



McGarity Elementary Overview

McGarity Elementary School, established in 1987 to serve the growing Hiram community, has a rich tradition of family, connection, and academic excellence. Named after May Belle Hitchcock McGarity—a pioneering educator and civic leader—our school honors her legacy by fostering a supportive and engaging learning environment for all students. Over the years, McGarity has welcomed generations of families, with former students returning as parents, teachers, and visitors. While the community has evolved and new families continue to join us, our commitment to student growth, strong relationships, and meaningful learning experiences remains unchanged. This document outlines the foundational beliefs and direction of McGarity Elementary, guiding our work to ensure every child is safe, supported, and empowered throughout their educational journey.

| Mission | Vision |
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| At McGarity Elementary School we strive to: Master curriculum by Engaging students and Supporting all learners | McGarity Elementary’s vision is to maintain a progressive, highly qualified faculty, committed to education that delivers a national curriculum while embracing change and diversity. We will engage students with a variety of innovative experiences and opportunities that ignite the desire to continue learning. We will maximize every student’s strength and talents by working collaboratively with all stakeholders to overcome their challenges. |
| Goals | |
| Increase the percentage of students that earn a 2, 3, or 4 achievement level on the ELA portion of the Georgia Milestones in grades 3 rd –5 th from 68% to 71% in the 2025–26 school year. | |

Beliefs

At McGarity, we believe that every student has the potential to achieve greatness. It is our responsibility to help them discover and develop that potential through consistent effort, meaningful learning experiences, and strong, supportive relationships.

We believe in the power of excellent teaching and are committed to nurturing each child's academic growth while fostering their character, creativity, and confidence.

We believe that education is a partnership. By working together with our families and community partners, we will ensure McGarity remains a place where students feel safe, inspired, and empowered every single day.

Demographics

McGarity Elementary School serves approximately 532 students in grades Kindergarten through 5th. Our student population is diverse, with 16% identifying as Hispanic/Latino, 36% as Black/African American, 39% as White, 0.9% as Asian, and 8% identifying as two or more races. Nearly 60% of our students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, highlighting the importance of addressing the needs of families. In addition, 7% of our students are English Language Learners, and 15% receive Special Education services. This diversity enriches our school community and underscores our commitment to equity, inclusion, and providing every child with the support needed to succeed academically and socially.

Honors/Awards/Certifications

- GaDOE STEM Certification SY 2022
- Cognia STEM Certification SY 2025
- PCSD Teaching & Learning Highlighter Award SY 2024
- 5-star CCRPI School Climate Rating SY 2024