SWSS/IE² SYSTEM APPLICATION COVER SHEET

	Full Name of Proposed SWSS/IE	2 System - Clinch Cou	unty Schoo	l System	
2.	Please indicate whether this is a New Petition X	a:	pr	ow many schools in tot oposing to include in y stem? Three (3)	•
4.	How many of each of the follow Primary School(s) Ze		posing to i School(s)	nclude in your IE2 syst One (1)	em?
	Elementary School(s) On	e (1) High s	chool(s)	One (1)	
5.	On July 1 of what year do you w	ant your IE2 contract t	o be effecti	ve? 2015	
6.	SWSS/IE2 System Street Address 46 S. College Street	Homerville	Ge	eorgia	3163
			8. Tit	le: Assistant Superint	endent of
7.	Contact Person: Mr. Dane Heard			aching and Learning	
		Homerville	Te	aching and Learning	3163

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SWSS/IE2 Draft Application Contents

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Clinch County School System

Section One: Clinch County's size, demographics, location, and changes experienced in the last three years, including unique features and current challenges.

Clinch County School System serves approximately 1320 students through Clinch County High (8-12), Clinch County Middle (5-7), and Clinch County Elementary (K-4) – which are located on two campuses. The student population in Clinch is stable to slightly decreasing, with an average loss of 11 FTE's per year.

Financial Challenges: The Clinch County School System continues to endure financial challenges. We are no longer eligible for equalization funds that brought in as much as a million dollars. Since FY 10, Clinch County's equalization grant decreased from \$505,778 dollars to zero by FY14. CCSS reduced personnel from 220 in 2005, to 187 in FY16 through attrition. In FY16, we will levy an additional 2.72 mills, but avoided furlough days. **While the Clinch County School System has not operated under a fiscal deficit**, our current cash flow is so limited we will require a line of credit to make payroll throughout 2015. Our residents supported our third Educational Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax (ESPLOST) in 2015.

Section Two: Clinch County's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and beliefs.

In Clinch County, we value the learning of all for the good of the whole.

Our mission from 2007 to 2013 was to engage students in the pursuit of a quality education, in a safe and clean environment, with available resources. We held a planning retreat in the fall of 2013 to formally study our present mission and vision, and to begin drafting a new strategic plan on current administrator and staff beliefs. Changes that might seem subtle were discussed at length. In particular, we wanted to ensure that we highlighted our belief that students must take ownership of their individual growth; and, that student should have access to all necessary resources, rather than just those that are readily available.

In terms of our core beliefs, we chose to limit them to three. In our proposed 2016 to 2018 Strategic Plan, our core beliefs are as follows:

- We believe student achievement is our primary goal and is the shared responsibility of all
- We believe all children have the potential to learn and deserve access to equal opportunities
- We believe that to learn, all students must be engaged in a safe and supportive learning environment

Section Three: Clinch County's 'Case'.

I. What challenges is Clinch County facing?

A top priority of the new CCSS superintendent is to develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan that focuses on academic growth for every child while committing to fiscally responsible practices for our school system. Developing our 2016-2018 comprehensive strategic plan with input from all stakeholders is already showing progress as the catalyst to transform our Clinch County School System from good to great! The flexibility afforded through our Strategic Waiver School System partnership contract will ensure we are able to focus our attention on improved academic performance without being bound by Georgia's education law, rules or guidelines currently impeding our progress.

II. What is the rank order priority of these challenges (from most to least important)?

- Ensuring the financial stability of Clinch County School System despite unstable and unpredictable revenue, changes to QBE and equalization funding formulas, and delays in tree tax and Forest Land Protection Act (FLPA) reimbursements.
- Ensuring that Clinch County continues to personalize the learning experience and learning environment for all students; improve student growth and achievement for all students; and, develop skills and talent of staff to meet the growing and varied needs of Clinch County students.

 Ensuring that Clinch County continues to attract, support and retain effective teachers, leaders, and professional personnel necessary to meet the growing needs of our students, particularly in content areas such as math and science.

III. Which of these challenges will your school district be able to address by becoming a SWSS/IE2 system?

Clinch County School System is confident we can address all three major goal areas by becoming a Strategic Waiver School System.

IV. What specific actions will your district take to address each of these challenges during the five year SWSS/IE2 term?

- 1. We will align spending priorities to our schools improvement plans and strategic plan. Our focus is early literacy in elementary, and reducing our achievement gaps in middle and upper grades. State and federal revenue sources currently contribute a nominal percentage of the actual cost of operating schools at optimal levels. Therefore, the system will leverage flexibility through waivers to support our core business of teaching and learning.
- 2. To ensure a continuous cycle of student academic/personal performance growth, Clinch County will pursue innovative course design with varied paces for student interest/learning. Through digital resources, embedded courses, innovative instructional models, alternate time schedules and advanced learning opportunities, will best meet students' shifting learning needs.
- 3. Clinch County will ensure the safety and support of students and staff while offering the full range of athletic and artistic opportunities to develop the whole child. We favor the traditional preparation of school educators, but intend to reconsider the critical value provided by professional practitioners in specialty fields such as CTAE, engineering, art, music, and P.E.- while ensuring that all employees are compensated at competitive rates based upon non-traditional experiences associated with current and future student and staff needs.

V. How will specific actions listed in IV above lead to the specific challenges being addressed?

1. Impacts as related to financial stability:

- Flexibility with class size and expenditure controls that maintain our most successful programs as well as innovations to support student growth and achievement. This includes the 65% rule and any IDEA MoE legislation passed.
- Flexibility on scheduling for instruction/program enrollment and appropriation to allow Clinch County to schedule instruction to best meet student needs while increasing student growth and achievement.

2. Student growth and achievement:

- Flexibility in the delivery models for educational programs to provide more personalized and effective learning experiences for all students.
- Flexibility for length of school day and/or year; weather make-up requirements; and to promote increased offerings for on-line or blended learning options while still promoting students' needs in relation to their academics, health and well-being.

3. Student and staff engagement

- Flexibility that promotes the hiring, support and retention of professional practitioners and certified staff in specialty fields; and, ensure the system's financial ability to promote student safety in all settings (traditional and non-traditional, as well as academic and extra-curricular).
- Flexibility that encourages the use of technology to support students at home when attendance at school is not desirable, not practical or not possible.

VI. List specific Georgia Law or State Board rule that must be waived to allow your district to implement each specific action in IV above. Highlight those used during the past five years.

Under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-80 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.33, The Clinch County School system is seeking flexibility for all its schools from the following state statutes and/or rules in exchange for greater accountability (as outlined in the IE2 Partnership Contract) over the life of a five-year contract which allows for six years of flexibility between the Clinch County School System Board of Education and the Georgia State Board of Education, except as prohibited in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e).

- Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182 and SBOE 160-5-1-.08)
- Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.29)
- QBE Financing except to the extent it relates to funding (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161)
- Personnel Required (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167 and categorical allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-188 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22)
- Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151 to 20-2-156 and SBOE Rules 160-4-2-.38, 160-4-5-.01, 160-4-2-.17, 160-4-5-.02, 160-4-2-.14)
- Categorical Allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186)
- Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212)
- Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-201, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-204)
- ELL Program Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.02)
- Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290)
- Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-140.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-142 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.48)
- Graduation Requirements for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-131 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.47 and 160-4-2-.48)
- Employment, Conditions of Employment as it relates to Duty Free Lunch (O.C.G.A. §20-2-218)
- School Attendance, Compulsory Attendance as it relates to the attendance protocol (O.C.G.A. §20-2-690.2)
- Instructional Extension (O.C.G.A. §20-2-184 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.14)
- Early Intervention Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-153 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.17)
- LEP Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-156 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.02)
- Scheduling for Instruction/Program Enrollment and Appropriation except to the extent it relates to funding (O.C.G.A. §20-2-160, O.C.G.A. §20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. §20-2-165, O.C.G.A. §20-2-168c and SBOE Rule 160-4-2.16)
- Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. §20-2-283 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2.11)
- Remedial Education Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-154 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.01)
- School Day and Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. §20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-165, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-240 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.02)
- Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12)

Challenges in Prioritized Order	Specific Initiative/Action and Explanation	Waiver(s) Requested
Ensuring the financial stability of Clinch County schools despite the unstable and unpredictable revenue growth.	The Clinch County School System (CCSS) will align all spending priorities with the district's strategic plan to improve student achievement. The state revenue source currently contributes to a minimal percentage of the actual cost of operating schools at a high level and therefore the district will leverage the reduction in spending constraints to support the core business of teaching and learning.	Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182; SBOE 160-5-108) Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171 and SBOE Rule 160-5-129). Conditions of Employment as it relates to Duty Free Lunch (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-218). Scheduling for Instruction/Program Enrollment and Appropriation (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-165, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168 and SBOE Rule 160-4- 2.16); Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) and SBOE Rule 160-4-212; and Early Intervention Program O.C.G.A. § 20-2-153 and SBOE Rule 160-4-217 QBE Financing (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161). Personnel Required (SBOE Rule 160-5-122) and O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167
Ensuring that CCSS can increasingly personalize the learning experience and environment for all students and advance student learning as indicated by student achievement measures.	The CCSS will pursue innovative course design that accounts for varied paces of student learning and unique student interests. Through the increased use of digital resources, embedded courses, innovative instructional models, and advanced learning opportunities, the district will facilitate new thinking about engaging instructional experiences and environments for students' learning needs today.	Educational Programs, ELL Program Requirements and Remedial Education Program (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151 to 20-2-156 and SBOE Rules 160-4-238, 160-4-501, 160-4-217, 160-4-501, 160-4-502, 160-4- 214) Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290) Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-140.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-142, SBOE Rule 160-4-248) Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. § 20-2- 283, SBOE Rule 160- 4-2.11) Graduation Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2- 131, SBOE Rule 160- 4-2.47, SBOE Rule 160- 4-248) School Day and Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-165, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-240, SBOE Rule 160-5-102)

Challenges in Prioritized	Specific Initiative/Action and Explanation	Waiver(s) Requested
Order		
(continued)		
Ensuring that CCSS can attract and retain effective teachers, leaders, and professional personnel despite our declining enrollment in light of our aging workforce, and difficulty recruiting content area	The CCSS highly regards the traditional preparation of school educators and intends to consider the additional value that could be added to classroom instruction and student supports by expanding employment practices to consider professional practitioners in specialty fields such as technology, science and engineering, and child support roles. Additionally CCSS desires to ensure that all employees are compensated at competitive rates while valuing prior non-teaching responsibilities associated with an employee's teaching or support assignment.	Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20- 2-212) and Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-201, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-204).
teachers.		
Ensuring that CCSS can meet the unique academic, resource, and support needs of all schools.	The CCSS is comprised of 3 schools that are located in the third largest county in the state. The district values the unique strengths and specific needs of each of the Clinch County schools and will leverage flexibility in order to best advance teaching and learning at each of our schools.	Categorical Allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-188) and SBOE Rule 160-4-214

- VII. Indicate a timeline for implementation of strategic measures associated with one or more of the three target areas outlined in IV.
- Prioritize and align initiatives based on student, staff and stakeholder input, PBS data and AdvancEd benchmarks April 2015 to June 2016
- Increase the percentage of students who exceed state measures by grade, content area and early reading proficiency starting with FY15 baseline data (available in October 2015) **Ongoing**
- Consult with outside expert to offer training on program-based budgeting to re-establish a 15% fund equity balance October 2015 to July 2016
- Implement strategies to reduce costs outside of instruction (central office staff, energy consumption, instructional delivery models, etc.) for the purpose of reducing class size FY16
- Increase participation and satisfaction results on surveys offered to staff, students, parents and community members FY16
- Increase academic and behavioral supports for students to reduce discipline referrals by grade, gender and ethnicity – FY16 to FY18
- Increase CCRPI scores as related to comparable schools in our state with similar demographics and student populations – FY16 to FY18
- Demonstrate staff satisfaction through the percentage of desirable rehires each year for support staff, teachers and administrators FY16 to FY18
- Match or exceed the state technology ratio within five years FY16 to FY20

VIII. What are the consequences for nonperforming schools, including how you will select and ensure the implementation of appropriate consequences, both during and at the end of your SWSS/IE2 contract term?

The schedule of sanctions and interventions shall be designed to ensure that the local school system sufficiently addresses the achievement deficiencies at all non-performing schools under the local school system's management and control. Such sanctions and interventions shall be at the recommendation of GOSA and shall include the following:

Clinch County School System SWSS/IE2

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84.1, Clinch County School System will employ the following interventions or sanctions at all non-performing schools under Clinch County Schools' local management and control. The sanctions and interventions shall include the following:

(a) If based upon the review of the 2016-2017 and/or 2017-2018 performance data, a school has not made sufficient progress toward meeting the articulated academic goals, a school improvement plan will be incorporated into the annual school strategic planning process and implemented by August 2018 (based upon review of 2016-2017 data) or August 2019 (based upon review of 2017-2018 data). The school improvement plan will address the specific achievement deficiencies along with a targeted plan to address the deficiencies. The school improvement plan and the targeted plan will be approved and monitored by the Clinch County School System throughout the academic year.

(b) If based upon the review of 2018-2019 and/or 2019-2020 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Clinch County School System will apply direct school management support and intensive teacher development support as outlined in the jointly developed school improvement plan between the school leadership and district leadership staff. Implementation of the school improvement plan will occur no later than August 2020 (based upon review of 2018-2019 data) and/or August 2021 (based upon review of 2019-2020 data) and will be monitored by the school system.

(c) If based upon the GOSA evaluation of the 2020-2021 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Clinch County School System will apply, in the 2022-2023 school year, the consequences recommended by GOSA and approved by the State Board of Education.

In addition to the consequences list above provided by the state, each Clinch County school will establish a schedule for monitoring each of its schools progress toward respective achievement goals. These monitoring sessions will coincide with Title I School Improvement Meetings that occur each year at Clinch County Elementary and Middle School. During these monitoring sessions, the principals will

review intermittent progress made toward the stated improvement actions identified within the plan, the assessment data gathered throughout the year, and discuss further inventions necessary at each school to achieve academic growth.

Sanctions and interventions for nonperforming schools:

The schedule of sanctions and interventions shall be designed to ensure that the local school system sufficiently addresses the achievement deficiencies at all non-performing schools under the local school system's management and control. Such sanctions and interventions shall be at the recommendation of GOSA and shall include the following:

Annually, all three schools will revise their school improvement plans and our strategic planning team will review and revise our system three-year Strategic Plan which includes components addressing the annual performance goals as outlined by the SWSS/IE2 partnership contract. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84.1, the Clinch County School System will employ the following interventions or sanctions at all non-performing schools under the Clinch County School System's local management and control. The sanctions and interventions shall include the following:

(a) If based upon the review of 2018-19 performance data, a school has not made sufficient progress toward meeting the articulated academic goals, a school improvement plan will be incorporated into the annual school strategic planning process. The school improvement plan will address the specific achievement deficiencies along with a targeted plan to address the deficiencies. The school improvement plan and the targeted plan will be approved and monitored by the district throughout the academic year (b) If based upon the review of 2020-21 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, Clinch County School System will apply direct school management support and intensive teacher development support as outlined in the jointly developed school improvement plan between the school leadership and district leadership staff. Implementation of

the school improvement plan will be jointly approved and monitored by the school system and the Georgia Department of Education.

The SBOE shall mandate the loss of governance of one or more of a SWSS/IE2 System's nonperforming schools. Such loss of governance may include, but shall not be limited to:

a. Conversion a school to charter status with independent school level governance and a governance board with strong parental involvement;

b. Operation of a school by a successful school system, as defined by GOSA, and pursuant to funding criteria established by the SBOE; or

c. Operation of a school by a private entity, nonprofit or for profit, pursuant to a request for proposals issued by the Department.

In addition to the loss of governance options specified in the statute that could be imposed at the end of the SWSS/IE2 contract term, the following options for loss of governance could be implemented during or at the conclusion of the SWSS/IE2 contract term. (Note that the numbering continues from the list above)

d. Nonperforming schools could have governance reduced by being required to submit a remedial action plan for LBOE approval before the school can implement necessary changes

o For this option, the District could specify the general requirements such a plan a must meet or let the school submit a draft based on its own analysis

e. The school could be required to make leadership and faculty/staff changes, including replacing leaders/faculty/ staff and/or an aggressive professional development program

f. The school could be required to implement reconstitution if necessary to ensure performance improvements

g. The school could be required to develop individual student achievement plans and implement programs such as after school and/or Saturday tutoring programs that provide additional time on task in subject areas specified in the individual plans

h. Other options for loss of governance not listed above that address the specific reasons for a school's failure to meet its targets could be proposed in an IE2 application

For any loss of governance option presented above, the LBOE would certify to the SBOE that such loss of governance had been imposed

• Remedial action plans imposed on nonperforming schools by LBOEs as a loss of governance option must:

o Address the specific reasons for a school's failure to meet its targets,

o Be of sufficient duration to ensure time for necessary changes to be made at the school, and

• Clarify the link between the amount by which a school target was missed and the severity of the remedial actions

IX. What are your school system's specific student performance expectations for your five year SWSS/IE2 term? *Include specific areas you will target to achieve expectations.*

Clinch County Schools are focusing on early literacy initiatives until we receive baseline data to identify additional areas to target to achieve CCRPI and Beating the Odds expectations.

The Clinch County School System is committed to academic proficiency and/or improvement as measured by the CCRPI.

<u>Action 1</u>: Clinch County Schools will annually develop and execute school improvement plans prioritized and aligned with our system strategic plan to demonstrate proficiency as measured by the CCRPI.

<u>Measure 1</u>: School performance goals will be set so that for each year during the five-year contract, an individual school shall increase its CCRPI score, before challenge points, by 3% of the gap between the baseline year CCRPI score and 100. Baseline year is 2015-16.

0r

Measure 2: For each year during the five-year contract, an individual school with an initial CCRPI score, before challenge points, performing in the top quartile of the state within each grade level shall remain at or above the top quartile threshold established the baseline year. Baseline year is 2015-16.

or

<u>Measure 3</u>: If a school fails to meet its CCRPI target score, the school will be deemed as meeting its yearly performance target if the school is determined to be "beating the odds" through an analysis that compares the school's CCRPI to its expected baseline performance as determined by comparison schools statewide having similar characteristics (i.e. ED, ELL, SWD, school size, teacher-to-pupil ratio, etc...).

Assurances Form and Signature Sheet

The law requires school systems to provide assurances that it will do certain things and comply with certain laws. This Assurance Form enumerates all of these requirements and, when you submit this signed Signature Sheet with this Assurance Form as part of your IE2 System Application Package, you are providing the legal assurance that your IE2 system understands and will do these things.

This form must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the school system. As the authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the information submitted in this application for SWSS/IE2 partnership contract for Clinch County School System in Clinch County is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; I also certify that if awarded a SWSS/IE2 contract Clinch County School System:

1. Shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations;

2. Shall not discriminate against any student or employee on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, national origin, gender, disability or age;

3. Shall be subject to all federal, state, and local rules, regulations, court orders, and statutes relating to civil rights; insurance; the protection of the physical health and safety of school students, employees, and visitors; conflicting interest transactions; and the prevention of unlawful conduct;

4. Shall be subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A § 20-2-1050 requiring a brief period of quiet reflection;

5. Shall ensure that the SWSS/IE2 system is subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. and O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq.;

6. Shall ensure that all teachers will be certified or highly qualified in compliance with No Child Left Behind;

7. Shall comply with the accountability provisions of O.C.G.A. §20-14-30 through §20-14-41 and federal accountability requirements, and participate in statewide assessments;

8. Shall adhere to all provisions of federal law relating to students with disabilities, including the IDEA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as applicable;

9. Shall provide state and federally mandated services for English Language Learners, as applicable;

10. Shall provide for supplemental educational services as required by federal law and pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-03, and for remediation in required cases pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.01;

11. Shall notify the state of any intent to contract with a for-profit entity for education management services;

12. Shall be subject to the requirement that it shall not charge tuition or fees to its students except as may be authorized by local boards by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-133;

13. Shall comply with federal due process procedures regarding student discipline and dismissal;

14. Shall be subject to all laws relating to unlawful conduct in or near a public school;

15. Shall have a written grievance procedure to resolve student, parent, and teacher complaints;

16. Shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-211.1 relating to fingerprinting and criminal background checks;

17. Shall ensure that if transportation is provided for its students, the system shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws;

18. Shall ensure that if the IE2 system participates in federal school meals programs, then each participating system IE2 school shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws;

19. Shall prepare a safety plan in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1185 and submit and obtain approval from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency;

20. Shall comply with the state facility requirements regarding site codes, facility codes, the submission of architectural plans for any new facility that the system may build or occupy during the SWSS/IE2 term and all other facility requirements as established by the Department;

21. Shall be subject to all reporting requirements of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, subsection (e) of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-320, and O.C.G.A. § 20-2-740;

22. Shall be subject to an annual financial audit conducted by the state auditor or, if specified in the SWSS/IE2 contract, by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this state;

23. Shall acknowledge that all criteria used to calculate QBE funding may not be waived;

24. Shall follow any and all other federal, state, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the applicant or the operation of the SWSS/IE2 system; and

25. Shall ensure that all new principals and other school leaders, central office staff, superintendents, and Board of Education members receive a detailed orientation session on their SWSS/IE2 system commitments as part of their "on-boarding" process.

This SWSS/IE2 System Application, Assurance Form, and attached Exhibits were approved by the Clinch County School System Board of Education on the 10th day of September, 2015.

Superintendent, Clinch County Schools

Chair, Clinch County Board of Education

If an IE2 contract is granted, all Petitioners assure that the proposed IE2 system programs, services, and activities will operate in accordance with the terms of the IE2 contract and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

Superintendent, Clinch County Schools

Chair, Clinch County Board of Education

Version that is signed in blue ink will be provided upon board approval September 10, 2015

Date

Date

Date

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 061815-01

RESOLUTION OF THE CLINCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE SUBMISSION OF A LETTER OF INTENT TO PURSUE AN INVESTING IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (IE2) PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, the Clinch County Board of Education carefully considered the options to operate as an Investing in Educational Excellence (IE2), Charter, or Status Quo school system; and,

WHEREAS, the Clinch County Board of Education seeks relief from certain law and rules which constrain the Clinch County School System's ability to fund and to effectively implement certain school improvement in initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Clinch County Board of Education appreciates that accountability for district and school performance is in the public interest; and,

WHEREAS the Clinch County Board of Education recognizes the Investing in Educational Excellence (IE2) school system option as detailed in O.C.G.A. §20-2-80 and prescribed in O.C.G.A.§ 20-2-80 through 20-2-84.6 and State Board Rule 160-5-1-.33 provides a means of receiving flexibility from certain state laws and State Board of Education rules in return for greater accountability in district and school performance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clinch County Board of Education intends to become a party to an IE2 contract with the State Board of Education and to abide by the terms and conditions of such contract for the betterment of the students of the Clinch County School System.

SO RESOLVED, this 18th day of June, 2015.

Board of Education of Clinch County

Ву: _____

Stanley Thrift, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Donna D. Ryan, Secretary

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TABLE OF EXHIBITSSWSS/IE2 Draft CONTRACT

The following Exhibits are found on the pages that follow to complete Clinch County School System's SWSS/IE2 Application Package. The following Exhibits are tabbed to match the item numbers below.

- Exhibit A Clinch County School System's 2016-2018 Strategic Plan
- Exhibit B Flexibility Component of Contract
- Exhibit C Accountability Component of Contract
- Exhibit D Consequences Component of Contract
- Exhibit E School Plan for Clinch County Elementary School
- Exhibit F School Plan for Clinch Middle School
- Exhibit G School Plan for Clinch County High School
- ✓ Signed local Board of Education resolution approving intent to apply as a SWSS/IE2 system (pg. 18)
- ✓ Notice that was sent to each principal within the proposed SWSS/IE2 system regarding at least one required public hearing on Clinch County's SWSS/IE2 system application (pg. 31)
- ✓ A list of all schools to be included in the SWSS/IE2 system (pg. 3)
- ✓ A brief description of the SWSS/IE2 system (pg. 3)
- ✓ A brief description of the system's fiscal history and whether the system is or has ever operated under a fiscal deficit (pg. 3)
- ✓ Online link: to the school system's most recent annual audit, most recent accreditation report, and most recent strategic plan (pg. 19 below)

Online links to **Clinch County School System's most recent reports** - annual audit, 2014 AdvancEd accreditation report and 2016-2018 Strategic Plan can be found on our main website (right-hand side):

School System's most recent audit (FY13 report):

www.http://clinchcounty.com

School System's most recent AdvancEd Accreditation Report (2014):

www.http://clinchcounty.com

School Systems Proposed 2016-2018 Strategic Plan (pending September 10, 2015 approval):

www.http://clinchcounty.com



System SWSS/ Clinch County Schools

Strategic Plan

2016-2018

Core	Value
We va	lue the

learning of all for

Core Beliefs

- > We believe student achievement is our primary goal and is the shared responsibility of all
- We believe all children have the potential to learn and deserve access to equal opportunities
- the good of the whole
- We believe that to learn, all students must be engaged in a safe and supportive learning environment

Strategic Goals & Areas of Focus	Strategic Measures
 Area I. Implement fiscally sound, safe & supportive practices. Optimize effective and efficient financial practices. Maximize federal, state, local, and alternate funding sources to meet the needs of our students, staff and aging facilities. Maintain a safe, orderly and supportive environment for students, parents, staff and community members. Monitor the continuous improvement cycle and foster a positive climate through The 3 R's and the five AdvancEd priority areas. Increase students' exposure to and use of technology in daily instruction. Area II. Increase Student Growth & Achievement Pursue innovative course design that ensures high quality, rigorous instruction tailored to students' interests and local industry's needs. Increase academic and behavioral supports to ensure students' college and career readiness. Build capacity for students and families by directly engaging them in students' 	 Review annual audit reports, monthly financial reports and budgeting practices to re-establish and maintain at least 15% fund equity balance over three years. Implement strategies to reduce costs outside of instruction (central office staff, energy consumption, instructional delivery models, etc.) for the purpose of reducing class size. Increase academic and behavioral supports for students to reduce discipline referrals by grade, gender and ethnicity. Expand input on comprehensive safety and facilities plans. Prioritize and align initiatives based on student, staff and stakeholder input, PBS data and AdvancEd benchmarks. Enhance staff recognition incentives and events; redesign system website and increase opportunities to engage parents and community members through social media and outreach events. Match or exceed the state technology ratio within five years. Increase the percentage of students who exceed state measures by grade, content area and early reading proficiency. Increase participation and satisfaction results on surveys offered to staff, students, parents and community members.
 instruction. Area III. Enhance Student & Staff Engagement Recruit and retain the highest-quality staff. Expand opportunities for student and staff supports based on identified needs or requests for resolution support. Increase long-term viability of school system through cross-training and succession planning. Expand opportunities for personal and professional growth of students and staff. 	 Demonstrate staff satisfaction through the percentage of desirable rehires each year for support staff, teachers and administrators. Increase the percentage of successful resolutions for parent, staff or student requests for support. Increase and enhance staff recognition incentives and events; increase opportunities for all stakeholders to express feedback; expand system website and opportunities to engage parents, teachers, students and community members via social media, news print and community outreach events.

Exhibit B – Flexibility Component of Contract for Clinch County

Under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-80 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.33, The Clinch County School system is seeking flexibility for all its schools from the following state statutes and/or rules in exchange for greater accountability (as outlined in the IE2 Partnership Contract) over the life of a five-year contract which allows for six years of flexibility between the Clinch County School System Board of Education and the Georgia State Board of Education, except as prohibited in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e).

- Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182 and SBOE 160-5-1-.08)
- Direct Classroom Expenditures and Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.29)
- QBE Financing except to the extent it relates to funding (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161)
- Personnel Required (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167 and categorical allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-188 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22)
- Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151 to 20-2-156 and SBOE Rules 160-4-2-.38, 160-4-5-.01, 160-4-2-.17, 160-4-5-.02, 160-4-2-.14)
- Categorical Allotment requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186)
- Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212)
- Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-201, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-204)
- ELL Program Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.02)
- Organization of Schools; Middle School Programs; Schedule (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290)
- Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-140.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-141.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-142 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.48)
- Graduation Requirements for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-131 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.47 and 160-4-2-.48)
- Employment, Conditions of Employment as it relates to Duty Free Lunch (O.C.G.A. §20-2-218)
- School Attendance, Compulsory Attendance as it relates to the attendance protocol (O.C.G.A. §20-2-690.2)
- Instructional Extension (O.C.G.A. §20-2-184 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.14)
- Early Intervention Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-153 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.17)
- LEP Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-156 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.02)
- Scheduling for Instruction/Program Enrollment and Appropriation except to the extent it relates to funding (O.C.G.A. §20-2-160, O.C.G.A. §20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. §20-2-165, O.C.G.A. §20-2-168c and SBOE Rule 160-4-2.16)
- Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. §20-2-283 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2.11)
- Remedial Education Program (O.C.G.A. §20-2-154 and SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.01)
- School Day and Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. §20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-165, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-240 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.02)
- Health and Physical Education Program except as prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e) (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12)

Exhibit C – Accountability Component of Contract For the Clinch County School System

The State Board shall hold the Clinch County School System accountable for their performance on the following goal as specified.

Goal: The Clinch County School System is committed to academic proficiency as measured by every student's individual goals, grade level and content area proficiency, and systemwide improvement as measured by the CCRPI.

<u>Action 1</u>: Clinch County schools will annually develop and execute a school improvement plans prioritized and aligned with our system strategic plan to demonstrate proficiency and improvement as measured by the CCRPI.

<u>Measure 1</u>: School performance goals will be set so that for each year during the fiveyear contract, an individual school shall increase its CCRPI score, before challenge points, by 3% of the gap between the baseline year CCRPI score and 100. Baseline year is 2015-16.

or

<u>Measure 2</u>: For each year during the five-year contract, an individual school with an initial CCRPI score, before challenge points, performing in the top quartile of the state within each grade level shall remain at or above the top quartile threshold established the baseline year. (Baseline year is 2015-16).

or

<u>Measure 3</u>: If a school fails to meet its CCRPI target score, the school will be deemed as meeting its yearly performance target if the school is determined to be "beating the odds" through an analysis that compares the school's CCRPI to its expected baseline performance as determined by comparison schools statewide having similar characteristics (i.e. ED, ELL, SWD, school size, teacher-to-pupil ratio, etc...).

Exhibit D – Consequences Component of Contract for Clinch County School System

The schedule of sanctions and interventions shall be designed to ensure that the local school system sufficiently addresses the achievement deficiencies at all non-performing schools under the local school system's management and control. Such sanctions and interventions shall be at the recommendation of GOSA and shall include the following:

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-84.1, Clinch County School System will employ the following interventions or sanctions at all non-performing schools under Clinch County Schools' local management and control. The sanctions and interventions shall include the following:

(a) If based upon the review of the 2016-2017 and/or 2017-2018 performance data, a school has not made sufficient progress toward meeting the articulated academic goals, a school improvement plan will be incorporated into the annual school strategic planning process and implemented by August 2018 (based upon review of 2016-2017 data) or August 2019 (based upon review of 2017-2018 data). The school improvement plan will address the specific achievement deficiencies along with a targeted plan to address the deficiencies. The school improvement plan and the targeted plan will be approved and monitored by the Clinch County School System throughout the academic year.

(b) If based upon the review of 2018-2019 and/or 2019-2020 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Clinch County School System will apply direct school management support and intensive teacher development support as outlined in the jointly developed school improvement plan between the school leadership and district leadership staff. Implementation of the school improvement plan will occur no later than August 2020 (based upon review of 2018-2019 data) and/or August 2021 (based upon review of 2019-2020 data) and will be monitored by the school system.

(c) If based upon the GOSA evaluation of the 2020-2021 performance data, a school has not achieved three years of growth in the articulated academic goals, the Clinch County School System will apply, in the 2022-2023 school year, the consequences recommended by GOSA and approved by the State Board of Education.

Exhibit E – Clinch County Elementary School

School Data Component - Elementary

Name of School:	Clinch County Elementary School
Street Address:	575 Woodlake Drive
City, State Zip Code:	Homerville, GA 31634
GA DOE School Facility Code:	0101
Designated School Contact Person:	
Name	Amanda James
Title	Principal
Telephone Number	912-487-5385
Fax Number	912-487-1732
Email Address	ajames@clinchcounty.com
Grades Served By School:	РК-4

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Elementary

Clinch County Elementary School	School Year					
Clinch County Elementary School	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	
Student Enrollment	660	647	637	641	644	
American Indian	1	2	3	2	2	
Asian /Pacific Islander	3	3	3	1	4	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-2013)			0	0	0	
Black	236	230	215	230	234	
Hispanic	26	25	42	44	33	
Multi-Ethnic	30	35	37	32	36	
White	364	352	337	332	335	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0	0	0	0	0	
SPED: Percent Enrolled	13.0%	14.5%	14.8%	13.3%	11.4%	
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	74.0%	77.1%	78.0%	78.0%	76.8%	
Average Student Attendance	95.11	95.29	95.12	95.22	94.87	

Exhibit E (continued) – Clinch County Elementary School

College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Richard Woods Georgia's School Superintendent							
	Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points					,	
Clinch County Elementary	CCRPI Score		Progress Points		Challenge Points		
School		Achievement Points		Achievement Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performance	Exceeding the Bar	
					Points	Points	
CCRPI 2012	61.3	39.9	13.5	5	2.4	.5	
				5	2.9		
CCDDI 2012	53.0	27.4	11.0	4	0	.5	
CCRPI 2013	53.8	37.4	11.9	4	.5		
	67.7	40 F		0	.9	0	
CCRPI 2014	67.7	67.7 40.5 18.3 8 .9				9	

Exhibit F – Clinch County Middle School (grades 5-7)

School Data Component - Middle

Name of School:	Clinch County Middle School
Street Address:	575 Woodlake Drive
City, State Zip Code:	Homerville, GA 31634
GA DOE School Facility Code:	0201
Designated School Contact Person	
Name	Matt Kimbrell
Title	Principal
Telephone Number	912-487-5385
Fax Number	912-487-1732
Email Address	mkimbrell@clinchcounty.com
Grades Served By School:	5-7

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - Middle

Clinch County Middle School	School Year					
Clinch County Middle School	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	
Student Enrollment	304	314	336	333	306	
American Indian	5	3	0	1	1	
Asian /Pacific Islander	1	2	1	3	2	
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-			0	0	0	
Black	104	105	116	109	101	
Hispanic	5	4	7	7	13	
Multi-Ethnic	11	10	13	15	14	
White	178	190	199	198	175	
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0	0	0	0	0	
SPED: Percent Enrolled	13.8%	12.7%	13.7%	16.2%	17.97%	
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	67.7%	72.2%	76.9%	73.1%	76.21%	
Average Student Attendance	94.99	95.94	96.13	96.21	95.4	

College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Richard Woods Georgia's School Superintendent							
		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points					
Clinch County Middle School Middle School Report (Grades 6-7)	CCRPI Score	Achievement Points			Challenge Points		
			Progress Points	Achievement Gap Points	ED/EL/SWD Performance Points	Exceeding the Bar Points	
CCRPI 2012	79.4	46.4	16.5	12	4.5	0	
	/9.4	40.4	10.5		4.5		
CCRPI 2013	96 5	50.1	18	12 6.4	6.4	0	
	86.5	50.1	19		6.4		
CCRPI 2014	81.2	E0 4	18	7	5.8	0	
	01.2	50.4	10	1	5.8		

Exhibit F (continued) – Clinch County Middle School (grades 5-7)



College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI)

Richard Woods Georgia's School Superintendent

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Clinch County Middle School Elementary School Report (Grade 5)		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points					
	CCRPI Score	Achievement Points	Progress Points	Achievement Gap Points	Challenge Points		
					ED/EL/SWD Performance Points	Exceeding the Bar Points	
CCRPI 2012	84.9	46.1	19.6 11	7.7	.5		
	04.9	40.1		11	8.2		
	90 C	47.1	17.8	7	8.2	.5	
CCRPI 2013	80.6	47.1	17.8		8.7		
CCRPI 2014	80.8	46	177	9	8.1	0	
	80.8	40	17.7	9	8.1		

Clinch County Middle School serves grades 5-7; therefore, CCMS receives both an elementary school score and a middle school score.

Exhibit G – Clinch County High School (grades 8-12)

School Data Component - High

Name of School:	Clinch County High School
Street Address:	1 Panther Way
City, State Zip Code:	Homerville, GA 31634
GA DOE School Facility Code:	1050
Designated School Contact Person:	
Name	Denise Brown
Title	Principal
Telephone Number	912-487-5366
Fax Number	912-487-3272
Email Address	dbrown@clinchcounty.com
Grades Served By School:	8-12

School Demographic Trend Data by Subgroup - High

Clinch County High School	School Year						
Clinch County High School	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15		
Student Enrollment	433	429	442	447	460		
American Indian	0	2	5	5	5		
Asian /Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	2		
Pacific Islander (reported beginning 2012-			0	0	0		
Black	157	152	142	155	153		
Hispanic	6	6	6	8	6		
Multi-Ethnic	8	12	14	16	14		
White	262	257	274	262	280		
ESOL: Percent Enrolled	0	0	0	0	0		
SPED: Percent Enrolled	12.9	14.5	13.6	12.5	12.6%		
F/R Lunch: Percent Eligible	65.2	63.3	66.0	65.0	65.7%		
Average Student Attendance	94.86	95.59	96.17	96.36	96.13		

Exhibit G (continued) – Clinch County High School (grades 8-12)

College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Richard Woods Georgia's School Superintendent							
Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap, and Challenge Points						,	
Clinch County High School High School Report (Grades 9-12)	CCRPI Score	Achievement Points	Progress Points	Achievement Gap Points	Challenge Points		
	CCRP1 Score				ED/EL/SWD Performance Points	Exceeding the Bar Points	
			47.0	10	6.4	0	
CCRPI 2012	80.2	46	17.8	10	6.4		
CCRPI 2013	77.6	45.8 16.4 8.7 6.7	0				
	77.6		16.4	8.7	6.7		
	74.2	45	15.0	7.5	4.9	1	
CCRPI 2014	74.2	45	15.8 7.5		5.9		



Richard Woods Georgia's School Superintendent

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		Sum of Achievement, Progress, Achievement Gap,					
Clinch County High School Middle School Report (Grade 8)	CCRPI Score	and Challenge Points					
			Progress Points	Achievement Gap Points	Challenge Points		
		Achievement Points			ED/EL/SWD	Exceeding	
		Points			Performance	the Bar	
					Points	Points	
CCRPI 2012	58.9	37.2	15.2	5	1.5	0	
	50.9	57.2			1.5		
CCRPI 2013	70.8	45.6	15.6	7	2.1 .	.5	
	70.8	45.0	15.0	/	2.6		
CCRPI 2014	73.6	45.2	13.7	11	3.5	.5	
	/3.0	43.2	15.7	11	3.7		

Clinch County High School serves grades 8-12; therefore, CCHS receives both a middle school score and a high school score.

Notice of Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Purpose: NOTICE OF Strategic Waiver School System/IE2 System Application

The Clinch County School System drafted an application for consideration by the Georgia Department of Education to approve our contract as a **Strategic Waiver School System (SWSS)/IE2 System**.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend and be heard at the public hearing on this draft application, to be held as advertised:

Clinch County Board of Education Office 46 South College Street, Homerville, Georgia 31634 September 10, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM

Copy of letter shared with all principals on system letterhead

August 30, 2015

Clinch County School System Principals,

I appreciate the opportunities you afforded me to address your staff on our progress in the application process as a SWSS/IE2 System.

As I mentioned this past week, the complete draft document is available for review on our website (right-hand side) under SWSS/IE2 Application.

I plan to submit our draft to the Georgia Department of Education the morning of Monday, August 31, 2015 with the hopes of a conference call interview prior to our September 10, 2015 regularly scheduled board meeting.

This letter serves as your official notification of a public hearing to be held on our application immediate prior to our Board Meeting:

PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, September 10, 2015 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Clinch County Board of Education 46 S. College Street Homerville, Georgia 31634

Notice of this hearing will be posted on our system website, and be published in The Clinch County News starting in this week's edition.

I look forward to your attendance.

Respectfully,

Donna D. Ryan Superintendent

IE2 Partnership Contract

Full partnership agreement is included in PDF - could not determine how to insert version in Word format