Cherokee County School District

AGENDA

School Board Meeting

Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility

7:00 p.m.

September 14, 2023

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance/Inspiration
- Adoption of Superintendent's Recommended Agenda for September 14, 2023 School Board Meeting
- Approval of Minutes of the August 17, 2023 School Board Meeting and September 6, 2023 Called School Board Meeting
- Approval of Consent Agenda for September 14, 2023 School Board Meeting

A. Resolutions/Recognition

1. School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District Special Olympic Statewide Gold Medalists

2. School Board Recognition of Clark Creek ES STEM Academy, Free Home Elementary School and Mill Creek Middle School -- Winners of the National PTA School of Excellence Award

3. School Board Recognition of Etowah High School Teacher Lara McDonald for Earning the Georgia Outstanding Biology Teacher Award

4. School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District Educators and Support Staff -- Winners of PTA State, District 13 Awards

5. School Board Recognition of Clayton Elementary School -- Georgia School Nutrition Cafeteria of Excellence Award Winner

6. **School Board Recognition of Etowah High School Chapter of the FFA Agricultural Education Program -- Named a 2023 3 Star Chapter by the National FFA Organization**

7. **School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2023-24 Lead Innovation Zone Principals**

8. **School Board Approval of Proclamation in Honor of Constitution Week**

9. **School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the Cherokee County School District's Renewal of Partnership Agreements**

B. School Board Member

School Board Informational Item: Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) Superintendent Search Presentation

C. School Board Policies

D. Financial Management

1. **School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of August 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update**

E. Curriculum and Instruction

1. **School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel**

2. **School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips**

3. **School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans (SIPs)**

F. Support Services

1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects

2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Special Lease Agreements

G. Human Resources

1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations of Employment and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel

H. School Board Attorney

I. Superintendent of Schools

1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Contract and Memorandum of Understanding with Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. for October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024

- **Public Participation**

- **Executive Session**
  -Personnel Matter
  -Real Estate Matter

- **Adjournment**

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thursday, August 17, 2023

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
7:00 p.m.

The Cherokee County Board of Education called its regular meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2023, in the Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility, 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, Georgia. The meeting was conducted in person and available to the public via live Internet streaming. Present were: School Board Chair Kyla Cromer; Vice-Chair Robert Rechsteiner; Members John Harmon, Patsy Jordan, Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Kelly Poole and Erin Ragsdale. Superintendent Dr. Brian V. Hightower; and Attorney Abby Roach.

Call to Order

The call to order by Kyla Cromer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Cherokee High School Student Makenzie Bird.

The meeting's inspiration was shared by Erin Ragsdale.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison seconded by John Harmon and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the Superintendent's recommended agenda *(7-0 vote)*.

Minutes for Approval

On a motion by Patsy Jordan seconded by Erin Ragsdale and carried, the Board approved the minutes of the June 7 and June 15, 2023, Public Hearings on the FY2024 Budget and Minutes from the June 15, 2023, School Board Meeting *(7-0 vote)*.

Consent Agenda

Following the identification of those agenda items, Board Members and members of the public indicated they would like considered separately, a motion was made by Kelly Poole seconded by John Harmon and carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, for the remaining items - identified by asterisks *(7-0 vote)*.

A. RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

A-1 School Board Recognition of River Ridge HS Coach Jason Taylor -- Cherokee County School District 2023 Coach of the Year

(Recognized)

***A-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the New Partnership Agreement with Allatoona Rowing Association, Inc., and to Approve the Renewal of the Partnership Agreement with Cherokee County Special Olympics**

(Approved)

A-3 School Board Recognition of Liberty Elementary School -- Named National School of Character

(Recognized)

A-4 School Board Recognition of Sixes Elementary School -- Georgia School Bell Award Winner

(Recognized)

A-5 School Board Recognition of Indian Knoll Elementary School Technology Lab Teacher Kristen Brooks -- Named an ISTE 20 to Watch Winner

(Recognized)

A-6 School Board Recognition of Holly Springs ES STEM Academy School Principal Ashley Polito, Selected as Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce "Top 10 in 10" Honoree

(Recognized)

A-7 School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2023 School Nurse of the Year and Innovation Zone School Nurses of the Year

(Recognized)

A-8 School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2023 Transportation Employee of the Year and Innovation Zone Transportation Employees of the Year

(Recognized)

A-9 School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District School Nutrition Team of the Year Award Winners

(Recognized)

A-10 School Board Recognition of CCSD Special Education Department 2023 Employees of the Year Awards

(Recognized)

A-11 School Board Recognition of 2023-24 Student Advisor to School Board and Student Delegates

(Recognized)

***A-12 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the Cherokee County School District's Renewal of Partnership Agreements**

(Approved)

B. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS/STUDENT ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

***B-1. School Board Approval of CCSD Administrative Procedures Regarding Expected Behavior and Decorum of Visitors to Meetings**

(Approved)

School Board Members' Comment:

- School Board members commented on their recent visit to ACTIVE Academy and the exciting opportunities provided for students.

C. SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

***C-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of School Board Policies - - on Final Reading**

(Approved)

D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

***D-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Authorized School Fund-Raising Activities for SY2023-24**

(Approved)

D-2 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of June 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update

After a brief explanation of the financial report the following action was taken:

Motion was made by Robert Rechsteiner, seconded by Kelly Poole, and carried for approval of the June 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update *(7-0 Vote)*

(Approved)

D-3 School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of July 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update

No further explanation was requested.

Motion was made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Patsy Jordan, and carried for approval of the July 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update *(7-0 Vote)*

(Approved)

E. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***E-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel**

(Approved)

***E-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips**

(Approved)

***E-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel**

(Approved)

***E-4. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips**

(Approved)

F. SUPPORT SERVICES

***F-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects**

(Approved)

***F-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of State-Required GADOE Site Approval Application for the Woodstock HS Classroom Addition Project**

(Approved)

***F-3. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects**

(Approved)

***F-4. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Special Lease Agreements**

(Approved)

G. HUMAN RESOURCES

***G-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations of Employment and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel**

(Approved)

***G-2. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations of Employment and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel**

(Approved)

H. SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY

***H-1. School Board Consideration for Approval of School Board Attorney's Recommended Plan for SY2023-24 Local School Board Governance Training**

(Approved)

Attorney's Comment:
Pursuant to the School Board's previous approval/authorization on June 15, 2023, the Cherokee County School District closed on 4.79 acres of real property, previously designated as #01-23, on July 12, 2023, for $428,552.50. The property is adjacent to the northern portion of the Creekview HS campus.

I. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

***I-1. School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Special Lease Agreement with Mountain Education Center (Formerly Mountain Education Charter High School)**

(Approved)

Superintendent's Comments:

- Recognized the SY2023-24 appointment of Meghan Washabaugh, Coordinator of Procurement Services.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public signed up to address the School Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Erin Ragsdale, seconded by Robert Rechsteiner and carried to

adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter *(O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (6))* and a Real Estate Matter *(O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (4)) (at* 8:06 p.m. *(7-0 vote).*

The School Board adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

_____ _____

School Board Chair Secretary

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

MINUTES OF CALLED BOARD MEETING
6:00 p.m.

The Cherokee County Board of Education convened its called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 in the Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo Educational Services Facility, 1205 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, Georgia. Present were: School Board Chair Kyla Cromer; Vice-Chair Robert Rechsteiner; Members Patsy Jordan, Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison, Kelly Poole and Erin Ragsdale; and Attorney Abby Roach. Member John Harmon was not in attendance.

Call to Order The call to order by Kyla Cromer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Board Member Kelly Poole.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Kelly Poole, seconded by Dr. Susan Padgett-Harrison and carried, the Board adjourned to Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter (O.C.G.A Section 50-14-3 (6)) at 6:03 p.m. *(6-0 vote)*.

The Board returned to open session at 7:19 p.m.

Motion was made by Robert Rechsteiner, seconded by Kelly Poole and carried, to approve entering into a contractual agreement with Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) to conduct a Superintendent search *(6-0 vote)*.

The Board adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

_____ _____

School Board Chair Secretary

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned members of the Cherokee County Board of Education, under oath, certify that an Executive Session of the Board of Education was duly called and approved by majority vote in open session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 on August 17, 2023. The only matter(s) considered or discussed during the closed executive session of its meeting is/are as checked below:

_____ To review an appeal from a Student Disciplinary Tribunal [Hearing Officer, Panel]; (O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-757)

_____ To consider a matter involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's educational records; (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g.)

✓ To discuss the future acquisition of real estate; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (4))

✓ To discuss or deliberate upon appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (6))

_____ To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2).

_____ To discuss or consider records or portions of records exempt from public inspection or disclosure pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-18-4 because there are no reasonable means to consider the record without disclosing the exempt portions. (O.C.G.A Section 50-14-3 (4))

_____ To discuss or deliberate upon cybersecurity plans, procedures, and contracts regarding the provision of cybersecurity services. (O.C.G.A Section 50-14-3 (5))

The members of the Board of Education present for the executive session further certify and acknowledge that all discussions and proceeding conducted in executive session shall remain strictly confidential.

This 17 day of August, 2023.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above indicated date:

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: June 8, 2026

SHERYL PUGLIO NOTARY PUBLIC CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 08, 2026

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned members of the Cherokee County Board of Education, under oath, certify that an Executive Session of the Board of Education was duly called and approved by majority vote in open session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 on September 6, 2023. The only matter(s) considered or discussed during the closed executive session of its meeting is/are as checked below:

_____ To review an appeal from a Student Disciplinary Tribunal [Hearing Officer, Panel]; (O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-757)

_____ To consider a matter involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's educational records; (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g.)

_____ To discuss the future acquisition of real estate; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (4))

X To discuss or deliberate upon appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3 (6))

_____ To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2).

_____ To discuss or consider records or portions of records exempt from public inspection or disclosure pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-18-4 because there are no reasonable means to consider the record without disclosing the exempt portions. (O.C.G.A Section 50-14-3 (4))

_____ To discuss or deliberate upon cybersecurity plans, procedures, and contracts regarding the provision of cybersecurity services. (O.C.G.A Section 50-14-3 (5))

The members of the Board of Education present for the executive session further certify and acknowledge that all discussions and proceeding conducted in executive session shall remain strictly confidential.

This 6TH day of September, 2023.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above indicated date:

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 6/8/2026

CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA
SHERYL PUCCIO
NOTARY PUBLIC
JUNE 08, 2026

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-1

Title

Recognition of Cherokee County School District Special Olympic Statewide Gold Medalists

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District Special Olympic Statewide Gold Medalists

Summary Explanation and Background

Cherokee County School District students won gold in the statewide summer Special Olympics!

Cherokee County Special Olympics' soccer team won gold and numerous students earned gold for individual swimming, tennis and track and field events.

Transition Academy student Caleb Guy, earned three silver medals in kayaking competitions at the international Special Olympics World Games in Berlin this summer.

CCSD Adapted PE teacher Ben Farist, serves as the Cherokee County Special Olympics coordinator.

Priority Area

Student Achievement: Access and Opportunity

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Gold Medal Winners

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Summer Special Olympics Gold Medal Winners

Unified teams include neurotypical peers who are called Unified Partners in the competition.

SOCCER:

Team members:
Leah Weatherby, Cherokee HS
Charlie Holderness, Creekview HS
Leland Wilson, Creekview HS
Kord Bowen, Transition Academy
Cody West, Transition Academy
Audric Agbavon, Woodstock HS

Unified Partners:
Matthew Gordon, River Ridge HS
Hadley Moore, River Ridge HS

TENNIS:

Unified team:
Brody Wright, Transition Academy
Aven Wright, Cherokee HS

TRACK and FIELD:

Ta'Nieyah Calhoun *(100M)*, Cherokee HS
Reed Rogers *(100M)*, Cherokee HS
Lyric Welch *(100M and Mini Javelin Throw)*, Liberty ES
Matthew Bek *(200M)*, Transition Academy

SWIM:

Nicolle Valle *(50M Seniors Freestyle)*, Etowah HS
Aiden Kohlhepp *(Juniors 25M Floatation)*, Mill Creek MS
Cassie Vanderberg *(Juniors 10M Assist and Juniors 15M Unassisted)*, River Ridge HS
Carly Carter *(Juniors 10M Assist)*, Sequoyah HS
Xavier Baldonado *(50M Juniors Freestyle and 25M Juniors Backstroke)*, Sequoyah HS
Juan Galvez *(50M Seniors Freestyle)*, Sequoyah HS
Davis Kohl *(Juniors 10M Assist and Juniors 15M Floatation)*, Tippens EC
Del Cannon *(4 x 25 Unified Senior Relay, 25M Seniors Freestyle and 50M Seniors Freestyle)*, Transition Academy
Nicole Fox *(25M Seniors Freestyle)*, Transition Academy
Merritt Wilson *(4 x 25 Unified Senior Relay, 25M Senior Breaststroke and 50M Senior Breaststroke)*, Transition Academy
Remy Wilson *(25M Senior Freestyle and 50M Senior Freestyle)*, Woodstock HS

Unified Partners:
Leia Lankford *(4 x 25 Unified Senior Relay)*, Woodstock HS
Emmy Mims *(4 x 25 Unified Senior Relay)*, Woodstock HS
Brady Pike *(Juniors 15M Walk)*, Woodstock MS

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-2

Title

Recognition of Clark Creek ES STEM Academy, Free Home Elementary School and Mill Creek Middle School -- Winners of the National PTA School of Excellence Award

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Clark Creek ES STEM Academy, Free Home Elementary School and Mill Creek Middle School -- Winners of the National PTA School of Excellence Award

Summary Explanation and Background

Three Cherokee County School District schools have been honored by the National PTA for excellence!

Clark Creek Elementary School STEM Academy, Free Home Elementary School and Mill Creek Middle School were named winners of the National PTA School of Excellence award. The two-year title recognizes successful partnerships between local PTAs and schools to make schools more welcoming to all families and to offer more opportunities for families to support students.

They are among only 302 schools nationwide and only 29 schools from Georgia honored with this recognition. To be considered for this honor, a school and its PTA unit must commit to working together to set and meet year-long goals for improving family engagement.

The designations were earned through efforts over the past year by the PTA and school leadership. For Clark Creek ES STEM Academy, which is led by Principal Joey Moss, last school year's PTA co-presidents Nicole Burroughs and Mandi Fishback both are serving again this school year. For Free Home ES, which is led by Principal Julie Peppers, last school year's PTA co-presidents were Katie Ahearn and Kristin Hornsby, and Ms. Hornsby is continuing as president this school year. For Mill Creek MS, which is led by Principal Matthew May, last school year's PTA co-presidents were Mandy Gispert and Scott Steinbrenner, and Mr. Steinbrenner is continuing this school year with co-president Will Egwu.

Priority Area

Family, Partner and Community Engagement; Positive Culture and Climate; Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-3

Title

Recognition of Etowah High School Teacher Lara McDonald for Earning the Georgia Outstanding Biology Teacher Award

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Etowah High School Teacher Lara McDonald for Earning the Georgia Outstanding Biology Teacher Award

Summary Explanation and Background

A Cherokee County School District teacher has earned a statewide education award!

Etowah High School teacher Lara McDonald, who is the current CCSD Teacher of the Year, has earned the 2023 Outstanding Biology Teacher Award for Georgia!

The annual award is presented to one middle or high school teacher in each state by the National Association of Biology Teachers. Honorees are selected based on teaching ability and experience, school and community engagement and positive student-teacher relationships.

A 14-year educator who teaches environmental science including AP classes, Ms. McDonald is known for her creative engaging lessons that often include classroom transformations, costumes and songs. She also sponsors numerous after-school clubs, from Dungeons & Dragons to anime to knitting to the competitive Envirothon team.

The award was presented to Ms. McDonald by Audra Brown Ward, regional coordinator for the national association. Honorees receive a one-year national association membership and gifts from award sponsors. Ms. McDonald and her fellow honorees will be recognized by the association at its annual conference in November in Maryland.

Priority Area

Positive Culture and Climate; Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-4

Title

Recognition of Cherokee County School District Educators and Support Staff -- Winners of PTA State, District 13 Awards

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District Educators and Support Staff -- Winners of PTA State, District 13 Awards

Summary Explanation and Background

Cherokee County School District educators and volunteers were honored by the PTA with state and regional awards, with a school nurse earning a top statewide honor!

Liberty Elementary School Nurse Amanda Fox was named an Outstanding School Nurse winner for PTA District 13, which includes Cherokee and Forsyth Counties, and then advanced to earn the Georgia PTA statewide award!

Two other CCSD school nurses also earned District 13 Outstanding School Nurse awards: Ayn McLaurin of Mill Creek MS and Kelley Muller of Boston ES.

Three CCSD teachers were named District 13 Birney Butler Outstanding Educator award winners: media specialist Amanda Graves of E.T. Booth MS, social studies teacher Terry Strassner of River Ridge HS and media specialist Marissa Williams of Hickory Flat ES.

Four CCSD principals earned District 13 Outstanding Principal awards: Arnold Mill ES Principal Daniel Fuller, E.T. Booth MS Principal Todd Sharrock, Johnston ES Principal Laura Akers and River Ridge HS Principal Todd Miller.

CCSD also earned two District 13 Visionary Awards for Bascomb ES and Britton Goodloe and Mill Creek MS and Maggie Blackwell, Samantha Daugherty, Amanda Hoarell, Ashley Kelsey and Ann Margaret Somers.

Priority Area

Family, Partner and Community Engagement; Positive Culture and Climate; Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-5

Title

Recognition of Clayton Elementary School -- Georgia School Nutrition Cafeteria of Excellence Award Winner

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Clayton Elementary School -- Georgia School Nutrition Cafeteria of Excellence Award Winner

Summary Explanation and Background

A Cherokee County School District school has earned a new statewide award for excellent school cafeteria programs!

Clayton Elementary School is among the inaugural class of winners of the School Nutrition Cafeteria of Excellence Award presented by the Georgia Department of Education's School Nutrition division. Only three winners were named for each of Georgia's Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) regions; CCSD is part of the five-county North Georgia RESA.

The Clayton ES School Nutrition team is made up of Manager Crystal Smith and Barbara Krupa and Emily Sims.

The award, according to the state, "recognizes school nutrition professionals for exceptional attention to serving quality school meals and providing excellent customer service while maintaining program integrity."

Schools selected for the honor must meet high standards for health inspection scores, quality and variety of menus, use of Georgia Grown produce and ingredients, promotion of school nutrition programs and student meal program participation. The judging committee also requires a letter of support for the cafeteria from a school or district-level administrator or a community partner that describes how the school's cafeteria team provides exceptional customer service and student engagement.

Priority Area

Positive Culture and Climate; Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-6

Title

Recognition of Etowah High School Chapter of the FFA Agricultural Education Program -- Named a 2023 3 Star Chapter by the National FFA Organization

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Etowah High School Chapter of the FFA Agricultural Education Program -- Named a 2023 3 Star Chapter by the National FFA Organization

Summary Explanation and Background

A CCSD high school career skills program has earned a national honor!

The Etowah High School chapter of the FFA agricultural education program has been named a 2023 3 Star Chapter by the National FFA Organization. The program also earned a $3,000 national Grants for Growing award.

The National Chapter Award Program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters nationwide, and 3 Star is the highest star rating awarded. Honored chapters demonstrate success in providing educational experiences for all members, growing student leaders, participating in community service and raising awareness about the importance of agriculture. The Etowah HS chapter will be recognized at the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo in November and receive honors made possible by corporate sponsor John Deere.

The Etowah chapter is sponsored by Ms. Rivers, who leads the school's Career Pathway programs in Plant and Floral Design Systems and Companion Animal Systems.

The chapter's student leadership team is made up of President Brooke Moore, Vice President Carter Mason, Secretary Ashley West, Treasurer Jaidyn Novak, Chaplain Theo Warinner, Committee Chair Madelyn McCoy, Historian Kendra Adipi, Parliamentarian Connor Lawlor, Reporter Violet Schroer, Sentinel Caroline Honea, Student Advisor Rebecca Frix.

Priority Area

Student Achievement: Access and Opportunity; Family, Partner and Community Engagement

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-7

Title

Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2023-24 Lead Innovation Principals

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District 2023-24 Lead Innovation Zone Principals

Summary Explanation and Background

Cherokee County School District provides all schools with the unique opportunity to leverage their communities by membership in an Innovation Zone. Each Innovation Zone consists of one high school and its feeder middle school(s) and elementary schools. Innovation Zones are represented by a Lead Innovation Zone Principal, who acts as a liaison for and representative of their peers.

The role of Innovation Zone Lead Principal is vitally important, as these individuals serve on numerous ad-hoc committees, including the Superintendent's Budget Committee and monthly Agenda Preparation Group (APG) meetings. Additionally, Zone Leaders are tasked with conducting monthly zone meetings; preparing a zone budget; and creating zone goals that drive innovation, provide information and solicit feedback on behalf of our schools.

This year's Innovation Zone Principals include: Cherokee Innovation Zone, Jennifer McIntosh of Joseph Knox Elementary School; Creekview Innovation Zone, Michael Santoro of Creekview High School; Etowah Innovation Zone, Todd Sharrock of E.T. Booth Middle School; River Ridge Innovation Zone, Matthew May of Mill Creek Middle School; Sequoyah Innovation Zone, Kerry Estep of Hickory Flat Elementary School; and Woodstock Innovation Zone, Kim Hagood of Carmel Elementary School.

Priority Area

Organizational & Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Dr. Debra Murdock	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-8

Title

Proclamation in Honor of Constitution Week

Requested Action

School Board Approval of Proclamation in Honor of Constitution Week

Summary Explanation and Background

In honor of the 236th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America, the Cherokee County School Board is issuing a proclamation in honor of Constitution Week.

The aims of the Constitution Week celebration are to:

- Emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution.
- Inform people that the Constitution is the basis for America's great heritage and the foundation for our way of life.
- Encourage the study of the historical events which led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

Constitution Day is September 17 and CCSD will observe Constitution Day on September 15. Teachers are encouraged to plan activities for the week of Sept. 11-15.

Priority Area

Family, Partner and Community Engagement

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Proclamation in Honor of Constitution Week

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

Constitution Week 2023

Whereas, September 17, 2023 marks the two hundred and thirty-sixth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize this magnificent document and the anniversary of its creation; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

Whereas, public law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Cherokee County School Board, do hereby proclaim September 11 through 15, 2023 to be Constitution Week, and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Cherokee County School District to be affixed this on this fourteenth day of September in the year two thousand twenty three.

_____

Kyla Cromer, School Board Chair

_____

Dr. Brian V. Hightower, Superintendent of Schools

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	A-9

Title

Approval of Cherokee County School District's Renewal of Partnership Agreements

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the Cherokee County School District's Renewal of Partnership Agreements

Summary Explanation and Background

One of the School Board's Blueprint 2020-24 Five Priority Areas is increasing meaningful family, partner and community engagement. We believe the meaningful connections we forge with students, families and community partners positively influence how we teach, lead and prepare graduates for success in a knowledge-based, technology rich and culturally diverse world.

The School Board is requested to consider the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the partnership agreements with City of Waleska, Cobb EMC, Hobgood Baseball, North Georgia RESA, Piedmont University and Sequoyah Regional Library System.

Priority Area

Family, Partner and Community Engagement

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Partnership Agreements

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

THE CITY OF WALESKA

This agreement entered into on this ~~17th of August, 2017~~ 14th day of September, 2023 by and between The Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and The City of Waleska hereinafter referred to as "Waleska."

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, Waleska officials wish to continue to be an integral provider/partner as it relates to the public school district in Cherokee County.

Now therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference:

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Assess no costs to the other party in cases of easement granting.

2. Share information and facilities in emergency situations, such as natural disasters and inclement weather; and share information concerning road conditions, especially in inclement weather.

3. Allow the City use of R.M. Moore ES's facility for Waleska-sponsored events.

4. Provide regular opportunities for Waleska representatives to inspect surplus property in order to determine if there may be a need for such property (first right of refusal).

ARTICLE III

Waleska will:

1. Assess no costs to the other party in cases of easement granting of Waleska-controlled property.

2. Share information and facilities in emergency situations, such as natural disasters and inclement weather; and share information concerning road conditions, especially in inclement weather.

3. Correspond the needs of planned Waleska land uses, such as parks, fire stations, law enforcement precincts and public libraries, with future school sites in order to purchase larger tracts of land, share infrastructure costs and provide for joint use of public facilities.

4. Develop methods to work in conjunction with the School Board in their zoning process, so that developers are routinely expected to mitigate the financial impact on the school system and City.

5. Grant a school district representative staff-status at City Council meetings, so that school system analysis and recommendations in this regard are routinely considered in that forum.

6. Provide City of Waleska employees as judges for the School System Science Fair, Young Authors Fair, Governors Honors, Speech Contests and other related functions.

7. Accept all children/interested participants for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership agreement, Waleska must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this ~~contract~~ agreement is ~~August 17, 2017 through August 17, 2018~~ September 14, 2023 through September 14, 2024. This ~~contract~~ agreement shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

ARTICLE V

This ~~contract~~ agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this ~~contract~~ agreement shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ PO Box 769, Canton, Georgia 301~~14~~69, and to the Mayor of The City of Waleska, P.O. Box 3, Waleska, Georgia 30183.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

CITY OF WALESKA

_____
Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____
Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____
Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____
Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

COBB ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

This Partnership Agreement entered into on this 14th day of September, 20~~17~~23, by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and Cobb Electric Membership Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "Cobb EMC."

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, Cobb EMC is a ~~customer~~ member-owned, not-for-profit ~~electric~~ cooperative where each consumer who receives electric service from Cobb EMC is part owner in the corporation and is referred to as a member, and

WHEREAS, Cobb EMC is dedicated to providing its member/owners with the best service at the lowest possible price, and

WHEREAS, Cobb EMC has over 180,000 members and is one of Georgia's largest EMCs.

Now therefore, in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Promote Cobb EMC programs (Walter Harrison scholarship, Cobb EMC Community Foundation Scholarship and Youth Tour scholarship) through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.

ARTICLE III

Cobb EMC will:

1. Provide one (1) judge for the School Board's annual Science Fair.

2. Provide judges for the School System Science Olympiad, Social Science Fair, Young Authors Fair, Governors Honors, Speech Contests and other related functions when Cobb EMC volunteers are available.

3. Provide Cobb EMC employees to serve as career day speakers at schools when Cobb EMC volunteers are available.

4. Provide programs to interested School District teachers and students relative to electrical safety and conservation and/or history. The program types and details of such programs to be determined between the parties in writing in a separate agreement.

5. Continue its sponsorship of CCSD's Elementary School Science Olympiad and co-sponsorship of the Superintendent's Key Scholar Recognition Ceremony.

6. Continues its donation of gifts for the CCSD and school-level Teacher of the Year winners for presentation at the Legacy Makers event.

7. Accept all children/interested participants for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership agreement, Cobb EMC must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws that pertain to the types of activities in which Cobb EMC will be participating under this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this Agreement is September 14, 20~~17~~23 through September 14, 20~~18~~24. This Agreement shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

ARTICLE VI

This contract Agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract Agreement shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ P.O. Box 769, Canton, GA 301~~1~~469, and to the Director of Education and Community Relations at Cobb EMC, P.O. Box 369, Marietta, GA 30061.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document as of the date first written above.

[Remainder of page left intentionally blank. Signatures appear on the following page.]

COBB ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

_____
By: Kevan Espy, President and CEO

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____
By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____
By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____
Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

HOBGOOD BASEBALL, INC.

This agreement entered into on this 14th day of September, 20~~17~~23 by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and Hobgood Baseball, Inc.

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, HPYA Hobgood Baseball is a non-profit corporation established to construct and maintain fields for youth activities.

Now therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Provide continued use of the Bascomb ES (Attachment A) and Carmel ES (Attachment B) softball fields by Hobgood Baseball after regular school hours. [Bascomb utilization was previously approved by the School Board in January 1998].

2. Pursue opportunities for similar field use arrangements after regular school hours, as construction/scheduling allows.

3. Promote Hobgood Baseball programs through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.

ARTICLE III

Hobgood Baseball will:

1. Continue to honor the provisions and stipulations contained in the attached lease agreements.

2. Accept all children for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within activities. As a result of this partnership agreement, Hobgood Baseball must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this contract is September 14, 2011~~1~~23 through September 14, 2012~~1~~24. This contract shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

ARTICLE V

This contract may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at PO Box 769, Canton, GA 30169, and to the Board Chairman of Hobgood Baseball.

Attachment A

Approved by School Board: January 1998

PREAMBLE

It is understood by the parties that the following lease is for premises at Bascomb Elementary school and that the premises will be leased to the Cherokee County (hereinafter "Lessee") by Cherokee County School System (a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, hereinafter "School System" or "Lessor"). The leased property will be developed by Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. (A non-profit corporation established to construct and maintain fields for youth activities, hereinafter "HPYA"). HPYA has developed adjacent property and it is further the intent of the parties that HYPA will construct, at its own expense, baseball fields consistent in kind and quality to those previously constructed by HPYA on the adjacent property and that HPYA will be financially responsible for the construction and regular maintenance of the facility in consideration of the continued use thereof. This lease contemplates that the primary user of the fields will continue to be the School System during normal school hours and for periods thereafter which are not previously scheduled by HYPA. Finally, for purposes of the following lease, the management, care, and authority shall vest in the HYPA so that any procedural or coordination questions regarding scheduling may be between the School System and HYPA.

REAL ESTATE LEASE

This "Lease" is made effective as of January 1, 1998 (Date), between Cherokee County School System, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia "Lessor" and Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. "Lessee". The parties also acknowledge Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. ("Subtenant") as a third party beneficiary of this lease. The premises leased consist of two baseball fields on Bascomb Elementary School grounds and the parties agree as follows:

PREMISES: Lessor, in consideration of the lease payments provided in this Agreement, leases to Lessee the ground, including equipment thereon (the "Premises") located at the northeast corner of Bascomb Elementary School on Towne Lake Parkway (consisting of two ball fields and immediately adjacent property).

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The legal description for the Premises may be attached by amendment.

TERM: The lease term shall commence on January 1, 1998 and shall terminate on the later of December 31, 2047, but in no event more than fifty years.

LEASE PAYMENTS: Lessee has paid herewith an advance lease payment of $1 per year for fifty years, which said payment is acknowledged by the parties to be sufficient and received.

USE OF PREMISES: Lessee may use the Premises for purposes of operating a youth baseball and softball enterprise, and any other uses which expressly promote such an enterprise. The Premises may be used for any other purpose only the prior written consent of Lessor. Subject to operating procedures, Lessee shall make the facilities available for general non-commercial public use and enjoyment specifically excepting school hours (generally 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday), and Lessor shall retain a right of first refusal for the use of the Lessee. The Lessee shall be fully responsible for the construction and, during baseball seasons, the maintenance of the premises and shall assist in the maintenance during the remainder of the year. The Lessee may additionally provide necessary maintenance, upkeep, and utilities contributions for such use. Lessor and Lessee covenant that, upon their use of the facilities, to return the premises after use in similar condition to that prior to use. Lessee shall be entitled to any profits from concession sales as an additional offset against maintenance costs. Lessor shall have no further financial responsibility to the Lessee.

REMODELING OR STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS: Lessee shall have the obligation to maintain the premises, and to provide any construction or remodeling (at Lessee's expense) that may be required to use the Premises as specified above, and may construct such fixtures on the Premises (at Lessee's expense) that appropriately facilitate its use for such purpose. Such construction shall be undertaken and such fixtures may be erected only with notice to the Lessor.

MAINTENANCE: Lessee shall have the obligation to maintain the Premises in good repair at all times.

ACCESS BY LESSOR TO PREMISES: Lessor shall have the right to enter the Premises to make inspections or provide necessary services.

UTILITIES AND SERVICES: Lessee shall be responsible for all utilities and services in connection with the Premises. All utility service as of the date of the signing of the lease shall be in the name of the Lessee, exclusively.

LIABILITY INSURANCE: Lessee shall maintain public liability insurance in total aggregate sum of at least $500,000.00. Lessee shall deliver appropriate evidence to Lessor as proof that adequate insurance is in force. Lessor shall have the right to require that the Lessor receive notice of any termination of such insurance policies.

INDEMNITY REGARDING USE OF PREMISES: Lessee agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend Lessor from and against any and all losses, claims, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, is any, which Lessor may suffer or incur in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Likewise the Lessor shall indemnify, hold harmless and

defend the Lessee from and against any and all loses, claims, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, if any, which Lessee may suffer or incur in connection with either the use of the Premises by the Lessor, or the use of the premises by the general public.

DANGEROUS MATERIALS: Lessee shall not keep or have on the Premises any article or thing of a dangerous, inflammable, or explosive character that might substantially increase the danger of fire on the Premises, or that might be considered hazardous by a responsible insurance company, unless the prior written consent of Lessor is obtained and proof of adequate insurance protection is provided by Lessee or its assigns to Lessor.

TAXES: Taxes attributable to the Premises or the use of the Premises shall be allocated as follows:

Real Estate Taxes – Lessor shall pay all real estate taxes and assessments for the premises.

Personal Taxes – Lessee shall pay all personal taxes and any other charges which may be levied against the Premises and which are attributable to Lessee's use of the Premises, or fixtures.

MECHANICS LIENS: Neither the Lessee nor anyone claiming through the

Lessee shall have the right to file mechanics liens or any other kind of lien on the Premises and the filing of this Lease constitutes notice that such liens are invalid. Further, Lessee agrees to give actual advance notice to any contractors, subcontractors or suppliers of good, labor, or services that such liens will not be valid.

ASSIGNABILITY/SUBLETTING: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Lessee may not assign or sublease any interest in the Premises without the prior written consent of Lessor.

NOTICE: Notices under this Lease shall not be deemed valid unless given or served in writing and forwarded by mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Lessor:

Cherokee County School system

P.O. Box 769

Canton, GA 30114

Lessee:

Don Spedale, President

Such addresses may be changed from time to time by either party providing notice as set forth above.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT/AMENDMENT: This Lease Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties and there are no other promises or conditions in any other agreement whether oral or written. This Lease may be modified or amended in writing, if the writing is signed by the party obligated under the amendment.

SEVERABILITY: If any portion of this Lease shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of this Lease is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision, it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited.

WAIVER: The failure of either party to enforce any provisions of this Lease shall not be construed as a waiver or limitation of that party's right to subsequently enforce and compel strict compliance with every provision of this Lease.

SUBORDINATION OF LEASE: This Lease is subordinate to any obligation between the School System and the State of Georgia that now exists, or may be given later to Lessor, with respect to the Premises.

Attachment B

Presented to School Board: November 6, 2003

PREAMBLE

It is understood by the parties that the following lease is for premises at Carmel Elementary school and that the premises will be leased to the Cherokee County (hereinafter "Lessee") by Cherokee County School System (a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, hereinafter "School System" or "Lessor"). The leased property will be developed by Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. (A non-profit corporation established to construct and maintain fields for youth activities, hereinafter "HPYA"). HPYA has developed adjacent property and it is further the intent of the parties that HYPA will construct, at its own expense, baseball fields consistent in kind and quality to those previously constructed by HPYA at Bascomb ES and Hobgood Park and that HPYA will be financially responsible for the construction and regular maintenance of the facility in consideration of the continued use thereof. This lease contemplates that the primary user of the fields will continue to be the School System during normal school hours and for periods thereafter which are not previously scheduled by HYPA. Finally, for purposes of the following lease, the management, care, and authority shall vest in the HYPA so that any procedural or coordination questions regarding scheduling may be between the School System and HYPA.

REAL ESTATE LEASE

This "Lease" is made effective as of November 6, 2003 (Date), between Cherokee County School System, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia "Lessor" and Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. "Lessee". The parties also acknowledge Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc. ("Subtenant") as a third party beneficiary of this lease. The premises leased consist of two baseball fields on Carmel Elementary School grounds and the parties agree as follows:

PREMISES: Lessor, in consideration of the lease payments provided in this Agreement, leases to Lessee the ground, including equipment thereon (the "Premises") located at Carmel Elementary School on Bascomb Carmel Road (consisting of two ball fields and immediately adjacent property).

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The legal description for the Premises may be attached by amendment.

TERM: The lease term shall commence on November 6, 2003 and shall terminate on the later of December 31, 2052, but in no event more than fifty years.

LEASE PAYMENTS: Lessee has paid herewith an advance lease payment of $1 per year for fifty years, which said payment is acknowledged by the parties to be sufficient and received.

USE OF PREMISES: Lessee may use the Premises for purposes of operating a youth baseball and softball enterprise, and any other uses which expressly promote such an enterprise. The Premises may be used for any other purpose only the prior written consent of Lessor. Subject to operating procedures, Lessee shall make the facilities available for general non-commercial public use and enjoyment specifically excepting school hours (generally 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday), and Lessor shall retain a right of first refusal for the use of the Lessee. The Lessee shall be fully responsible for the construction and, during baseball seasons, the maintenance of the premises and shall assist in the maintenance during the remainder of the year. The Lessee may additionally provide necessary maintenance, upkeep, and utilities contributions for such use. Lessor and Lessee covenant that, upon their use of the facilities, to return the premises after use in similar condition to that prior to use. Lessee shall be entitled to any profits from concession sales as an additional offset against maintenance costs. Lessor shall have no further financial responsibility to the Lessee.

REMODELING OR STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS: Lessee shall have the obligation to maintain the premises, and to provide any construction or remodeling (at Lessee's expense) that may be required to use the Premises as specified above, and may construct such fixtures on the Premises (at Lessee's expense) that appropriately facilitate its use for such purpose. Any improvements to such property, and any and all financial interest in those improvements, at the time of lease expiration, will revert back to the owner. Such construction shall be undertaken and such fixtures may be erected only with notice to the Lessor.

MAINTENANCE: Lessee shall have the obligation to maintain the Premises in good repair at all times.

ACCESS BY LESSOR TO PREMISES: Lessor shall have the right to enter the Premises to make inspections or provide necessary services.

UTILITIES AND SERVICES: Lessee shall be responsible for all utilities and services in connection with the Premises. All utility service as of the date of the signing of the lease shall be in the name of the Lessee, exclusively.

LIABILITY INSURANCE: During the term of this agreement, Lessee shall maintain comprehensive general liability insurance with individual limits of not less than $1,000,000 and an aggregate location limit of not less than $1,000,000, underwritten by financially stable companies (AM Best rated A or better). The general liability insurance policy shall be endorsed to include the Cherokee County School District as an Additional Insured. The policy of insurance shall provide the minimum of 30 days advance notice of cancellation

of insurance to the District. A certificate of such insurance in a form satisfactory to the Lessor evidencing said coverage shall be provided to the District prior to Lessee's use of premises.

INDEMNITY REGARDING USE OF PREMISES: Lessee agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend Lessor from and against any and all losses, claims, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, if any, which Lessor may suffer or incur in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises.

DANGEROUS MATERIALS: Lessee shall not keep or have on the Premises any article or thing of a dangerous, inflammable, or explosive character that might substantially increase the danger of fire on the Premises, or that might be considered hazardous by a responsible insurance company, unless the prior written consent of Lessor is obtained and proof of adequate insurance protection is provided by Lessee or its assigns to Lessor.

TAXES: Taxes attributable to the Premises or the use of the Premises shall be allocated as follows:

Real Estate Taxes – Lessor shall pay all real estate taxes and assessments for the premises.

Personal Taxes – Lessee shall pay all personal taxes and any other charges which may be levied against the Premises and which are attributable to Lessee's use of the Premises, or fixtures.

MECHANICS LIENS: Neither the Lessee nor anyone claiming through the

Lessee shall have the right to file mechanics liens or any other kind of lien on the Premises and the filing of this Lease constitutes notice that such liens are invalid. Further, Lessee agrees to give actual advance notice to any contractors, subcontractors or suppliers of good, labor, or services that such liens will not be valid.

ASSIGNABILITY/SUBLETTING: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Lessee may not assign or sublease any interest in the Premises without the prior written consent of Lessor.

NOTICE: Notices under this Lease shall not be deemed valid unless given or served in writing and forwarded by mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Lessor:

Cherokee County School system

P.O. Box 769

Canton, GA 30114

Lessee:

Byron Kizer, President

Hobgood Park Youth Association, Inc.

Such addresses may be changed from time to time by either party providing notice as set forth above.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT/AMENDMENT: This Lease Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties and there are no other promises or conditions in any other agreement whether oral or written. This Lease may be modified or amended in writing, if the writing is signed by the party obligated under the amendment.

SEVERABILITY: If any portion of this Lease shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of this Lease is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision, it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited.

WAIVER: The failure of either party to enforce any provisions of this Lease shall not be construed as a waiver or limitation of that party's right to subsequently enforce and compel strict compliance with every provision of this Lease.

SUBORDINATION OF LEASE: This Lease is subordinate to any obligation between the School System and the State of Georgia that now exists, or may be given later to Lessor, with respect to the Premises.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

HOBGOOD BASEBALL

_____

By: Greg Shewfelt, President

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____

By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower

Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____

Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY

This agreement entered into on this 14th day of September, 20~~17~~23, by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and North Georgia Regional Education Service Agency, hereinafter referred to as "RESA,"

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, RESA is a regional educational support agency tasked with supporting the educational programs and initiatives from both the state and local school districts, and is funded through local school district annual fees, as well as through state and federal monies ~~statewide network, funded through state and federal monies, in place to lend support to school systems~~.

WHEREAS, RESA is a

Now therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Provide the use of school system facilities, waiving the rental fee as per the Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG), for professional development opportunities as coordinated by RESA.

ARTICLE III

RESA will:

1. Work in conjunction with the Office of Curriculum and Instruction to schedule professional development opportunities in the Cherokee County School District.

2. Provide staff development courses as needed, including gifted, ESOL and other endorsements identified in the annual Needs Assessment.

3. Agree to hold harmless and indemnify the School Board against any claims, demands, losses or damages, including reasonable attorneys' fees which may arise as a result of this contract.

4. Offer staff development courses, where appropriate and based on needs, in CCSD facilities.

ARTICLE IV

Neither party will discriminate against any Cherokee County School District or RESA employee or applicant for employment, or against any applicant for enrollment for a course of study or training provided by RESA under this Agreement, on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age, disability or other protected status. Reasonable accommodations will be offered to disabled individuals as required by law.

ARTICLE V

The term of this contract is September 14, 20~~17~~23 through September 14, 20~~18~~24. This contract shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

~~ARTICLE VI~~

~~This contract may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County School District at 110 Academy Street PO Box 769,~~

~~Canton, GA 3011469; and to the Director of the North Georgia RESA, 4731 Old Highway 5 South, Ellijay, GA, 30540.~~

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

NORTH GEORGIA RESA

_____

By: Dr. Steve Miletto, Executive Director

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____

By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower

Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____

Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

PIEDMONT ~~COLLEGE~~ UNIVERSITY

This Agreement is made and entered into this 14th day of September, 20~~17~~23, by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education~~, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, on behalf~~ and Piedmont ~~College~~ University. ~~All obligations of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia under this Agreement will be performed by Piedmont College.~~

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of this Agreement is to provide the sequence of Cohort Program courses which will enhance the ability of Cherokee County teachers to facilitate learning and qualify for a Master's in Education for Early Childhood, Middle Grades or Secondary Education and EDS in Teacher Leadership.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the following mutual promises, covenants, and considerations, it is agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Piedmont ~~College~~ University will:

1. Provide courses in Cherokee County School District facilities for the duration of the partnership for the purpose of providing opportunities for School District staff to pursue Master's in Education and Educational Specialist's Degrees.

2. Provide instructional personnel.

3. Be responsible for enrolling participants in the courses.

4. Agree to hold harmless and indemnify the School Board against any claims, demands, losses, or damages, including reasonable attorney's fees which may arise as a result of this contract.

5. Ensure that program participants/students and professors adhere to the Cherokee County School District policies and guidelines relative to research and data collection that are available at District website under Principal's Handbook.

6. Provide scholarship opportunities to appropriate Cherokee County School District employees who are enrolled in the cohort program.

7. Provide internship opportunities for Cherokee County School District students as it relates to the Career Pathways initiative.

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Provide the use of school system facilities, waiving the rental fee as per the Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG), for professional development opportunities as coordinated by Piedmont ~~College~~ University.

2. Provide the facilities and equipment for instruction at no charge (except for a utility fee) and assume responsibility for maintenance of the facilities and equipment. The facility fee will be based on classroom usage each semester. The bill for such fees shall be submitted to the ~~Dean of Graduate Students~~ Associate Dean of the College of Education for Piedmont ~~College~~ University, and to the Piedmont ~~College~~ University Cohort Coordinator for the School District each semester.

3. Approve degree offerings and allow for semi-annual recruitment plans for these purposes.

4. Dissemination of Piedmont ~~College~~ University information through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.

ARTICLE III

The School Board and Piedmont ~~College~~ University will be mutually responsible for the following:

1. Establishment of communication during the term of the Agreement to insure the objectives of the planned courses are being met.

2. Neither party will discriminate against any Cherokee County School District or Piedmont ~~College~~ University employee or applicant for employment, or against any

applicant for enrollment for a course of study at the ~~College~~ University, or against any ~~College~~ University student in his or her course of study or training under this Agreement solely on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age or handicap or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law; provided with reasonable accommodation such handicap does nothing to preclude such person's physical and mental ability to participate therein. Both parties will accept all children/interested participants for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership agreement, Piedmont ~~College~~ University must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this contract is September 14, 20~~17~~23 through September 14, 20~~18~~24. This contract shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

This contract may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ PO Box 769, Canton, GA 301~~1~~469, and the President of Piedmont ~~College~~ University, P.O. Box 10, Demorest, GA 30535.

This Agreement may be modified at any time by mutual consent of the governing bodies of the parties thereto. Any modification hereto shall be in writing and signed by both parties.

Both parties, by signatures executing this Agreement, certify that they are in compliance with the United States Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

PIEDMONT UNIVERSITY

_____

By: Marshall Criser, President

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____

By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower

Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____

Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

THE SEQUOYAH REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

This agreement entered into on this 14th day of September, 20~~17~~23, by and between The Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board," and Sequoyah Regional Library System, hereinafter referred to as "Library System,"

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School ~~Board's Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, the Library System is composed of eight branches: R.T. Jones Memorial Library, Ball Ground Public Library, Hickory Flat Public Library, Rose Creek Public Library, Woodstock Public Library, Cherokee County Law Library, Pickens County Public Library and Gilmer County Public Library; and,

WHEREAS, the Library System desires to contribute to the education of Cherokee County students in conjunction with the School Board.

Now therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Disseminate Library System information (brochures relative to programs) and student opportunities through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.

2. Communicate with Library System officials relative to future construction/renovation projects where land may be made available for construction of a public library facility.

3. Invite a Library System official to attend annual meetings conducted by School District media specialists.

4. Provide the opportunity for reciprocal use of facilities (waiving the rental fee), as scheduled and requested by Library System officials and abide by the rules and regulations contained in any facility use contracts utilized by the Library System. The School Board may request for a waiver to provide refreshments at professional development courses/conferences.

5. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' interests.

6. Provide a link to the Library System website from the School Board website.

ARTICLE III

Library System will:

1. Provide the opportunity for reciprocal use of facilities (waiving the rental fee), as scheduled and requested by the School Board and abide by the rules and regulations contained in the facility use contract at each school facility that the Library System may use and those contained in the Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG). All other fees associated with the use of facilities may apply (supervisory, custodial, security, etc.).

2. Provide summer programming information and provide related flyers, posters and a promotional video to the elementary, middle, and high schools.

3. Provide judges for school contests and related functions upon request, based on staff time and availability.

4. Participate in school functions as outreach upon request, based on staff time and availability.

5. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' interests.

6. Provide display space for student artwork and School Board information as space and schedule allows, as permitted by library system policy.

7. Provide a link to the School Board website from the Library System website.

8. Accept all children/interested participants for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership agreement, the Library System must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this Agreement is September 14, 20~~17~~23 through September 14, 20~~18~~24. This Agreement shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

ARTICLE V

This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this Agreement shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ PO Box 769, Canton, GA 301~~14~~69, and to the Director of the Sequoyah Regional Library System, 116 Brown Industrial Parkway, Canton, GA 30114.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

SEQUOYAH REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

_____
By: Tom Hill, Chairman

_____
By: Angela Cortellino
Executive Director

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

_____
By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____
By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____
Abby Roach, Esquire

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	D-1

Title

August 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of August 2023 Financial Report and Sales Tax Update

Summary Explanation and Background

Financial Report for August 2023

See Attached Reports

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Financial Report and Sales Tax Update

Source of Additional Information

Kenneth Owen	770.479.1871
Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Brian V. Hightower, Superintendent
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer

FINANCIAL REPORT
AUGUST 2023

General Fund

For the month ending August 31, 2023, the second month of the 2023-24 Fiscal Year, the School District's Operating Account (General Fund) has received $10,644,302 in revenue (year-to-date) consisting of state funds of $7,902,154 (3% of budget), $2,328,947 local revenues (1% of budget), and other funds of $413,201 (13% of budget). All operating expenditures of $59,920,599 (11% of budget) are within the Board of Education's approved 2023-24 budget.

Building Fund/Ed-SPLOST Collections

The Capital Outlay Fund balance of $64,134,270 as of August 31, 2023 reflects Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for Education (Ed-SPLOST) collections, proceeds of bond sales for capital outlay purposes, and transfers from the General Fund less bond refundings, bond issuance costs, transfers of Ed-SPLOST to the Debt Service Fund and capital outlay expenses paid.

Cherokee County School District received $5,922,789 for sales tax collections received in August 2023, for the month of July 2023, the tenth month of 60 monthly sales tax collections for the 2022-2027 SPLOST. Collections received were above projections for the month by $1,135,203 and above cumulative projections by $8,124,812.

Ed-SPLOST collections are accumulated within the Building Fund to be used for specified capital outlay purchases (limited pay-as-you-go) and transferred to the Debt Service Fund at the appropriate time to meet annual bond obligations (January and July). Excess Ed-SPLOST collections above projections are used to meet critical capital outlay needs and/or transferred to the Debt Service Fund as a safeguard against future negative economic conditions, assuring the School District can meet future bond payments.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund balance as of August 31, 2023 is $47,521,518 representing funds accumulated from Ed-SPLOST collections, collections from the 1.5 mills of property tax approved by the School Board, interest earned from investments and Invested Sinking Fund earnings. The Invested Sinking Fund is attached to the Series 2010B Bond issuance and is structured to fully pay the annual debt service on the Series 2010B bonds through January 2028. Annual Debt Service payments are made in February and August of each year, according to the Debt Service Schedule published annually in the Cherokee County School District Budget Book.

Federal/State/Competitive Grants and School Nutrition Funds

The School Nutrition Fund Balance as of August 31, 2023 is $19,530,945 and represents the difference between revenues from all sources and all expenditures. This amount is held in reserve to cover potential funding shortfalls or unexpected expenses.

Federal, State and Competitive grant funds are annually awarded to the School District based on funding formulas (Federal Title Programs) and/or program applications (State and competitive grants). As funds are expended, reimbursements are sought from the various programs. Local funds are not intended to cover shortfalls within grant programs nor are grants intended to carry a fund balance.

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2023

BALANCE SHEET	GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	BUILDING FUND	FED FUNDS/ SCHOOL NUTRITION	TOTAL
ASSETS					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 87,708,257	$ 18,413,582	$ 64,134,270	$ 5,331,996	$ 175,588,105
Investments	-	27,599,334	-	-	27,599,334
Receivables	725,447	1,508,602	-	15,380,677	17,614,726
Inventories	768,845	-	-	643,953	1,412,798
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 89,202,549	$ 47,521,518	$ 64,134,270	$ 21,356,626	$ 222,214,963
LIABILITIES					
Accounts Payable	$ 146,080	$ -	$ -	$ 1,546,907	$ 1,692,987
Salaries and Benefits Payable	15,608,540	-	-	278,774	15,887,314
FUND BALANCE	73,447,929	47,521,518	64,134,270	19,530,945	204,634,662
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	$ 89,202,549	$ 47,521,518	$ 64,134,270	$ 21,356,626	$ 222,214,963
REVENUE AND EXPENSE					
REVENUE	$ 10,644,302	$ 450,531	$ 5,972,465	$ 5,672,189	$ 22,739,487
EXPENDITURES	59,920,599	30,435,660	7,041,587	5,647,801	103,045,647
EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(49,276,297)	(29,985,129)	(1,069,122)	24,388	(80,306,160)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	51,412	17,255,484	(17,255,484)	-	51,412
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	122,672,814	60,251,163	82,458,876	19,506,557	284,889,410
ENDING FUND BALANCE	**$ 73,447,929**	**$ 47,521,518**	**$ 64,134,270**	**$ 19,530,945**	**$ 204,634,662**

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023

	2023-2024 BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	$ 278,889,605	$ 2,328,947		$ 276,560,658
State Revenue	261,331,178	7,902,154		253,429,024
Federal Revenue	199,068	-		199,068
Investment Earnings	2,615,553	413,201		2,202,352
Miscellaneous Revenue	424,258	-		424,258
TOTAL REVENUE	**543,459,662**	**10,644,302**		**532,815,360**
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	372,167,165	35,586,446	$ 3,093,817	333,486,902
Pupil Services	22,830,491	2,045,671	11,286	20,773,534
Improvement of Instructional Services	19,065,691	4,775,040	1,692,383	12,598,268
Instructional Staff Training	824,962	68,730	1,817	754,415
Educational Media Services	5,909,656	511,724	200,457	5,197,475
General Administration	4,029,126	729,605	163	3,299,358
School Administration	32,571,787	5,220,911	14,089	27,336,787
Support Services-Business	3,670,470	712,094	26,909	2,931,467
Maintenance & Operation of Plant Services	41,919,858	6,830,629	2,265,087	32,824,142
Student Transportation Services	29,231,913	2,370,724	2,607,056	24,254,133
Support Services-Central	5,673,995	1,069,025	5,260	4,599,710
School Nutrition Program	170,190	-	-	170,190
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**538,065,304**	**59,920,599**	**9,918,324**	**468,226,381**
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	154,611	51,412		103,199
Accounts Transfers Out	(29,756,126)	-		(29,756,126)
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	**(29,601,515)**	**51,412**		**(29,652,927)**
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	**$ (24,207,157)**	**$ (49,224,885)**	**$ (9,918,324)**	**$ 34,936,052**

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEBT SERVICE FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023

	2023-2024 BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE			
Local Revenue	$ 19,469,523	$ -	$ 19,469,523
Investment Earnings	1,186,018	199,097	986,921
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,936,976	251,434	2,685,542
TOTAL REVENUE	**23,592,517**	**450,531**	**23,141,986**
EXPENDITURES			
Debt Service	44,860,790	30,435,660	14,425,130
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**44,860,790**	**30,435,660**	**14,425,130**
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Accounts Transfers In	25,425,105	17,255,484	8,169,621
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	**25,425,105**	**17,255,484**	**8,169,621**
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	**$ 4,156,832**	**$ (12,729,645)**	**$ 16,886,477**

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUILDING FUND COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023

	2023-2024 BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	$ 57,052,068	$ 5,644,757		$ 51,407,311
State Revenue	2,500,000	-		2,500,000
Investment Earnings	2,719,957	327,708		2,392,249
TOTAL REVENUE	**62,272,025**	**5,972,465**		**56,299,560**
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	26,465,978	1,823,015	$ 3,469,046	21,173,917
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Svs.	162,371,770	5,218,572	1,211,258	155,941,940
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**188,837,748**	**7,041,587**	**4,680,304**	**177,115,857**
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Bond Issuance	75,000,000	-		75,000,000
Premiums on Bonds Sold	11,250,000	-		11,250,000
Accounts Transfers In	27,935,234	-		27,935,234
Accounts Transfers Out	(25,425,105)	(17,255,484)		(8,169,621)
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	**88,760,129**	**(17,255,484)**		**106,015,613**
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	**$ (37,805,594)**	**$ (18,324,606)**	**$ (4,680,304)**	**$ (14,800,684)**

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
FEDERAL FUNDS AND SCHOOL NUTRITION COMPARISON OF BUDGET TO ACTUAL
JULY 1, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023

	2023-2024 BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
REVENUE				
Local Revenue	$ 7,897,437	$ 918,955		$ 6,978,482
State Revenue	1,666,380	163,862		1,502,518
Federal Revenue	45,207,663	4,511,843		40,695,820
Investment Earnings	25,000	77,529		(52,529)
TOTAL REVENUE	**54,796,480**	**5,672,189**		**49,124,291**
EXPENDITURES				
Instructional Services	23,040,667	2,174,177	$ 61,906	20,804,584
Pupil Services	8,911,315	843,179	8,759	8,059,377
Improvement of Instructional Services	1,219,313	157,191	1,284	1,060,838
Instructional Staff Training	2,358,070	209,307	372,668	1,776,095
School Administration	13,209	-	-	13,209
Maintenance & Operation of Plant Services	593,502	44,642	-	548,860
Student Transportation Services	592,591	23,055	-	569,536
Support Services-Central	187,212	-	-	187,212
School Nutrition Program	21,593,231	2,196,250	221,221	19,175,760
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**58,509,110**	**5,647,801**	**665,838**	**52,195,471**
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Accounts Transfers In	1,265,587	-		1,265,587
TOTAL OTHER FIN SOURCES (USES)	**1,265,587**	**-**		**1,265,587**
NET CHANGE FUND BALANCES	**$ (2,447,043)**	**$ 24,388**	**$ (665,838)**	**$ (1,805,593)**

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (2022-2027)
COMPARISON OF COLLECTIONS
THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2023

REPORTING MONTH	60 MONTH COLLECTION MONTH	PERIOD	PROJECTED COLLECTIONS	ACTUAL COLLECTIONS	DIFFERENCE ACTUAL AND PROJECTED COLLECTIONS
November 2022	**October 2022**	**1**	$ 4,636,009	$ 5,328,786	$ 692,777
December 2022	**November 2022**	**2**	4,807,242	5,405,654	598,412
January 2023	**December 2022**	**3**	5,104,524	6,617,076	1,512,552
February 2023	**January 2023**	**4**	4,824,820	4,852,679	27,859
March 2023	**February 2023**	**5**	4,062,238	4,697,475	635,237
April 2023	**March 2023**	**6**	4,325,376	5,419,587	1,094,211
May 2023	**April 2023**	**7**	4,448,443	5,296,122	847,679
June 2023	**May 2023**	**8**	4,604,100	5,494,145	890,045
July 2023	**June 2023**	**9**	4,818,522	5,509,360	690,838
August 2023	**July 2023**	**10**	4,787,586	5,922,789	1,135,203
			$ 46,418,861	$ 54,543,673	$ 8,124,812

2022-2027 Ed-SPLOST Projected Collections

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	TOTAL
January	-	4,824,820	4,921,317	5,019,743	5,120,138	5,222,541	25,108,558
February	-	4,062,238	4,143,483	4,226,353	4,310,880	4,397,097	21,140,052
March	-	4,325,376	4,411,884	4,500,122	4,590,124	4,681,927	22,509,432
April	-	4,448,443	4,537,412	4,628,160	4,720,723	4,815,138	23,149,876
May	-	4,604,100	4,696,182	4,790,105	4,885,907	4,983,625	23,959,919
June	-	4,818,522	4,914,893	5,013,191	5,113,455	5,215,724	25,075,784
July	-	4,787,586	4,883,338	4,981,005	5,080,625	5,182,237	24,914,790
August	-	4,848,609	4,945,582	5,044,493	5,145,383	5,248,291	25,232,358
September	-	4,619,404	4,711,792	4,806,027	4,902,148	5,000,191	24,039,561
October	4,636,009	4,766,013	4,861,333	4,958,560	5,057,731	-	24,279,647
November	4,807,242	4,899,541	4,997,532	5,097,482	5,199,432	-	25,001,229
December	5,104,524	5,403,573	5,511,645	5,621,878	5,734,315	-	27,375,934
TOTALS	**$ 14,547,775**	**$ 56,408,226**	**$ 57,536,391**	**$ 58,687,118**	**$ 59,860,861**	**$ 44,746,770**	**$ 291,787,141**

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	E-1

Title

Out of State Travel Request

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State Travel

Summary Explanation and Background

See attachment for out of state travel requests to attend professional conferences.

Priority Area

Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

See Legend on Attached Out of State Travel Requests

Exhibits: (List)

Attached Out of State Travel Requests

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Nicole H. Holmes	770.479.1871
Dr. Keith A. Bryant	770.479.1871
Dr. Julie Dutko	770.479.1871

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS

Name	School	Dates	Reason	Place	Cost
Bradley Orth, Executive Director	Technology and Information Services	10.16.23 – 10.19.23	*To attend Gartner IT Symposium*	Orlando, FL	$2,122 ●
Lindsay Bowley, Recruitment Supervisor	Division of Human Resources	10.03.23 – 10.04.23	*To attend Vanderbilt K-12 Education Career Fair*	Nashville, TN	$591 ●
Lindsay Bowley, Recruitment Supervisor Christina Saraiva, Recruitment Specialist	Division of Human Resources	10.09.23 – 10.10.23	*To attend Auburn University Education Interview Day*	Auburn, AL	$750 ● $500 ●
Melissa Sardonia, Speech Language Pathologist	Macedonia ES	11.16.23 – 11.18.23	*To attend American Speech Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2023*	Boston, MA	$0 ❍
Lana Glaus, Teacher	Etowah HS	09.28.23 – 09.29.23	*To attend High School Research Teachers Conference*	Washington, DC	$161 ❖
Jennifer McCarthy, Teacher	Holly Springs ES STEM Academy	11.01.23 – 11.04.23	*To attend American Orff Schulwerk Association (AOSA) National Conference*	Albuquerque, NM	$ 1,797 ♦
Lara McDonald, Teacher	Etowah HS	11.02.23 – 11.05.23	*To attend National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) Conference*	Baltimore, MD	$622 ❖

Legend

● - Local Funds, FY2023-24
❍ -No expense to Cherokee County School District (Vendor)
❖ - School-Based State Staff Development Funds, FY2023-24
♦ - School-Based Local Funds FY2023-24

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	E-2

Title

Out of State and Overnight Field Trips

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Out of State and Overnight Field Trips

Summary Explanation and Background

See Attached List of Field Trips

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

See Attachment

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Dr. Nicole H. Holmes	770.479.1871

ATTACHMENT: OVERNIGHT AND OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIPS

I. Curriculum-Based Trips

School	Grade	Date	Destination	Reason/Nature
Cherokee HS	9 – 12	06.04.25 – 06.10.25	Reykjavik, Iceland	Cherokee HS students will experience culture and tour historical sites.
Creekview HS	9 – 12	10.31.23 – 11.04.23	Indianapolis, IN	Future Farmers of America (FFA) students will attend the National FFA Convention.
Etowah HS	9 – 12	10.31.23 – 11.04.23	Indianapolis, IN	Future Farmers of America (FFA) students will attend the National FFA Convention.

II. Student Activities/Athletic-Based Trips

School	Grade	Date	Destination	Reason/Nature
Cherokee HS	9 – 12	02.29.24 – 03.03.24	Jacksonville, FL	The Cherokee HS Girls Lacrosse Team is traveling to Jacksonville, FL to compete in a competition.
Cherokee HS	9 – 12	03.21.24 – 03.23.24	Gatlinburg, TN	The Cherokee HS Chorus is traveling to Gatlinburg, TN to perform at Dollywood.
Creekview HS	9 – 12	03.01.24 – 03.04.24	Jacksonville, FL	The Creekview HS Girls Lacrosse Team is traveling to Jacksonville, FL to compete in a competition.
Etowah HS	9 - 12	04.11.24 – 04.14.24	Gatlinburg, TN	The Etowah HS Band and Chorus are traveling to Gatlinburg, TN to compete in the Smokey Mountain Music Festival.
Woodstock HS	9 – 12	03.27.24 – 03.30.24	Orlando, FL	The Woodstock HS Orchestra is traveling to Orlando, FL to perform at Disney World.

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	E-3

Title

2023-24 School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

Summary Explanation and Background

As a provision of the School Board's Policy regarding Instructional Program Accountability System (IA), each school participated in the development of their annual School Improvement Plan (SIPs), which included a heavy focus on the assimilation and analysis of student achievement data sets. Capitalizing on both individual school and comparative school data, schools are better equipped to identify potential gaps in student learning and implement appropriate interventions.

The 2023-24 SIPs require each school to establish two three-year SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely) Goals targeting improved student achievement. Important SIP components also include research-based strategies addressing student learning at each tier of the Response To Intervention/Pyramid Of Intervention Plan, Professional Development plans, implementation time lines for intervention strategies and appropriate measurements to monitor student learning progression.

The (attached) SIP Executive Summaries provide a synopsis of each school's goals and strategies.

Priority Area

Student Achievement: Access and Opportunity

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Each School's SIP Executive Summary and a Summary of Trends

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Nicole H. Holmes	770.479.1871
Dr. Keith A. Bryant	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

DATE: 06 September 2023

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2023-24 School Improvement Plans

As you know, pursuant to provisions of the School Board's Policy regarding Instructional Program Accountability System (IA), each school annually develops and implements a comprehensive School Improvement Plan (SIP). This Policy outlines predetermined components that must be contained in all SIPs and requires that each school develop SIP goals from data trends and gaps. Moreover, as described in the Policy, each SIP must be aligned to CCSD's Blueprint Strategic Plan.

The 2023-24 SIPs result from extensive work in which every school has analyzed data, including conducting a gap analysis compared to similar schools in the District and State and examining longitudinal trends. Each SIP contains two three-year SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely) goals focused on continuous school improvement. Additionally, each school identified research-based effective strategies focused on teaching and learning in support of the SIP goals. Each SIP contains an action plan for the research-based strategies, a professional development plan, a timeline for implementation and appropriate measurement techniques to monitor progress/success toward implementation of the SIP periodically and reaching each goal.

As a part of the 2023-24 SIP development process, work sessions were held that allowed school teams to collaborate in reviewing SIP goals, data sources, strategies and best practices supporting the SIP development. CCSD staff also provided feedback and suggestions to school teams based on current research and the school improvement process. Finally, to increase the effectiveness of communications regarding the SIP process, the School District is continuing its usage of the SIP Executive Summary, implemented during the 2016-17 school year, for each plan. Due to its simplicity and clarity, this document allows each school to communicate more clearly with its stakeholders and focus on the primary goals for improving student achievement.

1205 Bluffs Parkway
Canton, Georgia 30114
770.479.1871
www.cherokeek12.net

Accordingly, I recommend the School Board approve the 2023-24 SIP submitted by each school in the School District. For your review, a copy of each school's SIP Executive Summary is included with this correspondence.

An additional supporting document is attached, providing an at-a-glance overview of SIP goals and strategy trends being implemented across the District. During your review of these materials, please reference any questions you may have with Dr. Keith A. Bryant, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Dr. Brian V. Hightower BVH

BVH/NHH/KAB:sm
Attachments

cc: Superintendent's Cabinet
Agenda Preparation Group
All Principals

Cherokee County School District

2023-24 School Improvement Plan Trends

Goals

- SIP Goals focus on student achievement and/or improving student behaviors
- Two SIP Goals per school
- Each goal is a three-year goal
- Goals are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely)
- Goals by type and number, including combinations of more than one:
    - 34 Reading/English Language Arts/Literacy/Writing Goals
    - 25 Mathematics Goals
    - 8 Student with Disabilities, and/or Subgroup Performance Goals
    - 9 Graduation/Course Completion Goals
    - 3 Generalized End-of-Course Goals
    - 2 CCRPI Specific Goals
    - 6 IEP, Behavioral and/or Relationship Goals
    - 2 Science Goals
    - 2 CTAE, AP and/or Honors Course Participation Rate Goals

Strategies

- Majority of strategies focus on teacher behaviors that increase student achievement
- Selected strategies are research-based
- Chosen strategies have an effect size on student achievement of 1 or more year's growth
- Most commonly selected strategies:
    - Growing collective teacher efficacy
    - Increasing positive student to teacher relationships
    - Providing timely and collaborative feedback to students
    - Using common formative assessments
    - Continuing the work of the Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
    - Providing direct instruction in reading and math
    - Providing support through key instruction practices such as reciprocal teaching, scaffolding, micro teaching and concept mapping
    - Utilizing self-reporting grades and goal setting
    - Increasing rigor, relevance and learner engagement in the classroom
    - Improving teacher clarity around Georgia Standards of Excellence
    - Enhancing student learning through the use of student success criteria

Elementary Schools' DRAFT School Improvement Plan Executive Summaries

Cherokee County School District

Arnold Mill ES

Mr. Daniel Fuller, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission at Arnold Mill ES is to provide excellence in educating the emerging generation through high expectations, teamwork, communication and differentiated learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Levels 3 and 4 from 55% to 58% and decrease the percentage of students scoring at Level 1 from 17% to 15% on the Georgia Milestones in ELA for grades 3, 4 and 5 by school year 2025-2026.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Build stronger **Teacher-Student Relationships** in all classrooms.
- Improve **Teacher Feedback** in all classrooms.
- Implement **Self-Reported Grades Strategies** in all classrooms.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Levels 3 and 4 from 63% to 70% on the Georgia Milestones in Math for grades 3, 4 and 5 by school year 2023-2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Build stronger **Teacher-Student Relationships** in all classrooms.
- Implement **Self-Reported Grades Strategies** in all classrooms.
- Teachers will pervasively utilize **Spaced Versus Mass Practice** in all math classes.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Arnold Mill Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Avery ES

Dr. Lisa Turner, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

It is the mission at Avery Elementary to create a safe and enriching environment where students and staff unite in learning through the use of technology, collaboration, independent thinking and applying knowledge. In doing this, we believe students will be empowered to succeed as life-long learners and productive citizens for the future.

School Improvement Goal 1

Students in Third through Fifth Grade will increase their performance in ELA on the GA Milestones from 60% Achievement Levels 3 and 4 to 63% Achievement Levels 3 and 4 by 2023-24 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Ensure and build **Teacher Clarity** through **Unpacking Standards** and collaboratively constructing **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria**.
- Target **Differentiated Instruction** to provide more personalized instruction to students of all subgroups and academic abilities.
- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities**, **Professional Development** and **Coaching** to increase student achievement in ELA.

School Improvement Goal 2

Students in Third through Fifth Grade will increase their performance in Math on the Milestones state assessment from 70% Achievement Levels 3 and 4 to 73% Achievement Levels 3 and 4 by 2023-24 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities**, **Professional Development** and **Coaching** to increase student achievement in Math.
- Ensure and build **Teacher Clarity** through unpacking standards and collaboratively constructing **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria**.
- Target **Differentiated Instruction** to provide more personalized instruction to students of all subgroups and academic abilities.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Avery Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Ball Ground ES

Ms. Melinda Roulier, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Ball Ground STEM Academy is dedicated to cultivating creative minds with a heart to serve.

School Improvement Goal 1

The percentage of third through fifth grade students performing at the Proficient and Distinguished Levels on the Math GA Milestones will increase from 46% to 55% by May 2024, with a yearly 3% increase in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Design and implement **Inquiry-based, Transdisciplinary STEM Tasks** to increase academic achievement through **Creative and Critical Thinking**.
- Provide **Timely Feedback** based on **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria** to promote self-assessment and student-led conferences.
- Analyze student assessment data from multiple sources to design effective **Differentiated Lessons** to meet the needs of the individual learner.

School Improvement Goal 2

The percentage of third through fifth grade students performing at the Proficient and Distinguished levels on the ELA GA Milestones will increase from 38% to 47% by May 2024, with a yearly 3% increase in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Design and implement **Inquiry-based, Transdisciplinary STEM Tasks** to increase academic achievement through **Creative and Critical Thinking**.
- Provide **Timely Feedback** based on **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria** to promote self-assessment and student-led conferences.
- Analyze student assessment data from multiple sources to design effective **Differentiated Lessons** to meet the needs of the individual learner.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Ball Ground Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Bascomb ES

Dr. Carolyn Daugherty, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Bascomb ES is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment, giving all children the opportunity to reach their highest level of achievement. This will be accomplished through effective teaching and the ongoing use of technology. Bascomb ES will strive to create lifelong learners through the combined efforts of teacher, student and parent and community involvement.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students in third through fifth grades scoring in the Accelerate Learning Category in Writing and Language by 3% on the Georgia Milestones beginning in the school year 2022-2023.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Feedback Strategy**.
- Utilize **Self Reported Grades/Student Expectations**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students in third through fifth grades scoring at Level 3 and 4 on the ELA Georgia Milestones Assessment by 3% starting in the 2021-2022 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Teacher Clarity Strategy**.
- Utilize **Self-Reported Grades/Student Expectations**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Bascomb Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Boston ES

Ms. Jessica Currie, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

To provide a quality education that is nurturing and academically challenging for all students through the united efforts of the total school community.

School Improvement Goal 1

To increase the percentage of students in ELA scoring in the Proficient and Distinguished Levels in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the ELA GA Milestones by 3% each year beginning in 2021-2022.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Engage in **Professional Learning Communities** and collaborative planning to develop **Teacher** and **Student Clarity**.
- Implement **Flexible Small Group Instruction** that responsively diagnoses and prescribes strategies and instruction to close gaps in student knowledge.
- Utilize **Content-based Writing** in all content areas to increase students' literacy and academic vocabulary knowledge as measured by student work samples.

School Improvement Goal 2

To increase the percentage of students in Math scoring in the Proficient and Distinguished Levels in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the Math GA Milestones by 3% each year beginning in 2021-2022

School Improvement Action Plan

- Engage in **Professional Learning Communities** and collaborative planning to develop **Teacher and Student Clarity** of new math standards.
- Implement **Flexible Small Group Instruction** that responsively diagnoses and prescribes strategies and instruction.
- Utilize **Content-based Writing** in math to increase students' command of mathematical vocabulary and problem-solving as measured by student work samples.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Boston Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Carmel ES

Ms. Kim Hagood, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Carmel is committed to increasing the academic and social growth for every child.

School Improvement Goal 1

The percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient or Distinguished Level in ELA will increase by 3% within each grade level by May 2025, as measured by the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Promote **Collective Teacher-Student Efficacy**.
- Increase **Teacher Clarity Feedback**.
- Implement **Self-Reported Grades**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Reduce the number of office conduct referrals by 15% by May 2026 from 286 in SY 2022-23 to 243 in SY 2025-26.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Positive Behavior Framework**.
- Implement **Restorative Practices and Positive Behavior Mindset**.
- Communicate **School-wide Behavior Plan** to all stakeholders.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Carmel Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Clark Creek ES

Ms. Joey Moss, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

In an ever-changing society, Clark Creek Elementary School STEM Academy stakeholders are committed to facilitating relevant interdisciplinary learning environments to empower students to reach their fullest potential through STEM integration that fosters innate curiosity and builds problem-solving skills.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient and Distinguished Learner Level in ELA from 45.3% (May 2021) to 48.3% by May 2024, with a 1% increase during the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Provide Instructional **Supports** and **Teacher Feedback** for students to increase achievement in English Language Arts as demonstrated by **Student Goal Setting** practices.
- Provide **Professional Development** through ongoing **Professional Learning Communities** for teachers on structured literacy including **Flexible Grouping** and **Differentiated Small Group Instruction**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient and Distinguished Learner Level in Math from 54.6% (May 2021) to 57.6% by May 2024, with a 1% increase during the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones Math Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Provide **Instructional Supports** and **Teacher Feedback** for students to increase achievement in Math as demonstrated by **Student Goal Setting Practices**.
- Provide **Professional Development** through ongoing **Professional Learning Communities** for teachers on mathematical fluency through **Differentiated Instruction** and **Teacher Clarity**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Clark Creek Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Clayton ES

Ms. Valerie Lowery, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Clayton Elementary School is dedicated to providing students the opportunity to reach their highest level of achievement. The school strives to provide a quality education that enables students to be internationally competitive.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students in ELA scoring in the Proficient and Distinguished Levels over the next three years in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the ELA GA Milestones by 3% each year beginning in 2023-2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Use explicit research based **Phonics Instruction** to increase foundational grade level skills.
- Implement **Direct Instruction**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students in Math scoring in the Proficient and Distinguished Levels over the next three years in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the Math Milestones by 3% each year beginning in 2023-2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Direct Instruction.**
- Engage in ongoing **Coaching** to refine **Response to Intervention Practices**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Clayton Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Free Home ES

Ms. Julie Peppers, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Free Home Elementary School is committed to increasing the social and academic achievements for every child.

School Improvement Goal 1

Starting with the 2021-2022 school year, third through fifth grade students will increase in ELA achievement from the baseline of 38% of students who score as Proficient and Distinguished Learners (Levels 3 and 4) to 57% by the end of the 2023-2024 school year as measured on the ELA GA Milestones.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities**, **Professional Development** and the **Response to Intervention Process** to increase student achievement in ELA.
- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** and **Student-Centered Goal Setting** are present in all classrooms in order to maximize student growth and meet individual needs.
- Use **Professional Development** and **Coaching** to target **Differentiated Instruction** to provide instruction that meets the needs of students in all subgroups and abilities.

School Improvement Goal 2

Starting with the 2021-2022 school year, third through fifth grade students will increase in Math achievement from the baseline of 51% of students who score as Proficient and Distinguished Learners (Levels 3 and 4) to 66% by the end of the 2023-2024 school year as measured on the Math GA Milestones.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities, Professional Development** and the **Response to Intervention Process** to increase student achievement in Math.
- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** and **Student-Centered Goal Setting** are present in all classrooms in order to maximize student growth and meet individual needs.
- Use **Professional Development** and **Coaching** to target **Differentiated Instruction** to provide instruction that meets the needs of students in all subgroups and abilities.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Free Home Elementary School Fine Arts Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Hasty ES

Dr. Maria Rosario-Regan, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of Hasty Elementary Fine Arts Academy is to provide students with a quality education in a caring and safe environment.

School Improvement Goal 1

The percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient and Distinguished Learner Level in ELA will increase by 9% (from 27% to 36%) by May 2025, with a 3% increase during each of the 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** is provided in all lessons.
- Implement **Explicit Vocabulary Instruction** in all lessons.
- Provide **Timely and Formative Evaluation** and **Feedback** to all students.

School Improvement Goal 2

The percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient and Distinguished Learner Level in Math will increase by 9% (from 39% to 48%) by May 2025, with a 3% increase during each of the 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones Math Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** is provided in all lessons.
- Implement **Explicit Vocabulary Instruction** in all lessons.
- Provide **Timely and Formative Evaluation** and **Feedback** to all students.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Hasty Elementary School Fine Arts Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Hickory Flat ES

Ms. Kerry Estep, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Hickory Flat Elementary School will: HONOR the rich legacy of learning that has taken place in this school since 1838. FOCUS on each student and empower their learning. EXCEL in building a foundation of academic excellence. SOAR by demonstrating our "Flat 5" and #BeKind initiative in all aspects of life.

School Improvement Goal 1

The percentage of students scoring a Level 4 in ELA will increase from 14% to 23% (3% each year) by the end of the 2023-2024 school year as measured by Georgia Milestones Assessment Scores.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Instructional Scaffolding** to support all learners.
- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** is provided in all lessons.

School Improvement Goal 2

The percentage of students scoring Proficient or Distinguished (Levels 3 and 4) in 5th grade Science will increase from 50% to 59% (3% each school year) by the end of the 2023-2024 school year as measured by Georgia Milestones Assessment Scores.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Use key **Vocabulary Strategies** to increase student understanding.
- Increase the use of **Problem Solving Strategies** for learning opportunities.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Hickory Flat Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Holly Springs ES

Ms. Ashley Polito, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

It is our mission at Holly Springs ES STEM Academy to educate all students in an integrated literacy-rich environment while promoting opportunities for academic success and maximizing each child's potential.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase student achievement in ELA Content Mastery on the Georgia Milestones Assessments for grades 3, 4 and 5 by 3% each year for the next three years, from 37.76% to 40.76% to 43.76% to 46.76%, starting with the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Collect, analyze and utilize current diagnostic, formative and summative assessments in order to **Differentiate Instruction** to meet the needs of all students.
- Effectively use clear **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria** throughout instruction to facilitate feedback conversations, **Self Reported Grades and Goal Setting**.
- Provide students with **Meaningful Feedback**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase student achievement in Math Content Mastery on the Georgia Milestones Assessments for grades 3, 4 and 5 by 3% each year for the next three years, from 46.61% to 49.61% to 52.61% to 55.61%, starting with the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Focus on **Teacher Clarity** in communicating intentions of the lessons and the success criteria.
- Provide students with **Meaningful Feedback.**
- Utilize **Self-Reported Grades** continually.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - Holly Springs Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Indian Knoll ES

Ms. Kim Cerasoli, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of Indian Knoll Elementary School is to promote and support **I**ndividuality by increasing student **K**nowledge in order to achieve **E**xcellence in a safe, secure and nurturing learning environment where all students are given the opportunity to reach their academic and social potential. Our goal is to create lifelong learners through the combined **S**ervice of teachers, parents and community.

School Improvement Goal 1

All 1st through 5th grade students will increase reading levels as measured by the Scholastic Guided Reading Assessment by 8% over the next three (2023, 2024 and 2025) years with a goal of 75% of students being proficient or above grade-level range in reading by year three.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Student Conferencing**: **Goal Setting**, **Strategies**, **Student Expectations** and **Feedback**.
- Utilize **Collective Teacher Efficacy** within **Professional Learning Community Teams** and ongoing **Professional Development** to build capacity and consistency.
- Continue development of **Positive Behavior Supports** and **CCSD C.A.R.E.S.** which will enhance student teacher relationships: effective communication, fair expectations and student involvement and accountability.

School Improvement Goal 2

All Indian Knoll ES students will increase math proficiency as measured by the iReady Diagnostic Assessment by 7% over the next three (2023, 2024 and 2025) years with a goal of 75% of students being proficient or above grade-level range in math by year three.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Student Conferencing: Goal Setting, Strategies, Student Expectations** and **Feedback**.
- Utilize **Collective Teacher Efficacy** within **Professional Learning Community Teams** and ongoing **Professional Development** to build capacity and consistency.
- Continue development of **Positive Behavior Supports** and **CCSD C.A.R.E.S**. which will enhance student teacher relationships: effective communication, fair expectations and student involvement and accountability.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Indian Knoll Elementary School STEM Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Johnston ES

Ms. Laura Akers, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Our Mission at Johnston Elementary is to become lifelong learners and problem solvers who set challenging goals, persevere and dream big. We show kindness and respect for all by embracing our individual differences to make our school and community a better place.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students in grades 3 through 5 scoring a Proficient or Distinguished (Levels 3 and 4) in ELA from 49% to 58% (3% each year) by the end of the 2024-2025 school year as measured by Georgia Milestone ELA Assessments.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Student-Led Data Conferences** assessing the student's progress in ELA through Individual Data Notebooks using **Self-Reported Academic Progress**.
- Utilize Explicit **Vocabulary Instruction** in all content areas to increase student comprehension.
- Engage in ongoing **Coaching** to refine **Response to Intervention** strategies.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students in grades 3 through 5 scoring a Proficient or Distinguished (Levels 3 and 4) in Math from 50% to 59% (3% each year) by the end of the 2025-2026 school year as measured by Georgia Milestone ELA Assessments.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Student-Led Data Conferences** assessing the student's progress in Math through Individual Data Notebooks using **Self-Reported Academic Progress**.
- Utilize Explicit **Vocabulary Instruction** in all content areas to increase student comprehension.
- Engage in ongoing **Coaching** to refine **Response to Intervention** strategies.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Johnston Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Knox ES

Ms. Jennifer McIntosh, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Knox Elementary School STEM Academy stakeholders are dedicated to fostering the social, emotional and academic growth of all students. We will cultivate curiosity, critical thinking and create real-world connections through effective teaching strategies and the integration of STEM education. We see challenges as opportunities and believe that a growth mindset will empower students to reach their full potential.

School Improvement Goal 1

Starting in SY2023-2024, third through fifth grades will achieve an overall mean score of Proficient on the GA Milestones ELA Assessment through a 4 point increase each year for a total of 12 points by May 2026.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Formulate student goals and success criteria through **Student Goal Setting**, creating a clear and visible path for both students and teachers.
- Provide **Meaningful, Authentic and Timely Feedback**.
- Develop **Transdisciplinary Units** to increase Rigor and Relevance in the classroom.

School Improvement Goal 2

Starting in SY2023-2024, third through fifth grades will achieve an overall mean score of Proficient on the GA Milestones Math Assessment through a 4 point increase each year for a total of 12 points by May 2026.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Formulate student goals and success criteria through **Student Goal Setting**, creating a clear and visible path for both students and teachers.
- Provide **Meaningful, Authentic and Timely Feedback**.
- Develop **Transdisciplinary Units** to increase Rigor and Relevance in the classroom.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Knox Elementary School STEM Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Liberty ES

Ms. Sandi Harrison, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Liberty Elementary School's mission is to empower students to become responsible citizens who will be readyto face the challenges of the future. Liberty ES will foster a love of learning, provide qualityeducation, promotebeing kind and serving others and create an engaging, supportive learning environment. Liberty ES is a school where students receive academically rigorous instruction in order to positively impact academic achievement and critical thinking.

School Improvement Goal 1

As measured by the ELA Georgia Milestones, scores will increase by 9% over the next three years starting in the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Increase use of **Differentiated Instruction** and **Feedback** based on **Formative and Summative Assessments**.
- Develop **Positive Behavior Supports** with intentional focus on **Classroom Cohesion, Teacher-Student Relationships, Fair Expectations, Student Involvement** and **Student Accountability**.
- Build **Collective Teacher Efficacy** through **Professional Learning Communities** and ongoing **Professional Development** to increase capacity and consistency for sustained growth.

School Improvement Goal 2

As measured by the Math Georgia Milestones, scores will increase by 9% over the next three years starting in the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Increase use of **Differentiated Instruction** and **Feedback** based on **Formative and Summative Assessments**.
- Develop **Positive Behavior Supports** with intentional focus on **Classroom Cohesion**, **Teacher-Student Relationships**, **Fair Expectations**, **Student Involvement** and **Student Accountability**.
- Build **Collective Teacher Efficacy** through **Professional Learning Communities** and ongoing **Professional Development** to increase capacity and consistency for sustained growth.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Liberty Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Little River ES

Ms. Joni Adams, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

We believe ALL students can learn and ALL students matter!

School Improvement Goal 1

Over the next three years, in English Language Arts, Little River will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient or higher on the ELA Georgia Milestones from a 56% to 59% by the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Learning Targets** to impact student engagement, while providing **Teacher and Student Clarity**.
- Provide **Small Group Instruction** based on analysis of student assessment data in order to deliver **Differentiated Instruction** to all students.

School Improvement Goal 2

Over the next three years, in Math, Little River will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient or higher on the Math Georgia Milestones from a 65% to 68% by the 2023-2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Learning Targets** to impact student engagement, while providing **Teacher and Student Clarity**.
- Provide **Small Group Instruction** based on analysis of student assessment data in order to deliver **Differentiated Instruction** to all students.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Little River Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Macedonia ES

Dr. Carrie O'Bryant, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

At Macedonia Elementary School, we empower students to become confident, successful learners through engaging academics and data-informed instruction and assessments.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Proficient and Distinguished Learner Levels from 53% to 62% on the ELA portion of the Georgia Milestones over the next three school years (2023-24, 2024-25 and 2026-27).

School Improvement Action Plan

- Increase use of **Differentiated, Small Group Instruction**.
- Maximize **Collective Teacher Efficacy**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Proficient and Distinguished Learner Levels from 65% to 74% on the Math portion of the Georgia Milestones over the next three school years (2023-24, 2024-25 and 2026-27).

School Improvement Action Plan

- Increase use of **Differentiated, Small Group Instruction**.
- Maximize **Collective Teacher Efficacy**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Macedonia Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

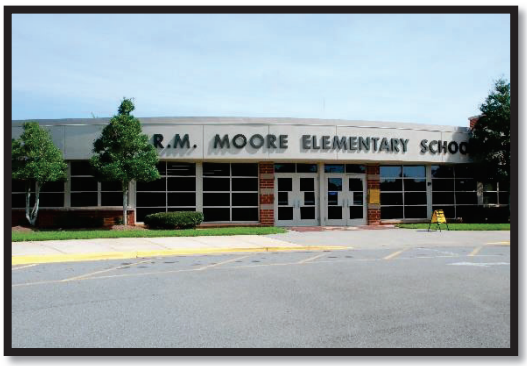
R.M. Moore ES

Mr. Matthew Kimbrell, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of R. M. Moore Elementary School is to provide a community in which students have opportunities to be academically, emotionally, socially and physically productive. A variety of learning experiences will be provided which will challenge and motivate the spectrum of the students' abilities.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient or Distinguished Learner Level in ELA by May 2026, with an increase of 3 percentage points (Third Grade from 25% to 34%, Fourth Grade from 33% to 42%, Fifth Grade from 34%to 43%) during the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessments.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Engage in **Classroom Discussion**.
- Participate in **Self-Reported Grades**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of 3rd through 5th grade students scoring at the Proficient or Distinguished Learner Level in Math by May 2026, with an increase of 3 percentage points (Third Grade from 39% to 48%, Fourth Grade from 44% to 53%, Fifth Grade from 31% to 40%) during the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones Math Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Engage in **Classroom Discussion**.
- Participate in **Self-Reported Grades**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - R.M. Moore Elementary School STEM Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Mountain Road ES

Ms. Erica Morrie, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of Mountain Road Elementary School is to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where a highly trained and motivated staff, supported by parents and the community, will use effective instructional strategies and technologies to empower all students to reach optimal levels of learning and achievement.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students that score Achievement Levels 3 and 4 in ELA on the GA Milestones for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years by three percent each year, starting with a 2020-2021 baseline score of 53.8.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Provide targeted **Professional Development** in ELA and **High-Impact Instructional Strategies**.
- Implement **Student-Led Data Conferences** assessing the student's progress in ELA through **Individual Student Data Notebooks** using **Self-Reported Grades**.
- Provide **Targeted Instruction** and **Interventions** to students who need support in reading.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students that score Achievement Levels 3 and 4 in Math on the GA Milestones for the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years by three percent each year, starting with a 2021-2022 baseline score of 58.8.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Provide targeted **Professional Development** on math modeling with a focus on **High-Impact Instructional Strategies**.
- Implement **Student-Led Data Conferences** assessing the student's progress in math through **Individual Student Data Notebooks** using **Self-Reported Grades**.
- Provide **Transfer Strategies** for students to apply knowledge and make **Real-World Connections** in mathematics.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Mountain Road Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Oak Grove ES

Ms. Penny Valle, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission at Oak Grove Elementary STEAM Academy is to meet the needs of each unique individual and encourage life-long, enthusiastic learners.

School Improvement Goal 1

The percentage of K through 5 students scoring at or above the 26th percentile on the Spring ELA universal screener will increase by 6 percentage points over the three-year period from 69% in 2023 to 75% by 2026 as measured by the EasyCBM universal screener.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Structured Literacy Instruction**.
- Participate in training and implement the **CCSD Positive Behavior Framework**.

School Improvement Goal 2

The percentage of K through 5 students scoring at or above the 26th percentile on the Spring Math universal screener will increase by 9 percentage points over the three-year period from 69% in 2022 to 78% by 2025 as measured by the iReady universal screener.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Focus on **Teacher Clarity** in communicating the intentions of the lessons and the **Success Criteria**.
- Participate in training and implement the **CCSD Positive Behavior Framework**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Oak Grove Elementary School STEAM Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Sixes ES

Dr. Ashley Kennerly, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Sixes Elementary School will provide a safe, creative environment characterized by trust, respect and academic excellence. All students will be provided with the knowledge, attitudes and life skills to help them grow into self-sufficient, responsible citizens and life-long learners. A partnership of students, family, faculty and community will work together to achieve this goal.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Proficient and Distinguished Learner Levels by 3% points while decreasing the percentage of students scoring at Beginning and Developing Learner Levels by 3% each year in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the Georgia Milestones End of Grade ELA Sub-Test for SY 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Ensure **Teacher Carity** and **Collaboratively Construct Classroom Expectations, Learning Targets and Success Criteria**.
- Utilize **Small Group, Targeting Teaching** to increase student achievement in ELA
- Foster **Teacher, Student and Parent Relationships** to build trust, increase risk-taking, and promote a **Positive Learning Environment**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Proficient and Distinguished Learner Levels by 3% while decreasing the percentage of students scoring at Beginning and Developing Learner Levels by 3% each year in grades 3, 4 and 5 on the Georgia Milestones End of Grade Math Sub-Test for SY 2023-2024, 2024- 2025 and 2025 - 2026.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Ensure **Teacher Clarity** and **Collaboratively Construct Classroom Expectations, Learning Targets and Success Criteria**.
- Utilize **Small Group, Targeting Teaching** to increase student achievement in math.
- Foster **Teacher, Student and Parent Relationships** to build trust, increase risk-taking, and promote a **Positive Learning Environment**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Sixes Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Woodstock ES

Ms. Ann Jordan, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Woodstock Elementary School is committed to provide a positive environment in which students advance academically , physically and emotionally in a challenging learning environment. We will provide a strong progressive Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) focus in a culturally responsive setting to maximize learning in the 21st century.

School Improvement Goal 1

Improve Reading/ELA achievement in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students as measured by the Georgia Milestones ELA Assessment during the 2023-24 to 2025-2026 school years by decreasing the number of students who score below grade level in reading by 3% annually.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Strategy-Based Small Group Instruction** with a focus on **Student Goal Setting**.
- Increase **Intentional Planning** and delivery of **Vocabulary Instruction**.
- Collaborate on common grade level lesson plan with **Intentional Tier 1 Instruction** and implement with fidelity.

School Improvement Goal 2

Improve math achievement in grades 3rd ,4th and 5th as measured by the Georgia Milestones Math Assessment during the 2023-2024 to 2025-2026 school years by decreasing students who are scoring below grade level by 3% annually.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Strategy-Based Small Group Instruction** with a focus on **Student Goal Setting**.
- Increase **Intentional Planning** and delivery of **Vocabulary Instruction**.
- Collaborate on common grade level lesson plan with **Intentional Tier 1 Instruction** and implement with fidelity.

More information available at SIP - Woodstock Elementary School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Middle Schools' DRAFT School Improvement Plan Executive Summaries

Cherokee County School District

Creekland MS

Dr. Richard Carnes, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Our shared mission, as committed and united stakeholders at Creekland Middle School, is to prepare students for college, careers and life in the twenty-first century by providing a quality education in a safe yet challenging environment that sets high expectations for all students, provides equitable learning opportunities for all students, encourages and provides opportunity for all students to be well-rounded and promotes academic success, critical thinking and life skills, respect for others and self, productive citizenship and life-long learning.

School Improvement Goal 1

Decrease the percentage of Students With Disabilities who score a Level 1 on the Georgia Milestones ELA and Math subtests by 3% each year during the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023- 2024 school years or until the subgroup performance target is met.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **High Impact Co-Teaching Models** to support all learners in the co-teaching environment.
- Involve Students with Disabilities in **Self-Monitoring Progress** toward their IEP goals.
- Utilize **Incentives** for resource students who make gains in **Specialized Math and ELA Programs**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the total percentage of students who score a Level 3 and 4 on the Georgia Milestones ELA and Math subtests by 3% each year during the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years or until the subgroup performance target is met.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities** data team process to determine which students need additional academic support or challenge and **Differentiate Instruction** accordingly.
- Utilize **STEM-Based Instruction** to engage learners and support other content areas.
- Engage parents and students as **Partners in Student Academic Success** with regular progress monitoring.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - Creekland Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Dean Rusk MS

Ms. Dawn Weinbaum, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Empower all students to be lifelong learners, creative problem solvers, and responsible contributors in a global society.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase student achievement for all students in the area of ELA by 3% each year as measured by the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment for Proficient and Distinguished Learners.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement effective **High-Impact Teaching and Instructional Strategies** with an emphasis on student **Self-Reported Grades, Prior Knowledge, Evaluation and Reflection** and continue using **Common Assessments** to support **Student Mastery of Standards**.
- Implement with fidelity **Professional Learning Communities** in which teachers collaboratively analyze student data and plan effective instruction.
- Identify and monitor all at- risk students by improving the **Response to Intervention Process** to better serve our at-risk population.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase student achievement for all students in the area of Mathematics by 3% each year as measured by the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment for Proficient and Distinguished Learners.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement effective **High-Impact Teaching and Instructional Strategies** with an emphasis on student **Self-Reported Grades, Prior Knowledge**, **Evaluation and Reflection** and continue using **Common Assessments** to support **Student Mastery of Standards**.
- Implement with fidelity **Professional Learning Communities** in which teachers collaboratively analyze student data and plan effective instruction.
- Identify and monitor all at-risk students by improving the **Response to Intervention** Process to better serve our at-risk population.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - Dean Rusk Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

E.T. Booth MS

Mr. Todd Sharrock, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

E.T. Booth is committed to building a tradition of academic excellence in a safe, student-centered environment that emphasizes respect, responsibility and attention to the individual needs of all students.

School Improvement Goal 1

Improve the percentage of students scoring Levels 3 and 4 by 3% each year as measured by the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Math and ELA Georgia Milestones Assessments.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement with fidelity **Professional Learning Communities** in which teachers and support staff collaboratively analyze student data and instructional strategies to maximize effective instruction.
- Utilize **Extended Learning Time** for intentional **Spiraled Review** of content standards.

School Improvement Goal 2

Decrease the In-School Suspension rates for all students by 2% each year as measured by 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 end of year student records.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Promote **Positive Classroom Behaviors** and positive school culture.
- Implement our **House Program** with fidelity to include utilizing restorative practices, facilitating and monitoring **Student Behavior Goals** and introducing a **Mentor Program**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - E.T. Booth Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Freedom MS

Ms. Whitney Nolan, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of Freedom Middle School is to foster each student's overall well-being, promote an academically rich environment, embrace each other's uniqueness and unite as One Freedom.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase student achievement for all students in the Area of Science by 3% each year as measured by the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2025-2026 Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment, resulting in 48.81% of students being Proficient or Distinguished by the end of 2025-2026 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Transfer Strategies** including **Questioning, Activating Prior Knowledge**, **Classroom Discussion**, **Concept Mapping** and **Applying Knowledge**.
- Implement **Common Formative and Summative Assessments**.
- Implement **SIOP Strategies** within classroom instruction.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the number of students who score a Level 3 or 4 on both the Math and ELA Milestones by at least 3% each year, as measured by the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2025-2026 Georgia Milestones End of Grade Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement **Transfer Strategies** including **Questioning**, Activating **Prior Knowledge** and **Classroom Discussion, Concept Mapping and Applying Knowledge**.
- Implement **Common Formative and Summative Assessments.**
- Implement **SIOP Strategies** within classroom instruction.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Freedom Middle School(cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Mill Creek MS

Mr. Matthew May, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Mill Creek Middle School's mission is to provide rigorous and relevant educational experiences that promote student leadership and personal excellence to succeed in the 21st century.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the CCRPI closing gaps percentage for all subgroups by 1% annually for the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years as measured by the Georgia Milestones Assessment System.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Common Summative and Formative Assessments** with the intent of students scoring 80% proficiency on priority standards.
- Utilize **Professional Learning Communities** to develop skills in providing **Standards-Based Feedback** and appropriate **STEM-based Instructional Strategies**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the number of students who identify a trusted adult within Mill Creek Middle School by 1% each year in the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years as measured on the CCSD Needs Assessment.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Identify students who did not identify a trusted adult on the **CCSD Needs Assessment** and utilize school counselors and teachers for **Mentorship and Relationship-Building**.
- Utilize **Extended Learning Time** to develop skills in building **Meaningful Relationships** with students.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Mill Creek Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Teasley MS

Ms. Kathie Monti, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Teasley Middle School, in partnership with parents and community members, is united by one common objective: to ensure students become successful, productive and responsible lifelong learners. Through high expectations, Teasley Middle School will inspire and empower academic, social and emotional growth.

School Improvement Goal 1

Improve the percentage of students scoring a Levels 3 or 4 on the GA Milestones in the areas of ELA and Math by 3% each year during the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Engage all certified staff in the **Data Teams for Learning Process** through their content **Professional Learning Communities**.
- Engage teachers in **Professional Development** to improve **Teacher and Student Clarity** supporting the **CCSD Instructional Framework**.
- Implement **Professional Development** on research based literacy strategies to be used in all content areas.

School Improvement Goal 2

Decrease the In-School Suspension rates for all students by 2% each year as measured by 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 end of the year student discipline records.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement a **Positive Behavior Management System (UNITE)**.
- Utilize **Restorative Practice Strategies** in the classroom and ISS to decrease office referrals.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Teasley Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Woodstock MS

Ms. Tia Bryller, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Woodstock Middle School exists to educate, nurture and motivate students for success in school and beyond.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the number of students scoring Level 3 or Level 4 on the ELA GA Milestones by 5% each year starting the 2021-2022 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria** with fidelity to engage and enhance student and teacher clarity of standards.
- Enhance **Student Language Skills** and **Depth of Vocabulary** by implementing a targeted school-wide initiative that emphasizes the **Explicit Teaching** and application of prefixes, roots and suffixes to enhance word recognition, comprehension and communication in all academic disciplines.
- Establish a **Support Network** to address the specific needs of the students at risk of chronic absenteeism.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the number of students scoring Level 3 or Level 4 on the Math GA Milestones by 5% each year starting the 2021-2022 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Learning Targets** and **Success Criteria** with fidelity to engage and enhance student and teacher clarity of standards.
- Enhance **Student Language Skills** and **Depth of Vocabulary** by implementing a targeted school-wide initiative that emphasizes the **Explicit Teaching** and application of prefixes, roots and suffixes to enhance word recognition, comprehension and communication in all academic disciplines.
- Establish a **Support Network** to address the specific needs of students at risk of chronic absenteeism.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Woodstock Middle School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

High Schools' DRAFT School Improvement Plan Executive Summaries

Cherokee County School District

Cherokee HS

Mr. Andrew Hall, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Cherokee High School strives to meet the social, emotional and cognitive needs of all students to prepare them to become productive members of an ever-changing and diverse society.

School Improvement Goal 1

Starting in the 2023-2024 school year, CHS will increase participation in future-readiness programs by 1% yearly over 3 years as measured by CCRPI Readiness indicators.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Improve **Student Advisement Processes** and **Academic Progress Monitoring**.
- Develop opportunities through **Feedback** for students to create and achieve short-term and long-term goals and reflect on their individual progress.

School Improvement Goal 2

Starting in the 2022-2023 school year, CHS will increase the overall Four-Year Graduation Rate by 1% (from 84.2% in 2021, 86.1% in 2022) by increasing the number of students who are on-track providing supports to targeted subgroups.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Monitor student progress toward **Pathway Completion** (i.e. four-year graduation plans).
- Develop students' **Career and Future Readiness** by developing an understanding of student aptitudes, interests, and pathways to various future outcomes.
- Develop a **Sense of Individual and Community Leadership** which reinvigorates Warrior culture.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Cherokee High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Creekview HS

Mr. Michael Santoro, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The Creekview High School community encourages excellence and prepares all students to be successful global participants. The goal of Creekview High School is for teachers to utilize instructional strategies that through research are proven effective in the classroom and for the administration to monitor usage of these instructional strategies.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the amount of completed credits attempted by all students by 2% per year over the next 3 years, starting with the 2021-2022 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Monitor 6-week **Failure Rate**.
- Utilize **Monthly Professional Learning Communities** reflections of assessments and usage to drive instruction and remediation.
- Provide **Clear and Manageable Expectations** for our staff regarding data collection, expected communication of students in danger of failure, and provide staff support with action steps for students.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the graduation rate of Students with Disabilities 2% per year over the next 3 years, starting with the 2021-2022 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Promote **Enrollments in CTAE Courses and CCSD Pathways**.
- Monitor 6-week **Failure Rate**.
- Utilize **Monthly Professional Learning Communities** reflections of assessments and usage to drive instruction and remediation.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - Creekview High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Etowah HS

Mr. Robert Horn, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

To graduate life-long learners and productive community and global citizens.

School Improvement Goal 1

Starting in SY2023-24, increase the 4-year and 5-year Graduation Rate as measured by CCRPI by 1% each year and/or achieve a 90% graduation rate or higher over the next three years.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Add opportunities for **Course Recovery** using the Edgenuity Lab and Course Extension.
- Provide **Course Rescue** and/or **Success Lab** opportunities for struggling students during the course.
- Utilize the **Graduation Coach** to meet with struggling students to provide interventions and support.

School Improvement Goal 2

Starting in SY2023-24, increase the literacy rate as measured through the Literacy score as tracked by CCRPI by 2% per year or by reaching 75% over the next three years.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Include evidence of a **Literacy Component** in their weekly Canvas Planner and lesson plans.
- Implement a **School Wide Weekly Standard Based Formative Assessment** initiative that is built on literacy and reading strategies within **Professional Learning Communities**.
- Hold weekly **Professional Learning Communities** facilitator meetings and data comparisons to measure effectiveness of implemented literacy strategies.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Etowah High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

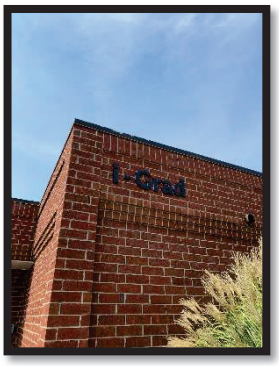
i-Grad Virtual Academy

Mr. Mark Smith, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

i-Grad Virtual Academy leverages technology and top-notch instruction to educate the emerging generation.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the number of completed courses by all students by 2% per year over the next three years (2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025) as measured by course final grades.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Identify and implement **Digital Feedback Strategies** to enhance student learning in a virtual environment utilizing the **Professional Learning Community Process**.
- Improve **Student Advisement Processes** to help student **Create** and **Achieve Short-Term and Long-Term Goals**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the percentage of students reporting a positive relationship with teachers and staff by 5% annually over the course of three years as measured by the CCSD C.A.R.E.S. Needs Assessment beginning in 2023-2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Identify and implement strategies to improve **Teacher-Student Relationships** through the **Professional Learning Community Process**.
- Improve **Student Advisement Process** to help student **Create** and **Achieve Short-Term and Long-Term Goals**.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - i-Grad Virtual Academy (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

River Ridge HS

Mr. Todd Miller, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

Building a community of talented, unique and educated leaders.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the percentage of students scoring at Levels 3 and 4 on all Georgia Milestones End Of Course Assessments by 2% yearly for 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023- 2024 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize the **CCSD Instructional Framework** within **Professional Learning Communities** to implement research-based strategies and analyze/reflect on **Common Assessment Data** to drive instruction.
- Design and participate in content-specific **Professional Learning Communities** to increase rigorous expectations for all students.
- Focus on continued **Teacher Clarity** and implement new strategies toward student achievement.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase the Graduation Rate by 1% over the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Success Coach** to collaborate with counselors to create 4-year plans and check-ins with students.
- Increase **Awareness of Pathways** and benefits for completing pathways.
- Implement a **Success Lab** to allow students the opportunity to recover missing assignments, quizzes and tests.

More information available at School Improvement Plan (SIP) - River Ridge High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Sequoyah HS

Mr. Robert Van Alstyne, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission for Sequoyah High School is to provide students with diverse and challenging educational opportunities, which will prepare them to become engaged citizens and lifelong learners.

School Improvement Goal 1

Beginning from a baseline of 31%, increase the percentage of students who complete a CTAE Pathway within their four year graduation cohort by 3% (2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26).

School Improvement Action Plan

- Increase **Awareness of Pathways** and benefits for completing **CTAE Pathways**.
- Improvement in the **Effective Use of Various Quality, Research-Based Instructional Practices**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Beginning at a baseline of 44% Honors & 29% AP, increase the percentage of students who take and Honors or AP course by 2% each year (2023-2024, 2024-25 and 2025-26).

School Improvement Action Plan

- Identify and utilize more **Equitable Measures** to select students for **Honors/AP Courses** with focus on under-represented subgroups.

More information available at School Improvement Plan (SIP) - Sequoyah High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Woodstock HS

Mr. Charley Ingham, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

To prepare our students to learn from the past, apply to the present and prepare for the future!

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase student academic growth in all End of Course/Milestone areas by increasing the number of students in Developing, Proficient and Distinguished achievement levels 3% per year in 2022-2023, and 3% each year after in 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Focus on **Literacy Building-Wide** by increasing opportunities for students to read, write, speak, and listen in all content areas, specifically addressing **Cross-Curricular Connections**.
- Provide **Targeted Professional Development** to improve instruction by focusing on **Strategies Related to Literacy**.
- Increase **Student Attendance** to ensure students have **Consistent and Continual Access** to opportunities for **Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Increase four-year cohort Graduation Rate calculated by the State of Georgia for all students/sub-groups by 2% per year in 2022-2023, and 2% each year after in 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Develop programs of relevance, interest, and value for students through continual strengthening of **Career, Technical, Agriculture Education (CTAE), Work-Based Learning (WBL) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs**.
- Accelerate the identification of students in need of **Intensive Supports and Alternative Paths** to graduation and maximize **Support Teams** to provide opportunities.
- Pilot alternative **Homeroom Model** focused on **Student Reflection and Goal Setting**.

More information available at SIP - Woodstock High School (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Centers' DRAFT School Improvement Plan Executive Summaries

Cherokee County School District

ACE Academy

Mr. Mark Smith, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

ACE Academy provides students the opportunity for academic and social success, seeking to develop positive self-concepts that allow students to compete and to contribute to our society.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase the number of completed courses by all students by 2% per year over the next three years (2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025) as measured by class grades.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Identify and implement **Digital Feedback Strategies** to enhance student learning utilizing the **Professional Learning Community Process**.
- Improve **Student Advisement Processes** to help students **Create and Achieve Short-Term and Long-Term Goals**.

School Improvement Goal 2

Improve the effectiveness of the Redemptive Practices Program by increasing the number of students who successfully complete the program by 3% annually beginning in 2022-2023.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Restorative Practice Strategies** to decrease student discipline.
- Identify and implement strategies to improve **Teacher-Student Relationships** through the **Professional Learning Community Process.**
- Improve **Student Advisement Processes** to help students **Create and Achieve Short-Term and Long-Term Goals**.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - ACE Academy (cherokeek12.net)

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

CCSD Preschool Centers

Ms. Debbie Ritter, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

CCSD Preschool Centers provide a safe, developmentally appropriate, nurturing environment that promotes social, emotional, cognitive and physical growth, as well as a positive self-image and a love of learning.

School Improvement Goal 1

To increase Language Arts performance of 3 and 4-year-old students' learning outcomes to a 65% Proficient or Exceeds Level for Students with Disabilities and 95% Proficient or Exceeds Level for Students without Disabilities as evidenced by Language Arts, GELDS and WSO data by 2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement a **Specialized Literacy Curriculum** to increase receptive language, expressive language, and phonemic awareness skills.
- Analyze student data through **Professional Learning Communities** to identify instructional strategies for students not meeting the goal.

School Improvement Goal 2

To increase the growth of 3 and 4-year-old students' self-awareness and relationship skill outcomes to 70% Proficient or Exceeds Level for Students with Disabilities and 95% Proficient or Exceeds Level for Students without Disabilities as evidenced by self-awareness and relationship skills, GELDS and WSO data by 2024.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement a **Specialized Curriculum** to increase social awareness and self-regulation skills, as defined by Georgia Early Learning Development Standards (GELDS)
- Analyze student data through **Professional Learning Communities** to identify instructional strategies for students not meeting the goal.

More information available at School Improvement Plan - CCSD Preschool Centers (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

L.R. Tippens Ed. Center

Ms. Kimberly Barger, Principal

2023-24

School Improvement Plan

Executive Summary



School Mission Statement

The mission of L.R. Tippens Education Center is to provide individualized opportunities to prepare all students to be positive, successful and contributing members of society through a collaborative effort from all stakeholders.

School Improvement Goal 1

Increase achievement for students in grades 3rd through 8th grades in ELA and Math by 3% points for each year (2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26) as measure by easyCBM and i-Ready Universal Screening assessments.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Implement the use of **Student-Centered, High-Impact Strategies** including **Classroom Discussion** and **Collaborative Learning**.
- Utilize **Progress Monitoring** and **Feedback** through data collection to develop assessment capable learners.

School Improvement Goal 2

Starting in 2022-2023 school year, Increase number of students who successfully transition back to their Least Restrictive Environment/home school beginning with 10% of the school population the first year, 12% the second year and 15% the third year.

School Improvement Action Plan

- Utilize **Board Certified Behavior Analyst/Behavior and Education Support Team/Registered Behavior Technician** support and development.
- Analyze **Child Study Meetings** and interpret behavior data.
- Increase home school and facilitator involvement during transition by having a **Full Time Facilitator** based at Tippens.

More information available at School Improvement Plans - Tippens Education Center (cherokeek12.net).

"Educating the Emerging Generation"

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	F - 1

Title

Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Monthly Update on Capital Outlay Projects

Summary Explanation and Background

See the attached report from the Chief Support Services Officer regarding the status of the current Capital Outlay Projects

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

See Attachment

Source of Additional Information

Trey Moores	770.479.1871
Ken Godfrey	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

DATE: 08 September 2023

TO: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Trey Moores
Chief Support Services Officer

SUBJECT: Construction Status Reports

The Office of Capital Improvements (OCI) staff has reviewed the architect's monthly status report on the current construction projects. A summary of the progress for each project is shown below:

Cherokee HS Replacement ~ Site Package

- Installation of the storm drain and water service is ongoing.
- Installation of retaining walls is complete.
- Final grading work on the remainder of the site is underway.
- The site contractor ("SC") has delivered the building pads of the main academic wing and CTAE building to the general contractor ("GC").

Cherokee HS Replacement ~ Building Package

- Coordination meetings between the GC and subcontractors continue.
- The GC has received the main building and CTAE pads from the SC.
- Pier foundation and footing concrete placement is underway on the main academic building.
- The GC continues to submit long-lead item submittals for review and approval.

Creekland MS ~ Creekview HS Parking and Driveway Improvements

- Creekland MS paving portion is complete.
- Curb and gutter have been installed at Creekview HS.
- Parking area prepped for pavement.

1205 Bluffs Parkway
Canton, Georgia 30114
770.479.1871
www.cherokeek12.net

Free Home ES Replacement

- Pouring of concrete slabs is ongoing.
- Building footers and under slab rough-in is complete.
- Block wall construction is underway.
- Site grading in preparation for driveway and parking paving is underway.



TM

TM/KG:mm
Attachments



East Facing Cuts for Lower Level of Gymnasium



Retaining Wall (Front Entrance of School)



Aerial of Academic Building



CTAE Building Pad w/ Material Laydown



Aerial Facing East



North Facing – Gym Slab, Walls of Kitchen, Café and Media Center

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	F-2

Title

Special Lease Agreements

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of the Special Lease Agreements

Summary Explanation and Background

Pursuant to the School Board's Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG), special lease agreements applicable to non-school allied groups (users applying for extended use of school facilities who are required to pay rental fees) and for-profit summer camps, summer recreational leagues and/or any activities where Cherokee County School District employees are compensated, must be recommended by the Principal to the Superintendent for consideration of approval by the School Board prior to use of the facility. Extended use is defined as an event involving four or more consecutive days or for recurring activities.

Attached detailed synopsis of the special lease agreements, which adhere to the guidelines stipulated for such use and which have been approved by the Principal and Superintendent.

The allowance of these special lease agreements to occur will ultimately be determined by the Superintendent. That determination will be based on current and emerging COVID-19 related guidance from Federal, State and Local health officials.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

See Attachment

Source of Additional Information

Trey Moores	770.479.1871
Scott Krug	770.479.1871

Special Lease Agreements September 2023

School Facility: Avery ES

Event Dates: 9.30.23 – 11.11.23

Name of Organization: i9 Sports

Director of Activity Name: Barry Switzer

Object or purpose: Youth flag football, soccer, T-Ball/baseball

Term: 7 Saturdays

Areas: All field space and restrooms

Fall Camp Special Lease Agreements 2023

School Facility: Creekview High School
Event Dates: 09.18.23 – 09.21.23
Name of Organization: Creekview HS Basketball
Director of Activity Name: Tyler Whitlock & John Domville
Object or Purpose: Teach basketball skills.
Term: 4 days
Areas: CVHS Gym

School Facility: Woodstock High School
Event Dates: 09.18.23 – 09.20.23
Name of Organization: Woodstock HS Boys Basketball
Director of Activity Name: Eric Blair
Object or Purpose: Teach basketball skills.
Term: 3 days
Areas: WHS Aux Gym

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	G-1

Title

Recommendations and Resignations/Terminations of Employment for Certified and Classified Personnel

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Recommendations, Resignations, Terminations of Employment and Transfers for Certified and Classified Personnel

Summary Explanation and Background

The recommendations include the following items:

1. Certified Recommendations
2. Certified Resignations/Terminations of Employment
3. Classified Recommendations
4. Classified Transfers
5. Classified Resignations/Terminations of Employment

Priority Area

Quality Workforce

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Summary List of Recommendations

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Rick Beaulieu	770.479.1871

Cherokee County School District

G1 Summary Report

BOE Meeting Date: 9/14/2023

Certified Recommendations

Name	Location	Position	Start Date
Clune-Hrivnak, Jeanne-Marie	Cherokee High School	ESOL Teacher	9/25/2023
Tyler, Erica	Holly Springs Elem School	1st Grade Teacher	9/5/2023
Arrecis, Wendy	Holly Springs Elem School	Psychologist	8/23/2023
Servian, Katie	Indian Knoll Elem School	3rd Grade Teacher	8/18/2023
Van Alstyne, Sarah	Little River Elem School	EIP Teacher	8/30/2023
Mead, Ana	Woodstock Elem School	Sped IRR Teacher	9/11/2023

Certified Transfers

Name	Location	Position	Start Date
No records found			

Certified Resignations/Terminations

Name	Location	Position	End Date
Sobczak, Gina	Cherokee High School	ESOL Teacher	9/15/2023
Eagan, Madison	Creekview High School	Math Teacher	9/15/2023
Knight, Ronnell	Hasty Elem School	Sped IRR Teacher	9/29/2023
Becker, Christin	Holly Springs Elem School	1st Grade Teacher	8/25/2023
Wells, Ansley	Little River Elem School	1st Grade Teacher	9/1/2023
Coleman, Leslie	Mill Creek Mid School	6th Grade Teacher	12/22/2023
Henderson, Kristopher	Special Education	Behavior Specialist	9/15/2023
Andre, John	Woodstock Elem School	Sped IRR Teacher	9/1/2023

Classified Recommendations

Name	Location	Position	Start Date
Milligan, Randy	Admin - Safety & Security	Police Officer	9/11/2023
Woodburn, Dannette	Avery Elem School	MI-MOD ParaPro	9/11/2023
Jordan, Tina	Avery Elem School	School Nutrition Worker	9/25/2023
Patel, Keny	Business Information Services	Database Analyst 2	9/14/2023
Destin, Annelyssa	Business Information Services	Support System Analyst	8/21/2023
Tibbitts, Amanda	Carmel Elem School	School Nutrition Worker	8/22/2023
Tompkins, Brittany	Creekview High School	School Nutrition Worker	8/28/2023
Bizzard, Devoreaux	E.T. Booth Mid School	EBD ParaPro	8/21/2023
LaCotti, Lisa	E.T. Booth Mid School	School Nutrition Worker	8/29/2023
Galeza, Valerie	E.T. Booth Mid School	School Nutrition Worker	9/6/2023
Reiter, Jessica	E.T. Booth Mid School	SI ParaPro	8/30/2023
Johnston, Shelby	Financial Management	Supervisor	10/2/2023
Miller, Tammy	Freedom Mid School	School Nutrition Worker	8/18/2023
Harbin, Tiffany	L.R. Tippens Center	IEP ParaPro	8/28/2023
Arnold, Shannon	L.R. Tippens Center	IEP ParaPro	8/24/2023
Deal, Shavon	Little River Elem School	IEP ParaPro	9/11/2023
Jump, Kelsey	R.M. Moore Elem School	T1 ParaPro	8/16/2023
Wittel, Violet	River Ridge High School	School Nutrition Worker	9/6/2023
Smith, Michael	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Stull, Brian	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Free, Christopher	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Bond, Michelle	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Languren, Delia	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023

Cherokee County School District

G1 Summary Report

BOE Meeting Date: 9/14/2023

Classified Recommendations

Name	Location	Position	Start Date
Bates, Michael	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Grimes, Brittany	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Schilling, Celeste	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	9/26/2023
Conway, Craig	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Bounds, Lynn	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Albright, Serena	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Bates, Kimmie	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Griffin, Andrea	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Moss, Benjamin	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Manalaysay, David	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Raymonvil, Jeanude	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Wernecke, Chad	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/29/2023
Marquez, Carlota	Woodstock High School	School Nutrition Worker	9/6/2023

Classified Transfers

Name	Location	Position	Start Date
Herd, Christy	Risk Mgmt & Benefits	Division Facilitator	8/16/2023

Classified Resignations/Terminations

Name	Location	Position	End Date
Pruitt, Amber	Avery Elem School	School Nutrition Worker	8/31/2023
Emami, Tala	Business Information Services	Web Developer	8/18/2023
Mucino, Paola	Cherokee High School	IEP ParaPro	9/6/2023
Marlowe, Yvonne	Creekland Mid School	School Nutrition Asst Manager	8/28/2023
Douglas, Tracey	E.T. Booth Mid School	School Nutrition Worker	8/18/2023
Sweet, Susan	Freedom Mid School	School Nutrition Worker	8/21/2023
Chapman, Pamela	Hasty Elem School	Interpreter	9/1/2023
Krueger, Adriana	Indian Knoll Elem School	Clerical 3	9/15/2023
Cardenas, Vanessa	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/11/2023
Karr, Connie	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/28/2023
Parra, Luis	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/11/2023
Lawson, Amy	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/30/2023
Crowe, Sean	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/10/2023
O'Neill, Daniel	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/9/2023
Robertson, Brittiney	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/25/2023
Weaver, Crystal	Transportation	Bus Driver	8/4/2023
Karr, Lisa	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/11/2023
Phelps, Sheba	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/11/2023
Young, Lakeeta	Transportation	Bus Driver Relief	8/9/2023
Denham, Karen	Transportation	Transportation Specialist	12/22/2023
Padgett, Ricky	Transportation	Vehicle Technician	11/17/2023

Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
September 14, 2023	I-1

Title

Contract and Memorandum of Understanding with Ninth District Opportunity, Inc

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Contract and Memorandum of Understanding with Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. for October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024

Summary Explanation and Background

The CCSD and the Ninth District Opportunity, Inc (NDO) have entered into an annual contract to operate the Head Start and Pre-K program at the Ralph Bunche Center dating back to 1973. Johnston Preschool was added SY2009-10. Effective October 1, 2023, this contract will provide for a continuation of this program at these two locations. By engaging in this joint venture, the CCSD provides critically-needed educational opportunities for 74 Head Start students.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

1) NDO funding is $598,616 for salary/benefits; 2) CCSD in-kind funding is $623,223

Exhibits: (List)

Copy of Proposed Contract and Memorandum of Understanding

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Dr. Debra Murdock	770.479.1871

NINTH DISTRICT OPPORTUNITY, INC.
Gainesville, Georgia

CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT, entered into as of this 1st day of September, 2023, by and between NINTH DISTRTICT OPPORTUNITY, INC., of the County of Hall, State of Georgia, (hereinafter referred to as "NDO") and Cherokee County Board of Education, State of Georgia, (hereinafter referred to as the "Board").

WITHNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, NDO on the 1st day of October, 2023, received a grant under the DEPARTMNET OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (hereinafter referred to as "ACF"), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said grant NDO is undertaking certain activities, including operating a Head Start Program; and

WHEREAS, NDO desires to engage the Board to provide certain staff for such undertaking:

NOW THEREFORE, NDO and the Board do mutually agree as follows:

1. NDO shall operate a Head Start Program for 74 children under the conditions as set forth in the above-mentioned grant plus the terms and conditions contained in the Contract.

2. The Parties agree to accept all children for participation within the Head Start Program without regard to gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or disability.

3. Certain privacy laws exist relative to student information and student records, and due to the need to maintain the privacy interests of students, the Parties agree not to discuss, divulge, disclose or disseminate the contents of any student record, nor divulge to anyone any issues or matters which could be deemed student information. Specifically, the Parties agree to be bound by the confidentiality provisions set forth in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) 20 U.S.C. Section 1232 (g).

4. This Contract shall begin on the 1st day of October, 2023, and shall terminate no later than the 30th day of September, 2024.

5. Individuals who serve as teachers in the Head Start program must hold at a minimum an associate degree in early childhood education; or a baccalaureate, or advanced degree in a field related to early childhood education, with experience in teaching preschool children. Teaching assistants must hold a minimum of a preschool child development associate (CDA) credential or a state-awarded certificate that meets or exceeds the requirements for a CDA credential, are enrolled in a program that will lead to an associate or baccalaureate degree or, are enrolled in a CDA credential program to be completed within one year of the time of hire. Teachers and assistant teachers must demonstrate competency to provide effective and nurturing teacher-child interactions, plan and implement learning experiences that ensure effective curriculum implementation and use of assessment and promote children's progress across the standards

described in the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five and applicable state early learning and development standards, including for children with disabilities and dual language learners, as appropriate. Family Partners must possess, at a minimum, a credential or certificate in social work, human services, family services, counseling or a related field. **Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the person no longer working in the Head Start program.**

6. Persons employed by the Board for the Head Start Program under this Contract shall be employees of the Board but must adhere to conditions in Paragraph 5 relating to qualifications of teaching staff. The Board shall have complete control over the hiring and firing of the employees. Such employees must adhere to all Board policies and procedures and in addition, are subject to the requirements set forth in the Head Start Program Standards and the 2007 Head Start Act. The reimbursement of employees' wages, salaries, bonuses and fringe benefits by NDO to the Board out of funds allocated under this Contract to the project is a bookkeeping or administrative function only and shall not be deemed to be an employer related function. Such payments shall be made directly to the Board as set forth in Paragraphs 7 & 8 of this Contract. The Board shall pay the respective employees of the Head Start Program under this Contract.

7. Payroll reimbursement to the Board by NDO shall be as follows:

Immediately following the preparation and distribution of payroll checks, the Board will summarize on the Invoice and Progress Reports Form, the Board's actual costs for gross wages paid, employer's portion of FICA where applicable, group insurance where applicable, retirement, the estimated cost of Workman's Compensation Insurance and the estimated cost of state unemployment benefits. The Invoice and Progress Report Form must be submitted to NDO on a monthly basis. All invoices must be received by NDO on, or before, September 25, 2024.

NDO will, within ten (10) working days from the date of receipt of such invoice and Progress Report, forward a check to the Board for payment of the costs reported as above. The Board in accepting such payment will assume full responsibility for payment of actual costs, as they occur, and the Board will receive no additional reimbursement nor will NDO receive any refunds for costs related to the period specified.

The Board will furnish individual time sheets for the related period, prior to, or at the same time Invoice and Progress Reports are forwarded to NDO.

The Parties agree that payment and reimbursement of wages shall be in accordance with applicable state and/or federal laws including but not limited to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

8. It is expressly understood and agreed that the total amount of federal funds allocated for employee expenses for the Cherokee County Head Start Program is $598,616. The following amounts are allocated to the following purposes:

a. Personnel $401,756

b. Fringe Benefits $196,860

The above mentioned funds are to be used for the following positions:

- 3 Teachers – 40 hours per week for 188 days
- 1 Teacher – 20 hours per week for 190 days
- 1 Curriculum Director – 40 hours per week for 50 weeks
- 3 Assistant Teachers – 40 hours per week for 188 days
- 1 Assistant Teacher – 10 hours per week for 190 days
- 2 Family Partners – 38.75 hours per week for 235 days
- 1 Administrative Assistant – 25 hours per week for 38 weeks
- 1 Cook – 30 hours per week for 180 days
- Substitutes as needed

9. The Board will contribute $623,223 toward the expenses of the program. Such contribution shall be in cash in the amount of $0 and/or In-Kind in the amount of $623,223. Such records and accounts deemed necessary for the accounting for In-Kind shall be maintained by NDO. Said In-Kind contribution shall consist of:

* Ralph Bunche – 10,705 sq. ft classroom & office space @ $19.70 per sq. ft = $210,889 ($17,574.08 per month)

* Johnston Elementary – 21,016 sq. ft classroom & complimentary space @ $19.62 per sq. ft. = $412,334 ($34,361.17 per month)

10. NDO shall provide bookkeeping services, technical, advisory and administrative services. Bookkeeping services shall include the reimbursement to the Board for the Head Start employee's wages, salaries, and fringe benefits from funds allocated to the Board under this Contract. Such payment shall be an administrative or bookkeeping function only and not an employer/employee related function.

11. The Board shall maintain personnel records and accounts, as are deemed necessary by NDO or the Director of ACF to ensure a proper accounting of these funds. These records will be made available for audit purposes to NDO, the ACF, or the Comptroller General of the United States or any authorized representative and will be retained for three years after the expiration of this Contract unless permission to destroy them is granted by both NDO and the Director of ACF.

The Parties agree that confidentiality of personnel records shall be maintained in accordance with state and federal laws including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA").

12. NDO may, from time to time, request changes in the scope of the services of the Board to be performed hereunder. Such changes including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Board's compensation, which are mutually agreed on by and between the Parties, must be incorporated in written amendments to this Contract.

13. If the Board fails to comply with its obligations under this Contract, NDO shall have the right to terminate this Contract by giving 30 days prior written notice to the Board of such termination. However, the Board will have 30 days from receipt of such notice to cure the noncompliance, in the event of termination by NDO, all property and finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, and reports purchased or prepared by the Board under this Contract shall, at the option of the NDO, become its property, and the Board shall be entitled to

compensation for any unreimbursed expenses necessarily incurred in satisfactory performance of the Contract. Notwithstanding the above, the Board shall not be relieved of liability to NDO for damages sustained by NDO by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Board and NDO may withhold any reimbursement for the purpose of set-off until such time as the exact amount of damages due NDO from the Board is agreed upon or otherwise determined.

14. The Board may terminate this Contract absolutely and without further obligation on the part of the Board at the end of the Contract year by providing 90 days written notice to NDO.

15. NDO will indemnify and save harmless the Board from any and every claim or demand of every kind or charter which may ever be asserted by reason of any injuries, illnesses, or diseases, or the effects of consequences thereof, or damage to property or person, which may arise due to the actions of NDO, its agents, servants or employees, on or off the premises occupied by NDO.

16. The Board, to the extent permitted under Georgia law and without waiving any immunities, hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless NDO from and against any liability of damage NDO may incur, including reasonable attorney's fees, as a result of claims, demands, costs or judgements, of any kind or nature, by anyone whomsoever, arising out of, or otherwise connected with, this Contract, or the operation of any program as provided by herein.

17. The Board shall make financial and other reports as requested by NDO or the appropriate U.S. Agency and will assist with arranging for on-site inspections by the appropriate U.S. Agency representatives at the request of either. NDO shall make financial, program progress, and other reports to the Board as requested.

Cherokee County Board of Education	Ninth District Opportunity, Inc.
BY: _____	BY: Kay Rees
TITLE: School Superintendent	TITLE: Executive Director
ATTEST: _____	ATTEST:
TITLE: _____	TITLE: _____

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NINTH DISTRICT OPPORTUNITY, INC.
AND
CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

This Memorandum of Understanding entered into on the 1st day of September, 2023 by and between Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. – Head Start/Pre-K and Cherokee County Board of Education for the purpose of improving the availability and the quality of services for children, ages three and four, and their families; to support children's optimal development and readiness for school entry; to address the unique strengths and needs of the local population, such as disabled, homeless, foster children, migrant or non-English speaking families and to enhance linkages and relationships to reduce duplication of services.

Recognizing the need to provide appropriate educational and instructional services to eligible children in their respective jurisdictions, Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. and Cherokee County Board of Education wish to establish an enduring cooperative working relationship.

A. **Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. – Head Start / Pre-K agrees to:**
   (1) Place priority on serving those children in the community who are most in need of service.
   (2) Provide six dedicated Head Start slots for eligible disability children to be filled on or before ten days prior to the first day of school. More than six slots will be available providing that permission is obtained from the Head Start Director.
   (3) Notify the Board of Education of enrollment vacancies.
   (4) Provide screening and/or assessment information (with parental permission) as data to be considered when referring children with suspected disability to the school system.
   (5) Share with the Board of Education by December 1, 2023 the number of children diagnosed with a disability and receiving services.

B. **Cherokee County Board of Education agrees to:**
   (1) Refer eligible preschool children and their families to the Head Start/Pre-K program.
   (2) Provide training/technical assistance to Head Start/Pre-K staff working with children with disabilities.
   (3) Provide full and individual diagnostic evaluations and services, including all related services, to any enrolled child who is eligible for services under PL 108-446 and IDEA within the deadlines stated in such. The evaluation and eligibility determination shall be completed within 60 calendar days from the school system's receipt of the parent's signed consent for evaluation, excluding holidays

and other circumstances when students are not in attendance for a least five consecutive days.

(4) All disability services personnel provided to Head Start/Pre-K children will be provided by, or under the supervision of, personnel meeting State qualifications.

C. Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. – Head Start/Pre-K and the Cherokee County Board of Education jointly agree to:

(1) Create and maintain a meaningful partnership to promote school readiness so that preschool age children may receive comprehensive services to prepare them for elementary school and to address any potential "achievement gap".

(2) Develop successful linkages within the context of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015, the Head Start Act (2007), and Georgia legislation, policies, and procedures.

(3) Conduct outreach to parents and school personnel (including special education and kindergarten teachers) to discuss the educational, developmental, and other needs of individual children. Screening, diagnostic and assessment information will be shared between agencies with the written permission of the child's parents.

(4) Collaborate on the provision of an interagency delivery of service for each age appropriate child, when it is deemed appropriate and permissible by both agencies and the child's parents that such collaboration is in the best interest of the child.

(5) Jointly implement an IEP for each child served by both agencies within 30 days of eligibility diagnosis.

(6) Establish comprehensive transition policies and procedures that support children transitioning to school, including a systematic procedure for transferring, with parental consent, Head Start/Pre-K program records for each participating child to the school in which such child will enroll.

(7) Share training and staff development activities, as appropriate, when feasible and otherwise permissible on topics such as Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards and Georgia Kindergarten Performance Standards, instructional methods, curricula, social and emotional development and transitioning to kindergarten.

(8) Link the services provided in the Head Start/Pre-K program with educational services, including services relating to language, literacy and numeracy provided by the Cherokee County Board of Education.

(9) Generate support and leverage the resources of the entire local community in order to improve school readiness.

(10) Coordinate efforts to identify and meet the needs of homeless children and families in the community as set forth in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

(11) Assist parents to understand the instructional and other services (including special education services and services for children with limited English proficiency) provided by the school in which their child will enroll and encourage parental involvement in their child's academics after participation in the Head Start/Pre-K program.
(12) Collaborate in the data collection and reporting requirements of each entity.
(13) Respect the uniqueness of each locality's needs and resources.
(14) All acknowledge confidentiality requirements that each agency must follow regarding the sharing and release, with the consent of families, or personally identifiable information regarding children and families. Each agency will protect the rights of young children with respect to records and reports created, maintained, and used by public agencies. It is the intent of this agreement to ensure that parents and records, and that applicable State and Federal laws for exercise of these rights be strictly followed.

All provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia, the policies of the Cherokee County Board of Education and in accordance with all legal and other prescribed regulatory requirements applicable to Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. – Head Start/Pre-K.

This memorandum of understanding shall be in effect as of October 1, 2023, and shall continue for the period ending September 30, 2024. This memorandum of understanding may be terminated by either party upon 60 days written notice to the other party.

Ninth District Opportunity, Inc.

Kay Laws 9/1/23

Kay Laws Date

Attest:

Cherokee County Board of Education

Superintendent Date

Attest: