

History of Mohammed Schools of Atlanta



Mosque #15 in Atlanta opened a University of Islam

- An elementary through high school, at 1225 Bankhead Hwy, this was the Atlanta community's first property purchase.
- School Director: 1965-1968, was Min. Shabazz. School Principal was his wife, Sis. Claretha.



Sis. Clara Mohammed passed
August 12, 1972



The Hon. Elijah Mohammed passed
February, 1975

- Imam W.D. Mohammed became leader of the national Muslim community. Appoints Imam Pasha as Atlanta's imam.

School Reopened

January, 1980

- 11 staff and 60 students in grades pre-K – 7th.
- Imam W.D. Mohammed recommended all Muslim schools be named after his mother and her courage to educate her own.
- Director: Imam Pasha. Principal: Theresa Muwwakkil.
- 1983: Amrullah Mujahid becomes principal.
- 1984-85, school moved from Bankhead Hwy. to Fayetteville Road facility



1965

1968

1972

1974

1975

1976-1977

1980

1985-1989

1968 – 1975, School Director was Min. Abdul Rahman Aquil. School Principal was his wife, Sis. Mildred Aquil.



- Cleanliness and discipline were a given.
- At the year-round school, boys went to school in the morning. Girls went to the school in the afternoon.
- All Muslims of the Nation of Islam (NOI) were required to send their children to the school. Enrollment: estimated 400 students.



Atlanta's first high school graduation
February, 1974

- Two graduates. In the tradition of Sis. Clara, every graduate received a red rose.
- Sept., 1974, Community purchased property at 735 Fayetteville Rd. SE Atlanta



Feb. 1976, another class graduates high school

- 1976: School Director: Imam Ibrahim Pasha. Principal: Sis. Mildred Aquil. Assistant Principal: Sis. Khayriyyah Mujahid
- last class graduate before the school closed
- 1977: Imam Ibrahim Pasha ordered the closing of the school for financial reasons. Consultative Board of Advisers formed to research and assure swift, effective reopening.



School Growth Progresses

- 1985 – Masjid and school continue to be in one building.
- 1986: Director: Imam Plemon El-Amin. Principal: Sandra El-Amin.
- 1987, Board began to add a grade a year to create a high school, beginning with 8th grade.
- 1988 Board voted to name high school after Imam W.D. Mohammed.
- Enrollment reached 300-plus with waiting list for many grades.
- Summer, 1988-Building expanded by raising floor of musallah and adding eight classrooms and two bathrooms.





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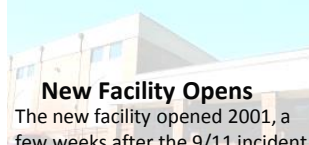


Atlanta Masjid moved

- Jan., 1990 – Atlanta Masjid made moral investment and moved to new plaza. School occupied building solely.
- 1992: first high school graduation with eight pioneer graduates. Theme: "First and Simply the Best."

First U.S. Islamic school to be accredited

- Certified and accredited with quality by the Georgia Accrediting Commission.
- Sandra El-Amin becomes director.
- Late 1999, broke ground and constructed our very own gymnasium and educational complex.



New Facility Opens

- The new facility opened 2001, a few weeks after the 9/11 incident. New facility was named after two Muslim philanthropists: Abdul Jalil and Shareef Abdur-Rahim.
- Safiyah Shahid becomes director/principal .
- High school has 100 students. Total enrollment: 300



Imam W.D. Mohammed passes

Ramadan (Sept), 2008

- America sees the election of the first African American president – Barack Hussein Obama
- 2009: School enrollment continues to decline. Now at 200.
- 2010: Alumni –Imam Mansoor Sabree (99) appointed and ratified as spiritual leader of the Atlanta Masjid community. Becomes director of Islamic Affairs for school.

Today

- Graduating 26th class
- Sis. Qur'an returns to classroom to lead Master teacher training project
- Focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum
- Enrolment: 105

1990

1990 - 1998

1999

2000

2001

2006

2008

2012

2017

School has 2 principals and a director

- School has two principals—one for lower school (Sandra El-Amin) and one for high school (Safiyah Shahid)
- Director: Imam Plemon T. El-Amin.

Gains national & international accreditation

- Accredited by SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools), being the first fully accredited Muslim high school in the USA

Lady Caliphs featured on ESPN

- 2007: U.S. economy begins to drop. Mohammed Schools sees a drop in enrollment from 250-220

Director Safiyah Shahid retires



- We celebrate Director Shahid's 40 years of service to the Muslim community.
- Qur'an Shakir becomes head of schools.
- Principal Qur'an helps to found United Islamic Schools of Atlanta (UISA)
- 2013: Race for Education boasts 200 runners.
 - Reserve account established to begin endowment.
 - Mohammed Schools of Atlanta in Bangladesh is established.
- 2015: Reaccredited by AdvancED. Receives Islamic accreditation from CISNA (Council of Islamic Schools in North America).
 - Dr. Zaheerah Shakir-Khan selected as director. Qur'an Shakir is principal.
- 2016: Enrollment continues to decline. Now at 150.
 - Because of civil unrest in Bangladesh, school in Bangladesh closes.

