

K-8 INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

Capital Plan 2027 includes the possible conversion of some existing schools to a different grade level structure to increase academic achievement. In Fulton County Schools, this model would have a blend of elementary (K-5) and middle (6-8) grades, with Pre-K offered depending on the location.



The K-8 model is well known among private schools and charter schools, and research shows the grade structure helps young learners by eliminating the move to a separate school for grades 6-8. The transition from elementary to middle school can be socially and educationally difficult for some students. The model also strengthens parental involvement while providing continuity for students and staff members, both creating a more “family” environment in the school.

Other Benefits of the K-8 Model Include:



ACHIEVEMENT

- Increase in academic performance because of the elimination of middle school transition
- Reduction in discipline and absenteeism because of an increase in connection and motivation
- Enhanced ability level grouping to support the Continuous Achievement model offered in Fulton County Schools

Sources: American Association of School Administrators; National School Boards Association



CLIMATE/CULTURE

- Increased opportunities for students to have positive relationships with their peers and teachers
- Increase in sense of family for students with their classmates
- Increase in connectivity for parents with known school processes and people

During the 2021-2022 school year, Fulton County Schools will host a series of collaborative sessions to engage with families, school-level personnel, and district staff around the development of a K-8 instructional model and educational specification.

More information can be found at www.fultonschools.org/K8.



SAFETY

- Continuity allows parents and children to feel safer as children become older
- Reduces the potential negative societal influences because of the mix of ages