

Crabapple Crossing Elementary School Governance Council Update

Fulton County became the state's largest charter system in July of 2012. The charter system is a governance framework that supports the district's [Strategic Plan 2017: Building Our Future](#) and the district's theory of [local school autonomy](#). Charter system status allows Fulton County flexibility from many one-size-fits-all state education requirements and supports our schools in developing strategies to support the unique needs of their students.

Schools are transitioning to the charter system model in three cohorts. **CCES** is the 3rd and final Cohort to transition.

Charter system schools in FCS are characterized by three major components:

- Establishment of a [School Governance Council](#)
- Development and implementation of a [School Strategic Plan](#)
- Ability to propose [Requests for Flexibility](#) and [Seed Fund](#) applications

School Governance Councils are an integral component of Fulton's charter system. School Governance Councils, or SGCs, are responsible for setting and monitoring the strategic direction of the schools. The School Governance Council has the following membership structure:

- Three (3) parents/guardians elected by the parents/guardians of the school
- Two (2) teachers elected by the employees of the school
- Two (2) school-based employees appointed by the principal
- Two (2) community members nominated by the principal and approved by the remaining Council members
- The principal (non-voting)

The **responsibilities** of SGCs are as follows:

- Approve the school's Strategic Plan
- Approve the school's budget recommendations
- Manage the Request for Flexibility process
- Participate in the hiring process when hiring a new principal
- Provide feedback on the principal's performance

All SGC meetings are OPEN to the public. Announcement of time/place/date of meetings are posted on our CCES website and in the school building within two weeks prior to the meeting. A designated period of time during an SGC meeting is reserved for appropriate comments from the attending public. This allows the Council to hear from stakeholders on issues within the Council's purview.

The current board, has spent the last 8 months developing and finalizing our Strategic Plan (page 2). It was just approved by our Area Superintendent. We have recently submitted our initial Request for Flexibility and are working on our Request for Funding. Both support the needs we assessed in our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is based on Parent/Teacher Survey sent out last year, Interviews with Community Leaders and Past Testing Scores.