GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Gwinnett County Board of Education

Level:	Accompanying Procedure:	Descriptor Code:	Rescinds
Policy B-School Board Operations		BAAB	September 29, 2021
Descriptor Term:		Effective Date:	
Academic Accountability			

Keywords:
Student Discipline:
Policy References:

In concert with its Core Beliefs and Commitments, and in extension of its Theory of Action for Change to Improve Student Achievement (Policy BAA), the Gwinnett County Board of Education sets forth in policy its belief that Gwinnett County Public Schools must manage performance within flexible parameters that balance accountability with empowerment according to the needs and performance of individual schools.

Accountability

The district operates within a managed performance/empowerment framework that requires accountability and holds people responsible for meeting standards. Accountability means that the district has a system for schools and functional units that establishes desired outcomes that are identified in key performance indicators and that measures performance against standards, collects and distributes performance data, and develops and deploys supports to schools when performance warrants interventions to support continuous improvement efforts. The Superintendent, instructional leaders, and school personnel are responsible for assuring that the schools operate in a manner consistent with the Board's stated academic expectations and achieve identified world-class standards for student learning.

Accountability applies to all district employees and students. This Academic Accountability policy focuses on the standards, responsibilities, expectations, and improvement supports that apply to schools in the achievement of district goals. Likewise, the district and its functional divisions are accountable for supporting schools according to defined Key Performance Indicators as referenced in Policy BAAC, Operational Accountability.

The goal of academic accountability shall not be compliance alone, but sustained improvement, student belonging, and measurable progress toward equitable outcomes across all Gwinnett County Public Schools.

Results-Based Evaluation System (RBES)

RBES is the district's instrument for the fair and consistent measurement of performance. As applied to schools through the annual Weighted School Assessments, RBES promotes continuous improvement through the identification of strengths and opportunities for growth, and acts as a vehicle to communicate the school's performance in academic and non-academic areas (including but not limited to state test performance, academic growth, and chronic

absenteeism).

Performance Standards

RBES consists of three performance standards to understand school performance: Performance in Context – in which schools must outperform similar-context schools to meet benchmarks, Continuous Improvement – in which schools must show growth or maintain a standard of excellence to meet benchmarks, and Criterion-Referenced standards – in which schools must outperform a consistently high benchmark.

To ensure academic accountability, the district's Performance Standards must reflect world-class expectations. A world-class designation requires that GCPS outcomes are validated by data-driven measures and acknowledged as exemplary by the broader educational community. Performance expectations shall remain rigorous, while implementation strategies shall be adaptive and responsive to the contextual barriers to success. GCPS commits to maintaining standards that are admired and emulated by peers and competitors alike.

~~Performance expectations shall remain rigorous and world-class, while implementation strategies shall be adaptive and responsive to contextual barriers to success.~~

Support Category Designation

Based on a holistic summary of the Weighted School Assessment, a school is placed into one of five support categories: Empowered, Flexible, Assisted, Managed, and Structured. The system will provide responses or interventions to the school according to its support category designation as outlined below.

Evaluation

The Superintendent will provide the Board of Education with an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the district as measured by its accountability system.