



## Parents of African American Children (PAAC) - Creekside Elementary School, Durham, NC

### What is PAAC?

Parents of African American Children (PAAC) was formed as a PTA committee by/for parents at George Watts Montessori in June 2016. It was created to address the achievement gap among students of color who were not passing the EOG assessments. There are now PAACs in several Durham schools. Creekside parents are submitting a proposal to the PTA on Monday, May 7, 2018 to start a PAAC at Creekside.

**The mission** will be to inspire students to achieve academic excellence while expecting higher educational standards from their schools. **PAAC will aim** to be the village and stand in the gap for all African American Children and their families without judgement. **The core values** of PAAC will be equitable education; Initiatives that eliminate the achievement gap; Empowerment of parents of African American children; and student directed ownership of success.

### Why PAAC?

#### **Achievement Gap**

Creekside is a great school but, records show our African American students are struggling to pass EOG's at a rate significantly worse than their peers.

#### **Student Proficiency - Number Tested within Race/Ethnic-Gender Group: Creekside 2016-17**

<https://www.dpsnc.net/Page/1368> - 2016-17 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

ASSESSMENT	BLACK		HISPANIC		WHITE	
	%Prof (#Tested) M	%Prof (#Tested) F	%Prof (#Tested) M	%Prof (#Tested) F	%Prof (#Tested) M	%Prof (#Tested) F
Math 3-8	48.4 (62)	51.3 (76)	39.7 (58)	54.8 (62)	91.2 (57)	88.9 (90)
Reading 3-8	40.3 (62)	48.7 (76)	22.4 (58)	40.3 (62)	80.7 (57)	83.3 (90)
Science 5 and 8	55.6 (18)	65.4 (26)	37.5 (16)	45.5 (22)	87.5 (16)	90.0 (30)
Performance Composite	45.8 (142)	52.2 (178)	31.8 (132)	47.3 (146)	86.2 (130)	86.7 (210)

#### **Student Demographics by Race: Creekside 2016-17**

<https://www.dpsnc.net/Page/1368> - 2016-17 STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

<b><u>Race</u></b>	<b><u>Percentage of Student Population</u></b>
Black	26%
Hispanic	27%
White	37%
Other	10%

## **Suspension Rates**

Across North Carolina African American students are experiencing harsher disciplinary action and suspension far more than their Caucasian classmates. Creekside's suspension rates are low, but looking at the trends throughout the state it is important to be mindful of the discipline policies at Creekside and how they affect our children.

## ***Percentage of suspensions by Race in North Carolina (2015-16)***

<http://youthjusticenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Durham-County-Schools.pdf>

- Short term suspensions:
  - White - 3.8%
  - Hispanic – 12.3%
  - Black – 81.5%
- Long term suspensions:
  - White - <1%
  - Hispanic - <1%
  - Black – 79.1%

## **How can the PAAC at Creekside help?**

With your help - The Parents of African American Children committee at Creekside will strive to:

- Find and use resources available for African American children to help bridge the gap with standardized testing.
  - Mystery reader: parents read culturally diverse books to students at least once a month.
  - Advocate for and help supply culturally inclusive literature in classrooms.
- Offer mentorship connection opportunities, partnering with our local colleges.
- Request sensitivity training for teachers and administrative staff.
- Expose African American children to careers, opportunities and places outside of their communities.
- Build a unified community that meets regularly in a comfortable and safe environment to discuss concerns affecting their child/children and brainstorm ways to effectively create change.
- Increase black parents' participation in the general PTA meetings/committees/leadership.

To learn more about the Creekside PAAC please join our mailing list: <https://goo.gl/forms/3uNHpvmSAZAaEduX2>. We will notify you about meetings, initiatives, events and more.

Please email questions and suggestions to the Creekside PTA PAAC Committee Chair, Chéza Hinds at [cheza.hinds@gmail](mailto:cheza.hinds@gmail)

