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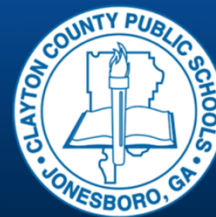
NEWS RELEASE

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1058 Fifth Avenue | Jonesboro, GA 30236

770-473-2700

www.clayton.k12.ga.us



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Department of Communications, Public Relations & Marketing

Jada K. Dawkins
Chief of Communications
Telephone: (770) 472-7257

November 12, 2021

CCPS Purchases an Anchor Space at Southlake Mall

Board approval paves the way for a 7,000-plus seat arena

JONESBORO - Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is excited to announce the purchase of space at Southlake Mall in Morrow for the purpose of constructing a convention center/arena on that property. The Clayton County Board of Education approved the \$4.4 million purchase of the space formerly known as the Sears store on August 30, 2021, with the closing occurring on October 22, 2021. The purchase was for approximately 15 acres at the mall, which includes roughly one-fifth of the facility's parking area.

The purchase places on the list a \$50 million construction/renovation project at the site. The new construction portion of the project will result in a 7,000-plus seat arena while the renovation will result in an area suitable for conventions. Once constructed, the arena, which is currently in the design phase, will be viewable from I-75.

“I am truly looking forward to honoring our graduating seniors indoors at a facility in Clayton County with sufficient seating and parking to support everyone who wishes to attend,” said Ms. Jessie Goree, Chair of the CCBOE representing District Three.

“The decision to move in this direction has brought to a close a discussion that began several years ago,” said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent/CEO of Schools. “This arena will allow us to celebrate our seniors with indoor graduation ceremonies in this county. The total facility will also be available for other community and regional events.”

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited through Cognia. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 50,000 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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