# Atholton High School: Vision and Mission

To build lifelong learners, challenge students with rigorous and relevant instruction, nurture students in a safe environment, and value respect, excellence, accountability, consideration, and honesty.

## HCPSS Vision and Mission

**Vision:** Every student and staff member embraces diversity and possesses the skills, knowledge and confidence to positively influence the larger community.

**Mission:** HCPSS ensures academic success and social-emotional well-being for each student in an inclusive and nurturing environment that closes opportunity gaps.

## HCPSS Commitments

- **Value:** Every HCPSS stakeholder feels happy and rewarded in their roles and takes pride in cultivating the learning community.
- **Achieve:** An individualized focus supports every person in reaching milestones for success.
- **Connect:** Students and staff thrive in a safe, nurturing and inclusive culture that embraces diversity.
- **Empower:** Schools, families and the community are mutually invested in student achievement and well-being.

## School Targets

- Increase 4-year and 5-year graduation rates, particularly among African American and Special Education students.
- Increase enrollment in Advanced Placement (AP) courses, participation in AP exams, and performance on AP exams, particularly among African American students
- Increase participation in and performance on SAT exams, particularly among African American students

## Strategies

### Graduation Rate Strategies:

- Staff will elicit the help of the Student Support Team, BSAP, alternative education department, special education department, and guidance department to identify, plan, implement, and reflect on interventions for at risk students in the graduating class and eleventh grade. Maintain a senior at-risk graduation list based on attendance, academic performance, discipline, and engagement.
- Staff will participate in professional learning sessions during department, PIP and staff meetings to increase effectiveness of first instruction through differentiation and equitable instruction.
- Staff will receive and utilize purposeful feedback on first instruction through classroom observations and walkthroughs by school leaders and colleagues that focus on high level questioning, engaging activities, and differentiation to support all students and ensure equity in the building.

### AP Performance Strategies:

- Staff will increase their cultural proficiency in order to narrow achievement gaps with African American students and increase student participation and performance in AP courses and exams, developing a growth mindset approach through professional learning.
- Staff will incorporate the Understanding by Design framework throughout instructional planning in order to establish essential questions, create quality common assessments, design unit plans and develop strategies to differentiate instruction with formative feedback that will lead to increased rigor and improvement on summative assessments.
- Staff will receive and utilize purposeful feedback on daily instruction through classroom observations and walkthroughs by school leaders and colleagues that focus on high level questioning, assessment, engaging activities, and differentiation.

### SAT/ACT Performance Strategies:

- Staff will increase their cultural proficiency in order to narrow achievement gaps and increase student college and career readiness for all student groups, developing a growth mindset approach through professional learning.
- Staff will incorporate the Understanding by Design framework throughout instructional planning in order to establish essential questions, create common assessments, design unit plans and develop strategies to differentiate instruction with formative feedback that will lead to increased rigor and improvement on all summative assessments including the SAT/ACT.
- Staff will receive and utilize purposeful feedback on daily instruction through classroom observations and walkthroughs by school leaders and colleagues that focus on high level questioning, engaging activities, and differentiation to support the skills and content necessary for the SAT/ACT exams.