

It's Quite a City - - - WELCOME TO ATLANTA

If you are new to the Atlanta School System, please regard this as a warm and cordial welcome not only to the System but to Atlanta itself. You have joined one of the finest educational teams in the nation. Your talents, efforts and creativity are needed to help make it the best in the nation.

Perhaps you will not feel that we are immodest when we point out that although Atlanta is twenty-fourth in the nation in population, it has the fifth busiest airport, nineteen degree-granting colleges and universities, several local theatre groups, a choral guild, a symphony orchestra, music club, art museum, two ballet companies, and a concert dance group.

Geographically, our city has the largest toll-free telephone system in the nation. It has been called the City of Churches. We have 600 churches representing 40 denominations. Three commercial television stations bring the three national TV networks to our city. The Atlanta Board of Education owns WETV, the only educational television station in the city. There are twenty commercial AM and FM radio stations in metropolitan Atlanta and the Atlanta Board of Education owns WABE, the only educational radio station in the state. We have 159 parks and recreational areas and in October when the freeway connector is completed in the center of town, you will be able to ride 40 miles south and 40 miles north without encountering a stop sign.

Thirty thousand shops, stores and service organizations are within the city limits for your convenience. The city has more than 40 motion picture theatres. There are 19 general hospitals and 10 special hospitals in metropolitan Atlanta.

Atlanta recently completed a twenty million dollar jet air terminal that serves seven airlines with 465 planes arriving and departing daily. And you may be interested to know that Atlanta is only two hours by air from two-thirds of the nation's population. A library system, including a main library and 15 branches, will serve you. Building goes a-pace on a new stadium and Atlanta expects in the very near future to have a new auditorium. On the drawing board is the Memorial Cultural Center that will enhance the cultural life of metropolitan Atlanta and, indeed, the state. Also a six million dollar area Vocational-Technical School will be under construction around the first of the year.

Atlanta's skyline is changing at a rapid rate with the rise of new skyscrapers. The latest on the drawing board is The First National Bank which will be the tallest building in the southeast. Measured by pupil population, Atlanta was the 16th largest school system in the nation in 1963-64. Atlanta has 150 schools and over 7,000 children will enter kindergarten this year. Almost 110,000 school children from kindergarten through the twelfth grade will be enrolled in the Atlanta School System in September. It takes approximately 40 million dollars annually to operate the school system.