

**“COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE”**

**ADVISORY**

**CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **CCPS Cohort II Schools to Receive \$2.7 Million Dollar Literacy Grant for Year One**

**JONESBORO-** The second cohort of Clayton County Public Schools campuses have been identified to be a part of the district’s Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) Literacy for Learning, Living and Leading in Georgia (L4GA) Initiative.

The schools will receive additional funds over a four-year period to improve literacy outcomes for students from birth through grade 12. According to the GaDOE website, L4GA was introduced by State Superintendent Richard Woods in 2016 and is a unique approach to improving literacy that pairs community-driven action with research-proven instruction.

“We are honored to be among the school districts selected to receive these grant funds as we aim to improve literacy outcomes for all of our students by ensuring literacy-rich practices across the curriculum and throughout each grade level,” said Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Morcease J. Beasley. “Literacy is the gateway to success in every career field or high learning opportunity, and we are excited to receive the support from the state level to prepare our students to be successful in school and beyond.”

“We are especially proud of our district and school leaders who worked diligently with their teams to apply for the L4GA grant,” said Dr. Ebony Lee, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. “The goal of the grant is in alignment with the district’s aspiration to accelerate literacy achievement levels across all grade levels by working closely with our early learning centers, community partners, and schools. We are all excited about the possibilities and impact that this additional support will have on our students’ literacy skills and their overall readiness levels for school.”

The following schools have been added to the district’s L4GA grant:

1. Anderson Elementary School
2. Babb Middle School
3. Callaway Elementary School
4. Charles R. Drew High School
5. Edmonds Elementary School
6. Forest Park High School
7. Forest Park Middle School
8. Fountain Elementary School
9. Haynie Elementary School
10. Huie Elementary School
11. Kendrick Middle School
12. Lake Ridge Elementary School
13. Oliver Elementary School
14. Riverdale High School

## 15. Sequoyah Middle School

The following schools were part of Cohort I for the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Michelle Obama Elementary STEM Academy (formerly Eddie White Elementary)
2. Lovejoy Middle School
3. Eddie White Middle
4. Lovejoy High School
5. Mt. Zion Primary
6. Mt. Zion Elementary
7. Rex Mill Middle
8. Mt. Zion High School

The goal of the L4GA grant and Georgia's Literacy plan is to improve literacy outcomes across all age ranges within feeder systems (early childhood, elementary, middle, and high schools) by 3% annually. During the application process, the district was required to conduct a needs assessment and root cause analysis to determine the assets and opportunities of the communities and schools and to create a literacy plan that outlined the evidence-informed actions that would occur (or continue to occur) if awarded the funding. Leaders and their teams devoted a tremendous amount of thought and innovation to their application. Some of the conditions for applying for the grant included:

- selecting schools in a feeder pattern
- creating and implementing a literacy plan that reflects a Birth to 12th grade approach
- including evidence-based practices, professional learning, resources, and programs
- utilizing specific assessments to monitor and measure student outcomes

For more information regarding the L4GA Grant, please visit the following link:

<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/L4/Pages/Literacy-Grant.aspx>

### **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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