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For media inquiries only, contact:
Haley Lacuesta
Director of Media and Public Relations
(706) 951-2674

Richmond County School System Shows Continued Growth in State Accountability Results

(AUGUSTA, GEORGIA) – The Richmond County School System (RCSS) continues to make steady progress in academic achievement, student growth, and graduation rates according to the Georgia Department of Education’s 2025 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) results released today.

RCSS schools improved in 10 of 13 CCRPI components, marking the fourth consecutive year of growth in both “Content Mastery” (Georgia Milestones performance) and “Progress” (student growth). Middle schools saw gains in every CCRPI category, including a perfect score of 100 in “Closing Gaps”, surpassing the state average for the third consecutive year. The CCRPI measures how well schools prepare students for the next level in key areas such as academic performance, student growth, readiness, and graduation.

“These results show the dedication of our teachers, leaders, and students to continuous improvement,” said Dr. Malinda Cobb, superintendent of schools. “We are seeing the results of focused work on instruction and student support. There’s still more to do, but it’s encouraging to see strong growth, especially in our middle grades, where students are building the foundation for high school success.”

The school system’s graduation rate component score reached 82.5%, driven by record-setting 4- and 5-year graduation rates. High schools including the Academy of Richmond County High School (ARC), A.R. Johnson Health Science and Engineering Magnet School, John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School, and Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School (RCTCM) exceeded the state average in graduation rate, with the three magnet schools earning a perfect CCRPI graduation component score of 100.

Other CCRPI highlights include:

- **Content Mastery:** Gains were recorded at all grade levels for the fourth consecutive year. Elementary and middle schools improved in every tested subject, and high schools saw increases in Algebra, Biology, and U.S. History.

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- **Progress:** All grade levels improved, with strong growth in English Language Arts and mathematics. Freedom Park K–8 (Middle Level) also earned a perfect 100+ in Progress.
- **Closing Gaps:** Middle schools led the school system with a 16.7% increase and a perfect score of 100. Several schools, including Belair Elementary, Diamond Lakes Elementary, Freedom Park K–8 (Middle), and A.R. Johnson Magnet, earned perfect scores in this category.
- **Readiness:** Elementary and middle schools increased overall readiness, reflecting improved attendance, reading on grade level and participation in enrichment courses.

While the district continues to show improvement in most areas, some elementary and high school subgroups did not meet state targets in the “Closing Gaps” and “Readiness” category. Dr. Cobb noted that this metric sets increasingly higher benchmarks as schools improve, making sustained growth an ongoing focus.

“We want our schools to keep growing a little stronger each year,” said Dr. Cobb. “When students miss school, they miss valuable learning that builds readiness for the next grade. Reducing chronic absenteeism, particularly in our high schools, is one of the most important ways we can help every student stay on track and close learning gaps.”

The Richmond County School System’s full 2025 CCRPI report is available on the Georgia Department of Education website at www.gadoe.org.

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