



Student Spotlight: Ahnijah Moreland, Clarke

Hoping to finish her last class at Foothills in time to take the End of Course test and graduate this month, Ahnijah Moreland has a goal, and she is focused.

Ahnijah found her way to Foothills after moving from out-of-state. Had she attempted to enroll in a traditional high school, Ahnijah would have been far behind in earning credits toward graduation in Georgia. So, Foothills was the best option because it allowed her to work at her own pace toward graduation.

In addition to flexibility with pacing, Ahnijah has found it easier to attend school later in the day. She shares that if “you come and work consistently and try, this school will help you.” At Foothills, Ahnijah explains, there is not someone “constantly telling you to work.” Attending Foothills requires “focus” on the part of the student. Because she had focus and worked consistently, Foothills worked for Ahnijah.

When she graduates, Ahnijah plans to begin her postsecondary education at a community college and then transfer to a university, where she will study to enter the medical profession as a doctor or registered nurse.

This month, as we celebrate graduation ceremonies at all sites, we are proud of students like Ahnijah whose focus on the goal of graduation helped them to be successful at Foothills!



Message from the Superintendent

Graduation is Foothill's favorite time of year. Graduation ceremonies are public acknowledgement of students' hard work to earn a high school diploma. Each student has a different story to share which speaks to the challenges they have overcome to earn a high school diploma. There are many reasons to celebrate. In our first year, 2016, we had 135 graduates. Last year, 2017, we had 170 graduates. In 2018, we are anticipating well over 200 graduates. Our final numbers will not be known until mid-August. We are so proud and pleased.

The graduation dates and locations are listed in the newsletter. Join us if your schedule permits. You will not be disappointed.

With Pride,

Sherrie

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Graduation Ceremony Dates

At Foothills, we get really excited about graduation—several times over!

This spring, we will hold 10 separate graduation ceremonies, as each site celebrates its graduates in a unique way. While 10 separate ceremonies means more dates, times, and travel for district staff; we would not have it any other way! Every student who walks across the graduation stage at Foothills is a priceless gift to us.

We hope that if you have time, you will join us at a graduation ceremony this spring. We promise it is a celebration like no other.

Baldwin—June 4, 6pm at Baldwin High Theater

Barrow—June 1, 7pm at Bethlehem Church

Clarke—May 30, 7pm at Mell Auditorium

Jackson—June 7, 7pm at EJCHS Auditorium

Madison—June 2, 2pm at MCHS Theater

Morgan—June 5, 7pm at Wesley Building

Walton—May 31, 7pm at Grace Baptist Church

Arrendale—June 21, 10am at Lee Arrendale

Burruss—June 28, 10am at Burruss

Phillips—June 7, 10am at Phillips

Foothills Focused on Student Achievement

We have shared several times this year that Foothills received a Charter Implementation Grant to support our work to better align formative assessment and course materials to state Milestones assessments. In a recent [Implementation Grant Update](#), Implementation Grant Communicator Dr. Ken Sherman shared that the work to align the GradPoint curriculum to state standards, as well as work to review formative assessment options and study Foothills' past performance on the CCRPI is ongoing.

We are starting to see some early data-based indications that our focus on alignment between standards, instruction, and assessment is bearing positive fruit. Regional Federal Programs Coordinator Brittan Ayers has been tracking our students' performance on the Milestones EOC assessments across this academic year and longitudinally. Because our students progress through their courses at their own pace, many of our students complete their EOC assessments during "mid-month" testing windows on an ongoing basis throughout the academic year.

To date, we are seeing the following positive trends in our data for this academic year:

- Five out of eight of the tested courses are currently trending upward for the total number of students scoring a level 2 or above on the EOC.
- 9th Literature, American Literature, and Geometry are showing more than a 10% gain in the total number of students scoring a level 2 or above.
- Six out of eight of the tested courses are currently trending upward in Weighted Content Mastery for all students.
- All subjects are currently trending upward in Weighted Content Mastery for Full Academic Year (FAY) students.

While these are just early indicators and rough projections, they do demonstrate that our commitment to student achievement and data-informed decision-making is moving Foothills in the right direction!



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The Foothills Vision

Foothills Education Charter High School strives to be an accessible, high-quality high school option that is flexible and responsive to the needs of the People of Georgia and its communities.