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News Release

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THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTS BUDGET AND SETS PRIORITIES FOR NEW SCHOOL YEAR

In FY2017, laser focus on classroom instruction and learning with \$962 Million budget

Today, the DeKalb County Board of Education gave final adoption to the District's general fund budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 with available revenues and appropriations of \$962,778,900. Highlights of the budget include:

- \$8.9 million for decentralizing the central office and placing resources and decision-making closer to schools
- \$19.5 million for across-the-board 3% pay raise for all full-time employees
- \$16.1 million for growth in teacher allotments
- \$3.8 million for signing and retention bonuses for teachers
- \$1.9 million for improving the rigor, relationship, and relevancy in classroom instruction
- \$ 2.0 million to ensure a nurse in each middle and high school
- \$ 800,000 for increasing compensation for substitute teachers
- A reduction of the property tax millage rate by .35 mills to a total millage rate of 23.38 mills
- A beginning FY2017 estimated available fund balance of \$124.4 million

"This budget continues the upward momentum over the past year to build trust with parents, students, employees, and the taxpayers of DeKalb County," Superintendent Dr. R. Stephen Green said. "In the past year, we have received full accreditation and established sound fiscal management, decentralized decision making that is closer to schools and students, improved academic growth and achievement, and developed a comprehensive plan for dealing with serious overcrowding problems in the Cross Keys, Dunwoody, and Lakeside clusters."

“The E-SPLOST vote on May 24 when 71 percent of the voters in DeKalb County expressed support and trust in the District with the highest vote of support in the 20-year history of the E-SPLOST program,” Board Chair Dr. Melvin Johnson said. “The District will fulfill this mandate vote of confidence.”

About DeKalb County School District

The DeKalb County School District is Georgia’s third largest school system. Under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. R. Stephen Green and the Board of Education, we prepare students for college and careers through a laser focus on rigorous, relevant classroom instruction related to each child’s needs. The District serves nearly 102,000 students, 137 schools and centers, and 15,500 employees, including 6,600 teachers. The District’s students and parents speak over 140 languages and represent over 180 nations. With a laser focus, DCSD is a leader in STEM curriculum with 10 certified schools and programs in more than 90 schools. School choice options are available in nearly 50 schools to include theme, magnet, IB, charter, and Montessori options.

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