



**"GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING"**  
**CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## NEWS RELEASE

Clayton County Public Schools  
Department of Communications

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **CCPS Growth in Graduation Rates**

*Rate increased 2.7 points from 2015 to 2016*

JONESBORO – Clayton County Public Schools Superintendent Luvenia Jackson announces today an increase in the 2016 graduation rate. According to the Georgia Department of Education, the Four-year Cohort Graduation Rates released today, indicates that Clayton County Public Schools Class of 2016 has increased its graduation rate by 2.7 percentage points or 4.1% in the number of seniors graduating on time. Clayton's growth in its graduation rate outpaced the state's rate. The state's graduation rate increased from 78.8% in 2015 to 79.2% in 2016. This reflects a 0.4 percentage point increase or a 0.5% growth in the state's graduation rate. Additionally, this is the fifth consecutive year that Clayton County's four-year cohort graduation rate has increased. The district's four-year cohort graduation rate has significantly improved from 51.5% in 2011 to 69.1% in 2016.

In 2011 a cohort system for calculating high school graduation rates was established. All school districts are now required to calculate graduation rates using the four-year calculation method. Under the old system, schools were able to count students who took more than four years to graduate. Currently under the four-year cohort system, the graduation rate is calculated by the number of ninth grade students who earn a diploma within four years. Since 2011, when closer monitoring of our four-year cohort graduation rates began, the district's graduation rate has improved by 17.6 percentage points or 34.2%, and it has increased each of the five years reported.

"We are excited about the report released today, we will continue to ensure our students graduate within four years," said Luvenia Jackson, CCPS Superintendent. "In addition, we are partnering with our school leaders to better examine their data, and we are promoting and implementing "stay in school" initiatives that encourage students to come and remain in school until high school graduation," she added.

**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 54,000 diverse 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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