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CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent Responds to Public Comments Regarding FY2019 Budget

JONESBORO- In an effort to provide clarity and accuracy to information shared during the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) Board of Education's first FY2019 Budget Public Hearing held on Monday, May 14th, the following information summarizes a breakdown of facts about the Proposed Budget based on inquiries at the time of the public forum.

The bulleted information is being recommended by the Superintendent of Schools for the Board's consideration relative to the FY2019 Proposed Budget:

- Decrease operational expenditures up to 50% in all central office departments, to exclude Maintenance, Transportation, and Utilities.
- Reallocate eligible General Fund expenditures to SPLOST funds, as allowed by law.
- Freezing all salaries, district-wide, at 2017-2018 levels. If eligible, teachers will receive a creditable year of service (Annual Step), however, salaries for these employees will remain the same as 2017-18.
- Strategic class size increases based on a district-wide analysis of current enrollment levels in classrooms.

It is important for all CCPS stakeholders to understand that in the 2017-2018 fiscal year (current school year) expenditures will not exceed the board-approved amount set for FY2018. The current budget reflects some expenditures that were routine expenses but not included in the FY2018 budget.

In addition, some line items increased, such as under projected salaries and benefits including employer Teacher Retirement System (TRS) contributions. Relative to positions added this year, the Superintendent of Schools had minimal positions created at the cabinet level, a majority of positions added were departmental and school-based that are targeted for school support.

It is also essential for stakeholders to realize that the following are **not** being recommended by the Superintendent for the FY2019 budget:

- No across-the-board salary reductions
- No reduction in force of personnel
- No furlough days

"I appreciate all public comments and opinions shared regarding the proposed FY2019 Budget. I also want to express my immense appreciation to those employees that shared their understanding of the budget and our current fiscal situation. As we work together to strengthen our position moving forward allow me to reiterate that all recommendations presented now and throughout my tenure as Superintendent will always be in the best interest of all Clayton County students and employees," stated Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Morcease J. Beasley.

The next Budget Public Hearing will take place on Monday, May 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office Complex Building located at 1058 Fifth Avenue in Jonesboro, Georgia.

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