

CCPS FIRST EVER MCDONALD'S ALL AMERICAN

MJ WALKER JR. NAMED **2017 ALL AMERICAN**

Page 8

2017-2018 EMPLOYEE **INCENTIVES**

CCPS FOCUSED ON RECRUITMENT AND RETAINING TEACHERS

Page 11

GRADUATION 2017 UPDATES

LEARN MORE INSIDE

Page 14-15

ENROLLMENT BALANCING PROJECT

CCPS ADDRESSING OVER CROWDED SCHOOLS

Page 23









+MORE STAY CONNECTED ... SEE INSIDE

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GREETINGS from SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON

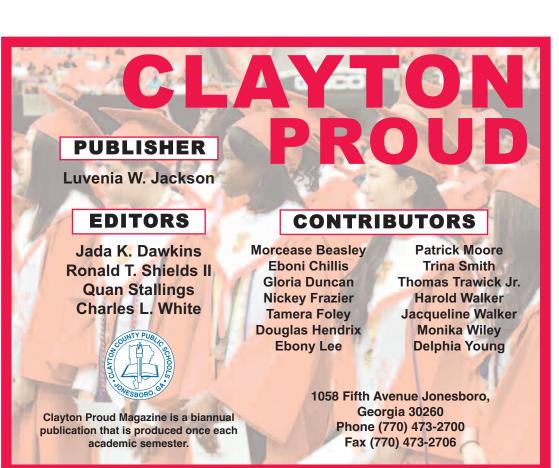
Dear Partners in Education,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the second issue of Clayton Proud Magazine. I would like to begin by thanking all of our stakeholders for the outpouring of support, stellar reviews and critiques of our inaugural issue. As we continue to improve with each publication, we appreciate your feedback, as you are a valuable part of the great things happening in Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS).

Student achievement is of utmost importance throughout Clayton County Public Schools. I assure you that the academic success of all students remains our top priority. It is my belief that this publication not only supports our mission but also highlights the successful strides that we, the nurturers of the minds of tomorrow's leaders, continue to make.

This issue of Clayton Proud is filled with new information, great photographs and exciting highlights that make CCPS a great place to teach and learn. We continue to provide our students with an education that will prepare them for college and/or career success.

It is my sincere hope that as you turn through the pages of this incredible magazine that you feel as #ClaytonProud of our students, teachers, employees and community members as we do. Thank you for your unwavering support of Clayton County Public Schools and welcome to volume one, issue two of the Clayton Proud Magazine.



Luvenia W. Jackson Superintendent of Schools



EVERY ISSUE OF CLAYTON PROUD IS FILLED WITH EXCITING FACTS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT!

LOOK FOR THE ICON AND LEARN WHAT MAKES US CLAYTON PROUD!

CLAYTON COUNTY

Board of Education





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Dr. Pam Adamson
Board Chair



District 3
Ms. Jessie Goree



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"We are proud to share the great things happening in Clayton County Public Schools. It is my hope that you find the information included in these pages useful and that it will prompt you to make everyone aware of the outstanding accomplishments of our students and our employees."

Dr. Pam Adamson Board Chair



"It is my pleasure to join with our Board Chair and our Superintendent in welcoming you to this publication. I hope you will take the time to read about your school district. Through these pages, you will gain an insight into the people and places that make Clayton County Public Schools great. Enjoy!"

Mary Baker Board Vice Chair

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Clayton County Public Schools is to be a district of excellence preparing ALL students to live and compete successfully in a global society.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Clayton County Public Schools is to be accountable to all stakeholders for providing a globally competitive education that empowers students to achieve academic and personal goals and to become college and career ready, productive, responsible citizens.

Core Belief Statements

- · We believe children have first priority on all of our resources.
- · We believe education is the shared responsibility of the student, the parent/guardian, the school, and the community.
- · We believe communication and understanding among all stakeholders of our diverse community are essential to achieving the goals of education.
- We believe that learning is a continuous process and most productive when the needs of each child are met through instruction provided by competent and caring teachers.
- · We believe a learning environment where everyone experiences security, care, dignity, and respect is essential.

Strategic Goals

- 1. To increase academic achievement for all students in Clayton County Public Schools as evidenced by state, national and international assessment results
- 2. To provide and maintain a safe, orderly and secure learning environment
- To create an environment that promotes active engagement, accountability, and collaboration of all stakeholders to maximize student achievement
- 4. To effectively communicate the system's vision and purpose and allow stakeholder involvement in an effort to build understanding and support
- . To provide high quality support services delivered on time and within budget to promote student academic success in the Clayton County Public Schools
- 6. To recruit and retain highly qualified and effective staff

CONTENTS



JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVES PIANOS FOR PEACE DONATION!



STAY CONNECTED WITH
THE GREAT THINGS HAPPENING
IN CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS









FACEBOOK.COM/CCPSNEWS TWITTER.COM/CCPSNEWS YOUTUBE.COM/CCPSNEWS



CCPS ADAPTED SPORTS PROGRAM RECEIVES CHRISTOPHER REEVES FOUNDATION GRANT	8
CCPS BEATS ODDS BY SURPASSING 2015-2016 CCRPI PREDICTIONS	9
CCPS EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR 2016-2017 CEREMONY	11
STUDENTS EMBARK ON GLOBAL JOURNEY AS DISTRICT IMPLEMENTS THE FLYING CLASSROOM CURRICULUM	13
CCPS FOCUSES ON CLEAN AIR TO PROMOTE ATTENDANCE AND STUDENTS SUCCESS	16
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS IN 1,000 WORDS	17-18
GROWING IN THE ARTS	20
CCPS POLICE DEPARTMENT KEEPING SCHOOLS SAFE BY BEING G.R.E.A.T	21
CCPS CONSTRUCTION: BUILDING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE	23
BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC CALENDAR	24



LIVESTREAM
CHANNEL 24
<<SCAN QR CODE



CCPS-AT-A-GLANCE

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is a public school district located in Jonesboro, Georgia. With over 54,000 students and over 7,000 personnel, CCPS is the fifth largest school district in Georgia and is ranked among the 100 largest school systems in the United States. Fully accredited through AdvancED- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS), CCPS offers a variety of learning options such as traditional schools, fine arts magnet schools and/or programs, Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Pathways, online courses, and Gifted Education programs. The school district is highly diversified with 90 different ethnicities and countries represented. Seventy-two (72) different languages are spoken, with the largest two foreign languages being Spanish and Vietnamese. As of the 2016-2017 school year, over 12,000 students speak a language other than English and over 6,000 are counted as English language learners.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS:

37 - Elementary Schools

14 - Middle Schools

11 - High Schools

4 - Educational Programs

2016-2017 Demographic Composition as of March 16, 2017

Grade Gender	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Multi- Racial	White	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Total
All Grades	37,882	11,526	2,143	1,353	1,255	100	44	54,303

The District has created a Strategic Plan, which consists of six strategic goals, involving stakeholders to guide its work as cited in Standard I of the AdvancED External Review Report. Clayton County Public Schools also implemented an Academic Achievement Plan, which serves as a road map for increasing student achievement. This plan establishes the underlying structure for building capacity by implementing sound, research-based instructional methodologies and using data to improve the performance of all students. The District's four instructional priorities are:

- 1. Literacy Across the Curriculum
- 2. Numeracy Across the Curriculum
- 3. Critical Thinking
- 4. Integrated Technology

CCPS was recognized in its 2013 AdvancED Report as a school system with a "well-crafted Academic Achievement Plan that has the potential to catapult the system to its next level of achievement."

CCPS provides state-of-the-art facilities for community and district growth offering world-class programs based on a challenging curriculum that is used from Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. CCPS classrooms feature comprehensive, integrated lessons taught by highly qualified teachers. CCPS has world class learning opportunities in programs such as engineering, technology education, family and consumer sciences, and Junior Reserve Officer Training (JROTC). The Career and Technical Agricultural Education (CTAE) programs, including JROTC, prepare students for state and national competitions and build leadership and professional skills. In addition, over 15 CTAE programs across the district are industry certified. When a program becomes industry certified, it receives a "stamp of excellence", which represents the apex of program quality. Only those programs that have successfully undergone rigorous reviews by leaders from business and industry are recognized with this distinction.

Clayton County Public Schools is highly recognized for its advances in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education (STEM). CCPS's Rex Mill Middle School is the second middle school in the state of Georgia and the first school in Clayton County to be awarded STEM Program certification by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE).

CCPS is also recognized in the state, the region, and the nation for excellence. The district has been recognized by the College Board as one of two districts in the state of Georgia— one of 130 school systems nationwide—as a district that creates opportunities for traditionally underrepresented students. The Gaston Caperton Opportunity Honor Roll recognizes educators and administrators who excel in delivering opportunity to students by increasing access to stimulating courses to create a culture of success that will continue to grow and benefit students.

The district has received notable recognition on the state, regional, national, international levels in the performing and visual arts. These recognitions include choral competitions, band exhibitions, local musicals, and artwork exhibitions.

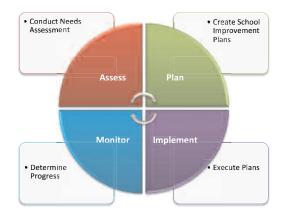
In addition, CCPS also has robust partnerships with businesses, collegiate and community organizations, governmental agencies and faith based entities which allows the district to continue in its mission of preparing students in for life beyond primary and secondary education.

OUR STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The following chart outlines the district's strategic approach to systematically improving instruction and student achievement.



OUR QUALITY ASSURANCE MODEL FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT



STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT PROCESS (SACS-ADVANC-ED)





M.J. Walker selected as first CCPS McDonald's All-American

On January 15, 2017, twenty-four of the nation's top high school basketball players were announced as 2017 McDonald's Basketball All-American selections, including Jonesboro High School senior James Michael Walker, Jr. (M.J.) – the first selection from Clayton County Public Schools.

Selected out of over 700 high school student athlete nominees around the country, M.J. competed as a member of the West team during the 40th Annual McDonald's All-American game, which was held at the United Center in Chicago, Illinois on March 29, 2017.

In acknowledgement of this honor, Walker was invited to the Georgia State Capitol to be recognized by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, Senator Valencia Seay, State Representative Valencia Stovall, and State Representative Rhonda Burnough for this accomplishment.

While at the Capitol, he was presented with Official House Resolution (HR) 586 "Walker, James Michael, Jr.; Commend," by House members which recognizes and commends him for his many academic and athletic accomplishments. HR 586 will be recorded in the history of the State of Georgia.

In a separate ceremony, M.J. was also recognized by the Clayton County Board of Education, along with Superintendent of Schools, Luvenia W. Jackson.

"It is a great honor and a privilege to be selected as a McDonald's All-American," said M.J. Walker. "Without the grace of GOD, I would not have been able to accomplish this or receive any of these accolades," he continued.

Though grateful of his selection, Walker is no stranger to success on the basketball court or in the classroom. In his career at Jonesboro, Walker is a two-time basketball state champion after leading Cardinals to three championship appearances, while maintaining a stellar GPA. He also holds the record for the most points ever scored by a basketball player in Clayton County Public Schools history, with over 2,400.

In 2016, Walker earned a gold medal as a member of the 2016 USA Men's U18 (under 18) National Championship team that won the 2016 FIBA Americas U18 Championship in Valdivia, Chile.

"We are very proud of M.J. and all of his accomplishments," said Jonesboro High School Principal Felicia Brown. "M.J. is an excellent student- athlete and leads by example. He truly embodies what it means to be a Cardinal and we are thankful to have him at Jonesboro High School as a positive representation of our great school district," she said.

While it may be easy to be blinded by the spotlight as a young sports superstar, Walker remains a humble teenager that is appreciative of the encouragement he has received and thanks those around him for their unwavering support.

"This recognition is not just for me, it is for all of Clayton County— we won this award together," he stated. "Thank you to the Clayton County Board of Education, Superintendent Luvenia W. Jackson., the administrators, teachers, coaches, my teammates and most importantly, my family for your support over the years."

As the curtain on his high school basketball career comes to a close, M.J. will begin a new chapter of his basketball career in 2017 as he takes his game to the collegiate level.





Congratulations to the Lovejoy High School girl's basketball team on advancing to the final four of the Georgia State Basketball tournament for the first time in school history.



CCPS Adapted Sports Program Receives Christopher Reeve Foundation Grant

The Clayton County Public Schools Eagles Wheelchair Handball team has been selected to receive a \$6,000 Quality of Life Grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation.

Presented by the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs, INC. (AAASP), the Quality of Life Grant is

one of 107 grants awarded by the Reeve Foundation twice yearly to nonprofit organizations nationwide to provide more opportunities, access and daily quality of life for individuals living with paralysis, their families and caregivers.

"We are in the process of rebuilding our adaptive sports programs and we are very grateful to receive this grant," said Trina Smith, CCPS Clayton Eagles Area Coordinator. "By receiving this we can look into the possibility of adding different types of wheelchair sports which will allow us to offer more sports to our students and participate in more competitions," she added.

According to the AAASP press release, the grant was requested to help school districts throughout Georgia with the starting and/or expanding of adapted teams sports for students with physical disabilities.

Created as the Clayton Killer Bees, the Clayton Eagles program was one of the original five teams involved when AAASP began in 1996 and since then has gone on to compete in various varsity and junior varsity level state championships. Due to the county's rich and lengthy sports history with AAASP, the organization was more than willing to present the adaptive sports programs with the grant.

"They were a powerhouse for years with state titles in basketball and state titles in football," said AAASP and Chief Operating Officer Tommie Sports, in an interview with the Clayton News Daily. "With all of that proud history, that athletic history in Clayton County, here is an opportunity to come back with a new crop of kids and realize that legacy again," she continued.

CCPS has used the grant to add four additional sports wheelchairs to expand the adapted sports program and allow more athletes to participate.



CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION

TODAY'S CARE. TOMORROW'S CURE.®



Jonesboro High School's Mock Trial Team won the 2017 District Mock Trial Championship. JHS has won two (2) national championships and seven (7) state titles, with its most recent state title coming in the spring of 2016.



CCPS Beats Odds by Surpassing 2015-2016 CCRPI Predictions

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is #ClaytonProud to announce that thirty-three (33) of our schools "beat the odds" by surpassing their predicted score on the 2015-2016 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI).

"We are extremely proud to be listed as one of the top performing school districts in the state of Georgia. This achievement illustrates that CCPS continues to make substantial progress after implementing the district's Academic Achievement Plan, a plan that provides the underlying structure for building capacity for academic achievement," said CCPS Superintendent Luvenia W. Jackson.

Recently released by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE), the Beating the Odds analysis predicts a score range for each school by taking into

account school size, student mobility, demographics and other factors.

"I commend district leadership, school administrators, teachers, students, community stakeholders and others who have been instrumental in increasing student achievement throughout our district," continued Superintendent Jackson. "We are excited about the great things happening in CCPS," she added.

According to an article published by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (AJC), CCPS has the seventh highest number of Beating the Odds schools in Georgia, as well as the district had seven schools that beat their projected score for the fifth consecutive year.

"While we are pleased by this achievement, we are not surprised by it. Our teachers and students work very hard to be successful," stated Superintendent Luvenia W. Jackson. "Although we celebrate this accomplishment we understand that there is still work to be done to ensure that all of our students are consistently meeting and exceeding expectations and we look forward to building upon this recent success," she concluded.

Please view the chart below that depicts the thirty-three (33) CCPS that beat the odds.

DID YOU KNOW?

Eight (8) Clayton County Public Schools earned 2017 Advanced

Placement Honor distinctions by the Georgia Department of Education. Those schools include Elite Scholars Academy, Stilwell School of the Arts, Morrow, Mount Zion, Drew, Forest Park, Jonesboro and Lovejoy High Schools.

Arnold Elementary	Morrow Elementary
Babb Middle	Morrow Middle
Church Street Elementary	Mount Zion Elementary
East Clayton Elementary	Mundy's Mill High
Elite Scholars Academy	Mundy's Mill Middle
Fountain Elementary	North Clayton Middle
Harper Elementary	Pointe South Middle
Haynie Elementary	Rex Mill Middle
James Jackson Elementary	Riverdale Elementary
Jonesboro High	Riverdale High
Kemp Elementary	River's Edge Elementary
Kendrick Middle	Roberta T. Smith Elementary
Kilpatrick Elementary	Sequoyah Middle
Lake City Elementary	Swint Elementary
Lovejoy High	Thurgood Marshall
M.D. Roberts Middle	William M. McGarrah Elementary
Martha Ellen Stilwell School for the Performing Arts	

CCPS Human Resources Division: Teacher Recruiting and Retention

In support of the Strategic Goal VI, to recruit and retain highly qualified and effective staff, the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) Department of Human Resources—with approval from the CCPS Board of Education, has launched new recruitment and retention incentives for the 2017-2018 school year.

Although some of the incentives are for all employees, the intent of the incentives is to address the school district's need to recruit and retain certified and highly qualified teachers. The program includes one-time signing bonuses, supply cards, discounted childcare and various community discounts.

"There is a serious teacher shortage, not just in Clayton County but nationwide," said Dr. Douglas Hendrix, Sr., Chief Human Resources Officer. "We are competing with school districts all across the metro-Atlanta area, the state, and the country to bring in teachers that we believe are going to come to Clayton County to improve the success of our students. The incentives program is just one of the ways we are addressing those needs," he continued.

In January 2016, the board approved a \$53.4 million incentive program with approximately \$8.3 million allocated for the program and \$45 million going to the fiscal year (FY) 2017 general fund budget.

While some of the incentives are similar to those approved for the 2017 fiscal year, there are some differences.

For example, bonus amounts have changed. According to Dr. Hendrix, the amount of money allocated for employee incentives for this year (FY17) is more than what is allocated for next year (FY18).

"This year, we had approximately six million dollars plus left from the FY17 incentives, according to the Business and Finance Department. That money was put back into the general fund, and presented to the Board for reallocation for another round of incentives meant to retain and recruit staff."

In addition to the new incentives, the department also hosts a variety of job fairs to include multiple certified teacher fairs and other hiring events throughout the year to actively fill vacancies. The department also conducts recruitment trips to various universities around the region and abroad.

"We have had some great recruitment trips and the incentives absolutely attract the attention of potential teachers," stated Dr. Hendrix. "However, it is a matter of attracting the right teachers that will bolster student academic achievement and ensure success for our community. We understand that money is not the only factor when it comes to teachers wanting to stay. Employee retention, in general, is an area where all employees must contribute in things like good-will towards colleagues, respect, sharing in the responsibility of work task, and altruism," he said.

As Clayton County aims to build upon its current success by continuing to add highly qualified teachers, Hendrix is confident in the direction of the school district.



"CCPS can become the nation's premier school district but only if we have talented people who love children and are committed to helping them on the journey of learning which is the catalyst for a college and career ready life." he concluded.

DID YOU KNOW?

Forest Park High School senior, Jennifer Manzano received a full tuition Posse Foundation Scholarship to Brandeis University.



INCENTIVES

\$1,000 SIGNING BONUS

New hires, rehires, and returning, non-hard-to-staff teacher and school based 'teacher-like' positions

\$5,000 SIGNING BONUS

New hires, rehires, and returning, hard-to-staff teacher and school based 'teacher-like' positions

SUPPLY CARDS

Opportunity for \$100 annually

ATTENDANCE BONUS

Opportunity for \$400 annually (\$200 per semester)

ONE-TIME BONUS FOR PARAPROFESSIONALS

\$300 for non-hard-to-staff paraprofessional positions

\$750 for hard-to-staff paraprofessional positions

CCPS Employees of the Year 2016-2017 Ceremony

In keeping with Strategic Goal VI – to recruit and retain highly qualified and effective staff, we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of our dedicated employees throughout the district.

Each year Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) teachers, administrators, classified, certified and support staff are nominated for their exceptional work ethic and their commitment to making CCPS the best school district in Georgia.

In 2017, CCPS celebrated the exceptional work of nearly 90 employees during the annual, "An Evening with the Stars" employee recognition ceremony. "We are truly grateful to have these amazing employees as part of our school district," said Dr. Gloria Duncan, Director of Professional Learning. "They are making an enormous impact in the lives of our

students and it is our pleasure to recognize them as well as thank them for doing an excellent job," she concluded.

Pictured below are the winners for Teacher of the Year, Principal of the Year, Support Leader of the Year (Classified and Certified), and Support Professional of the Year (Classified and Certified) for the district.

We are #ClaytonProud! Congratulations everyone!





Teacher of the Year Zach Etheridge, Language Arts Teacher, Lovejoy High



Principal of the Year Dr. Shonda Shaw, Elite Scholars Academy



Support Professional of the Year - Certified: Avery Kenly, Teacher Development Specialist



Support Professional of the Year - Classified: Joshua Froneberger, Paraprofessional, Smith Elementary



Support Leader of the Year - Certified: Dr. Ebony Lee, K-12 Coordinator of English Language Arts and Media Services



Support Leader of the Year - Classified: Terry Kinsey, Maintenance Supervisor



Graduation 2017: New Venue, New Procedures

Students of the Class of 2017 accepted their diplomas at a location that is different from years past as Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) held commencement ceremonies on May 24th through May 26th at the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC) located in College Park.

"For the past seven years, the graduation ceremonies for CCPS have been held at the Georgia Dome," said Dr. Delphia Young, Executive Director of Accountability, Assessment & Evaluation. "The decision to demolish the Georgia Dome by the state prompted an extensive search for a new location. We recommended the (GICC) convention center based on a number of factors, key of which was availability."

Led by Cluster Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Smith, the CCPS Operation Graduation team is comprised of central office personnel, school staff and various community members that work collaboratively to ensure the success of all graduation exercises.

"While the new location presented its own set of new challenges, I believe we handled them as smoothly as possible to provide an unforgettable day for our graduating seniors and their families," said Dr. Smith.

In efforts to alleviate traffic and parking concerns, the school district's transportation department provided shuttles services and expanded the ceremonies from two days to three.

To view the format of the 2017 Commencement Ceremonies please see page 14.









From 2012 to present Clayton County Public Schools graduation rate has significantly increased from 51.5% to 69.1%, which is a growth of 34% increase. This growth in graduation rate has outpaced the state's rate for five consecutive years.



2017 GRADUATION SCHEDULE

High School	Date	Starting Time	Seating Time	Ending Time
	Day 1 - Wednesday, May 24, 2017			
Morrow	Day 1	9:00 AM	8:15 AM	10:30 AM
Mount Zion	Day 1	2:30 PM	1:45 PM	4:00 PM
Drew	Day 1	8:00 PM	7:15 PM	9:30 PM
Day 2 - Thursday, May 25, 2017				
North Clayton	Day 2	8:00 AM	7:15 AM	9:30 AM
Jonesboro	Day 2	11:30 AM	10:45 PM	1:00 PM
Stilwell	Day 2	3:30 PM	2:45 PM	5:00 PM
Mundy's Mill	Day 2	8:00 PM	7:15 PM	9:30 PM
Day 3 - Friday, May 26, 2017				
Forest Park	Day 3	9:00 AM	8:15 AM	10:30 AM
Riverdale	Day 3	2:30 PM	1:45 PM	4:00 PM
Lovejoy	Day 3	8:00 PM	7:15 PM	9:30 PM
, ,				

Holding Room – Exhibit Hall A

Ceremonies – Exhibit Halls B, C, D

Reserved Seating – (1st two rows – right and left sides)





Forty-eight (48) Clayton County Public Schools received "satisfactory" or higher scores on the 2016 state "School Climate Star" ratings from the Georgia Department of Education.

STAY CONNECTED WITH CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In keeping with Strategic Goal IV of the CCPS Strategic Improvement Plan – to effectively communicate the system's vision and purpose and allow stakeholder involvement in an effort to build understanding and support, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the ways to stay connected to of all the great things happening in Clayton County Public Schools.

As a stakeholder, we encourage you to join us in spreading the word about the great things happening in Clayton County Public Schools.

You can connect and share with us in many different ways as CCPS uses a variety of platforms such as: the school district website, (www.clayton.k12.ga.us), social media, the CCPS Mobile App (available to

download for free on Apple and Android devices), telephone notifications, email blast, television broadcasts and much more to highlight the many activities, accomplishments, recognitions and honors of our students and employees that makes Clayton County Public Schools the best place to teach and learn.

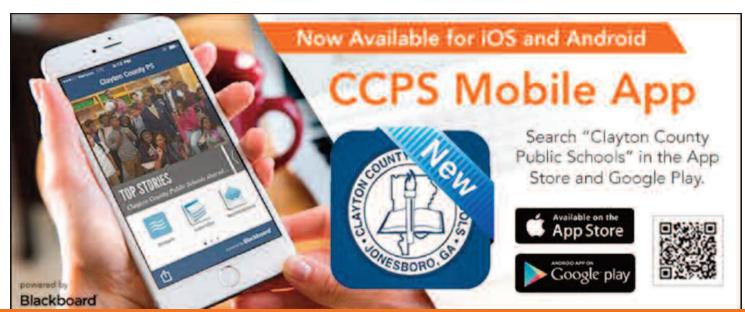
We also utilizes School Messenger's automated calling and email system to notify the community of upcoming events, important announcements and emergency situations as well as Infinite Campus to provide stakeholders (parents) with important district information and updates regarding their children's attendance, grades and other information in real time.

CCPS publishes the <u>Clayton Proud Magazine</u>. We also produce a district television show, <u>Connecting Our Community</u>, which can be viewed on the district television station, Channel 24 (for Comcast subscribers) as well as on the Channel 24 online stream located on the televisions services page of the CCPS website. The Connecting Our Community

television show not only keeps stakeholders abreast of the many great things happening in our school district but also provides them with useful and relevant information that showcases our proudest achievements.

While we understand the importance of communicating with you, we would also like to take this opportunity to encourage you to communicate with us. Please feel free to submit request or general inquires using the form provided on the CCPS Communications web page, or directly to the Department of Communications via email (ccpscommunications@clayton.k12.ga.us). To view the departments' protocol please visit the communications page on the CCPS website.





SchoolMessenger Notification System Update

Due to the guidelines of Public Law 102-243, also known as the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), automated calls from the district level to parents/guardians, students and district employees have been limited to three specific reasons:

- Emergencies
- · School status during hazardous weather
- Attendance

To remove your telephone number(s), you must complete the appropriate form and return it to your child's school. Remember, you must complete a separate form for each child in your family who attends a CCPS school. This action means that general information calls about events and activities in your schools and the district will be stopped. Forms are available online at www.clayton.k12.ga.us, at your child's school, or on Infinite Campus. Please note that calls for the reasons noted above will continue.

CLAYTON READS IN EVERY SEASON!

"A book a day — the Clayton way!"

READ BOOKS OF INTEREST WHILE PRACTICING READING SKILLS.

Reading Lists for all grades available at www.clayton.k12.ga.us

SUMMER READING GOALS:

- Read every day for at least 30 minutes.
- Students should read at least 1 book each week including both fiction and nonfiction.
- Complete the Clayton County Reading Log. Return it to school in for a reward.
 Visit www.clayton.k12.ga.us to print a reading log.

HOW TO ACCESS SUMMER READINGS

Clayton County Public Library Visit any Clayton County Public Library Branch to check out books.

Open eBooks

Download the **Open eBooks App** on a tablet or smartphone and login using the code provided by your school.

Parents are encouraged to be involved in their children's reading by both helping them make appropriate selections they will enjoy and making reading a daily activity in the home.

Students embark on global journey as district implements The Flying Classroom Curriculum



In 2016 the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) Board of Education approved funding for nineteen schools to support the implementation of the Flying Classroom STEM-Based Curriculum.

Created by Captain Barrington Irving, the first African-American pilot to fly solo around the world, the curriculum is described as a "global journey" and features STEM+ Expeditions in near real time, incorporating literacy, math, science, technology and critical thinking that are aligned with the National Academic/Technical Standards.

"As a school district it is our goal to provide our students with every opportunity to succeed as well as introduce them to different avenues of learning that engaging, are challenging and relevant for college **CCPS** careers," said and Superintendent of Schools, Luvenia W. Jackson. "We are thrilled to have a STEM curriculum of this magnitude for our students led by someone as accomplished as Captain Irving and we look forward to a successful partnership with him as a valued STEM Partner in Education."

Raised in Miami, Florida, Capitan Irving turned down numerous football scholarships to pursue a career in aviation and holds the Guinness World Record as the youngest person to fly solo around the world at the age of 23. Prior to founding the Flying Classroom in 2014, Irving created Experience Aviation, a nonprofit that offers hands-on **STEMbased** programs and career guidance to elementary, middle and high school students in Florida, Texas and Georgia.

Throughout the introduction of the program, CCPS and Captain Irving have hosted various activities such as helicopter fly-ins, professional developments for instructors as well as school visits, in which Capitan Irving engaged students in creating STEM projects based on his expedition experiences.

As excitement for the program engulfs the school system, Career, Technical and Agricultural Education Coordinator, Dr. Eboni Chillis, believes that the Flying Classroom will not only encourage academic achievement across different areas of the curriculum but also foster a life long love of learning and problem solving.

"Students confronted are with personal, academic, and technical challenges every day and with a purposeful STEM curriculum, we are better equipped to develop their mental tenacity to present solutions to real world problems that exist today, tomorrow and beyond," said Dr. Chillis. "As those challenges decrease and become more interesting to solve, we are able to encourage life-long critical and innovative thinkers which is what STEM-based learning is designed to do. This is an exciting time for STEM in Clayton County Public Schools. We are excited to be able to bring this program into our school district, and introduce our students to various options involving careers in aviation" she concluded.



Fifteen (15) CCPS CTAE programs are industry certified- receiving a "stamp of excellence" which represents the apex of program quality.



CCPS focuses on clean air to promote attendance and students success

As of July 11, 2016 Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) adopted the Georgia's comprehensive asthma-friendly school policy and became the only school district in Georgia to include Senate Bill (SB) 126 in its asthma policy. SB126 allows for schools to stock and administer asthma medication in emergency situations. CCPS is also the second school district in Georgia to become certified as asthma-friendly by the Georgia Department of Public Health.

"Attendance is a crucial part of student success so we must be equipped to handle any issue that may arise that could cause an extended absence," said Dr. Tamera Foley, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning. "We want our students to be healthy. We understand prolonged health issues impact attendance, which can negatively affect academic success. It is a great honor to be recognized by the Georgia Department of Public Health for the actions we take in ensuring our students

and employees will be taken care of in the event of an asthmatic emergency," she continued.

In conjunction with the school district being certified to administer asthma medication in cases of an emergency, the CCPS Department of Transportation does its part to ensure that there is cleaner air in the community by following the Georgia Department of Education Pupil Transportation's Guidelines for the Elimination of Unnecessary School Bus Idling and as well as provided 'No Idling' signs in the school zones for all other vehicles.

"We understand there are many factors that go into having successful students such as arriving to school on time and possible health issues," said Harold Walker, Director of the CCPS Transportation Department "It's great that we are able to support the success of our students by contributing to having cleaner air and keeping our buses properly maintained according to the state standard. We are happy to be a part of their academic achievement."

Earlier this year the department successfully completed its annual State Inspection facilitated by the Department of Education Bus Inspectors. Throughout the inspection process, state inspectors examined 444 district school buses safety devices. The department is proud that 98% of the inspected buses met the state inspection requirements.

Not only are the buses safe, but they are also equipped with state of the art technology such as wireless video cameras, two-way radios, GPS tracking systems and other features that assist the department's fleet of drivers on their daily routes.

"Our role is to make certain that students have appropriate transportation to ensure on time and orderly arrival to and from school as well as extracurricular activities," said Walker. "We are proud of our mechanics for a job well done, ensuring that our students are able to ride safe buses."

In 2016 CCPS became the first school to commit its entire school system to participate in the Georgia Commute Options Program, which offers ridesharing options and commute alternatives.

"Student achievement is based on a multitude of factors. We will continue to look at a wide variety of opportunities that we believe will put our students in the best possible situations to succeed academically," said Dr. Foley. "By collaborating with different departments and creating outside partnerships, we are making strides in fortifying CCPS as the premier school system in Georgia for academic achievement."





CLAYTON PROUD! SPRING/SUMMER 2016-2017

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DISTRICT HIGHTS IN 1,000 WORDS....



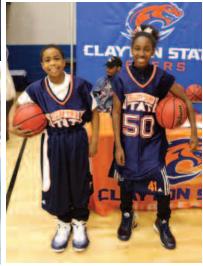
















Students from Forest Park High School's Marketing CTAE pathway created the design concept for the new Clayton County Water Authority Logo.





















DID YOU KNOW?

Eight (8) Clayton County Public Schools earned 2017 Advanced Placement Honor distinctions by the Georgia Department of Education. Those schools include, Elite Scholars Academy and Stilwell School of the Arts as well as Morrow, Mount Zion, Drew, Forest Park, Jonesboro and Lovejoy High Schools.

Jackson Elementary Receives Pianos for Peace Donation

As the 2016-2017 academic year got underway, faculty, staff and students of CCPS' Jackson Elementary were surprised by an unexpected piano donation along with a hand written letter addressed to Principal Donna Jackson from the Pianos for Peace Nonprofit organization.

The letter reads, "On behalf of Pianos for Peace and our partnership with the Atlanta Airport, we are thrilled to donated one of our Pianos for Peace to James A. Jackson Elementary Schools."

Created for the 2016 Atlanta Pianos for Peace Festival, Jackson Elementary Schools' new piano - and other pianos, throughout on display were neighborhoods, streets and park in Metro Atlanta for two weeks before being donated to school districts, community centers and other organizations in need. "We appreciate Pianos for Peace for promoting peace through art, music and education," said Principal Jackson. "Our community, CCPS, and the youth that we serve will benefit greatly by this donation in recognition of Peace that permeates throughout the Atlanta area."

Founded in 2015, Pianos for Peace is a public charity based in Atlanta, Georgia and was established by composer and pianist Malek Jandali with the mission of building peace through music and education.

"We are thrilled that two of Hartsfield-Jackson's Partner in Education Schools (Clayton's Jackson Elementary School and Fulton's Tri-Cities High School) received our Pianos for Peace," said



Jandali in an interview with Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. "We can't wait to see what the students do on their new pianos," he concluded.

In addition to receiving the piano donation, the Jackson Elementary School chorus performed during the closing ceremony of the inaugural Pianos for Peace Festival held in the Domestic Terminal Atrium at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

"It was a great opportunity for our students to perform and show appreciation for the donation," said Dr. Jackson. "Opportunities like these are really a testament to how hard our students, teachers and volunteers work to be as close to perfect as possible. They do an outstanding job and we are very proud of them."

As far as the 2017 Pianos for Peace Festival, it is Jandali's hope to continue in the organizations mission of making the arts accessible to all by creating the largest public arts display in the city by placing over 50 pianos on the streets of Atlanta.

While Jackson is unsure of details related to the schools possible involvement in the upcoming festivities, she has been assured by Pianos For Peace representatives that James A. Jackson

Elementary School is part of the plans for this years festival, which is scheduled for September 1-18, 2017.

"There have been opportunities mentioned, however we are still awaiting specific details as to what we may be asked to do," explained Dr. Jackson. "Until then we are thrilled to have this stunning piano on display in our front lobby. Many of our visitors ask about the donation and some even play the piano. It is a beautiful addition to the school."





Jonesboro High senior, Christina Sandidge, won first place in the State National Association for Pupil Transportation School Bus Safety Poster Competition as well as second place in the national level of the competition.



GROWING IN THE ARTS

"Clayton County Public Schools' (CCPS) Fine Arts Department has a rich history of excellence in the arts. We are proud of our teachers and students for their dedication to our district. Because of them, our district is known not only for its performances and artwork at the state level, but the national and international levels as well. We are proud to boast on our many musicals that we produce each year and hope to see our community at the next production of The Wiz on May 5 or 6, 2017. This musical is just one example of the GREAT things that are happening in Clayton County."

- Monika M. Wiley, Ed.D., CCPS Director of Fine Arts







THE FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

In honor of Clayton County Public Schools' (CCPS) Mission, Vision, and Strategic Improvement Goals, the Fine Arts Department provides students with an education in the Arts as well as educating students through the Arts. Each pathway offered cultivates our children by building literacy while developing imagination, skill, reasoning, and intuition into unique forms of expression and communication.

Fine Art Education is available to CCPS students in the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Certain schools, however, have a particularly high focus in the Arts and offer special opportunities with the Fine Art Magnet Theme Programs. All elementary schools offer General Music and Visual Arts with the exception of Jackson Elementary School's 'School of the Arts', at which students enjoy the additional option to audition for dance, theatre, and chorus. The highest concentration and range

FINE ARTS PATHWAYS

- Band
- · Chorus
- Dance
- Guitar
- MusicTechnology
- Orchestra
- Piano
- Theatre Arts
- Visual Art

within the Fine Arts are available to students who audition and are accepted to one of the district's Fine Art Magnet Theme Programs or Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts. These opportunities currently include a total of 9 Fine Arts Pathways.

The Fine Arts Department ensures that ALL CCPS students have access to the rich education and understanding that are provided, regardless of their background, talents, or disabilities. All students will grow in their ability to capture their world when they learn from the arts. Through the CCPS arts education, all students will make a positive contribution to the nation's storehouse of culture.

FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEALS

Eligible graduating seniors may receive one of three types of fine arts seals on their diplomas. Students who have completed the Georgia Department of Education's Fine Arts Capstone Project are eligible for the State's Fine Arts Diploma Seal. In order to receive the State Seal, students must complete a Georgia Fine Arts Pathway, Creative Industry Skill Focus Course, Community Arts Partnerships, Written Reflection, and a Fine Arts Portfolio. Eligible graduating seniors may receive one of two types of District Fine Arts seals on their diplomas. To earn the Fine Arts Seal with Distinction, fine arts students must have earned four Carnegie units in one fine arts area (band, chorus, dance, orchestra, piano, theatre, visual arts) and have earned at least one additional Carnegie unit in any fine arts area. Students who have earned six or more Carnegie units in any combination of fine arts areas are eligible for the Fine Arts Seal.



CCPS has magnet programs at Morrow and Lovejoy High School which focus on Computer Science, Science, Mathematics and Technology. In addition, the CCPS Board of Education voted to implement two new magnet programs at Mundy's Mill High School and Jonesboro High School. The Mundy's Mill High Magnet program will start in the 2017-2018 school year and focus on Film and Media, while the Jonesboro High School Magnet program will begin in the 2018-2019 school year and focus on Political Leadership.

CCPS Police Department keeping schools safe by being G.R.E.A.T

As the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) Department of Safety and Security continues in its vision to safeguard the lives and well-being of our students, teachers, and administrators, the department has hosted several Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T) classes at various middle schools throughout the district.

Designed for children in the years immediately before prime ages for introduction to gangs and delinquent behavior, the program is built around school-based, law enforcement officer instructed classroom curriculum. G.R.E.A.T. is an evidence-based and effective gang and violence prevention platform that provides a continuum of components for children and their families. These components include a 13-lesson middle school curriculum, a 6lesson elementary school curriculum, a summer and family component.

"In order to make a difference, we have to educate our young people about the potential consequences of their actions if they decide to get involved with gangs," said Chief Thomas Trawick, CCPS Director of Safety and Security. "The earlier we can get to them and educate them about these consequences, the greater the likelihood is that they will not engage in these undesirable activities."

As of March 2017, one hundred seventy-four (174) CCPS elementary and middle school students have completed the curriculum and graduated from the G.R.E.A.T program with an additional two hundred twenty-one (221) currently enrolled.

Through partnership with Verizon, three CCPS officers also received grant funds from the G.R.E.A.T. foundation Inc.'s Make My School A Great Place grant program. This program provides middle school age children with useful decision making skills to deter gang related activity by painting over graffiti in their communities as well as creating antigang, anti-bullying, and/or anti-violence posters and other creative community activities.

Although the need to intervene with younger students prior to possible gang involvement is understood, Department of Safety and Security is not overlooking the district's high school students. Prior to the 2016 semester break, the department hosted Gang Awareness & Criminal Procedure Assemblies at each of the district's high schools which featured representatives from: the Clayton County Juvenile Court, the Office of the Clayton County Solicitor General, the District Attorney's Office, CCPS Student Services Department and Clayton County Police Department.

"The goal is to help our students make great decisions in their academic and personal lives as well as be productive contributors to society," said Chief Trawick. "It was a great opportunity for our junior and senior students to speak to individuals that work in the justice system and get accurate information directly from knowledgeable entities," he added.

While the mission of the department is to provide high quality public safety that will help to promote and foster a safe and secure learning and working environment through excellence in policing for our staff, students, and visitors, Chief Trawick points to the importance of leading by example.

"It is easy to tell someone what they should and should not do but people connect more with action than they do with words," began Chief Trawick. "We participate in a number of mentorship programs and initiatives in which we can be more hands on with students and not only tell them about a better way but show them a path toward success," he concluded.







CCPS Addressing Overcrowded Schools with Enrollment Balancing Project

When students attending the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) system return from summer vacation, for some, the school buildings may seem less crowded. Starting in the 2017-2018 school year, CCPS will be well into the Phase I of its Enrollment Balancing Project.

Enrollment Balancing is described as the redistricting process that moves students from one school to another school in efforts of balancing enrollment in schools that suffer from overcrowding and under crowding because of population fluctuations over a period of time.

"We have to address the issue of overcrowding in our schools to ensure our students are not only safe but also have the best environment to succeed academically and personally," said Dr. Morcease Beasley, CCPS Chief School Improvement Officer. "We all want our children to be successful and we understand the challenge students may face by being in schools that are overcrowded."

After a series of community input meetings, the implementation of the Enrollment Balancing Project Phase I was approved by the Clayton County Board of Education on January 3, 2017 with the understanding that rising 5th, 11th, and 12th grade students will be allowed to remain at their current schools until the completion of the highest grade. Throughout the first phase of the project, students will be moved between nine schools that include Charles Drew, North Clayton, Forest Park, Mount Zion and Morrow High Schools as well as Oliver, Northcutt, King and Riverdale Elementary Schools. Students who wish to remain at their current schools were provided the opportunity to submit an opt-to-remain form and will receive transportation provided by the CCPS Department of Transportation.

The projected transportation cost is \$1,039,844.36, which includes additional school buses, salary for an additional mechanic and 32 drivers and fuel for the first year. Second year costs total \$252,154.26. Total cost for the two-year project is \$1,291,998.52.

As part of the process, district leadership welcomed parents and students who voiced their concerns with the proposed changes. These were used to adjust the proposed recommendations as approved by the Board of Education.

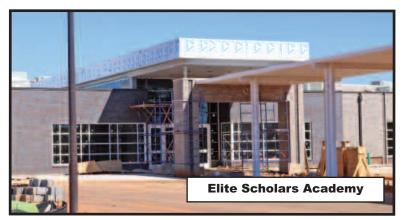
"Changes are often difficult but necessary," stated Dr. Beasley. "The enrollment balancing process also necessitates the movement of district personnel to accommodate the enrollment increases and decreases at affected schools." He continued by sharing, "This change will impact students and employees." As of January 31, 2017, all impacted households received written notification of the Board's decision along with maps reflecting the impacted areas.

The Chief of School Improvement has shared that the goal is to make changes impacting a community only once and asks for patience as the process is completed. "The goal is to move students and redraw boundary lines for school feeder patterns one time. Once we have completed with a set of schools, they will be allowed to settle," he said. Dr. Beasley requests the community's understanding, support, and patience as he concludes with an appeal, "We ask that our community understands the need for this process and that they extend support and patience as we work to make this change as seamless as possible."

To view maps of the impacted areas and other information regarding the enrollment balancing project, please visit the enrollment balancing project page of the CCPS Website, www.clayton.k12.ga.us.









CCPS Construction: Building Educational Excellence

A variety of construction projects can be found throughout the Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) district. The costs for each of these projects is being covered by Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds.

SPLOST funds pay for a host of construction activities (renovation, refreshing, etc.), as well as technology and transportation needs. At present, there are

four major construction projects underway. Here's a look at each:

- Elite Scholars Academy New School (6-12) Construction; Projected costs: \$22.2 million; Project completion: 78 percent; Facility Opens: January 2018.
- East Clayton Elementary New School (K-5) Construction; Projected costs: \$20.5 million; Project completion: 20 percent; Facility Opens: August 2018.
- Riverdale High Competition Gymnasium Construction; Projected costs: \$13.4 million; Project completion: 47 percent; Facility Opens: October 2017.
- Lee Street Elementary Renovation Construction; Projected costs: \$3.4 million; Project completion: 2 percent;

Facility Opens: September 2017.

In addition, renovation projects at Morrow Elementary and Edmonds Elementary have been completed. In addition to new playgrounds, the \$8 million effort included the installation of new flooring throughout the interior of both facilities, restroom upgrades and new intercom and security upgrades.

Next on the drawing board is a renovation project for **Arnold Elementary** which is still in its design phase.





Smith Elementary School's, Makyndria Daniel, won the Regional Young Georgia Authors Award in the Kindergarten Grade Level and River's Edge Elementary Schools's, Jayden Pitts, won the Regional and State Young Georgia Authors Award in the Second Grade level of the competition.

Board of Education Approves the 2017-2018 **Academic Calendar**

During the regularly scheduled March 2017 board meeting, the Clayton County Board Education approved the 2017-18 Academic Calendar.

All schools, with the exception of Elite Scholars Academy (ESA), will follow the 2017-18 School Year Calendar. The ESA calendar can be found by visiting the calendar page of the Clayton County Public **Schools Website**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Clavton County Public Schools

2017-2018 School Calendar

Legend

Holiday/System Closed

New Teacher Orientation

Pre-/Post-Planning

First Day/Last Day

Professional Learning Day*

(Early Dismissal for Students)

Staff Development Day

July 2017

SMTWTFS 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31

August 2017 SMTWTFS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

September 2017 SMTWTFS

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 <mark>20</mark> 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

October 2017

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Holidays

July 4: Independence Day

Sept. 4: Labor Day

Oct. 9: Fall Break

Nov. 20-24: Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 21-Jan. 3: Semester Break

Jan. 15: MLK Day

Feb. 19: President's Day

Feb. 20: Winter Break

Apr. 2-6: Spring Break

May 28: Memorial Day

November 2017

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

March 2018

SMTWTFS 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

December 2017

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 <mark>21 22</mark> 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

April 2018

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

January 2018

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

February 2018 S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

May 2018

SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

June 2018

S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

* Early Dismissal Times: Elementary Schools, Unidos Elementary, White Academy-1:15/Ash Street-2:00/ Middle Schools, Elite Scholars & Unidos Middle-2:10/ High Schools, Flint River-2:50



Georgia Department of Education selected two CCPS Schools, Morrow and Riverdale High Schools, to participate in the **YouScience Pilot Program.**



Congratulations Clayton County Public Schools Class of 2017





















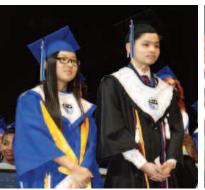










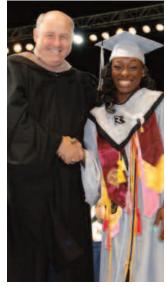


























SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORY

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Anderson (101)	770-473-3269
Arnold (102)	770-473-2800
Brown (104)	770-473-2785
Callaway (133)	678-479-2600
Church Street (105)	770-994-4000
East Clayton (106)	678-827-7927
Edmonds (107)	678-827-7932
Fountain (103)	770-472-7669
Harper (134)	678-479-2654
Hawthorne (131)	770-472-7669
Haynie (108)	770-968-2905
Huie (110)	678-827-7937

Jackson (136)	678-610-4401
Kemp Elem. (127)	770-473-2870
Kemp Primary (138)	678-610-4300
Kilpatrick (111)	770-473-2790
King (135)	770-991-4651
Lake City (112)	770-473-3229
Lake Ridge (130)	770-907-5170
Lee Street (114)	770-473-2815
Marshall (137)	678-827-7942
McGarrah (113)	770-968-2910
Morrow (115)	770-968-2900
Mount Zion Elem. (116)	770-968-2935
Mount Zion Primary (139)	770-472-2828

Northcutt (119)	770-994-4020
Oliver (120)	770-994-4010
Pointe South (126)	770-473-2900
Riverdale (121)	770-994-4015
River's Edge (129)	770-460-2340
Smith (132)	770-960-5750
Suder (122)	770-473-2820
Swint (123)	770-473-2780
Tara (124)	770-968-2916
Unidos (198)	678-827-7947
West Clayton (125)	770-994-4005
White K-8 Academy (140)	770-472-2850

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Adamson (019)	770-968-2925
Babb (011)	770-473-3248
Forest Park (012)	770-472-2817
Jonesboro (014)	678-610-4331

Kendrick (024)	770-472-8400
Lovejoy (021)	770-473-2933
Morrow (015)	770-210-4001
Mundy's Mill (016)	770-473-2880
North Clayton (017)	770-994-4025

Point South (020)	770-473-2890
Rex Mill (029)	770-474-0702
Riverdale (018)	770-994-4045
Roberts (025)	678-479-0100
Sequoyah (028)	770-515-7524

HIGH SCHOOLS

Drew (315)	770-472-2820
Elite Scholars Academy (099)	770-472-2823
Forest Park (001)	770-473-2775
Jonesboro (002)	770-473-2855

Lovejoy (006)	770-473-2920
Morrow (003)	770-473-3241
Mount Zion (007)	770-473-2940

Mundy's Mill (311)	678-817-3000
North Clayton (004)	770-994-4035
Riverdale (005)	770-473-2905
Stilwell School of the Arts (316)	770-472-2838

PROGRAMS

Ash Street-So. Metro (920)	770-472-2860
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Perry Center (312-313)	770-515-7601
Transition to Work (902)	770-473-2840

Flint River (940) 770-472-8473

^{*}This information is subject to change. Updated information can be found on our website: www.clayton.k12.ga.us



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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