



Investing in Educational Excellence





Overview of the Proposed Partnership Agreement between

Gwinnett County Board of Education
and the
State Board of Education

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Legislative Intent of IE²



- To provide local school districts with greater governance flexibility as a means to increasing student achievement
- Impose consequences for not meeting student achievement goals
 - Flexibility  Increased Student Achievement
 - Lack of Student Achievement  Loss of Governance

State's Priorities in the Negotiation Process



- 1) Ensure that the school-level accountability goals are sufficiently rigorous to warrant the flexibility;
- 2) Develop plans that demonstrate a proportional relationship between flexibility and increased accountability;
- 3) Identify performance goals based on clear, straightforward, independently verifiable state-level data;
- 4) Select performance goals that are aligned with the state's student achievement priorities;
- 5) Design a plan that can be replicated easily in other local school districts.

Strategic Plan Requirements



- The local school district must work with GaDOE and GOSA to create a strategic plan that clearly identifies:
 - **Flexibility** sought from Georgia education laws
 - **Increased accountability goals** the district is willing to accept at the school level in exchange for the flexibility
 - **Consequences** that will be imposed upon the district for schools that do not reach their accountability goals

Flexibility Sought



- The law requires the local school district to specify the flexibility they seek, not how they intend to use it
- The local district **cannot** be granted flexibility from any federal rule, regulation, or accountability requirement
- NCLB is still in full effect!
 - Highly-qualified teacher requirements remain
 - Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements remain
 - ✦ All schools must still demonstrate 100% proficiency by 2014
 - ✦ Grades 3-8: 100% of students meet standards (CRCT) in math and reading/ELA
 - ✦ Grades 9-12: 100% of students meet standards (GHS GT) and graduate from high school
 - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements remain

Flexibility Sought



- Flexibility sought by GCPS:
 - Class-size requirements
 - Expenditure controls
 - QBE financing
 - Categorical allotment requirements
 - Salary schedule requirements
 - Certification requirements
 - Conditions of employment related to duty-free lunch
 - Compulsory attendance related to attendance protocol
 - ELL program requirements
 - Educational programs
 - Organization of schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule
 - Competencies and core curriculum

Increased Accountability Measures



- In exchange for flexibility, the local school district must accept **increased** accountability
 - That means accountability **above and beyond** current federal accountability requirements
- Gwinnett's plan seeks to:
 - increase student achievement at the highest levels at each of its standard K-12 schools and move more students to exceed state standards in Math and Reading/ELA
 - increase student achievement in Science, which is outside of federal accountability but is meaningful for state graduation requirements
- *(Note: GCPS has not included its alternative schools or charter schools in the proposed contract; therefore, those schools will not be granted flexibility.)*

Gwinnett's Total Accountability Picture



	Grades 3-8	Grades 9-12
Reading/ELA at the school level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of students will meet standards on the CRCT by 2014*; • The % of AYP racial and Economically Disadvantaged (ED) subgroup students exceeding standards will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students exceeding standards will be maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of students will pass the GHSGT and graduate from high school by 2014*; • The % of AYP racial and ED subgroup students scoring at the Advanced/Honors level will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students scoring at the Advanced/Honors level will be maintained.
Math at the school level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of students will meet standards on the CRCT by 2014*; • The % of AYP racial and ED subgroup students exceeding standards will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students exceeding standards will be maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of students will pass the GHSGT and graduate from high school by 2014*; • The % of AYP racial and ED subgroup students scoring at the Pass Plus level will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students scoring at the Pass Plus level will be maintained.
Science at the school level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The % of AYP racial and ED subgroup students meeting standards will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students meeting standards will be maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The % of AYP racial and ED subgroup students passing the science portion of the GHSGT will rise to the state average; • The % of SWD and ELL students passing the science portion of the GHSGT will be maintained.

* Represents current federal accountability requirements. GCPS will be held accountable for these and future federal requirements as the Elementary and Secondary Schools Education Act changes.

Why “maintain” for SWD and ELL?



- RTI – Response to Intervention – Providing early intervention strategies to at-risk students thereby reducing the number of students who are classified as SWD
 - This primarily affects the highest achieving SWD students, which makes maintaining the exceeds achievement level a rigorous objective
- ELL – English Language Learners – the goal of the ELL program is to exit students as soon as they demonstrate English proficiency
 - With a constantly revolving door of new students to this subgroup, it is sufficiently rigorous to ask them to maintain the exceeds achievement level
- This accountability plan is not a growth model; it looks at different student groups each year

Accountability Reporting



- Per law, GOSA will monitor GCPS progress towards meeting annual goals
- GOSA's findings will be reported to the State Board of Education each fall

Consequences



- All consequences under the Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS) will be applied to Gwinnett schools that fall to Needs Improvement (NI) status
- In addition, GCPS will provide interventions and sanctions throughout the contract period to those schools that do not meet their annual IE² accountability goals
- Those schools that do not meet their IE² accountability goals by the end of the contract period will be converted to charter schools

Requirements of GCPS



- ✓ 5-year strategic plan that outlines flexibility, accountability, and consequences
 - ✓ Includes school-level accountability goals
- ✓ Advertise public hearing
- ✓ Hold public hearing:
 - ✓ To provide an opportunity for full discussion and public input on the strategic plan and proposed contract including formal, written comments or suggestions regarding the local school systems flexibility request and performance goals and their impact on each school
- ✓ Obtain Local Board of Education approval