



Date	Time	Location
March 4, 2026	5:15 pm-6:00 pm	Zoom
Organizer	Facilitators	Meeting Type
Strategy & School Governance	Harriet de Onis	Informational
Meeting Objective & Scope		
Review and provide feedback on initiatives that impact or involve the cluster. • ESPLOST: Discuss and provide feedback. • Strategic Plans: Share and discuss for cross-collaboration.		

Discussion Items

1) ESPLOST

- a) **Capital Improvement Projects**-As we plan for E-SPLOST 2027, which **capital improvement projects** do you think have the greatest impact on our students (i.e. construction, renovation, infrastructure improvements, athletics, safety, security, technology, transportation, nutrition) and why?
- i) **Safety and Security Improvements**-Safety projects have the most immediate impact because students learn best when they feel secure. Investments such as secure entrances, updated camera systems, improved lighting, and emergency communication systems help protect students and staff and create a safe learning environment.
 - ii) **Facility Renovations and Infrastructure**-Renovating aging buildings, improving HVAC systems, and modernizing classrooms significantly affect student comfort and learning. Well-maintained facilities reduce disruptions, improve air quality, and provide spaces that better support instruction, collaboration, and student engagement.
 - iii) **Nutrition and Student Wellness Facilities**-Upgraded kitchens, cafeterias, and nutrition services help ensure students have access to healthy meals in efficient and welcoming spaces, which supports overall health and academic performance.
 - iv) **Technology Upgrades**-Technology improvements—such as stronger Wi-Fi infrastructure, updated devices, and classroom technology—expand learning opportunities and help students develop digital skills needed for college and careers.

Why these matter most: Projects that improve safety, learning environments, and access to resources have the most direct and lasting effect on students' daily experiences at school and help create conditions where students can focus, learn, and succeed.

- b) **Program Areas**-Out of the following **6 E-SPLOST Program Areas**, prioritize your top three areas:
- i) **Safety and Security**
 - ii) **Facilities Infrastructure**
 - iii) **Nutrition**
 - iv) *Technology*
 - v) *Transportation*



vi) Athletics

c) **E-SPLOST Success**-Looking ahead to 2032 (which would be the final year of SPLOST 27), what are **1 to 2 physical changes/capital projects** that would make you feel E-SPLOST was a success?

i) **Modernized and Well-Maintained School Facilities**-By 2032, we would view E-SPLOST as a success if schools across the district have updated infrastructure, including renovated classrooms, improved HVAC systems, and modern learning spaces that support both students and teachers. Well-maintained, comfortable facilities create better learning environments and demonstrate long-term investment in students.

ii) **Stronger Safety and Security Improvements**-Another sign of success would be the full implementation of upgraded safety measures, such as secure entrances, improved surveillance systems, and updated emergency response technology. These improvements would help ensure that schools remain safe and supportive environments for all students and staff.

2) SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN

In discussing your strategic plans, highlight areas where collaboration, shared resources, or best-practice exchange would be valuable. The goal is to strengthen cluster-wide alignment, reduce duplication, and intentionally leverage collective expertise and resources.

a) Where/how can the schools in this feeder pattern **collaborate**?

i) Clearly, it is valuable to have vertical communication within the clusters. Collaboration is only possible (or effective) with consistent conversations. However, time is always a factor. So, it is necessary that the collaboration occur through technology as much as possible.

ii) Feeder Pattern Collaboration: Teachers and counselors across the feeder pattern should regularly meet to share best practices and discuss specific students who may be at risk during the upcoming transition.

b) Where/how can the schools in this feeder pattern **share resources**?

i) The South Atlanta cluster schools are able to share resources with each other through group messaging and a platform such as Google Classroom.

c) What valuable **best practices** exist in this feeder pattern?

i) One South Atlanta cluster best practice is emphasizing consistent attendance and participation as this is vital for a successful educational feeder pattern.

ii) Utilizing data, methods, and incentives can help achieve maximum success:

(1) Data-Driven Monitoring and Intervention Tracking: Our cluster implements a centralized, real-time system to monitor daily attendance across all schools.

(2) Early Warning: We set clear "at-risk" thresholds (e.g., 5 monthly absences) to automatically alert staff (counselors, teachers, administrators).

(3) Root Cause Analysis: For chronically absent students, the SAC identifies underlying issues beyond simple tracking (e.g., transportation, health, social-emotional struggles, curriculum engagement).

(4) Positive, Relationship-Based Incentives-We focus incentives on building a positive connection to school and learning, rather than only on punitive measures.



iii) **Other-Is there anything else your team would like us to know?**

- (1) At this time, our team is satisfied that the Cluster Advisory Leaders are being very clear, informative, and supportive. Thank you.

Submitted By: Harriet de Onis, Chair

Position: Cluster Representative-Long Middle School

