



820 Essie Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30316
Voice 678-904-0051 Fax 678-904-0052
www.atlantachartermiddle.com

September 4, 2009

To friends and supporters of Atlanta Charter Middle School:

A new school year is underway and we have many accomplishments to celebrate! Atlanta Charter Middle School is proud to announce:

- Designation as a Distinguished School, having met Adequate Yearly Progress four years in a row
- Achievement of all targets of No Child Left Behind
- Selection to be featured in a Coalition of Essential Schools publication
- Full enrollment in all grade levels, 6th-8th, with waiting lists for each level

We invite you to join us in our quest to build on these achievements by donating to the **Atlanta Charter Middle School 2009-2010 Annual Campaign- "Creating, Becoming"**.

Atlanta Charter Middle School is unlike any public or private middle school in Atlanta. We offer our students an exceptional education based on the principles of the **Coalition of Essential Schools**-a small school with a low student-to-teacher-ratio, engaging constructivist classrooms, and measurement of achievement based on individual portfolios of student work. Students are placed at the center of their learning, encouraged to question and explore through hands-on projects and experiences.

As we celebrate our successes, we stop to reflect on our journey and look to the future with anticipation of what is to come. And we cannot do it without your help!

How important is the Annual Campaign?

The Georgia Department of Education recently cut 3% out of the charter school budget. Our school's goal is to encourage each child to grow intellectually and imaginatively in a setting that promotes creativity and thinking well in a way that traditional public school cannot. This dedication to quality is costly, and is not fully covered by the funding we receive as a charter school from Atlanta Public Schools. Donations to our annual campaign will ensure that we continue to provide our children with the kind of education they deserve.

Our goal for 2009:

\$30,000 by May 1, 2010.

How can I contribute?

Donations can be made by cash or check, or by pledge. A gift in memory of a loved one or in someone else's honor is a wonderful consideration. You may mail in your donation with the pledge sheet attached or simply bring it to the ACMS office.

How much should I give?

Donations of all sizes are deeply appreciated and truly make a difference! Only you can determine the amount that is right for you and your family. A gift to the Atlanta Charter Middle School is an investment in our children and their future success.

Who supports the Annual Campaign?

Each family plays an important role in the school community. Our parents, grandparents, friends, faculty and staff all share the responsibility of meeting the school's educational goals and ensuring a financially healthy institution. We also depend on support from local neighborhoods.

Please consider donating to our annual campaign, "**Creating, Becoming**" so that we may continue on our journey to excellence. Please complete the attached pledge card and return it to the ACMS office or by return mail. Thank you for your continued support of ACMS.

Sincerely,

Matt Underwood, Principal *Michelle Blackmon*, Board Chair

and the entire Atlanta Charter Middle School Board: Myron Pollster, Gigi Conner, Colleen Devine, Jacob Edmison, Ramiro Garcia, Mimi Herrera-Pease, Jeff Larson, Kari Lovell, Ben Odias, Somer Ramsey, Bibbi Ransom, Kelly Simons, and Scott Smith