

Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS)

March 22, 2016

6:00PM

Swainsboro High School

Emanuel County Board of Education

State Law Requirements

- No later than June 30, 2015, each local school system must notify GaDOE that it will operate as an:
 - Charter System
 - Status Quo School System
 - Name change of Title 20/No Waivers Systems took place July 1, 2015.
 - Investing in Educational Excellence School System(IE2)
 - Name change of Strategic Waivers School System took place July 1, 2015.

What is a Strategic Waivers School System?

- Strategic Waivers School System -
 - Districts enter into a performance contract with the State Board of Education in order to receive freedom from specific state laws and rules in return for increased academic accountability.
 - Performance Contracts have 2 main parts:
 - • *Academic targets* to which the School District is committed
 - • *Waivers* granted by the State Board of Education to the School District

Why Emanuel County Chose to Become a SWSS District?

- Autonomy
 - Flexibility to implement innovative practices restricted by state laws, rules and guidelines
 - Freedom from state controls on financial, instructional, and personnel requirements
- Accountability
 - Higher Academic Expectations
 - CCRPI and *Beating the Odds* performance measures

Contract Terms

- Initial contract is for seven years:
 - Five years of accountability (2016-2017 through 2021 - 2022);
 - Using baseline assessment data from the 2015-2016 school year.

Contract Terms

- Our draft Application will be submitted by April 1, 2016 for the May 2016 State Board of Education Meeting.
- The Application will contain:
 - District Overview
 - District Strategic Plan
 - List of flexibilities requested
 - Accountability Goals
 - Consequences
 - School Plans
 - Assurance Form
 - Partnership Contract

Waivers

- State Law requires that the goal of each waiver shall be to improve student performance.
 - Must include one of these:
 - Class Size Requirement
 - Expenditure Controls/Categorical Allotment Requirements
 - Certification Requirements
 - Salary Schedule Requirements
- Waivers from federal laws or laws that effects the Health and Safety of students will not be waived.

Waivers - The Big 4

- Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182, 20-2-167, 20-2-187(B))
 - *The Emanuel County School District requests flexibility with regards to class size, staffing allotments, caseload, and utilization to expand learning opportunities in support of expanded learning opportunities. Increasing the class size could allow more advanced students to access courses typically associated with gifted learners. Currently, when one new student enrolls in a grade level that is served at class size capacity, the district must hire a new teacher and re-distribute students within the grade. This minimizes the relationship between the student and teacher and inhibits the progress a learner may have made. We also ask that the instruction in social graces and etiquette be waived. Finally, this waiver would allow the district to align all expenditures with the district's Strategic Plan.*
- Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171, 20-2-167)
 - *The Emanuel County School District requests flexibility to expend earnings in support of the district's Strategic Plan and student needs.*

Waivers - The Big 4

- Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212, 20-2-212.1, 20-2-212.2)
 - *In order to recruit and retain highly qualified applicants, the Emanuel County School District requests flexibility to provide for flexible compensation based on teacher skills and district needs.*
- Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, 20-2-200, 20-2-201, 20-2-204)
 - *The Emanuel County School District requests flexibility from state certification requirements to allow for the selection of qualified applicants based on content knowledge and expertise. This waiver could be used for CTAE and difficult-to-fill positions.*

Additional Waivers

- Gifted Programs (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.38)
 - *The Emanuel County School District is requesting flexibility to expand the advanced content models in elementary grades and to develop innovative models for service for students in grades 6-12.*
- ▶ School Attendance, Compulsory Attendance as it relates to the attendance protocol (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.2)
 - ▶ *The Emanuel County School District requests flexibility to waive the requirement that the chief judge of the superior court of each county shall ensure that the committee meets twice annually to evaluate compliance with the protocol, effectiveness of the protocol, and appropriate modifications. This waiver will allow the district to devise protocols for managing student attendance. Additionally, the district could allow students who complete work or participate in class online during the school day to be counted as physically present at school.*

Additional Waivers

- QBE Financing (O.C.G.A. §20-2-161)
- Program Enrollment & Appropriation (O.C.G.A. §20-2-160, O.C.G.A. §165)
- Use of Guidance Counselor (SBOE Rule 160-4-8-.05)
- School Councils ((O.C.G.A. § 20-2-85, 20-2-86)
- School Day and School Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. §20-2-168)
- Promotion and Retention Requirements (O.C.G.A. §20-2-283)
- Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. §20-2-152 to 20-2-155)
- Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. §20-2-290)
- Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12)

Additional Waivers

- Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. §20-2-140.1 O.C.G.A. §20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A. §20-2-142)
- Personnel Required (SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22)
- Awarding Units of Credit (SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.15)
- Statewide Passing Score: (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.13 Section 2(a))
- Scheduling for Instruction: (O.C.G.A. §20-2-168 (c,d))
- Flexibility with regards to Common Minimum Facility Requirements (O.C.G.A § 20-2-260)
- Employment Conditions of Employment as it relates to Duty Free Lunch (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-218)
- Public School Choice (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131)
- Instructional Extension (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-184.1)

Accountability Component

➤ Goal 1:

- Three percent increase in CCRPI Scores -School performance goals are set so that each year during the 5 year contract, an individual school shall increase its College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) score (without challenge points) by 3% of the gap between the baseline year (2015-2016) CCRPI score and 100.

Or

Example Calculation for 3% Goal

- School baseline score without Challenge Points is 60.0
- Gap between baseline and 100:
 - $100 - 60 = 40$
 - 3% of 40 = 1.2 points annual increase
 - Five -Year Targets = 61.2, 62.4, 63.6, 64.8, and 66.0

Accountability Component

➤ Goal 1:

- Top Quartile -Each 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.

Or

- Beating the Odds -If a school fails to meet its CCRPI target, the school will be deemed as meeting 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.

Consequences for not Meeting Goals

- Annual progress towards meeting goals will be reported to the Governor's office of Student Achievement (GOSA).
- If a school has not made sufficient progress in the first 2 years, the school will implement a School Improvement Plan that will address specific achievement deficiencies along with a plan to improve the areas deficient. The plan will be approved and monitored by the District.
- If during the years 3 or 4, a school has not met their goals, the district will apply direct school management support and intensive teacher development support. A School Improvement Plan will be developed by the school and district, and will be monitored at the district level.

End of Contract Consequences

- ▶ If the district is not compliant with the terms of the contract, it will lose all SWSS flexibilities at the end of the seventh year.

Timeline and Next Steps

- ▶ Submit Letter of Intent to GaDOE ✓
- ▶ Submit draft application to GaDOE ✓
- ▶ Pre-submission meeting with GaDOE ✓
- ▶ Submit draft application with revisions ✓
- ▶ District presents revised draft during a Public Hearing ✓
- ▶ District finalized application and submits for Local Board approval
- ▶ District submits final application to GaDOE
- ▶ GaDOE and GOSA sign off on final documents submitted
- ▶ GaDOE Legal Services Division finalizes our contract
- ▶ State Board of Education's Flexibility Committee recommends approval or denial of the Contract
- ▶ The Contract is approved by the State Board of Education
- ▶ School Targets are provided by GOSA
- ▶ Accountability measures are reported annually to GOSA

Thank you for your attendance.

If there are questions, please see myself or one of the administrators in attendance.

All information and this PowerPoint is posted on our website:

www.emanuel.k12.ga.us