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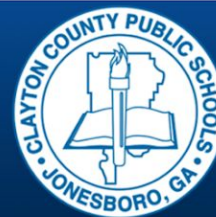
# ADVISORY

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Clayton County Public Schools Awarded \$2.34 Million Digital Learning Grant**

*Funds to provide equitable access to resources for distance learning*

**JONESBORO** – Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is proud to announce that it has been awarded \$2.34 million as part of the state’s \$21.5 million Digital Learning Grant. Approved earlier today by the Georgia State Board of Education, the grants awarded federal school improvement funds, and all districts with schools identified for Comprehensive Support & Improvement or Targeted Support & Improvement were eligible to apply.

This grant is designed to help districts shore up their digital/distance learning infrastructure in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and will address needs at the following 12 CCPS campuses: *Charles R. Drew High School, Forest Park Middle School, Huie Elementary School, Jonesboro Middle School, Lee Street Elementary School, Morrow High School, North Clayton High School, Northcutt Elementary School, Perry Career Academy/Eula Wilborn Ponds Perry Center, Pointe South Elementary School, Pointe South Middle School, and Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.*

“School districts have done incredible work during the COVID-19 school closures and have been hard-working, creative, and thoughtful with the resources they have,” said Georgia State Superintendent Richard Woods. “But there is still a need for better digital learning infrastructure within our state, particularly in rural and underserved communities. These funds will help districts strengthen their digital learning capacity, extend summer learning opportunities, and ensure no student is left unconnected.”

“We are excited to be awarded these funds to assist with our Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom one-to-one initiative,” said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent of Schools. “During these uncertain times, public education needs to be resourceful and innovative in its work to provide consistent instructional support for all of the families we serve. This grant will help us to be of greater service to the children of Clayton County.”

*Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom* is Clayton County Public Schools’ initiative to provide individual learning devices to students. It was intentionally branded as Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom, to ensure the focus stays on Learning and not Technology. The goal of *Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom* is to help students achieve at higher levels and better prepare them for college or careers. The original plan was for all 3rd through 12th grade students to receive a Chromebook. These funds will help the district with the Superintendent’s proposed plan to provide every Kindergarten

through 12th grade student with a learning device. The district also will focus grant funds to combine with funding from External organizations to acquire wifi devices for students without internet access and in collaboration with GaDOE install WiFi hotspot devices on school buses.

CCPS can use the Digital Learning Grant funds from now through September 30, 2021.

### **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 over 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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