



Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are in our sixth year of operation and have some amazing news to report:

1. **Five-year Charter Contract Renewal and Expansion.** Based on the school's track record (since our first year in 2018), the SCSC will officially vote on the school's Charter 5-year renewal contract. Commissioners are also expected to approve ICAGeorgia's expansion plan to add middle school Grade 6 next year (SY 2024-2025).

2. **ICAGeorgia Earns "A" Grade!** ICAGeorgia's "Content Mastery" score for SY 2022-2023 (combined achievement scores in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies based on student performance on Georgia Milestones Assessment System) is **91.4**, which places ICAGeorgia in the top 18 % of all Georgia's elementary schools.

3. **ICAGeorgia's Japanese Math Program is Key to High Math Score.** At ICAGeorgia, traditional Japanese Math methods are the secret to our students' high mathematics score of **98.28%** which highlights the school's commitment to academic excellence. Unlike traditional methods in the U.S. favoring memorization, teachers at ICAGeorgia focus on strengthening the students' problem-solving skills to tackle any equation.

#### **ICAGeorgia Diversity Drives Academic Success:**

1. **Diversity Counts.** ICAGeorgia has one of the highest percentages of ESL students (35%) statewide. With a record number of Asian students and students with family ties to more than 25 countries, our school is a testament to how much the Japanese language and culture are treasured around the world.

2. **Teacher Excellence.** ICAGeorgia school enjoys a high retention rate of highly talented leaders and teachers. We maintain a strong Professional Learning program to build teacher capacity and increase student academic performance.

3. **Japanese-English Curriculum.** We maintain a high-quality Japanese and English Academic curriculum and reach Japanese language acquisition goals in listening and speaking, aligned with our Charter Contract.

4. **Japanese and Other Global Cultural Offerings.** Our Afterschool Care Program includes a highly credited Dance Program and new learning opportunities. Every year we are organizing unique global cultural activities, including rice pounding festival (Mochitsuki), Japanese calligraphy (Kakizome), Hispanic Week, Black History Month, and Cultures Around the World program.

#### **ICAGeorgia Community Activity and Service:**

1. **Peachtree Corners Japan Children's Festival.** ICAGeorgia joins with all our families and Japanese community stakeholders in creating a caring atmosphere of community. The PTO has contributed to several student activities and our school wide field trip. Last year, our PTO-organized **Japan Children's Festival** was a wonderful way to bring our community (and local community supporters) together!

2. **Community Service.** Our ICAGeorgia students and families work together on two community service-learning projects each school year—and our student leadership team attended classes

on leadership and the importance of giving. At this year's "Dining with The Scholars" (DWTS), a fundraising effort and honoring of our students, ICAGeorgia will celebrate six years of service to our community. We have enjoyed support from our Atlanta Japanese Consul General Mio Maeda and his office, and we continue to collaborate with the Japan America Society, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and JapanFest Atlanta on Japanese cultural programming.

3. **Atlanta JapanFest and Japan Day.** In the fall of 2023, our ICAGeorgia students performed at Atlanta's Japan Fest (one of the largest Japanese cultural and educational festivals in the country), and they performed at the Georgia State Capital for "Japan Day" on January 23, 2024.

### **Financials and Fundraising Goal: \$75,000:**

We make efforts to maintain a strong and stable financial position which enables us to handle unforeseen challenges, such as economic downturns. We receive three types of revenue: state funds (Quality Basic Education Earning), federal funds, and donations. The FY23 QBE state funds, based on the student enrollment in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and our teachers' credentials and experience, were \$2,731,577 (= 91% of all ICAGeorgia revenues.)

### **Financial Data Points:**

- **Budget Surplus.** Due to the increased Midterm Adjusted Quality Basic Education (QBE) earnings, we realized a \$356,000 General Fund surplus in FY23.
- **Teacher and Staff Bonus.** We were thrilled to reward our dedicated teachers and staff with an additional \$2,000 bonus in FY23 as well as the \$1,000 bonus paid by the State in FY24. Federal funds such as Title I, II, IV, and Special Education services are 2.6% of all ICAGeorgia revenues and are allocated based on the number of qualifying families.
- **Donations.** Donations are 6% of all ICAGeorgia revenues - received from our parents, the Board, and community supporters like you! ICAGeorgia received approximately \$64,000 in donations during the 2022-2023 School Year (our goal was \$75K). It is important to note that the Quality Basic Earnings (QBE) from the state, the State Charter School Grant Programs, and Federal grants only support the **BASIC** student academic requirements. To achieve **EXCELLENCE** and the ability to offer a tailored high-quality education that serves our community, we need your support!
- **Financing Goal.** This year, we are officially introducing the "ICAGeorgia Annual Partner Sponsorships" program! **Please see the attached flyer that includes all the details.** We are confident that with this program, we can exceed our fundraising goal as we implement our new 5-year strategic plan and plan for our middle school expansion. **Please take the opportunity to sign on as a "Partner Sponsors" and spread the word to your family members and friends.**

Thank you for your support of our ICAG community. Isshoni Ganbarimashoo!

Sincerely,



Robert N. Johnson, Board Chair  
On behalf of ICAGeorgia Board of Directors