



**GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP
FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**

Bus Trip 18 Rider School Reflections

Charles R. Drew Charter School

Basics stressed here. Reading readiness is vital (stressed in opening remarks). The results prove this. A dedicated staff and the East Lake video clearly demonstrates that miracles can and do happen. A worthwhile stop. A country club setting with great results.

I can't describe the intensity I experienced as I encountered the learning process here. The flexibility to connect school and community is the best way to serve our kids in the 21st century.

Very disappointing. I saw a school dedicated to raising test scores but not to engaging students in learning. In one classroom students who had "talked" during a movie were writing (copying) a long page about not talking in class (they were very talkative about it!). Disproportionate racial representation of leadership positions.

Awesome school layout. I like the CRCT gains that they made with the kids. Lots of effective teaching vitalizing technology. Teachers were enthusiastic and engaging. I like the Pre K – 8th grade aspect.

The vision of one man who saw a need and found a solution for the East Point area amazes and inspires me. Seeing such respectable and motivated young teens once again proves that all things are possible and kids will rise to whatever standards are put in front of them.

Loved this school! I wish I had the same resources. This school has inspired me.

I love the cradle to college concept. I love the way they look at education for the whole community. The business/corporate involvement is wonderful – love the adult education (Parent University). Drew has also accomplished the sustainability challenge it seems with the tracking process & K – 8 portfolios.

WOW! What a success story. Kudos to Tom Cousins.

Beautiful facility! It's obvious the board is very involved & focused on providing a high quality education. The students seemed happy. I especially enjoyed seeing a class of 3 year olds. I appreciated the opening remarks & comments about helping 3 yr. olds get power. Good psychological insight. Am excited about the leading edge focus they're going to put on ages 0 – 3 yr. next year.

Pre-K through grade 8 instruction & excellent use of smart board technology.

Great school – a definite advantage for parents/students/teachers to keep students in the same school for 10 years (ages 3 – 13).

Outstanding, Outstanding, Outstanding – 3 yr – 8th grade continuum of learning. Great model of community support.

The culture of achievement was evident throughout the school. The student feedback on work was great.

Wow! Great student/community resources.

I loved seeing the younger children at work and play. Great partnerships to make good use of resources. Great kids. I like the idea.

I can only speak to 3/c – 3 grades. I saw engaged and active students. A lot of support for students and teachers. Great community partners. Wonderful purposeful technology plan for student learning.

CREW – support, H.S. placement support, Y connection – support/health and fitness, early years literacy/education – support/communication. These are some of the basics necessary for lifetime success.

Cradle to college vision/support. Atlanta speech school partner – build basis with 3rd graders reading level (partnership with YMCA school). Transfer power from teacher to student.

Student access to YMCA, and golf as PE resources. Birth to college tracking of students, 100% pass goal for CRCT, and display of student work in halls.

I loved the Drew Charter School Model. I am curious about how many of the original residents moved back to the area upon opening the new apartments. I love the 3 yr old school model and the support the school gives to students after they move up to high school.

Excellent display of work, teacher student interaction, word walls, multiplication stairways, dedicated teachers and administrators, great math and computer labs and great diversity.

I really enjoyed this K – 8 charter school. I like the principles that the school surrounds its goal with and I like the parent-teacher-student involvement.

I enjoyed the S.T.E.A.M. program that this school is implementing. They readily prepare their middle school students for advancement to high school.

Charles Drew is doing an excellent job enriching the community and educating the whole child! What an amazing system of partnerships to give children experiences that they might not otherwise have due to economic circumstances. They are truly exhibiting the “cradle to college” mission and vision.

3 to 4 yr olds WOW!, following after grade 8, and partnership with YMCA & Atlanta Speech School (\$10,000 /yr/kid).

Absolutely wonderful. This school truly exemplifies what it means to provide an equal, quality, education for those deemed often as “have not’s.” Everything was first class. The American dream is not a myth here.

I loved the visit at Charles Drew. Intentionality is the key. The teachers became learners with their students. I loved the technology based theme that is used all across the school. I was very inspired.