

Investing in Educational Excellence (IE²) System* Application

DISTRICT NAME

Rockdale County Public Schools

DISTRICT ADDRESS

954 N. Main Street Conyers, GA 30012

> Richard Woods State School Superintendent



SWSS/IE² RCPS SYSTEM APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Please enter the requested information in the gray boxes following each question. Thank you!

Pro	Proposed SWSS/IE2 System Information						
1. Full Name of Proposed IE	1. Full Name of Proposed IE2 System Rockdale County Public Schools						
2. Please indicate whether to New Petition X or a Rene	pro syst	 How many schools in total are you proposing to include in your IE2 system? 21 (18 traditional plus 3 non- traditional) 					
4. How many of each of the following schools are you proposing to include in your IE2 system? Primary School(s) 0 Middle School(s) 4 Non-traditional 3 Elementary School(s) 11 High school(s) 3 5. On July 1 of what year do you want your IE2 contract to be effective? 2016							
6. IE2 System Street Addres 954 N. Main Street	,	City 8. State 9. Z					
10. Contact Person: Lee Dav	10. Contact Person : Lee Davis 11. Title						
12. Contact Street Address 954 N. Main Street	13. City Conyers	14. State 15. Zi GA 30					
16. Contact's telephone num 770-860-4257		17. Contact's fax number 770-860-4266					

ROCKDALE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SWSS/IE² SYSTEM APPLICATION

In accordance with the State of Georgia Article 4, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84, it is the intent of Rockdale County Public Schools (RCPS) to operate as a Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS/IE²) through the development of the SWSS/IE² partnership between Rockdale County Public Schools and the State Board of Education. The following components consist of the current planning for completing the application and developing the contract necessary to take effect on July 1, 2016.

ROCKDALE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS OVERVIEW

Rockdale County Public Schools (RCPS) is a boundless learning community where students aspire to their dreams and success is expected of all. We believe the greatest asset available to students and community is education. Through education, opportunities are maximized and dreams realized. The RCPS strategic plan supports this belief. Accordingly, district leaders are charged with the responsibility of implementation and ongoing review of the progress being made toward reaching established goals. Under the leadership of its Board and Superintendent, RCPS is committed to serving its students, staff, and community. Empowering students to shape their future is at the forefront of all endeavors.

WE BELIEVE THAT

- -Students are at the core of all educational decision-making
- -Family is the most important factor in the development of the individual
- -A safe and orderly environment is essential to teaching and learning
- -Education is the most important asset in maximizing the opportunities of an individual and a community
- -Every person deserves a voice and is worthy of respect
- -Each person is responsible for his or her own actions
- -Faith gives meaning and purpose to life
- -Diversity strengthens our community

ASSURANCES FORM AND SIGNATURE SHEET

The law requires your school district to provide assurances that it will do certain things and comply with certain laws. This Assurance Form enumerates all of these requirements and, when you submit this signed Signature Sheet with this Assurance Form as part of your IE2 System Application Package, you are providing the legal assurance that your IE2 system understands and will do these things. This form must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the school system.

As the authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the information submitted in this application for an IE² contract for Rockdale County Public School District located in Rockdale County is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; I also certify that if awarded an IE² the school system:

- 1. Shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations;
- 2. Shall not discriminate against any student or employee on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, national origin, gender, disability or age;
- Shall be subject to all federal, state, and local rules, regulations, court orders, and statutes
 relating to civil rights; insurance; the protection of the physical health and safety of school
 students, employees, and visitors; conflicting interest transactions; and the prevention of
 unlawful conduct;
- 4. Shall be subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A § 20-2-1050 requiring a brief period of quiet reflection;
- 5. Shall ensure that the IE² system is subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. and O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq.;
- 6. Shall ensure that all teachers will be certified or highly qualified in compliance with No Child Left Behind;
- 7. Shall comply with the accountability provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-14-30 through § 20-14-41 and federal accountability requirements, and participate in statewide assessments;
- 8. Shall adhere to all provisions of federal law relating to students with disabilities, including the IDEA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as applicable;
- 9. Shall provide state and federally mandated services for English Language Learners, as applicable;
- 10. Shall provide for supplemental educational services as required by federal law and pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.03, and for remediation in required cases pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.01;
- 11. Shall notify the state of any intent to contract with a for-profit entity for education management services;
- 12. Shall be subject to the requirement that it shall not charge tuition or fees to its students except as may be authorized by local boards by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-133;

- 13. Shall comply with federal due process procedures regarding student discipline and dismissal;
- 14. Shall be subject to all laws relating to unlawful conduct in or near a public school;
- 15. Shall have a written grievance procedure to resolve student, parent, and teacher complaints;
- 16. Shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20 -2-211.1 relating to fingerprinting and criminal background checks;
- 17. Shall ensure that if transportation is provided for its students, the system shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws;
- 18. Shall ensure that if the IE² system participates in federal school meals programs, then each participating system IE² school shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws;
- 19. Shall prepare a safety plan in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1185 and submit and obtain approval from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency;
- 20. Shall comply with the state facility requirements regarding site codes, facility codes, the submission of architectural plans for any new facility that the system may build or occupy during the IE² term and all other facility requirements as established by the Department;
- 21. Shall be subject to all reporting requirements of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, subsection (e) of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-320, and O.C.G.A. § 20-2-740;
- 22. Shall be subject to an annual financial audit conducted by the state auditor or by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this state;
- 23. Shall acknowledge that all criteria used to calculate QBE funding may not be waived;
- 24. Shall follow any and all other federal, state, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the applicant or the operation of the IE² system; and
- 25. Shall ensure that all new principals and other school leaders, central office staff, superintendents, and Board of Education members receive a detailed orientation session on their IE² system commitments as part of their "on-boarding" process.

This IE² System Application, Assurance Form, and attached Exhibits were approved by the Rockdale County Board of Education on the 19th day of November, 2015.

Superintendent	Date
Chair, Local Board of Education	 Date
If an IE ² contract is granted, all Petitioners assure that activities will operate in accordance with the terms of and local laws, rules, and regulations.	
Superintendent	Date
Chair, Local Board of Education	 Date

Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS/IE²) Partnership Contract

Come now the Rockdale County Board of Education (Local Board) and the State Board of Education (State Board) and enter into this contract (the Contract) on the 1st day of July 2015.

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-81, the Local Board has developed a five-year strategic plan (Strategic Plan), attached hereto as Exhibit A, for improving the performance of its schools;

WHEREAS, the Local Board has proposed a Contract reflecting its Strategic Plan for each of its schools including components for flexibility, accountability, and consequences, as contemplated by state law;

WHEREAS, the Local Board has provided the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) with current performance and demographic data for each of its schools;

WHEREAS, the Local Board has proposed a performance template for each of its elementary, middle and high schools (School Plans);

WHEREAS, the Local Board has held a public hearing on November 12, 2015, as provided by state law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82, the Local Board has entered into negotiations with the GaDOE in consultation with the Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) concerning its contract,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, benefits and duties contained herein, the sufficiency and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

- 1. <u>Local Board</u>. The Local Board agrees that, in exchange for the flexibility outlined in Exhibit B, it will achieve the accountability goals detailed in Exhibit C. The accountability goals for each school will also be reflected in the attached individual School Plans: Exhibit E for elementary schools; Exhibit F for middle schools and Exhibit G for high schools. The Local Board further agrees that if a school fails to meet its accountability goals as set forth in Exhibit C, the Local Board will implement no later than the date specified herein the consequences outlined in Exhibit D. The Local Board further agrees to cooperate with GOSA as it monitors the performance of the schools under its jurisdiction.
- 2. Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA). In accordance with state law, GOSA will monitor each of the Local Board's schools with regard to its progress toward meeting its intermediate and five-year academic accountability goal as outlined in Exhibit C. Schools meeting the equivalent of three years' of targeted improvement as outlined in Exhibits C, E, F and G, will be deemed as meeting the accountability requirements of this Contract. If any district school is not in compliance with this goal, then GOSA will notify the State Board and the GaDOE accordingly. Additionally, GOSA will monitor

district performance on the operational accountability goals as outlined in Exhibit C. If the school district is not in compliance with these goals, then GOSA will notify the State Board and the GaDOE accordingly.

Because of the need to establish school baseline data based upon Georgia's new assessment system, GOSA will work with Local Board staff to develop CCRPI targets for each school using the accountability metrics detailed in Exhibit C following receipt by GOSA of school-level CCRPI without Challenge Points from the GaDOE. Local Board will then provide to the GaDOE updated Exhibits E, F and G reflecting the appropriate targets for each school and these Exhibits shall be automatically amended into the contract, replacing the earlier Exhibits.

- 3. <u>Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE)</u>. The GaDOE shall provide support to the Local Board's schools that are not high-performing in accordance with State Board Rule 160-7-1-.04 Accountability System Awards and Consequences.
- 4. <u>Term of Contract</u>. This Contract will be based upon a term of five (5) years of performance accountability allowing seven years of district flexibility for the purpose of setting school benchmarks initially and then again to allow GOSA to finalize Year Five performance results, since CCRPI data for Year Five will not be available until the following year. The additional year at the end of the contract also ensures the implementation of consequences.
- 5. <u>Contract Extensions</u>. This Contract may be extended on an annual basis beyond the Initial Term if the Local Board successfully meets the terms of the Contract for at least three or more years as determined by the State Board.
- 6. <u>Contract Renewal</u>. Prior to the end of the Contract Term, the Contract may be amended and renewed for up to five additional years. Renewal is conditional upon a Local Board's satisfactory compliance with the terms of this Contract as determined by the State Board.
- 7. <u>Amendments</u>. No amendment, change, or modification to this Contract will be binding upon the parties unless such amendment, change, or modification is made in writing as an amendment to this Contract and duly executed by all parties. In accordance with state law, the terms of this Contract may be amended only due to unforeseen circumstances as determined by the State Board of Education or as otherwise permitted by law.
- 8. <u>Incorporation of Documents</u>. The Local Board has adopted a Strategic Plan, Exhibit A. The flexibility, accountability and consequences components of this contract are outlined in Exhibits B, C and D. For each school under the direct jurisdiction of the Local Board, except for charter schools, a School Plan has been provided as Exhibits E, F, and G. Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, and G are hereby each incorporated by reference into this contract. In the event of any inconsistency or conflict concerning any provisions of the Contract including exhibits, any such inconsistency or conflict shall be resolved as follows:
 - (a) First, by giving preference to the terms of the Contract (without exhibits);
 - (b) Second, by giving preference to Exhibits B, C, and D;

- (c) Third, by giving preference to Exhibits E, F and G; and
- (d) Fourth, by giving preference to Exhibit A.
- 9. <u>Termination</u>. The State Board may terminate this contract upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party for reasonable cause. This Contract shall terminate automatically upon execution by all parties of a new partnership contract.
- 10. <u>Authority</u>. Each party represents and warrants that it has the authority to enter into this Contract and that its governing body has authorized, by proper action, the execution and delivery of the Contract. Each party represents that there is no litigation or proceeding pending or, to its knowledge, threatened against it having a material adverse effect on the right of the party to execute this Contract or the ability of the party to comply with any of its obligations under this Contract.
- 11. <u>Venue and Governing Law</u>. Any action brought by one party to this Contract against the other party shall be brought in the Superior Court of Fulton County and this Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with Georgia law.
- 12. <u>Headings</u>. The headings in this Contract have been inserted for convenience of reference and shall not affect, expand, or restrict the terms or conditions hereof.
- 13. <u>Waiver</u>. No party will be deemed to have waived any provisions of the Contract unless such waiver is made explicit in writing and signed by the party waiving such provision. No waiver shall be deemed to be a continuing waiver unless so stated in writing.
- 14. <u>Waiver of Law and Rule</u> Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, this contract shall not be construed to waive or approve variances of any federal, state and local rules, regulations, court orders, and statutes as provided by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e).
- 15. <u>Assignment</u>. This Contract shall not be assigned or transferred unless consented to in writing by the State Board.
- 16. <u>Notices</u>. Any notice to be made by either party to the other shall be sufficiently made if delivered in hand, or three (3) calendar days after posting, if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to a party hereto at the address set forth below or such other address as a party may designate by notice hereto.
- 17. <u>Annual Review</u>. Local Board staff will work cooperatively with GOSA in consultation with the GaDOE in monitoring of the accountability portion of this contract. Monitoring will include evaluating each school's progress toward meeting its performance accountability goals. Significant changes in student populations will be considered by GOSA at the end of the contract year and may initiate the review of subsequent performance goals. Further, GOSA may adopt a policy allowing for a second look at school performance to inform its evaluation.
- 18. <u>Consequences.</u> Should one or more schools or the school district subject to this contract be deemed out of compliance by GOSA and the State Board as provided by law or rule, the Local Board agrees to adopt or implement in a timely manner the appropriate

- consequence(s) as outlined on Exhibit D. "In a timely manner" means before June 30, 2023, unless the contract is extended or renewed.
- 19. <u>Effective Dates for Contract Provisions</u>. This contract shall become effective on July 1, 2016 and, unless extended or renewed, will end on June 30, 2023. The performance accountability provisions of this contract will become effective July 1, 2016 and end on June 30, 2021.
- 20. Time. Time is of the essence for this Contract.
- 21. <u>Execution in Counterparts</u>. This Contract may be executed in multiple counterparts which, when taken together, will constitute one agreement. Copies of this Agreement will be equally binding as originals and faxed or scanned and emailed counterpart signatures will be sufficient to evidence execution.
- 22. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes any prior understanding or representation of any kind preceding the date of this agreement.

FOR DEPARTMENT:

Attention: Garry McGiboney
Deputy Superintendent for Policy and External Affairs
Georgia Department of Education
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive,
2053 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Phone: 404-657-2965 Fax: 404-656-0966

FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY:

Jim McBrayer, Chairman Richard Autry, Superintendent Rockdale County Board of Education Rockdale County School District 954 N. Main Street 954 N. Main Street

Conyers, GA 30012 Conyers, GA 30012 Phone: 770-483-4713 Phone: 770-483-4713

Fax: 770-860-4266 Fax: 770-860-4266

EXHIBITS

- 1. Signed local Board of Education resolution approving the creation of the IE² system. (Page 20)
- 2. Notice that was sent to each principal within the proposed IE² system regarding required hearings on the IE² system application. (Page 22)
- 3. A list of all schools to be included in the IE² system, including new schools or college and career academies that will be formed throughout the life of the IE², with an indication of which existing schools are currently in Needs Improvement status. (Page 23)
- 4. School plans using the template found on our website at http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Policy/Pages/IE2.aspx (Pages 24-59)
- 5. A brief description of the IE² system that includes the name, the mission, grades served, the focus of the curriculum, instructional methods to be used, including any distinctive or unique instructional techniques or educational programs to be employed, and other pertinent information. (Page 60-63)
 - Your description will be used by the Department to provide information to the public about applicants and new IE² systems.
- 6. A brief description of the system's fiscal history and whether the system is or has ever operated under a fiscal deficit. (Page 64)
- 7. Online link to the school system's most recent annual audit. (Page 65)
- 8. Online link to the school system's most recent accreditation report. (Page 65)
- 9. Online link to the school system's most recent strategic plan. (Page 65)

ROCKDALE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SWSS/IE² CONTRACT

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Table 1 – Summary of Challenges Aligned with Initiatives and Necessary Waivers (Pages 11-12)

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Exhibit C – Accountability Component of Contract (Page 18)

Exhibit D – Consequences Component of Contact (Page 19)

Exhibit E – School Plans for Elementary Schools (Pages 24-45)

Exhibit F – School Plans for Middle Schools (Pages 46-53)

Exhibit G – School Plans for High Schools (Pages 54-59)

Table 1 - Summary of Challenges Aligned with Initiatives and Necessary Waivers

Challenges in Prioritized Order	Specific Initiative/Action and Explanation	Waiver(s) Requested
Ensuring the financial stability of Rockdale County Public Schools despite the unstable and unpredictable revenue growth.	Rockdale County Public Schools will align all spending priorities with the district's strategic plan to improve student achievement. The state revenue source currently contributes to a minimal percentage of the actual cost of operating schools at a high level and therefore the district will leverage the reduction in spending constraints to support the core business of teaching and learning.	 Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182) Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167 and SBOE Rule 160-5- 129) QBE Financing (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161) Program Enrollment & Appropriation (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160) Personnel Required (SBOE Rule 160-522)
Ensuring that Rockdale County Public Schools can increasingly personalize the learning experience and environment for all students, close achievement gaps, increase opportunities, and advance student learning as indicated by student achievement measures.	Rockdale County Public Schools will pursue innovative course design that accounts for varied paces of student learning and unique student interests and backgrounds. Through the increased use of digital resources, embedded courses, innovative instructional models, choice options, and advanced learning opportunities, the district will facilitate new thinking about engaging instructional experiences and environments for students' diverse learning needs today.	 Fersoliner Required (SBOE Rule 160-322) ELL Program Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156 and SBOE Rule 160-4-502) Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, O.C.G.A. 20-2-151.2, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-152 to 20-2-155 and SBOE Rule 160-4-238) Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290) Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-142 and SBOE Rule 160-4-248) Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-283) Graduation Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-131 and SBOE Rule 160-4-248) School Day and Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, 20-2-160 (a), 20-2-168(c)) Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) and SBOE Rule 160-4-212)
Ensuring that Rockdale County Public Schools can attract and retain effective	The Rockdale County Public School District highly regards the traditional preparation of school educators and intends to consider the	• Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212)

teachers, leaders, and professional personnel to meet the projected student growth for Rockdale County, the aging workforce, and current staffing deficits.	additional value that could be added to classroom instruction and student supports by expanding employment practices to consider professional practitioners in specialty fields such as technology, science and engineering, and child support roles. Additionally Rockdale County desires to ensure that all employees are compensated at competitive rates while valuing prior non-teaching responsibilities	• Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-201, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-204)
Ensuring that Rockdale County Public Schools can meet the unique academic, resource, and support needs of all schools.	associated with an employee's teaching or support assignment. The Rockdale County School District is comprised of 22 schools and covers a small geographic region south and east of the City of Atlanta. The district values the unique strengths and specific needs of all schools and will leverage flexibility in order to best advance teaching and learning at every school.	 Categorical Allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186) School Attendance, Compulsory Attendance as it relates to the attendance protocol (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.2)

Exhibit A – Strategic Plan For Rockdale County Public Schools

RCPS Strategic Plan

The current trajectory of RCPS is the result of the evolution of the community's vision for public education, as expressed in our strategic plan. The RCPS Strategic Plan is the guiding document for prioritizing our operational goals, as well as the allocation of resources. All stakeholders in our community, from students and teachers to parents and business owners, were meaningfully engaged in the development of the original strategic plan in 2006 and in the renewal of the plan in 2012, and identified a need to optimize college and career readiness, teacher and leader effectiveness, real-time and longitudinal data systems, and personalized learning. Consequently, as the community's vision evolved, the planning team's robust research, assessment and feedback led to the creations of the current plan, which includes the Mission, Vision, Beliefs and Objectives and Strategies below.

Mission

The Rockdale County school system is a boundless learning community where students aspire to their dreams and success is expected of all. Our mission is to ensure that each student performs at his/her highest academic level and is a successful, participatory member of our global society, through a system distinguished by:

- -fearless advocates for students;
- -community alliance for students' success;
- -empowering students to shape their own future;
- -infinite learning opportunities for all; and
- -customized measures of individual student success.

Community Beliefs

We believe that

- -Students are at the core of all educational decision-making
- -Family is the most important factor in the development of the individual
- -A safe and orderly environment is essential to teaching and learning
- -Education is the most important asset in maximizing the opportunities of an individual and a community
- -Every person deserves a voice and is worthy of respect
- -All human beings have the capacity to learn
- -Every person deserves the opportunity to succeed
- -Each person is responsible for his or her own actions
- -Faith gives meaning and purpose to life
- -Diversity strengthens our community

Objectives

- -All students will pass local, state and national assessments at levels which exceed established standards.
- -All students identify their dreams and are limitless in their individual pursuits.
- -100% of our students graduate and succeed in their endeavors in higher education, the workforce, and/or the global community.
- -100% of our students are responsible citizens, serve the community, and demonstrate highest ethical standards.

Strategies

- We will create a rigorous system of teaching and learning that empowers students to define and achieve their educational success.
- We will create safe and supportive learning environments that inspire and activate the love of learning.
- We will create a culture that nurtures individual uniqueness and embraces the diversity
 of our school community.
- We will provide optimum resources to support a world-class educational system.
- We will continually maximize the district's capacity through the individual growth of each person.
- We will build a community alliance through the meaningful inclusion and activation
 of all stakeholders.

Measurable Performance Objectives

Measurable Performance Objectives quantify our strategic plan and measure our success. They are similar to what other districts call a balanced scorecard in that it allows us to set targets and measure our performance. As we implement the action plans of our strategic plan, we expect to see improvement in these measurable performance objectives. These are also aligned with our Board Goals set by the Board of Education each year.

<u>Summarizing the Plan – Vision for the future of public education in</u> Rockdale County.

The RCPS Strategic Plan has nearly sixty specific results that fall under the six strategies. To summarize the some of the main initiatives of the plan, the district created the Vision for the Future of public education in Rockdale County.

The vision for the future of education in Rockdale County Public Schools focuses on expanded learning options for students and families, specialized programs of study based on interests and talents, and new ways of learning through virtual opportunities.

RCPS will expand its charter, magnet and advanced programs of study for elementary, middle and high school students across the district. **Instructional technology usage** by students and teachers will be dramatically magnified through **One to One access** to tablets, laptops, and/or smart phones.

Customization of the learning process will be defined by personalized learning plans for each student, individual portfolios blueprinting the path to attaining college and career goals, and a reinvention of the advisement process to empower students and their parents with the ability to define educational success.

Tangible Results

RCPS has made significant progress during the three years of implementing its current strategic plan. Some of them include:

- Expanded learning options, specialized programs of study based on interests and talents
 - We had in place several non-traditional programs to meet the unique needs of our students
 - Rockdale Career Academy
 - Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology
 - Rockdale Open Campus
 - Alpha Academy
 - Rockdale Virtual Campus
 - Creation of Specialty and Choice programs that open opportunities for students which are not dependent on school attendance zones began three years ago with
 - STEM Academy for Environmental Studies at Memorial Middle
 - Honey Creek Elementary STEM
 - AVID Elementary at Sims Elementary
 - C. J. Hicks Advanced Studies
 - Microsoft IT Academies at each high school

Then added:

- Institute for Advanced Technology at Rockdale County HS
- Performing and Visual Arts at Heritage HS
- Performing and Visual Arts at Davis Middle S
- AVID at Salem HS

And this year began:

- STEAM Academy at Shoal Creek ES
- Academy for Pre-medical Sciences at Edwards Middle School
- Center for Technology & Engineering at Conyers Middle
- Global Business and Leadership Academy at Salem High School
- Transportation is provided for our specialty and choice programs. More than 892 students are being transported to schools outside of their attendance zone.
- New ways of learning through virtual opportunities
 - Expanded our Rockdale Virtual Campus offerings
 - **2011-12 12 courses**
 - 2012-13 14 courses

- 2013-14 20 courses
- 2014-15 25 courses
- (6 are Advanced Placement Courses)
- o Number of classes taken from Rockdale Virtual Campus
 - 2011-12 900 classes
 - 2012-13 1239 classes
 - 2013-14 1300 classes
 - 2014-15 1620 classes

Expanded other online opportunities such as Ask the Expert (online live tutorial for middle and high school students across the district),

- Instructional technology usage by students and teachers will be dramatically magnified through one-to-one access
 - One-to-One rollout in full motion
 - 2,500 new laptops for teachers distributed
 - 3,760 iPads in pre-K through 3rd grade classrooms last school year
 - 5,562 laptops for high school students being distributed now
 - Improved Infrastructure to meet the technology demands
 - Implemented *Learning Reimagined (name for our one-to-one initiative)*
 - includes a comprehensive professional development plan for teachers
 - digital citizenship training for teachers, students and parents
 - distribution of a laptop device to every student and teacher in grades 4-8
 - sets of iPads in Pre-K 3rd grade classrooms
 - Grades 9 12 teachers received a new laptop and completed professional learning on changing pedagogy and use of instructional technology during 2014-15 school year
 - Grade 4 8 teachers will receive their device and complete professional learning during 2015-16 school year
- Reinvention of the advisement process
 - PREPARE Preparation for Real-life Experiences & Postsecondary opportunities through Advisement, Relationships, and Education
 - Initiated with 9th grade students 2014-15, rolled up to 10th grade for 2015-16
 - One-on-one meeting with students
 - Small groups conferences with students cohort groups
 - Discuss interests, career goals, academic performance, etc.
 - Review grades, attendance, discipline
 - Conference with parents once per semester

Exhibit B – Flexibility Component of Contract For Rockdale County Public Schools

Under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-80 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.33, Rockdale County Public Schools is seeking flexibility for all its schools from the following state statutes and associated rules in exchange for greater accountability (as outlined in the SWSS/IE² Partnership Contract) over the life of a five-year contract which allows for six years of flexibility between Rockdale County Public Schools and the Georgia State Board of Education, except as prohibited in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e).

- Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182)
- Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171)
- QBE Financing (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161 except to the extent it relates to funding)
- Program Enrollment & Appropriation (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160 except to the extent it relates to funding)
- Personnel Required (SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22)
- ELL Program requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156)
- Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151.2, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-153, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-154, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-154.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-155)
- Gifted Education Program (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.38)
- Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290)
- Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A § 20-2-142)
- Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-283)
- Graduation Requirements for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.48)
- School Day and Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160(a), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c))
- Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12)
- Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212)
- Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-201, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-204)
- Categorical Allotment Requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186)
- School Attendance, Compulsory Attendance as it relates to the attendance protocol (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690-.2)
- Statewide Passing Score (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.13 (a) and (c))
- Awarding credit for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce (SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.15)

Exhibit C – Accountability Component of Contract For the Rockdale County Public Schools

The State Board shall hold the Rockdale County School District accountable for the performance of the academic goal listed below.

Goal 1: Each Rockdale County School District school will demonstrate proficiency and/or improvement on the CCRPI.

<u>Measure 1</u>: School performance goals will be set so that for each year during the five-year contract, an individual school shall increase its CCRPI score (without Challenge Points) by 3% of the gap between the baseline year CCRPI score (without Challenge Points) and 100. Baseline year is 2015-2016.

<u>Measure 2</u>: For each year during the five-year contract, an individual school with an initial CCRPI score (without Challenge Points), performing in the top quartile of the state within each grade cluster shall remain at or above the top quartile threshold established in the baseline year. Baseline year is 2015-2016.

OR

OR

<u>Measure 3</u>: If a school fails to meet its CCRPI target score, the school will be deemed as meeting its yearly performance target if the school is determined to be "beating the odds" through an analysis that compares the school's CCRPI to its expected performance as determined by the "beating the odds" model developed in partnership between GOSA and the GaDOE.

Exhibit D – Consequences Component of Contract For Rockdale County Public Schools

Sanctions and interventions for nonperforming schools:

The schedule of sanctions and interventions shall be designed to ensure that the local school system sufficiently addresses the achievement deficiencies at all non-performing schools under the local school system's management and control. Such sanctions and interventions shall be at the recommendation of GOSA and shall include the following:

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84.1, Rockdale County Public Schools will employ the following interventions or sanctions at all non-performing schools under the Rockdale County Public School District's local management and control. The sanctions and interventions shall include the following:

- (a) If based upon the review of the 2016-2017 and/or 2017-2018 performance data, a school has not made sufficient progress toward meeting the articulated academic goals, a school improvement plan will be incorporated into the annual school strategic planning process and implemented by August 2018 (based upon review of 2016-2017 data) or August 2019 (based upon review of 2017-2018 data). The school improvement plan will address the specific achievement deficiencies along with a targeted plan to address the deficiencies. The school improvement plan and the targeted plan will be approved and monitored by the district throughout the academic year.
- (b) If based upon the review of 2018-2019 and/or 2019-2020 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Rockdale County Public School District will apply direct school management support and intensive teacher development support as outlined in the jointly developed school improvement plan between the school leadership and district leadership staff. Implementation of the school improvement plan will occur no later than August 2020 (based upon review of 2018-2019 data) and/or August 2021 (based upon review of 2019-2020 data) and will be monitored by the school system.
- (c) If based upon the GOSA evaluation of the 2020-2021 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Rockdale County Public School District will apply, in the 2022-2023 school year, the consequences recommended by GOSA and approved by the State Board of Education.

Exhibit 1: Local Board of Education Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE ROCKDALE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, GEORGIA, AUTHORIZING THE LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE INVESTING IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE MODEL WITH THE GEORGIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia in Article 4, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84 has mandated that each local school system must notify the Georgia Department of Education of its intention of operating as an Investing in Educational Excellence (IE²) School System, a Charter System, or a Status Quo School System no later than June 30, 2015; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Rockdale County School District shall submit a Letter of Intent to the State Board of Education for the purpose of developing the Investing in Education Excellence (IE²) Contract, and shall schedule and hold a public hearing for the purpose of listening to public input regarding said contract.

ADOPTED by the Rockdale County Board of Education on This FIFTEENTH day of JANUARY, 2015.

Chairperson, Rockdale County Board of Education

Superintendent, Rockgale County School District

(SEAL)



Superintendent

Santana T. Flarigan General Counsel

Richard Autry Board of Education Walse F. Barkedele farty Dawdy Jim McBrayer Mandy M. North Sharor Phan Katrina P Young

Exhibit 1b: Letter of Intent

Via U.S. Mail

January 15, 2015

Garry McGiboney, Deputy Superintendent Georgia Department of Education 2053 Twin Towers East 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5080

RE: Letter of Intent

Dear Dr. McGiboney:

The State of Georgia in Article 4, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84 has required that each local school system must notify the Georgia Department of Education of its intention of operating as an Investing in Educational Excellence (IE2) School System, a Charter System, or a Status Quo School System no later than June 30,

This letter is to inform you of the intent of Rockdale County Public Schools to operate as an IE2 School System through development of the IE2 Partnership between our school district and the State Board of Education. Please find enclosed a resolution from the Rockdale County Board of Education indicating our intent to begin discussion for contract development.

Sincerely

Richard Autry Superintendent

Enclosure

cc: Lou Erste, Associate Superintendent, Georgia Department of Education Martha Ann Todd, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Student Achievement

954 North Main Street - Conyers, Georgia 30012 - Phone: 770.483.4713 - Fax: 770.860.4266 - rockdale.k12.ga.us

Exhibit 2: Letter to Principals – Public Hearing



Superintendent Sarzana T. Freniger

General Course

Hichard Autry Board of Education Water F Barkschae Tory Simply Jm McBriyon Sha dy M. North Brad Smith Katrox B Young

November 4, 2015

RE: Public Hearing

Dear RCPS Principals:

We are pleased to be moving forward with our Strategic Waiver School System (SWSS) Partnership Contract. Establishment of the contract between RCPS and the State Board of Education would enable the school system to receive flexibility from specified state statutes and/or rules in exchange for greater accountability for student achievement.

The Rockdale County Board of Education will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 12, 2015, regarding the proposed SWSS Partnership Contract. The hearing will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room located at 954 N. Main Street, Conyers, Georgia.

It is imperative each principal share this information with parents and staff. Accordingly, a copy of the Public Notice that will appear in the paper has been attached to this correspondence. Please post the attached notice in a prominent location within your facility. In addition, information regarding the public hearing may be shared utilizing other vehicles such as newsletters and individual school websites.

If questions arise that you are unable to answer, please direct them to Mr. Lee Davis in Financial Services.

Sincegety

Richard Autry Superintendent

954 North Main Strent - Conyers, Georgia 30012 - Phone: 770.483.4713 - Fax: 770.860.4266 - rockdale.k12.ga.us

Exhibit 3: Listing of Schools

The following schools are included in the SWSS/IE² partnership. There have been no new schools proposed for construction within the next five years.

CURRENT LIST OF SCHOOLS							
Elementar	У	Middle		High			
School	Levels	School	Levels	School	Levels		
Barksdale	PK-5	Conyers	6-8	Heritage	9-12		
CJ Hicks	PK-5	Edwards	6-8	Rockdale County	9-12		
Flat Shoals	PK-5	General Ray Davis	6-8	*Rockdale County Magnet	9-12		
**Hightower	PK-5	Memorial	6-8	Salem	9-12		
Honey Creek	PK-5			*Open Campus	9-12		
JH House	PK-5			*Alpha School			
Lorraine	PK-5						
Peek's Chapel	PK-5						
Pine Street	PK-5						
Shoal Creek	PK-5						
**Sims	PK-5						

*NON-TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS

**FOCUS SCHOOLS: Sims Elementary and Hightower Elementary

REWARDS SCHOOLS: Barksdale Elementary, Honey Creek Elementary, Lorraine Elementary, and Davis Middle School

EXHIBIT E: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Barksdale Elementary School

Street Address: 596 Oglesby Bridge Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0178

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Susan Norton

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-9514

Fax Number 770-483-0665

Email Address snorton@rockdale.k12.ga.us

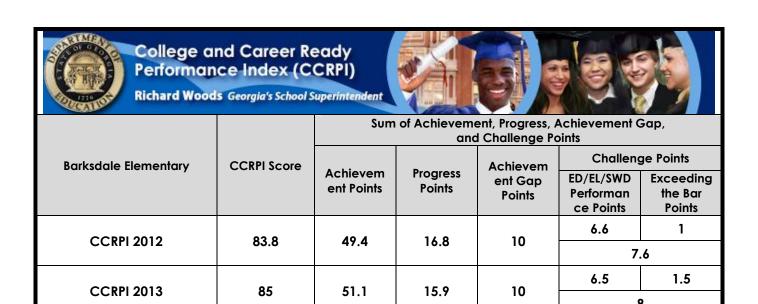
Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Porkadala Elementery	School Year						
Barksdale Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14		
Student Enrollment	515	537	544	560	575		
American Indian	0.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.33%	1.30%	1.10%	1.07%	1.22%		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	0.17%		
Black	40.39%	39.85%	43.75%	43.04%	43.13%		
Hispanic	7.77%	5.96%	5.15%	4.29%	5.91%		
Multi-Ethnic	5.44%	6.89%	6.07%	6.07%	6.26%		
White	43.88%	46.00%	43.93%	45.54%	43.30%		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0.19%	0.56%	0.37%	0.54%	1.04%		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	6.02%	6.89%	6.43%	6.25%	9.04%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	53%	58%	62%	61%	64%		
Average Student Attendance	96.57	96.35	96.96	96.20	96.31		

6.1

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2



52.6

14.6

10

CCRPI 2014

85.3

EXHIBIT E: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: C.J. Hicks Elementary

Street Address: 1300 Pine Log Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30012

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0110

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Dr. Nadine Campbell

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-4410

Fax Number 770-483-0592

Email Address ncampbell@rockdale.k12.ga.us

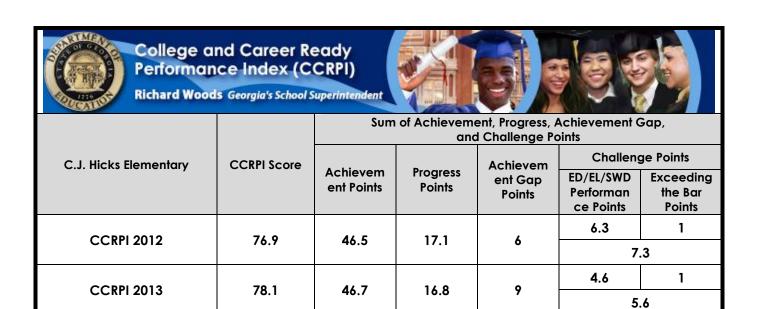
Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

C I Hicks Flamentary	School Year						
C.J. Hicks Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14		
Student Enrollment	691	860	901	880	907		
American Indian	0.14%	0.47%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.30%	2.09%	2.55%	2.50%	1.76%		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.45%	.77%		
Black	70.19%	71.05%	71.37%	71.25%	71.89%		
Hispanic	16.06%	15.35%	15.32%	16.48%	16.21%		
Multi-Ethnic	3.04%	2.33%	2.89%	2.84%	3.86%		
White	9.26%	8.72%	7.88%	6.48%	5.51%		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	7.67%	6.51%	7.88%	9.66%	9.48%		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	4.49%	6.05%	7.66%	8.30%	6.17%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	87%	81%	83%	85%	83%		
Average Student Attendance	96.00	96.21	96.32	96.29	96.50		

6.9

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1



47.7

17.8

11

CCRPI 2014

84.4

EXHIBIT E: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Flat Shoals Elementary

Street Address: 1455 Flat Shoals Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30013

GA DOE School Facility Code: 2050

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Samantha Carlisle

Title **Principal**

Telephone Number 770-483-5136

Fax Number 770-483-3579

Email Address scarlisle@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Flot Chaola Flomentony	School Year						
Flat Shoals Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14		
Student Enrollment	690	702	724	691	672		
American Indian	0.43%	0.43%	0.14%	0.14%	0.15%		
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.46%	3.27%	3.03%	3.04%	3.27%		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.72%	1.19%		
Black	80.87%	77.49%	76.52%	76.70%	77.83%		
Hispanic	10.58%	11.68%	11.74%	10.85%	9.38%		
Multi-Ethnic	2.17%	2.28%	2.76%	2.17%	1.64%		
White	3.48%	4.84%	5.80%	6.37%	6.55%		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	5.51%	7.26%	8.29%	6.80%	6.25%		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	3.04%	6.98%	7.18%	6.37%	9.52%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	74%	71%	74%	74%	75%		
Average Student Attendance	97.23	96.99	97.07	96.67	96.46		

7.2

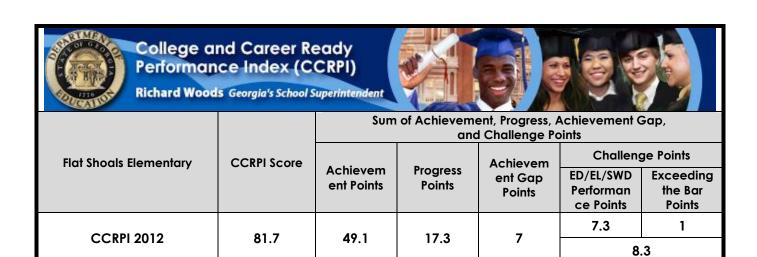
5.4

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50.5

49.3

18.3

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5

CCRPI 2013

CCRPI 2014

88.5

76.9

SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Hightower Trail Elementary

Street Address: 2510 Highway 138, NE

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30013

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0289

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Penny Mosley

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-388-0751

Fax Number 770-918-9620

Email Address pmosley@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Hightonian Trail Floresistani	School Year						
Hightower Trail Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14		
Student Enrollment	737	740	674	695	685		
American Indian	0.27%	0.27%	0.30%	0.29%	0.15%		
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.22%	0.54%	0.89%	1.01%	0.73%		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.14%	0.00%		
Black	47.35%	51.76%	48.81%	49.78%	49.20%		
Hispanic	9.91%	10.41%	9.79%	10.50%	10.80%		
Multi-Ethnic	3.66%	3.38%	2.82%	2.88%	3.21%		
White	37.58%	33.65%	37.39%	35.40%	35.91%		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	2.04%	2.84%	2.52%	4.32%	4.96%		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	12.62%	10.54%	11.87%	13.81%	9.78%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	66%	67%	66%	71%	70%		
Average Student Attendance	96.02	96.23	96.60	95.86	96.53		



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points									
Hightower Trail Elementary	CCRPI Score	A = le! = = = =	D	Achievem	Challenge Points						
·		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points	ent Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points					
CCRPI 2012	72.2	44.3 16.	16.2	5	5.7	1					
CCRF1 2012	12.2	44.3	10.2		6	.7					
CCDDI 2012	70.0	70.0	15.	15 /	15 /	15 /	15 /	15 /	F	3.9	1.5
CCRPI 2013	70.9	44.9	15.6	5	5	.4					
000014			2.3	2							
CCRPI 2014	67.8 44.5		15	4	4.3						

EXHIBIT E: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Honey Creek Elementary

Street Address: 700 Honey Creek Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0174

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Hillary Meeler

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-5706

Fax Number 770-483-9433

Email Address hmeeler@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Hanay Crack Flomentony	School Year						
Honey Creek Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14		
Student Enrollment	636	607	545	533	556		
American Indian	0.16%	0.16%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.26%	2.14%	2.38%	3.19%	2.34%		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	.18%		
Black	46.07%	52.39%	50.09%	54.41%	59.53%		
Hispanic	8.02%	6.75%	7.71%	7.32%	7.01%		
Multi-Ethnic	3.30%	2.80%	4.04%	5.07%	4.32%		
White	41.19%	35.75%	35.78%	30.02%	26.62%		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	1.10%	0.82%	1.10%	0.75%	0.54%		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	12.58%	18.62%	13.58%	15.01%	11.33%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	48%	52%	49%	59%	58%		
Average Student Attendance	96.23	96.81	97.13	96.37	96.51		



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points						
Honey Creek Elementary	CCRPI Score			Achievem ent Gap Points	Challenge Points			
,		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points		ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points		
CCRPI 2012	89.1	51.9	17.8	13	5.4	1		
CCRF1 2012	07.1	31.7 17.6 1		13	6.	.4		
CCRPI 2013	82.1	49.5	17.1	17.1	49.5 17.1	9	5	1.5
CCRPI 2013	02.1	47.5	17.1	7	6.	.5		
CCDN 0014	CCRPI 2014 77.5 50.7 16.3	,	3.5	1				
CCRPI 2014		50.7	16.3	6	4.	.5		

EXHIBIT E: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ ELEMENTARY

DESCRIPTOR

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: J.H. House Elementary

Street Address: 2930 Highway 20 North

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30012

GA DOE School Facility Code: 5050

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Kim Melly

Title **Principal**

Telephone Number 770-483-9504

Fax Number 770-483-0397

Email Address kmelly@rockdale.k12.ga.us

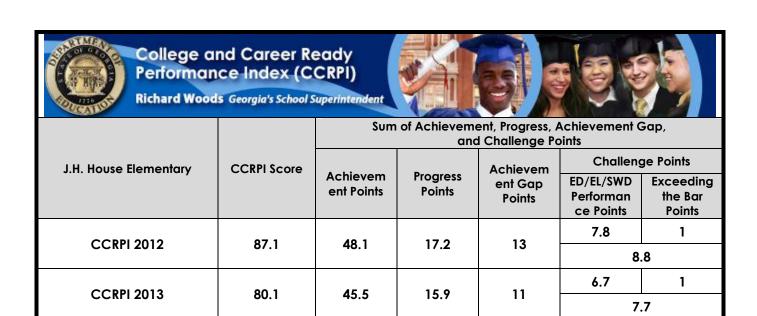
Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

J.H. House Elementary	School Year				
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	609	616	614	646	660
American Indian	0.16%	0.16%	0.16%	0.00%	0.00%
Asian /Pacific Islander	0.33%	0.32%	0.65%	0.15%	0.15%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	0.00%
Black	9.52%	8.93%	8.47%	9.75%	12.42%
Hispanic	69.79%	72.08%	70.52%	71.52%	69.24%
Multi-Ethnic	2.13%	1.62%	1.79%	2.17%	2.12%
White	18.06%	16.88%	18.40%	16.41%	16.06%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	46.31%	52.11%	51.30%	50.46%	48.79%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	3.78%	7.31%	6.35%	6.19%	7.12%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	86%	88%	89%	90%	91%
Average Student Attendance	96.61	96.78	97.04	96.72	96.45

7.2

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1.5



46.4

13.6

8

CCRPI 2014

76.7

DESCRIPTOR 2015

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Lorraine Elementary

Street Address: 3343 East Fairview Road

City, State Zip Code: Stockbridge, GA 30281

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0197

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Dr. David Ray

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-0657

Fax Number 770-483-5858

Email Address dray@rockdale.k12.ga.us

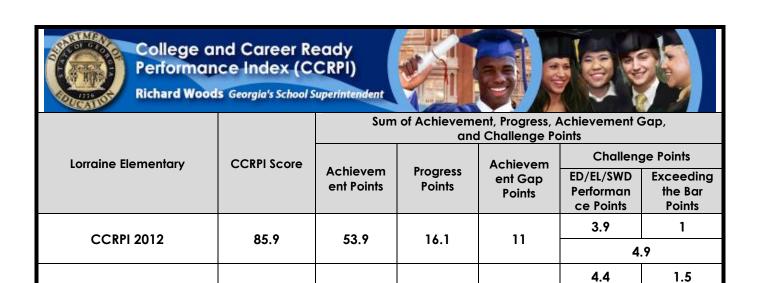
Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Lorraina Elementery		•	School Year	r	
Lorraine Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	764	741	722	730	750
American Indian	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.13%
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.62%	2.83%	3.05%	2.74%	2.67%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.41%	.80%
Black	49.08%	49.66%	51.11%	54.66%	55.47%
Hispanic	4.06%	3.64%	3.88%	3.01%	4.13%
Multi-Ethnic	3.93%	3.37%	3.74%	3.56%	3.33%
White	40.31%	40.49%	38.23%	35.62%	33.47%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0.52%	0.81%	1.25%	1.51%	1.33%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	7.98%	7.69%	6.51%	7.95%	8.67%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	33%	32%	39%	42%	46%
Average Student Attendance	96.84	96.65	97.23	96.74	96.81

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55.3

55.6

17.3

13.8

12

12

CCRPI 2013

CCRPI 2014

90.5

87.5

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCH

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Peek's Chapel Elementary

Street Address: 2800 Avalon Parkway

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30013

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0102

Designated School Contact Person:

Name John Martin

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-761-1842

Fax Number 770-761-1843

Email Address jmartin@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Dook's Changl Elementons		•	School Year	r	
Peek's Chapel Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	621	636	610	619	606
American Indian	0.16%	0.16%	0.33%	0.48%	0.50%
Asian /Pacific Islander	3.22%	1.73%	1.81%	1.13%	0.83%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.32%	0.17%
Black	82.13%	83.18%	82.79%	84.65%	86.96%
Hispanic	4.35%	2.99%	4.10%	3.72%	3.14%
Multi-Ethnic	3.54%	3.77%	4.75%	4.36%	2.97%
White	6.60%	8.18%	6.23%	5.33%	5.45%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	1.13%	1.10%	1.15%	1.45%	1.49%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	5.80%	4.09%	6.39%	4.36%	8.75%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	69%	72%	74%	79%	82%
Average Student Attendance	96.95	97.17	97.49	97.13	96.81



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points							
Peek's Chapel Elementary	Elementary CCRPI Score		Achievem	Challeng	ge Points				
·		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points	ent Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points			
CCRPI 2012	72.4	A4 E	15.5	4	5.4	1			
CCRF1 2012	/2.4	46.5	15.5	7	6	6.4			
CCDDI 2012	72.0	4/ 0	15.0	,	4.7	1			
CCRPI 2013	73.8	46.2	15.9	6	5	.7			
CCDDI 0014			4. 4	15.0	,	2.6	1		
CCRPI 2014	71.7	46.8	15.3	6	3	.6			

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Pine Street Elementary

Street Address: 960 Pine Street

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30012

GA DOE School Facility Code: 2052

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Kim Vier

Title Principal

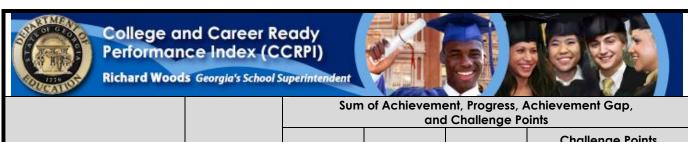
Telephone Number 770-483-8713

Fax Number 770-483-0158

Email Address kvier@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Dine Street Flomentony		5	School Yea	r	
Pine Street Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	573	549	577	584	600
American Indian	0.17%	0.00%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%
Asian /Pacific Islander	0.87%	0.55%	1.04%	0.86%	1.00%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	0.00%
Black	59.86%	54.46%	54.77%	54.28%	55.33%
Hispanic	20.94%	25.32%	25.13%	25.00%	25.33%
Multi-Ethnic	3.84%	3.64%	2.77%	3.08%	3.17%
White	14.31%	16.03%	16.12%	16.61%	15.00%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	12.04%	14.57%	14.90%	15.58%	16.33%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	10.65%	7.65%	7.63%	9.08%	9.50%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	82%	84%	84%	85%	90%
Average Student Attendance	96.02	96.29	96.63	96.05	95.68



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points					
Pine Street Elementary	Street Elementary CCRPI Score		Achievem	Challen	ge Points		
,		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points	ent Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points	
CCRPI 2012	78.9	78.9 47.9	16.5	5	8.5	1	
CCRF1 2012	70.7	47.7		3	9	.5	
CCRPI 2013	74.6	46.8	14.7	14.7	4	7.6	1.5
CCRPI 2013	/4.0	40.0	14.7	4	9	.1	
CCDN 0014	70.0	44.0	1.		5.5	2	
CCRPI 2014	78.8	46.3	16	9	7	.5	

Shoal Creek Elementary

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Street Address: 1300 McWilliams Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0194

Designated School Contact Person:

Name of School:

Name Tiwon Toney

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-929-1430

Fax Number 770-483-8676

Email Address ttoney@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Sheel Creek Flementery		;	School Yea	r	
Shoal Creek Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	679	696	674	722	712
American Indian	0.00%	0.00%	0.15%	0.14%	.14%
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.62%	2.16%	2.08%	1.39%	1.40%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.55%	.56%
Black	67.30%	65.80%	69.73%	70.22%	73.17%
Hispanic	8.39%	7.04%	6.38%	6.51%	8.01%
Multi-Ethnic	3.24%	3.45%	2.67%	2.49%	3.09%
White	19.44%	21.55%	18.99%	18.70%	13.62%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	2.95%	2.73%	3.41%	3.46%	3.65%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	9.13%	11.06%	12.02%	8.45%	8.99%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	70%	68%	70%	75%	77%
Average Student Attendance	96.21	96.60	97.15	96.28	96.52



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points							
Shoal Creek Elementary	CCRPI Score			Achievem	Challen	ge Points			
,		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points	ent Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points			
CCRPI 2012	72.1	45.5	1/ 2	5	4.3	1			
CCRPI 2012	72.1	45.5	16.3	5	5.3				
CCRPI 2013	127	44.1	10.0	12.0	2	2.2	1.5		
CCRPI 2013	63.7	44.1	13.9	2	3.	.7			
CCDN 0014	20.5	47.7	10.0		5.6	2			
CCRPI 2014	80.5	47.7	13.2	12	7.	.6			

DESCRIPTOR

2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Sims Elementary

Street Address: 1821 Walker Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0189

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Dr. Chara Moore

Title Principal

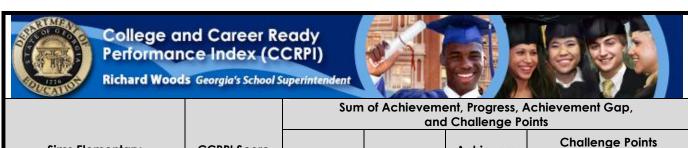
Telephone Number 770-922-0666

Fax Number 770-922-2499

Email Address cmoore@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: Pre K - 5

Simo Flomentoni		;	School Year	r	
Sims Elementary	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	544	594	526	544	583
American Indian	0.18%	0.34%	0.19%	0.18%	0.00%
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.57%	2.02%	3.04%	2.94%	2.06%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.18%	.17%
Black	65.63%	68.01%	67.87%	68.75%	70.15%
Hispanic	8.82%	8.59%	10.08%	10.48%	11.32%
Multi-Ethnic	4.04%	3.20%	3.61%	3.68%	6.00%
White	18.75%	17.85%	15.21%	13.79%	10.29%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	4.96%	5.22%	5.32%	4.78%	4.80%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	6.43%	6.06%	2.85%	4.60%	6.69%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	67%	67%	73%	76%	77%
Average Student Attendance	96.07	96.01	96.85	95.94	95.82



		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points					
Sims Elementary	Sims Elementary CCRPI Score		Achievem	Challen	ge Points		
ŕ		Achievem ent Points	Progress Points	ent Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performan ce Points	Exceeding the Bar Points	
CCRPI 2012	78.3	45	17.2	8	7.1	1	
CCRF1 2012	76.5	45	17.2	0	8.	.1	
CCRPI 2013	70.6	46.3	17	4	2.3	1	
CCRF1 2013	70.6	40.3	17	4	3.	.3	
CCDDI 0014			4-0	1/ 2	•	2	1
CCRPI 2014	66.6	45.3	16.3	2	;	3	

EXHIBIT F: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ MIDDLE

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Conyers Middle School

Street Address: 400 Sigman Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30012

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0278

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Allison Barbour

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-3371

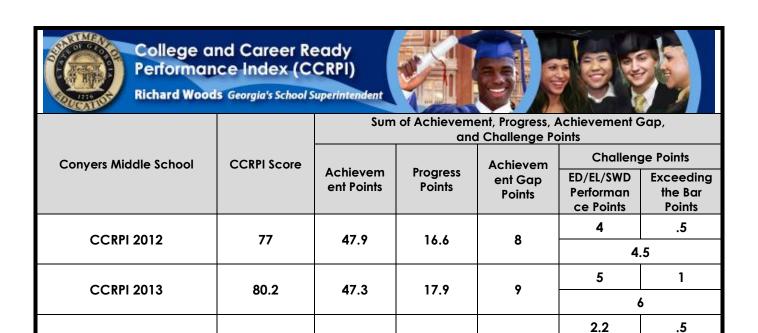
Fax Number 770-483-9448

Email Address abarbour@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 6 - 8

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Middle

Canyora Middle School		5	School Year	r	
Conyers Middle School	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	971	960	956	910	896
American Indian	0.51%	0.21%	0.10%	0.00%	.11%
Asian /Pacific Islander	0.93%	0.52%	0.73%	0.88%	.78%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	0.00%
Black	61.69%	63.85%	66.63%	67.47%	67.30%
Hispanic	12.87%	10.63%	9.10%	10.22%	11.61%
Multi-Ethnic	3.40%	3.44%	3.24%	2.97%	2.90%
White	20.60%	21.35%	20.19%	18.46%	17.30%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	3.09%	2.08%	1.46%	1.87%	2.01%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	7.31%	7.81%	7.64%	8.79%	15.18%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	74%	74%	79%	82%	83%
Average Student Attendance	95.47	95.77	95.97	96.44	96.24



47.4

16.1

5

CCRPI 2014

71.2

EXHIBIT F: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ MIDDLE

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Edwards Middle School

Street Address: 2633 Stanton Road, NE

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0378

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Fred Middleton

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-3255

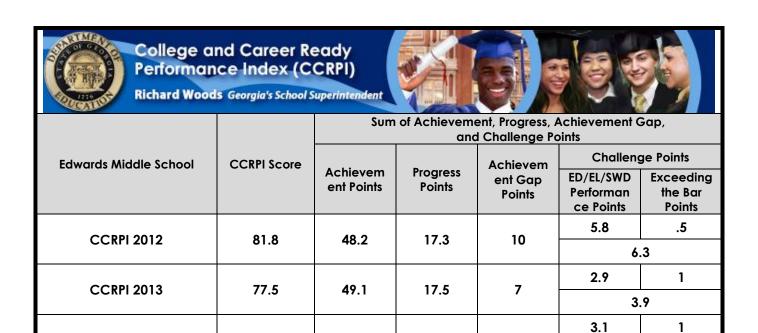
Fax Number 770-483-3676

Email Address fmiddleton@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 6 - 8

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Middle

Edwarda Middla Sabaal		5	School Year	r	
Edwards Middle School	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	906	902	962	992	956
American Indian	0.11%	0.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.32%	1.99%	2.39%	2.02%	1.46%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.00%	0.00%
Black	53.20%	56.10%	55.30%	56.25%	56.17%
Hispanic	17.33%	18.18%	21.10%	21.07%	23.54%
Multi-Ethnic	4.19%	3.88%	2.91%	3.02%	2.82%
White	23.84%	19.73%	18.30%	17.64%	16.00%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	4.19%	2.99%	3.85%	3.23%	5.86%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	9.27%	9.42%	9.25%	7.96%	8.89%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	63%	67%	69%	71%	74%
Average Student Attendance	96.11	96.50	97.06	96.65	96.04



47.1

16

5

CCRPI 2014

72.2

EXHIBIT F: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ MIDDLE

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: General Ray Davis Middle School

Street Address: 3375 East Fairview Rd., SW

City, State Zip Code: Stockbridge, GA 30281

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0107

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Michael Mauriello

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-388-5675

Fax Number 770-388-5676

Email Address mmauriello@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 6 - 8

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Middle

Conoral Pay Davis Middle		•	School Year	<u> </u>	
General Ray Davis Middle	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Student Enrollment	894	874	896	926	893
American Indian	0.56%	0.23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.01%	2.29%	2.34%	1.51%	1.57%
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.11%	0.11%
Black	45.19%	49.66%	52.12%	56.48%	59.91%
Hispanic	4.81%	5.49%	5.13%	4.75%	4.59%
Multi-Ethnic	4.59%	3.78%	4.46%	4.00%	4.82%
White	42.84%	38.56%	35.94%	33.15%	29.00%
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0.00%	0.00%	0.33%	0.32%	0.22%
SPED: Percent Enrolled	7.27%	7.89%	9.93%	11.66%	12.99%
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	35%	39%	45%	49%	54%
Average Student Attendance	96.84	96.96	97.14	96.88	96.96

5.6

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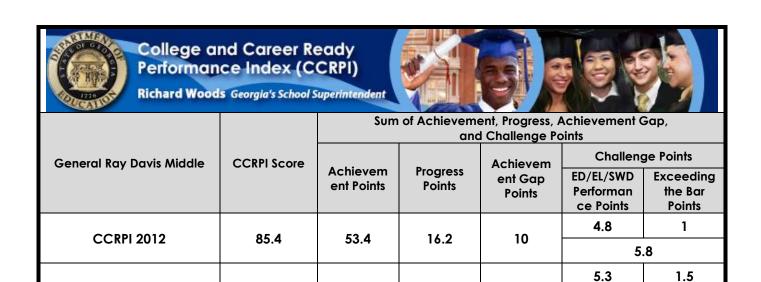
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9

16.7

16.4



52.5

52.1

86

83.1

CCRPI 2013

CCRPI 2014

EXHIBIT F: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ MIDDLE

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Memorial Middle School

Street Address: 3205 Underwood Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30013

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0294

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Michell Glover

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-922-0139

Fax Number 770-922-6192

Email Address mglover@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 6 - 8

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Middle

Memorial Middle School	School Year					
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Student Enrollment	815	886	796	825	926	
American Indian	0.37%	0.23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.21%	2.71%	3.27%	2.42%	2.05%	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.12%	0.22%	
Black	79.88%	80.47%	80.03%	83.52%	83.48%	
Hispanic	5.40%	5.87%	6.78%	6.30%	5.83%	
Multi-Ethnic	3.56%	3.05%	2.39%	1.70%	1.73%	
White	8.59%	7.67%	7.54%	5.94%	6.70%	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0.74%	1.58%	2.64%	1.70%	0.86%	
SPED: Percent Enrolled	12.15%	15.24%	10.80%	10.42%	9.18%	
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	64%	70%	68%	74%	69%	
Average Student Attendance	95.92	96.43	96.91	97.07	97.24	

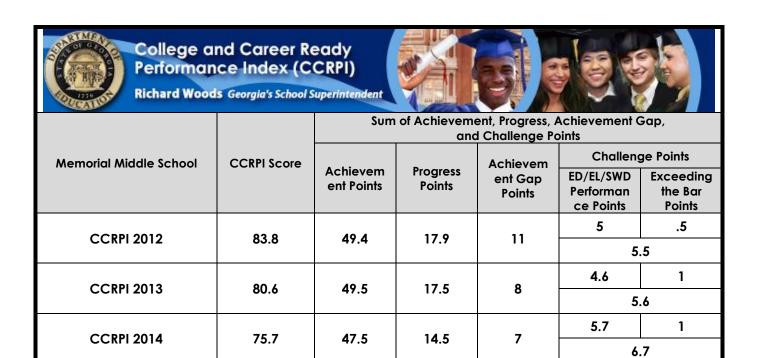


EXHIBIT G: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ HIGH

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Heritage High School

Street Address: 2400 Granade Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30094

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0176

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Greg Fowler

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-5428

Fax Number 770-483-9435

Email Address gregf@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 9-12

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - High

Heritage High School	School Year					
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Student Enrollment	1695	1621	1558	1625	1640	
American Indian	0.29%	0.49%	0.39%	0.31%	0.18%	
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.18%	1.30%	1.99%	2.28%	2.38%	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.12%	0.12%	
Black	45.90%	46.88%	48.33%	50.09%	53.23%	
Hispanic	10.91%	12.21%	13.03%	13.72%	13.66%	
Multi-Ethnic	0.77%	1.73%	2.31%	2.58%	3.05%	
White	40.94%	37.38%	33.95%	30.89%	27.38%	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	2.36%	1.67%	2.31%	2.28%	1.89%	
SPED: Percent Enrolled	10.15%	11.54%	9.88%	9.97%	10.85%	
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	44%	47%	47%	52%	54%	
Average Student Attendance	95.79	96.10	95.78	96.44	96.10	

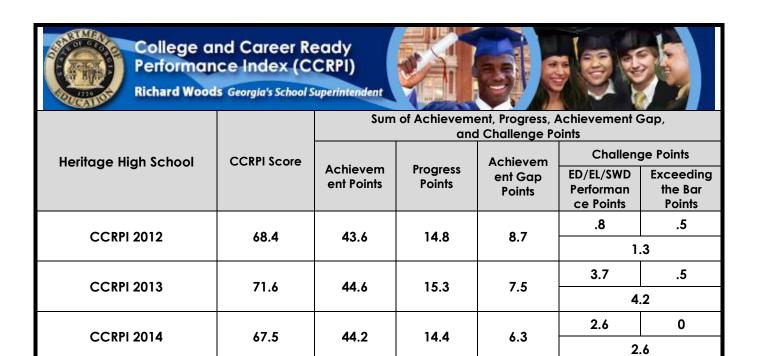


EXHIBIT G: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ HIGH

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Rockdale County High School

Street Address: 1174 Bulldog Circle

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30012

GA DOE School Facility Code: 3052

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Mary Ann Suddeth

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-483-8754

Fax Number 770-483-8708

Email Address msuddeth@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 9-12

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - High

Rockdale County High School	School Year					
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Student Enrollment	1738	1766	1739	1799	1859	
American Indian	0.06%	0.11%	0.29%	0.22%	0.11%	
Asian /Pacific Islander	1.90%	2.15%	2.42%	2.33%	2.58%	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.06%	0.11%	
Black	63.06%	63.19%	64.12%	65.15%	68.05%	
Hispanic	8.11%	8.78%	8.80%	8.56%	8.28%	
Multi-Ethnic	2.42%	3.00%	4.03%	4.61%	3.66%	
White	24.45%	22.76%	20.36%	19.07%	17.21%	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled						
SPED: Percent Enrolled						
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	62%	61%	61%	62%	63%	
Average Student Attendance	94.11	94.70	95.35	96.31	95.66	

2.9

1

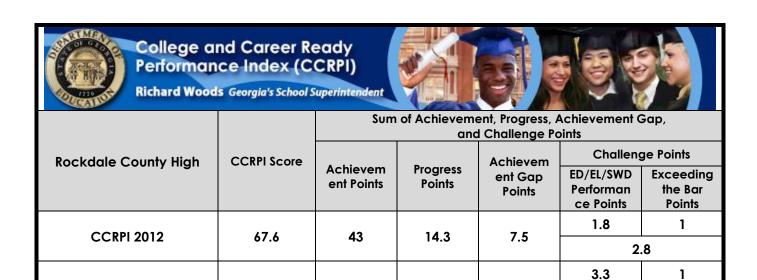
1.9

8.7

6.3

14.3

14.3



43.5

43.4

70.8

66.9

CCRPI 2013

CCRPI 2014

EXHIBIT G: SCHOOL DATA COMPONENT ~ HIGH

DESCRIPTOR 2015-16 HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of School: Salem High School

Street Address: 3551 Underwood Road

City, State Zip Code: Conyers, GA 30013

GA DOE School Facility Code: 0192

Designated School Contact Person:

Name Tonya Bloodworth

Title Principal

Telephone Number 770-929-0176

Fax Number 770-922-1292

Email Address tbloodworth@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Grades Served By School: 9-12

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - High

Salem High School	School Year					
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Student Enrollment	1508	1418	1380	1330	1333	
American Indian	0.07%	0.14%	0.14%	0.08%	0.15%	
Asian /Pacific Islander	2.06%	2.19%	2.39%	2.26%	2.10%	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)				0.23%	0.15%	
Black	70.36%	73.20%	75.72%	75.26%	77.57%	
Hispanic	8.11%	5.22%	4.78%	4.89%	5.40%	
Multi-Ethnic	2.42%	1.69%	1.81%	2.48%	2.70%	
White	21.15%	17.56%	15.14%	14.81%	11.93%	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled						
SPED: Percent Enrolled						
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	52%	56%	56%	61%	62%	
Average Student Attendance	95.39	95.62	96.32	96.41	95.33	

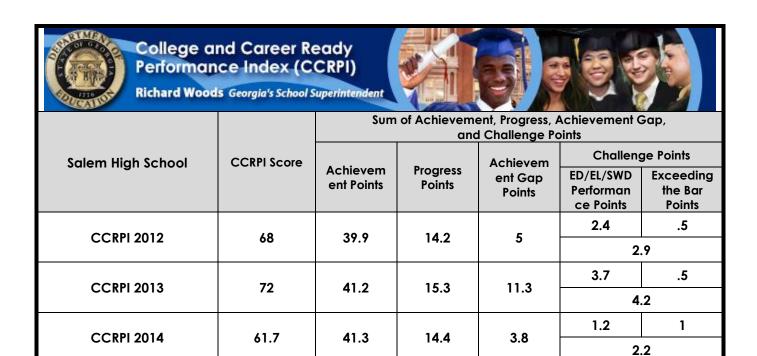




Exhibit 5

Rockdale County Public Schools is ranked as the 23rd largest in the state, with a total student enrollment PK-12 of 16,605 students and 22 schools - eleven elementary schools, four middle schools, three high schools, one charter career academy, one open campus, one alternative school, and one STEM magnet high school. The system employs 2,421 staff members of which 1,388 are certified employees and 1,033 are classified staff. Since 2011, RCPS has seen a steady increase in student enrollment each year. Although economic recovery has been experienced in much of Georgia, the local digest for Rockdale County remains stagnant.

Rockdale County Public Schools (RCPS) has a comprehensive and coherent vision that will; 1) ensure educational equity; 2) accelerate student achievement by supporting each student's unique learning needs and individual interests, and 3) help students achieve his/her greatest potential through a wide variety of strategies, supports, and resources that are appropriate to their interests, abilities, and learning styles. RCPS will put student interest and individual learning styles first and create a complete transformation of each student's path, curriculum, instruction, and schedule. Further, as a high-need, minority-majority school system, creating equity for the profound diversity of the students in Rockdale County Public Schools requires careful consideration of the needs of each child. RCPS also understands that transformation requires thoughtful, intentional planning and movement toward its goal of systemic redesign and has identified the practices, policies, supports, systems, and technologies needed to reengineer the district into a student-centered, personalized learning school system.

RCPS believes that, as leaders of learners, we must continue to improve pedagogy and content knowledge. A commitment to providing high-quality instruction in a supportive learning environment has consistently remained a priority. Learning opportunities are continually expanded to offer students both traditional and virtual resources making it possible to aspire to their dreams. Customization of the learning process will be defined by personalized learning plans for each student, individual portfolios

blueprinting the path to attaining college and career goals, one-to-one device access, and a reinvention of the advisement process to empower students and their parents with the ability to define educational success. RCPS remains committed to developing life-long learners who are prepared to continue their education at the post-secondary level, enter the military, and/or enter the workforce.

By consistently aligning all improvement efforts with the RCPS Strategic Plan and AdvancED Standards for Quality, Rockdale County Public Schools creates a comprehensive differentiated learning environment that supports student success and achievement. Principals and district leaders regularly communicate school achievement, climate, and needs through review of the Strategic School Improvement Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is a fluid document, updated and reassessed throughout the year; which serves as an information hub combining the school's strategic plan, achievement data, professional learning needs, and CCRPI indicators. Schools analyze student growth based on previous summative assessments and monitor achievement data collected via ongoing common formative assessments. School climate is addressed by analyzing the documented updates reported in each SSIP; specifically, professional learning, school climate surveys, central office support, school improvement goals, and safety net programs. The information gathered through this process is used as a guide for generating discussions with school leaders. Measurable Performance Objectives (MPOs) are used as district strategic performance indicators and are updated and reviewed twice a year documenting measurable progress toward meeting the established performance objectives and goals.

Rockdale County Public Schools is engaged in a variety of innovative approaches and pathways to ensure success and, a real-world application of learning is present in many of our programs. As early as elementary school, students have the unique opportunity to apply to programs of their choice such as STEM, STEAM, and AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination). As students enter middle and high school, these opportunities expand and articulate vertically with STEM (pre-med, aerospace, environmental science, computer programming), Business/Leadership, and Performing and Visual Arts programs.

The Rockdale Career Academy (RCA) serves over 2,000 students in more than twenty different career pathways and employs many unique partnerships providing students with relevant and challenging college, industry, and work-based instruction. It is among the most respected in the state and is a widely sought-after national model and mentor of innovation and achievement. RCA also houses the Early

Learning Center which is home to 90 students, ages three and four, who receive the highest quality preschool instruction, and serves as a learning lab for RCA's Early Childhood Education students. The Early Learning Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Rockdale Career Academy houses parent educators that serve all of Rockdale County families with children ages birth to five. Subsequently, many of the students at the Early Learning Center are identified through our Parents as Teachers program. With these programs in place as well as 21st Century technology in all classrooms, students have every opportunity for success. Evidence of the district's support and commitment to the advancement of these programs is prevalent at all grade levels.

RCPS maintains active stakeholder involvement and recognizes the importance of the community's perception of school quality. RCPS seeks insight, input, and assistance through a variety of forums including: Parent Advisory Council, Parent Academy, PTA Council, Superintendent's Advisory Council, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary, Rockdale Early Learning Initiative, Faith-based groups, NAACP, Citizens Progressive Club, administrators, teachers, parents, and students.

It is with a commitment to community and students, that an SWSS/IE² contract is requested. RCPS realizes that through this partnership with the State Board of Education the opportunity exists for student achievement to advance while ensuring sound operational practices as monitored by the Georgia Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Student Achievement.

Title 20 Law and State Board of Education Rules have been identified for waiver by Rockdale County Public Schools in exchange for additional measures of accountability designed to improve student achievement. The identification of Title 20 Law and State Board of Education rules was informed through an ongoing strategic planning process. The RCPS Strategic Plan is the guiding document for prioritizing our academic and operational goals, as well as the allocation of resources.

The current trajectory of RCPS is the result of the evolution of the community's vision for public education, as expressed in our strategic plan. RCPS is currently in the midst of implementing its second five-year strategic plan. The RCPS Strategic Plan is the guiding document for prioritizing operational goals, as well as the allocation of resources. All stakeholders in our community, from students and teachers to parents and business owners, were meaningfully engaged in the development of the original strategic plan in 2006 and in the renewal of the plan in 2012, and identified a need to optimize college

and career readiness, teacher and leader effectiveness, real-time and longitudinal data systems, and personalized learning. Consequently, as the community's vision evolved, the planning team's robust research, assessment, and feedback led to the creation of the current plan, which includes the mission, vision, beliefs, and six overarching strategies – student empowerment and success, safety and support, embracing diversity, adequate resources, individual growth, and community inclusion. The RCPS Strategic Plan has nearly sixty specific results that fall under these six strategies with action plans and steps designed to achieve the results.

Ongoing discussion and analyzation of input received from stakeholders has resulted in a clear direction for achieving student success and the role flexibility would play in making this possible. To further define the need flexibility would play in achieving success, the following priorities were among those identified by staff and community: Staffing/Allotments, Innovative Course Design, Parent Engagement and Accountability, Flexibility with Funding Designations, Teaching and Learning, Assessment and Growth, Salary and Compensation, and Differentiated Instruction.

RCPS recognizes that the strategies, structures, and systems needed to implement personalized, student-centered approaches requires ownership from students, teachers, parents, administrators, and other stakeholders to ensure excellence and long-term sustainability. In addition, RCPS recognizes the positive impact approval of the waivers being requested will have on implementation.

Overcoming the challenges mentioned in Table 1, both now and in the future, is a monumental task. It is with these challenges in mind that Rockdale County Public Schools, along with the support of its stakeholders, is seeking prioritized waivers as outlined on the attached chart. Supporting detail regarding specific actions to be taken along with a clear explanation as to how each action will lead to successfully addressing these challenges has been outlined. It is the belief of Rockdale County Public Schools that the waivers being requested, through Rockdale County Public Schools SWSS/IE² application, will alleviate the constraints of state law and State Board of Education rules in order to foster the continued advancement of learning and to ensure student success.

Approval of the requested waivers will be instrumental in achieving the level of student success envisioned by Rockdale County Public Schools and its stakeholders.

Exhibit 6

The economic recession of the past several years has resulted in financial challenges for Rockdale County Public Schools. We have managed to reduce our millage rate over the past two years from a high of 26.00 to the current rate of 25.32. Although funding from the state is gradually being restored, we have experienced a 27.6% decrease in our local digest over the past five years. The budget for fiscal year 2016 is the first balanced budget produced since fiscal year 2011. During the years a budget deficit was unavoidable, reserve funds were utilized to balance each budget. Although there has been a significant reduction in our reserve, we anticipate an ending balance of \$5,237,988 in fiscal year 2016 with an overall general fund operating budget of \$139,383,375.

Exhibits 7, 8, & 9

Below is the link to our *Audit Report*, *Accreditation Report*, and *Strategic Plan*. Each is located under **Reports** on the Office of Financial Services page.

 $\underline{http://portal.rockdale.k12.ga.us/about/fs/Pages/default.aspx}$