Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
May 14, 2026	Recognition Item 3

Title

CCSD Georgia FLEX Winners

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of CCSD Georgia FLEX Winners

Summary Explanation and Background

Georgia FLEX (Foundational Leadership and Entrepreneurial eXperience) is a statewide initiative offered locally for the first time this school year through a partnership between the school district, Cherokee Office of Economic Development, and local businesses and industries.

Through the program, high school students, individually or as teams, pitch ideas to launch real businesses. Ten finalist companies selected based on their business plans then launch their concepts with the support of teacher advisors from their school, mentors from local businesses, and seed money from the program. Over 12 weeks of operating their businesses, the finalists receive additional training through workshops and then make a "Shark Tank"-style pitch to a panel of judges. The top three teams refine their businesses for another five weeks, and, through another judging panel event, an overall winner is selected to advance to the state competition for the opportunity to earn a $10,000 prize.

Our overall district winner, who won $5,000 for her business and advanced to the state competition, is Annabell Meyer of River Ridge HS! Her business is Aspire Great Media, a social media content creation and management company, and her teacher advisor is Krista Duke.

Javen Simmons of Etowah HS won second place and $2,500, and the team of Carter Hutchison of Creekview HS and Gavin Letendre of Etowah HS won third place and $1,250.

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List) — Enter URL below

N/A

Source of Additional Information — Open URL

Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871
Josh Heath, EdD	770.479.1871