

2025-26 Key Priorities and Action Steps



ELEVATE THE EXCELLENCE 2.0

From classroom to classroom, school to school, and throughout every corner of the county, there is a pervasive eagerness for CCSD to be the highest performing district in the state of Georgia where students thrive, families are connected, and the community remains proud.

The following priorities are designed to build on the tradition of excellence for which the Cherokee County School District is widely known; and they are grounded in the insights and perspectives most commonly shared by teachers, leaders, staff, students, families, and community members.

These priorities will drive our work as an organization over the next 18-months to two years. Progress will be regularly reported to our community through the School Board meetings, and success delivering on these priorities will pave the way to the future development of a long-range strategic plan.

NOVEMBER 2025



QUARTERLY REPORT #2

1

Elevate the Excellence in academics and achievement for all students.



Implementation in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. Laser focus on teaching and learning including CCSD customized and board-adopted teaching and learning standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. New ELA and MA resources (print and digital)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Focus on all students reading on-grade level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Expand Reading screener from K-8 to K-10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Monitor reading proficiency via screener	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Pilot Orton Gillingham as a comprehensive intervention in K-3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Expand Math screener from K-8 to K-10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Starting the One-Stop Shop for teacher resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



In Development in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. A one-stop shop for the 4 core content areas for all teachers (classroom teachers, special education teachers, EL teachers, and gifted teachers)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Crosswalk of scope and sequence with instructional resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Exemplar lesson plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Video modules	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Exemplar student work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Solicitation, selection and acquisition of SC and SS resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Advancing our English Learner, Special Education, intervention, and gifted instructional model	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Clarifying the expectations for student writing at each level and aligning resources to support writing instruction as aligned with School Board Policy IFAD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Develop a balanced/cohesive assessment system that coordinates the use of screeners, formative assessments, and summative assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2

Elevate the Excellence in effective School Board-Superintendent Governance

Implementation in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. Supportive Accountability Governance: Align student achievement goals from the Boardroom to the Classroom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Board goals incorporated into the superintendent's evaluation and school improvement goals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In Development in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. Formative indicators monitored and reported over the coming year through Reading and Math Screener.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Reviewing promotion, retention, and grading policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Development of a Strategic Plan (likely to launch a community engagement season in the spring 2026)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3

Elevate the Excellence in the district's coordination and alignment of goals, systems, and processes

Implementation in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. Investing in teachers and employees: Step and 3% increase	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Employee calendar to improve daily rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Increase in school-based funds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Introducing a Scope and Sequence of school visits and tailored school support focused on progress toward School Board student achievement goals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Provide a Toolkit of School Supports based on progress toward improving student achievement outcomes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Introduce the Leadership Competencies of Impactful School Leaders in CCSD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

continued

3

Elevate the Excellence in the district's coordination and alignment of goals, systems, and processes

Implementation in 2025-26

AUG 2025 NOV 2025 FEB 2026 MAY 2026

- F. Improve continuum of behavior supports to elementary school classrooms and special education
- G. Finalize and Monitor Key Performance Indicators for all Divisions

In Development in 2025-26

AUG 2025 NOV 2025 FEB 2026 MAY 2026

- A. Enhance Superintendent Leadership Academy grounded in Leadership Competencies and aligned school board accountability.
- B. Classroom Utilization study and age and condition study of facilities, campuses, and assets
- C. Finalize Standard Equipment and Furniture List for every academic space, cafeteria, and school office space.
- D. Upgrade bus routing and parent communication (bus app) system.
- E. Inform future of CHS and CHS North based on data and community feedback sessions
- F. Prepare for opening of replacement CHS in August 2026 and celebrate milestones of the final year of current CHS
- G. Complete Woodstock HS Addition (to occupy in August 2026), Complete RRHS Auxiliary gym (to occupy August 2026)
- H. Progress on Sequoyah HS athletic improvements (completed December 2026).
- I. Develop plan to digitize all documents currently stored (4,000)
- J. Evaluate an Enterprise Resource Planning (for internal business process environment).
- K. Consolidation of communication tools

4

Elevate the Excellence by embracing a pervasive high-quality school environment defined by high standards, effective supports, and consistent practices.

Implementation in 2025-26

	AUG 2025	NOV 2025	FEB 2026	MAY 2026
A. Clarity and consistency continues for appropriate attire, cell phone usage, and timely submission of student work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Improve clarity and consistency for elementary school through updated Elementary School Code of Conduct	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Stronger consequences for vaping, school threats	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Adding body cameras for School Police and updated policy guiding appropriate use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Distributing crisis alert badge covers to limit accidental activation of crisis alert badges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Implement a comprehensive employee celebration and retention plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Execute on Mission Critical Objectives 2025-26

1. Capital Improvements				
• Open Free Home ES (Replacement School)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Complete CMS Addition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Complete CVHS Addition/Renovation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Complete Teasley MS driveway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Upgrade Timekeeping to Kronos 2.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Improve Capabilities and Proficiencies with Student Info System (Synergy)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Windows 11 Upgrades	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Summer Maintenance & Custodial Schedule	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>