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NEWS RELEASE

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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One CCPS Campus is on the GaDOE CSI List

JONESBORO - Earlier today, November 2, 2018, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) released the first list of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools as required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Only one Clayton County Public School (CCPS) campus, the Perry Career Academy (PCA) – Eula Wilborn Ponds Perry Center for Learning in Jonesboro, made the list. The PCA made the list under the *Low Graduation Rate* category. This list includes high schools with a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate less than or equal to 67%.

CCPS and Cobb County were the only two of the largest six school districts to have only one school identified. Clayton had no school among the lowest 5% in the state. For a complete list of CSI schools, please see the attached list of Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools.

“As we anticipated, the Perry Career Academy was identified as a CSI school due to its low graduation rate (34.63 percent) for its first year operating as an alternative high school,” Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, CCPS Superintendent/CEO said. “Our stakeholders are reminded that the Perry Center is an important alternative solution to retain students in school who may be dealing with various situations that prevent them from graduating on time.”

“We want to encourage these students to remain in school through their adverse situations with additional support geared toward graduating and earning their high school diploma and pursuing post-secondary options. Make no mistake, the Perry Career Academy, its students, and staff, have this district’s full support,” Dr. Beasley continued. “The students that are enrolled at the academy are remarkable and resilient and understand that they are better off earning a high school diploma, either on time or later than expected. I ask the Clayton County community to continue its support for the students at PCA,” he concluded.

Under ESSA, states are required to identify schools in need of additional support. GaDOE’s Office of School Improvement will work with CSI schools and provide assistance to help them improve the educational outcomes of their students. The list of 2018 Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools will be released as soon as it is finalized.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by 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.

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