



ATLANTA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS



# 2023-24 Midtown Cluster Advisory Team STE(A)M Meeting w/ Dr. Warren Edwards January 31, 2024 | 4:30 pm

## **Chair:**

Kristy Perez, Cluster Representative – Mary Lin Elementary School

## **Vice-Chair:**

Terry Harness, Principal – Virginia-Highland Elementary School

## **Secretary:**

Audrey Sofianos, Principal – Morningside Elementary School

# AGENDA

| Time    | Discussion Item                                      | Discussion Leads                           |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 4:30    | <b>OPENING</b><br>Welcome   Introductions   Overview | Kristy<br>Sheletha                         |
| 4:35 pm | <b>DISCUSSION</b>                                    | Dr. Warren Edwards<br>Midtown CAT Officers |
| 5:30 pm | <b>ADJOURN</b>                                       | Sheletha<br>Kristy                         |



## MEETING NORMS

- **This is a meeting of the Midtown Cluster Advisory Team. Only members of the team, Dr. Warren Edwards, and Midtown schools' designated STE(A)M staff members may participate in the discussion.**
- We commit to be fully present.
- We invite and welcome contributions and follow up-questions from every member.
- Any members of the public that are present, are here to quietly observe.
- We will follow the agenda and stay on task.
- We will always respect each other.
- We will listen to each other and lead with open minds.
- We will respect all ideas and assume the best intentions.
- We will approach differences of opinion with curiosity.

# GUEST SPEAKER



**Dr. Warren P. Edwards**

STE(A)M Coordinator

✉ [wedwards@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:wedwards@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

☎ 404-802-5814

# DISCUSSION



1 What is the point/purpose for a STEAM Signature Program?

2 What funding support does the district have available for the program?

3 What are the standards of a STEAM lab?

4 What, if any, are the recommendations on what elementary, middle and high school students should have access to for STEAM?

5 Should there be a STEAM cluster event? District event?

6 Discuss STEAM certification through the state and what that may involve for schools.

7 What, if any, is the standard of service regarding STEAM?



8 Is there/should there be a STEAM Rubric schools can use the help determine where they are in the STEAM journey and how it impacts funding for the schools?

# NEXT STEPS

Third CAT Meeting | March 7, 2024

- School Updates
- Cluster Priorities Updates
- SY24/25 Cluster Priority Discussion

District Executive Committee | TBD



# QUESTIONS



# ADJOURN



# APPENDIX



# CLUSTER PLANNING SITES

Cluster Planning / Midtown Cluster Planning / Jackson Cluster Planning / Jackson Cluster Advisory Team

atlantapublicschools.us/Page/62832

Home > Cluster Planning > Cluster Planning

## Midtown Cluster Planning

Cluster Planning Home

Find Your School/Cluster

- Carver
- Douglass
- Jackson
- Mays
- Midtown
- North Atlanta
- South Atlanta
- Therrell
- Washington
- BEST/CSK

Signature Programs

Resources

Archived Resources

### Questions? Contact

404.802.2884

tnorvell@atlanta.k12.ga.us



## MIDTOWN CLUSTER

— ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS —

### MISSION

To ensure every student will graduate ready for college and career.

### VISION

To become a high-performing cluster where educators inspire, families engage, and students love to learn.

### CLUSTER ADVISORY TEAM MEETINGS

**October 19, 2023 (4:30pm)**  
Location: [Microsoft Teams](#)  
[Meeting Agenda](#)

**November 29, 2023 (4:30pm)**  
Location: [Microsoft Teams](#)  
Meeting Agenda: TBD

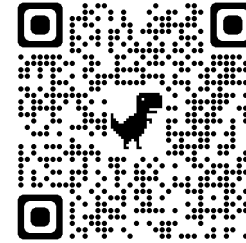
### MINUTES & MATERIALS

[Midtown Cluster Advisory Team Overview](#)



## Public Facing Cluster Planning Webpage

<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/62832>



## CAT Collaboration Spaces:

## Teams Site + SharePoint

<https://apsstudents.sharepoint.com/teams/MidtownClusterAdvisoryTeam>

Members Only

## SharePoint

Search this library

### Midtown Cluster Advisory Team

Home

Conversations

Documents

Shared with us

Notebook

Pages

Site contents

Recycle bin

Edit

Return to classic SharePoint

+ New

Upload

Edit in grid view

Share

Copy link

Sync

Add shortcut to OneDrive

Documents > 2023-2024

| Name                                        | Modified           | Modified By          | + Add column |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 09.18.23 Midtown Breakout Session _ALL C... | September 19       | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |
| Meeting#1_Midtown_CAT_10.19.23              | About a minute ago | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |
| Meeting#2_Midtown_CAT_11.29.23              | A few seconds ago  | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |
| Meeting#3_Midtown_CAT_03.07.24              | A few seconds ago  | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |
| 2023-2024 All CAT Meeting-20230918_170...   | September 21       | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |
| 2023-24_Midtown_CAT_Roster.xlsx             | October 11         | Champion, Sheletha Y |              |

# SCHOOL GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

## BEGINNING WITH THE END IN MIND

### Our Mission

Through a caring **culture of equity**, trust, and collaboration, **every** student will graduate ready for college, career, and life.

### Our Vision

A high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage, and the community trusts the system.



# SCHOOL GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

## Our Theory of Change



Students

that support excellence for all, SO THAT ALL students learn at a higher level.

Educators  
Classrooms

who create engaging, equitable, and inclusive schools

School Leaders  
Schools

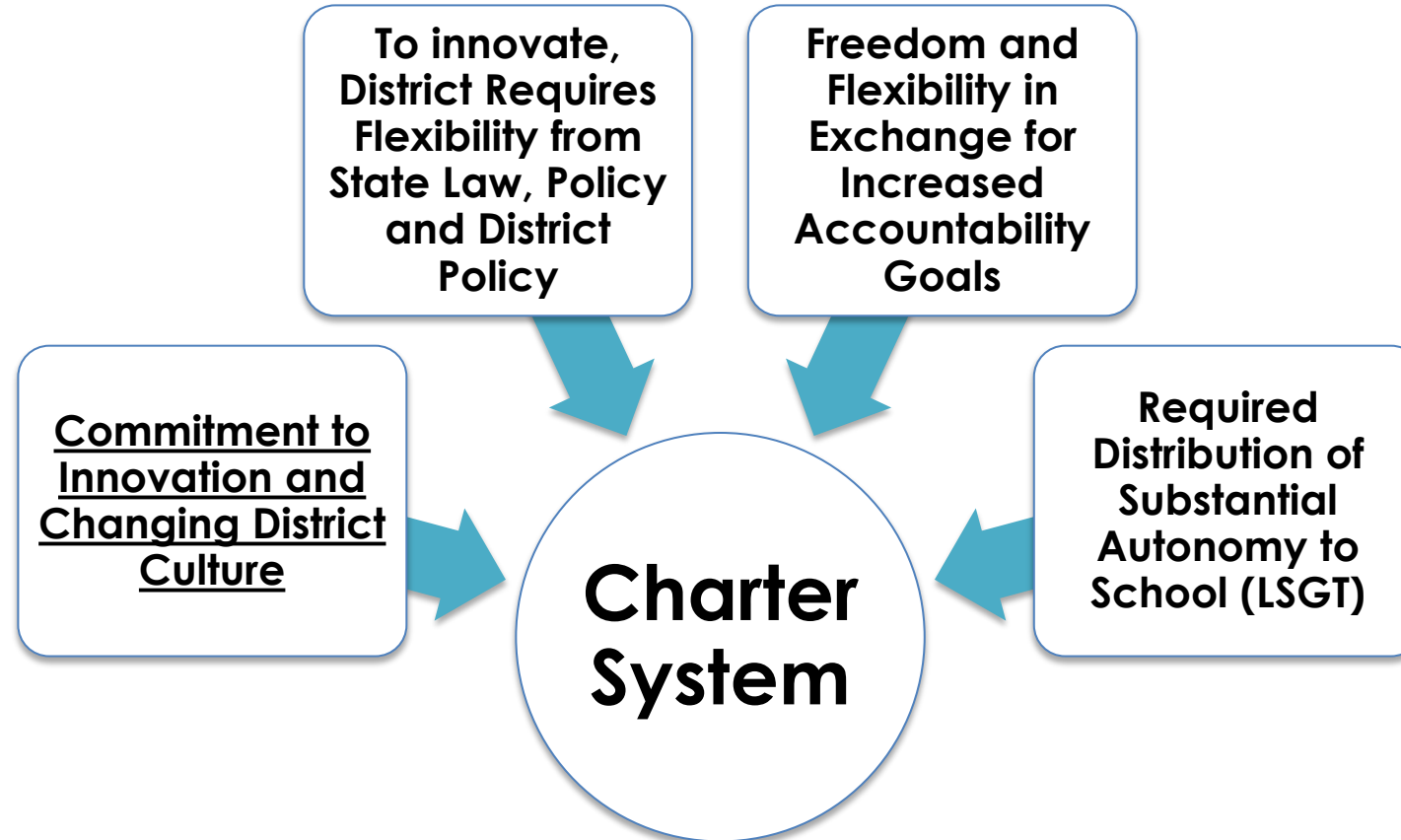
THEN school leaders will be able to develop, support, and grow highly-skilled educators

Staff  
Central Office

IF the central office maintains an intentional focus on teaching, learning, and performance and provides high-quality service and support to schools

# SCHOOL GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

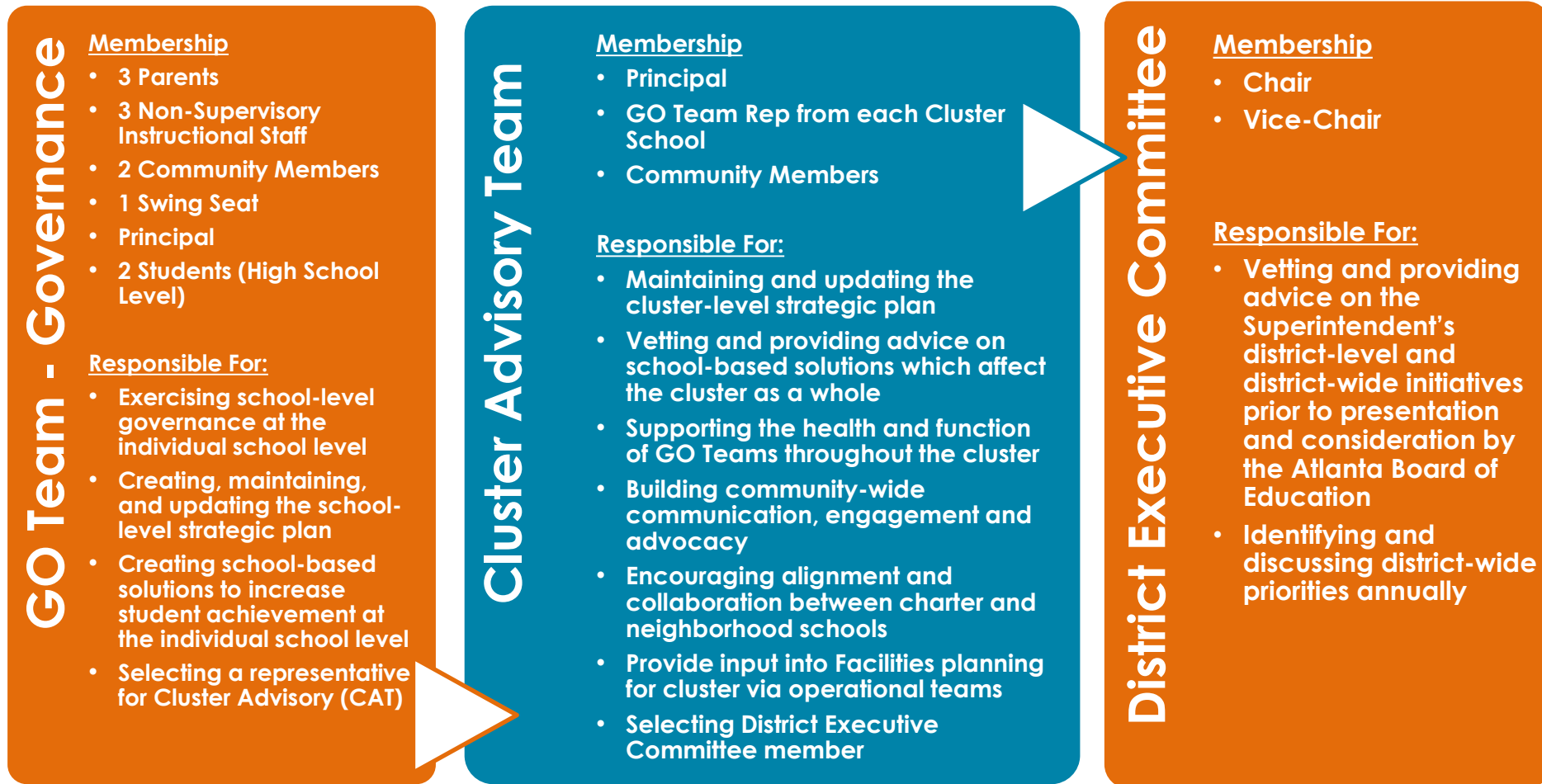
## Charter System Operating Model – Basic Components



The Charter System Philosophy: A district must want to truly change how it does business and believe that, in order to increase student achievement, **schools must be operated in a different way, with greater parent and community buy-in at every single school**. Schools are empowered to develop solutions free from the established educational bureaucracy of legislature-driven education mandates, State Board rules, and even the district's own policies and practices. With this freedom from the law, the district and its schools in turn agree to be held accountable for significant increases in student achievement.

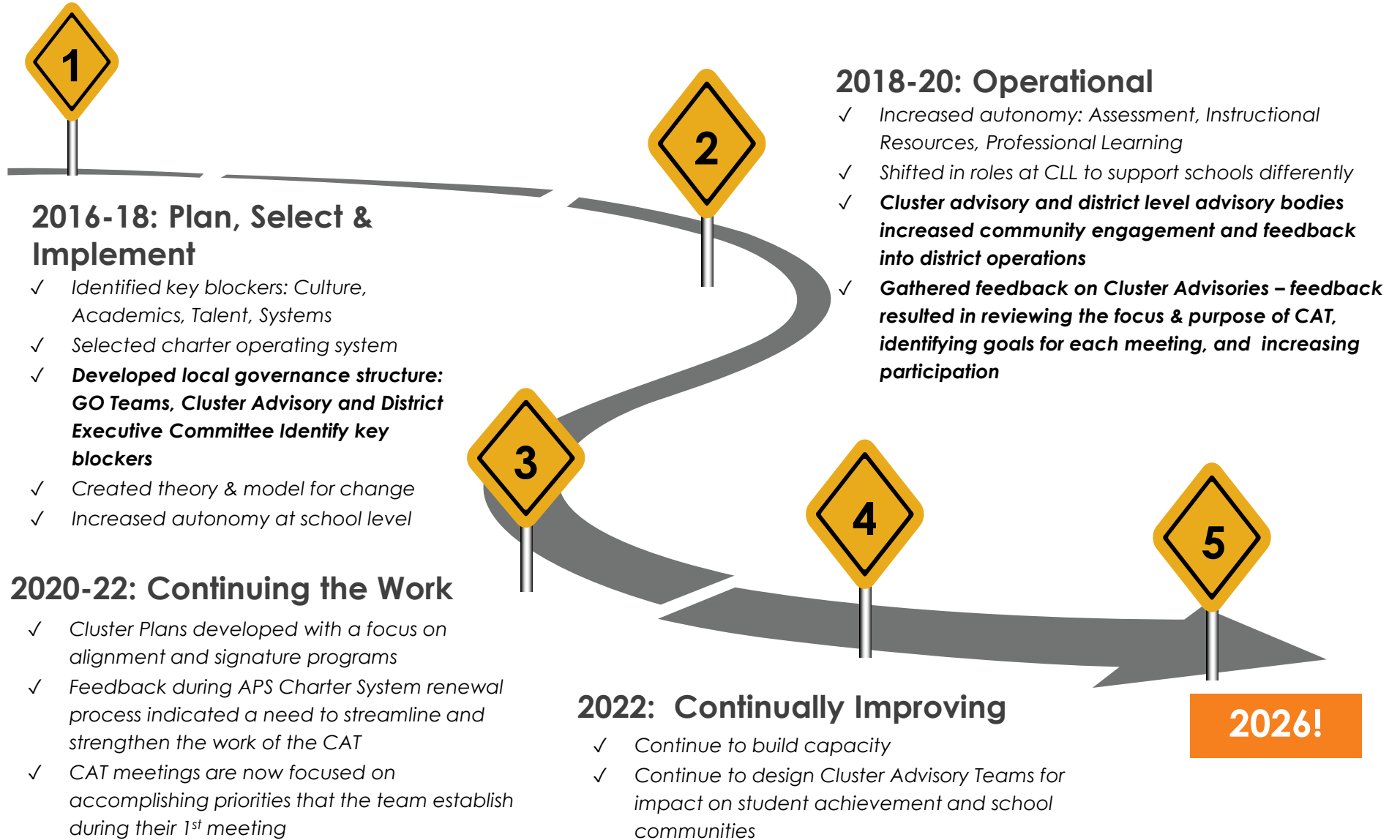
# SCHOOL GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

## Governance: APS Local School Governance Structure



# SCHOOL GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

## Road Map for Charter System Operating Model & Governance



# LOOKING FORWARD

WHAT WE HEARD...



# CROSS CLUSTER COLLABORATION MEANINGFUL MEETINGS PUBLIC AWARENESS

# CLUSTER | SCHOOL UPDATES

| School                              | Principal (or Designee)             | Cluster Representative |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Centennial Academy                  | Stephanie Hodges<br>Jessica Olowoyo |                        |
| David T. Howard Middle School       | Tekeshia Hollis                     | Eric Goldberg          |
| Midtown High School                 | Dr. Betsy Bockman                   | Jenifer Keenan         |
| Hope-Hill Elementary School         | Keisha Gibbons                      | Robin Tolochko         |
| Mary-Lin Elementary School          | Sharyn Briscoe                      | Kristy Perez           |
| Morningside Elementary School       | Audrey Sofianos                     | Ben Knaebel            |
| Springdale Park Elementary School   | Dr. Jennifer Toney                  | Tim Langan             |
| Virginia-Highland Elementary School | Terry Harness                       | N/A                    |
| Kindezi Old Fourth Ward             | Faith Wilbanks                      | Ryan Lisbon            |



# CLUSTER PLAN WORK

## REVIEW

- Action steps, success indicators, and timelines.
- Adjust as needed

## CONFIRM

- CAT member(s) responsible for ensuring completion\*

## PROVIDE

- Any cluster priority/action step progress/updates
- Signature Program Progress

## DISCUSS

- Issues/concerns
- Budget needs (if any) for cluster priorities/action steps