

“COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE”

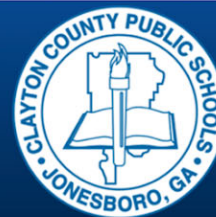
ADVISORY

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1058 Fifth Avenue | Jonesboro, GA 30236

770-473-2700

www.clayton.k12.ga.us



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Department of Communications, Public Relations & Marketing

Jada K. Dawkins
Chief of Communications
Telephone: (770) 472-7257

October 19, 2018

CCPS Leadership Comments on Impact of Trump Tariffs

Decisions by the Trump Administration in Washington, D.C. regarding tariffs on a range of products from a variety of foreign countries are having a direct impact on Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS), specifically in the area of electronics and technology.

A recent communication from Prosys, one of several vendors that supplies the district with all things electronic including computers, routers and printers, brought this issue into clear focus:

“These tariffs are creating price increases with a number of our IT manufacturers who focus on (but are not limited to) networking, client and server solutions which have components sourced or built in China. Unfortunately, these associated costs are being passed directly to the channel and ultimately to our customer community. Should resolution not be found between the U.S. and China, there is the potential that additional tariffs will again be placed on these imports by year end. Initial estimates could be as high as 25%.”

“This vendor information clearly shows that the tariffs imposed could translate into higher per unit costs that the school district, as a customer, may have to pay,” said Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent/CEO. “This means that we may have to re-evaluate our technology commitments as they relate to our general fund and SPLOST expenditures.”

“We have already begun to communicate with all affected vendors,” Rod Smith, CCPS Chief Technology Officer, said. “We are going to work with our vendors to ensure that CCPS is treated fairly as it relates to district spending.”

“I am committed to getting the most value for every tax dollar that has been entrusted to our responsibility by our citizens,” Smith added.

“I want our stakeholders to be assured that we will continue to monitor the impact that these tariffs will have on all products purchased by the school district and will take action that is in the best interest of our students, our employees and our community,” Dr. Beasley concluded.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited through AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten

through 12th grade. Serving over 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.

###