

“COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE”

ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CCPS Celebrates January 2021 as National Mentoring Month

JONESBORO – January is National Mentoring Month and this year Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is celebrating the annual campaign aimed at expanding quality mentoring opportunities to connect more of our community’s young people with caring adults. The theme for this year’s observance is "Mentoring Amplifies." What does mentoring amplify? Mentoring Amplifies:

- **Change:** #MentoringAmplifies possibility, connection, and potential by giving everyone the tools they need to succeed.
- **Possibility:** Did you know 1 in 3 young people grow up without a mentor? You have the power to change this — the first step is showing up!
- **The Future:** A single act of support can make a world of difference. How will you change a young person’s life?
- **Discovery:** Mentors and mentees, we want to hear from you! How has mentoring impacted you?

“We face such a great need in our district for responsible adults to spend time with our students,” said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent/CEO. “Too many of our children need this kind of invested support to be successful in our classrooms and beyond.”

“We are hopeful that the attention generated by National Mentoring Month will increase awareness of our need and will result in an appropriate response from our community,” Dr. Beasley said.

Research shows that mentors play a powerful role in providing young people with the tools to make responsible choices, attend and engage in school, and reduce or avoid risky behavior like drug use. In turn, these young people are:

- ➔ 55% more likely to be enrolled in college
- ➔ 81% more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities.
- ➔ 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities.
- ➔ More than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team.

Yet, the same research shows that one in three young people in our country will grow up without a mentor. National Mentoring Month is the time of year where engagement from community members interested in becoming a mentor is highest. This year, with the support of the mentoring community, we are encouraging the public to go beyond just digital engagement – and become involved in real life. Mentoring relationships are at their best when connections are made between a caring adult and a young person who knows that someone is there to help guide them through those real life decisions.

To learn more about the role mentoring plays in our school system, please contact Dr. Alicia Dunn, Director of Counseling, Enrollment and Post-Secondary Readiness, to find out the many ways that you can become a mentor and volunteer to make a difference in the life of a student.

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 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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