700 students (Pre-K through 11th and expanding to 12th grade in 2016), Drew represents the cradle-to-college pipeline in the East Lake community and is an integral part of a holistic neighborhood revitalization led by the East Lake Foundation.

Mission

Drew Charter School is an exemplary, innovative, education community that empowers all students to achieve their full potential.

Philosophy

Drew Charter School’s approach is based on the belief that every child has gifts and talents that must be discovered and nurtured. All students are consistently encouraged to strive to do their best so they may reach their highest potential. A Drew education is one that supports strong intellectual, physical, social, and emotional growth.



Early Education and a Foundation of Literacy

Early learning changes lives and is critical to success in school and beyond. Collectively, East Lake's Early Learning partners are committed to supporting families in creating a foundation for academic success.

The Cox Pre-K Program, East Lake Early Learning Academy and Sheltering Arms Early Education and Family Center offer high-quality early learning opportunities that provide a strong foundation in literacy.

Operating in partnership with the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School, students enter Kindergarten ready to learn to read and are on a path to read-to-learn by third grade. The Rollins Center also provides professional development to teachers and staff through coaching and mentoring, modeling, co-teaching, guided observations and feedback sessions. This successful partnership and technique serves as a model for quality early language and literacy instruction across Georgia.

Innovative Curriculum - STEAM and Project-Based Learning

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) is Drew Charter School's map to a successful academic experience for its students. Learning in a STEAM environment, coupled with Project-Based Learning (PBL), sets the stage for students to solve real-world problems. Students are taught with an interdisciplinary approach with an emphasis on

the design thinking process and problem solving leading to application. This allows Drew students to develop skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity, all important abilities needed for success in the 21st century.

Technology That Enables Learning

Technology is integrated across all disciplines, including the arts. Drew features SMART Boards (interactive whiteboards) in every learning space and students in the Junior and Senior Academies have 1:1 laptops to further personalize teaching and learning.

Advanced Academics

Drew offers diverse educational opportunities. These range from Analytic Geometry and Advanced Placement Human Geography to extracurricular activities including debate, mock trial, and an academic decathlon. Teachers also offer integrated courses in Business Technology and Engineering along with Biology and Visual Arts.



Enrichment Activities

Drew students are exposed to a wide range of opportunities during the school day to enrich their academic experience and broaden their horizons. In addition to the scholastic curriculum, students are able to discover new passions and acquire lifelong skills in the co-curricular courses.

Drew's enrichment classes include:



- Band
- Chorus
- Dance
- Engineering Design
- The First Tee® of East Lake
- General Music
- Orchestra
- Physical Education
- Robotics
- Spanish
- STEM Lab
- Swimming
- Technology
- Urban Youth Harp Ensemble
- Visual Arts



Georgia High School Association Athletics

Drew is committed to providing our students with a robust and competitive athletics program. All of the athletics offered encourage and facilitate teamwork, cooperation, and leadership, which we believe will provide our students a platform for success at school and beyond in their lives.

- Basketball
- Softball and Baseball
- Cheerleading
- Tennis
- Cross Country
- Track and Field
- Golf
- Volleyball
- Soccer

Extended Day, Extended Year

Drew's commitment to academic excellence is supported by an extended school day (8:00 am- 4:00 pm) and school year. Many students take advantage of the Before and After School Programs, as well, where they receive academic support and participate in enrichment classes such as:

- Cooking
- Golf
- Indian Dance
- Mandarin
- Martial Arts
- Puppetry Arts
- Science
- Spanish
- Urban Taiko
- Yoga

Partners for Innovation

Drew Charter School thrives through collaborative efforts and partnerships with many organizations in the Atlanta area. Many of Drew's successes can be attributed to its numerous partners who contribute immeasurable time, talents and expertise.

- Atlanta Public Schools
- Bright from the Start
- Center for Civic Engagement at Oglethorpe University
- CF Foundation
- Charlie Yates Golf Course
- Columbia Residential – The Villages of East Lake
- Drew Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- East Lake Early Learning Academy
- East Lake Family YMCA
- East Lake Foundation
- East Lake Golf Club
- East Lake Sheltering Arms Early Learning Education and Family Center
- Georgia Department of Education
- Georgia Institute of Technology Center for Education, Integrating Science Mathematics and Computing (CEISMC)
- Georgia State University School of Music
- Governor's Office of Student Achievement
- The James M. Cox Foundation
- New Tech Network
- Publix at East Lake
- Purpose Built Communities
- Purpose Built Schools
- Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School
- Rotary Club of Atlanta
- Southeastern Horticultural Society
- SunTrust Banks, Inc.
- The TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola



Partners for Professional Development

The average Drew teacher has more than 10 years of experience and many instructors have earned advanced degrees. Drew's teachers are offered numerous professional development opportunities and resources to improve their practice in the classroom. Those key partners include:

- The Center for Teaching at The Westminster Schools
- The Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Georgia State University
- New Tech Network





Facilities

Elementary Academy

The Elementary Academy is an award-winning building with large, bright classrooms. The school has three computer labs, music and dance studios and a spacious media center. Through Drew's partnerships, the campus extends to include the use of the state-of-the-art East Lake Family YMCA, which is connected to the school, and the award-winning Charlie Yates Golf Course across the street. Students also have access to the tennis courts and athletic fields at The Villages of East Lake and at the Junior and Senior Academy.





Junior/Senior Academy at the Charlie Yates Campus

Opened in July 2014, the Junior and Senior Academy at the Charlie Yates Campus has won several architectural awards. The LEED Gold certified structure's use of natural light and the existing landscape, along with locally sourced and recycled building materials, low-flow plumbing and solar panels makes this an incredibly high performing facility. It intelligently responds to its environment while supporting Drew's educational program with an interactive sustainability dashboard. Inside the building, classrooms include SMART Board technology and movable walls to allow for interdisciplinary classroom collaboration. The school has a state-of-the-art Mac lab, several collaborative discussion areas, a library, performing arts center, dance studio, two gyms and an AstroTurf athletic field.

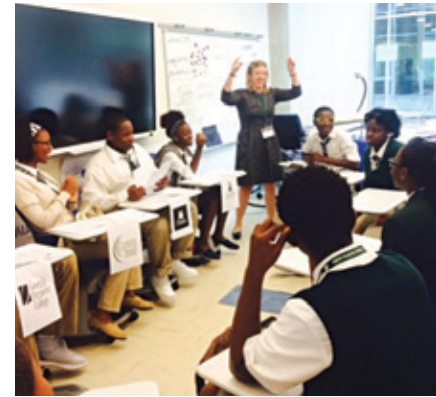
Enrollment

As an Atlanta Public School, Drew Charter School enrolls students who live in the Atlanta Public Schools' attendance zone. As a charter school, no students are zoned to attend the school, but priority enrollment is given to those students who live in The Villages of East Lake and in the East Lake and Kirkwood neighborhoods.



College and Career Readiness

As part of the cradle-to-college pipeline, Drew's College and Career Readiness Office offers educational and emotional support for students and families. Drew expects to award diplomas to 100% of its students. To ensure that this vision becomes a reality, the Drew team has designed, and the East Lake Foundation is supporting, a robust College and Career Readiness infrastructure and team led by a Director of College and Career Readiness. In addition to the Director, the team includes college counselors, social/emotional counselors, and academic tutors.



Program elements are modeled on national research standards, best practices critical to ensuring that students are college ready.

Key program elements include:

- Encouraging college aspirations through four-year plans and pathway development, academic advising, teacher advising, “college knowledge” sessions, social/emotional counseling and mentoring
- A new Early College Initiative will be offered for eligible seniors to take certain college-level classes at Georgia State University
- Encouraging 100% engagement in enrichment and extracurricular activities through school clubs/organizations, the Summer Institute enrichment program, and/or Georgia Tech’s Rising 9th Grade Bridge Summer Program
- College and career exploration such as college tours and fairs, visits by college representatives, college planning software, and an annual K-12 college and career week
- Access to and preparation for college and career assessments. Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT), Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Testing (ACT), College and Work Readiness Assessment (CWRA)
- College affordability planning for students and parents, including information and access to financial aid and scholarships
- College counseling for each individual student and family (11th & 12th grade), plus a College Planning Handbook





Our school is named for Dr. Charles R. Drew (1904-1950), a pioneering African-American physician, medical researcher and inventor. Dr. Drew was instrumental in developing blood plasma processing, storage and transfusion therapy. His groundbreaking work has saved untold lives and paved the way for today's American Red Cross blood program.

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2016 test scores confirm... Drew students continue to outperform their peers, achieve excellent results

Drew Charter School and its students are celebrating another successful year:

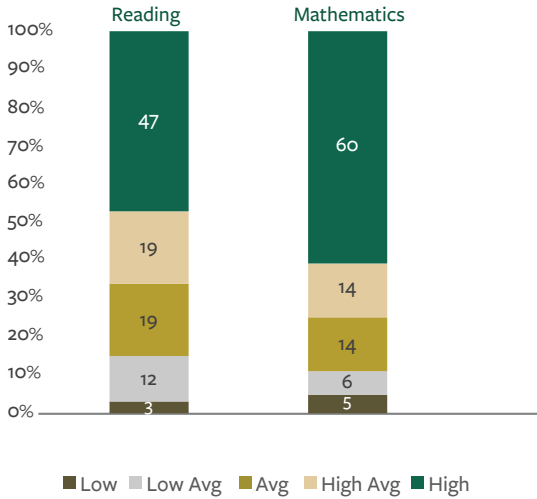
- Drew's Senior Academy Milestones performance was in the top three of Atlanta Public Schools.
- 100% of 11th graders participated in college-readiness activities, including in-school ACT prep, college visits, and a college fair with more than 100 schools attending.
- Drew's 5th graders scored in the 97th percentile state-wide on the Social Studies Georgia Milestones Assessment.
- The Boys Cross Country team won the 2015 Class A Public Division State Championship.
- Three Drew Engineering and Technology teachers were awarded the Allen Distinguished Educators Award for their innovative STEAM curriculum.
- Over 70 students participate in the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble.
- Twenty four students are in the Atlanta Boy Choir.
- The Boys Cross County team won the Class A State Championship in 2015.
- The Senior Academy Reading Bowl Team placed first in the district-wide competition.
- Drew's Engineering and Design class is a finalist for the InvenTeam grant through MIT, which awards \$10,000 to a class to invent technological solutions to real world problems.
- Drew was awarded a \$700,000 grant to support STEAM and Maker Culture, including the creation of a 21st century literacy summer program.
- At the Atlanta Public Schools Science Fair, Junior Academy students won first, second, and third place.
- The Elementary Academy's Science Olympiad team won first place in the district.
- Three Drew Engineering and Technology teachers were awarded the Allen Distinguished Educators Award for their innovative STEAM curriculum.
- Drew's Performing Arts Program, which consists of four bands, five choruses, two dance troupes, an orchestra, and a unique and celebrated harp program, held many performances throughout the state and nation.

2016 Georgia Milestone Scores

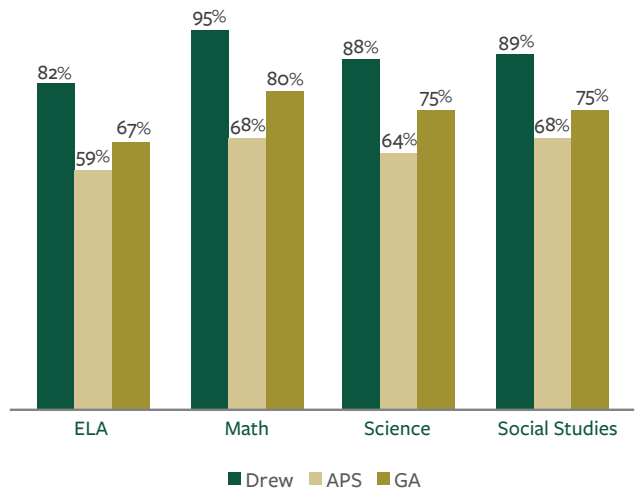
% of Drew Students Scoring in the Developing, Proficient, and Distinguished Categories

Grade	Reading	Reading GA	Math	Math GA	Science	Science GA	Social Studies	Social Studies GA
3rd	82%	67%	95%	80%	88%	75%	89%	75%
4th	91%	69%	90%	79%	87%	71%	92%	71%
5th	88%	74%	89%	74%	80%	71%	91%	74%
6th	74%	68%	71%	75%	68%	65%	82%	70%
7th	84%	73%	81%	76%	73%	67%	80%	75%
8th	88%	80%	75%	78%	67%	65%	80%	75%

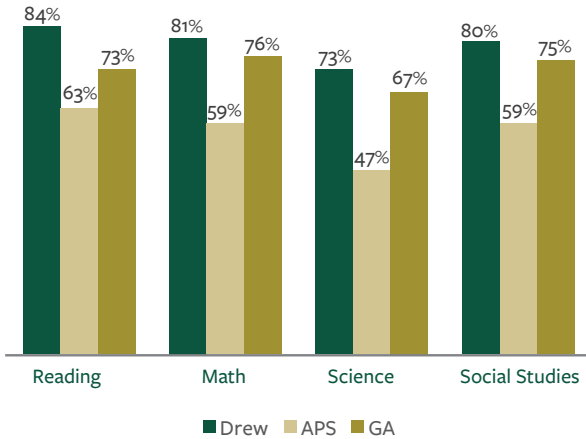
66% of 2nd graders performed in the “high average” or “high” categories on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) in reading, while 74% did so in math



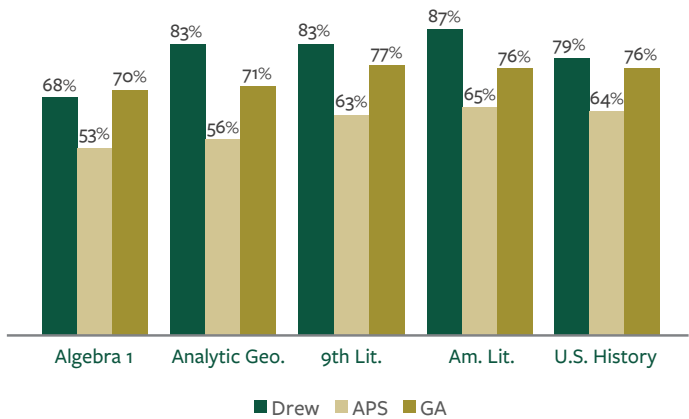
Drew 3rd graders outperformed the district and the state by at least 12% in every subject on the Georgia Milestones*



Drew exceeded the state of Georgia by at least 5 percentage points in all subjects on the 7th grade Georgia Milestones*



Senior Academy students exceeded the Atlanta Public Schools averages by 15-27 percentage points across all subjects of the Georgia Milestones*



*All Milestones scores show percent of student scoring in the Developing, Proficient, and Distinguished categories



Leadership Team

Don Doran, Head of School
Monishae O'Neill, Principal, Elementary Academy
Gregory Leaphart, Principal, Junior Academy
Peter McKnight, Principal, Senior Academy
Charisse Richardson, Chief Operations Officer (COO)
Matthew Berenson, Controller
Joi Thrash, Dean of Academics, Grades K-2
Bethany Paquette, Dean of Academics, Grades 3-5
Terrilyn Ali-Ferguson, Dean of Students, Grades 6-8
Kendrick Myers, Dean of Students, Grades 9-12
Melissa Faux, Director of Research, Data, and Accountability
Rachel Kaney, Director of College and Career Readiness
Donya Kemp, Director of Project-Based Learning
Lindsey Luczynski, Director of Strategic Partnerships
Tanya Shannon, Director of Talent
Nicole Tuttle, Director of Literacy
Tracy Henderson-Edwards, Director of Athletics
Courtney Bryant, STEAM Project Manager/Engineering Design
Residency Coordinator

Board of Directors

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April Battiste, Treasurer
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