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CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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May 11, 2018

CCPS Shares SACS/AdvancED Accreditation Engagement Review Report *District Recommended for Continued Accreditation on March 21*

JONESBORO – On March 21, the SACS AdvancED Engagement Review Team completed its three-day visit and evaluation of Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) resulting in the recommendation of continued five-year accreditation for the school district. This recommendation was based on a comprehensive review which examined the capacity of the school district to provide a continuously improving and effectively powerful learning opportunity for the children of Clayton County aligned to its Strategic Plan. As a result, we are excited to release the full [Advanced Engagement Review Report](#) to all stakeholders.

As previously shared with stakeholders, the role of the Engagement Review Team is to gather first-hand evidence and information pertinent to evaluating a school district’s performance and practices against the research-based AdvancED Performance Standards. By using these Standards, the Engagement Review Team assessed the quality of learning environments to gain valuable insights and target improvements in teaching and learning. In addition, the team of experts provided valuable feedback as necessary to help guide our school district’s improvement journey.

According to the report’s Conclusion Narrative, the Diagnostic Standards, the eleot, artifacts and the interviews combined were cited as providing a strong picture of Clayton County School District’s improvement journey. In addition, the Review Team commended CCPS’s impressive organizational design, stakeholder support for new leadership and a strong focus on curriculum and assessment.

“We are excited to receive our full report from the Engagement Review Team as it highlights the great strides being made by our school system,” stated Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent of Schools. “We are encouraged by this report as we work to provide our community with the school system they deserve, however, this positive report will not deter us from raising the bar as we continue to set the precedent of high performance throughout the state, nation and world. I am very proud of the work we have done and the work we will continue to do for the advancement of our students, employees and community,” he concluded.

During the three-day visit, the Engagement Review Team visited several schools and interviewed a total of 650 stakeholders to include the Board of Education Members, the Superintendent of Schools, school-level leaders, administrators, teachers, students, parents and community representatives. In addition, the team reviewed volumes of district data and evidence that pointed to an organization that is implementing the Performance Standards.

As a result, the Engagement Review Team identified many powerful practices in all standards and shared three of them as follows:

- Professional Learning
- Organizational Effectiveness
- Alignment of Standards and Practices

The team offered only one Improvement Priority for the school district to consider: A formalized structure for student advocacy process. This improvement is within reach as the district immediately implemented practices to address and improve the support it provides to students which is also the Superintendent's Areas of Focus.

Through a comprehensive review of evidence and information, the experts gained a broader understanding of the institution's quality. The results of the Engagement Review Team provides the next steps to guide the improvement journey of the institution and its efforts to improve the quality of educational opportunities for all learners. The findings are aligned to research-based criteria designed to improve student learning and organizational effectiveness. The feedback provided in the Accreditation Engagement Review Report will assist the institution in reflecting on current improvement efforts and/or adapt and adjust plans to continuously strive for improvement.

The AdvancED Commission will meet this summer to finalize the report in an effort to provide official documentation of the Accreditation Recommendation renewal to the school district. The renewal process occurs every five years for all school systems. Clayton County Public Schools AdvancED Engagement Review Report can be viewed in its entirety online at www.clayton.k12.ga.us.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited through AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving almost 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S., and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.

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