

“COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE”

NEWS RELEASE

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1058 Fifth Avenue | Jonesboro, GA 30236

770-473-2700

www.clayton.k12.ga.us



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Department of Communications, Public Relations & Marketing

Jada K. Dawkins

Chief of Communications

Telephone: (770) 472-7257

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SACS AdvancED Review Team Extends Clayton County Public Schools Accreditation

JONESBORO – The SACS AdvancED Engagement Review Team three-day visit and evaluation of Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) results in recommendation of a renewal or continued five-year accreditation for the school district. This recommendation was based on a three-day review that 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.

AdvancED, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools—Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), serves as a third party that monitors and reviews standards and processes needed to meet the unique needs of public school students. The eleven-member Engagement Review Team’s visit is the culminating activity of the renewal of CCPS’s district-wide five-year accreditation.

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 assesses the quality of learning environments to gain valuable insights and target improvements in teaching and learning. In addition, the team of experts provides valuable feedback as necessary to help guide a school district’s improvement journey.

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 continues to address and improve the support it provides to students which is one of the Superintendent’s Areas of Focus.

“We are grateful to the 11-member External Engagement Review Team for their time and constructive feedback. The Engagement Review Team at the end of its visit has affirmed that Clayton County Public Schools is *Committed to High Performance* with its recommendation for Accreditation,” said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent and CEO of Schools. “This recommendation is the result of an outstanding commitment by countless administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents, and community members. Without our community committedly and strategically working together toward high-performance, we would not be celebrating this wonderful outcome and recommendation by the AdvancED Review Team,” he added.

The official exit review report from SACS AdvancED—Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI) will be sent to the Superintendent of Schools within the next 30 days. The report will also be made available for the general public to review.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by 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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