



ATLANTA NEIGHBORHOOD
CHARTER SCHOOL

helping students learn to use their minds well

UPDATE ON *DIVERSITY* STRATEGIC INITIATIVES – OCTOBER 2015

Diversity: What and why?

Three year goal from strategic plan: Build on current diversity to improve and realize benefits of student diversity that reflect racial and economic diversity of surrounding neighborhoods

Aiming for this goal because...

- [Academic, social, & civic benefits for students](#)
- Opportunity for real innovation by being diverse school in era of school re-segregation
- Want to more accurately reflect demographics of our cluster

Diversity: What have we done already?

In the past year, we have...

- Appointed staff diversity coordinator to facilitate community diversity committee
- Committee worked on enrollment outreach in historically underrepresented neighborhoods in our attendance zone
- Worked with other charter schools and legislators to change Georgia law to allow for weighted enrollment lottery for “educationally disadvantaged” students
- Added neighborhood of Summerhill to school’s primary attendance zone in part because of its economic diversity and close proximity to elementary campus
- Began connecting with other schools, organizations locally and nationally committed to school diversity, including attendance at recent [National Coalition for School Diversity conference](#)

Diversity: What's our work this year?

Diversity committee and leadership team will (1) assess potential barriers to enrollment for diverse range of families in attendance zone and (2) devise reasonable outreach strategies to address these barriers

Full faculty/staff work: (1) assessment of needs and experiences related to working with diverse students and colleagues and (2) facilitated experiences to build our skill and comfort with talking about race and class

Both of these efforts will be supported by outside facilitator(s) to bring additional expertise and guidance; close to finalizing selection of facilitator(s) following RFP process