

Hart County School System Charter System Petition

Public Hearings

5:00 Thursday, September 19, 2013

5:00 Monday, September 23, 2013

Hart County Board of Education Building

Charter System

What are we talking about and why?

Improving Student
Academic Results

The Academic Bottom Line

Flexibility

Freedom granted through Waivers of Georgia
Education Laws, Rules, Guidelines

Title 20

Shorthand phrase meaning Georgia Education Law
and all related Rules and Guidelines

Flexibility Options

Operational approaches school systems and schools can
take to implement flexibility in exchange for a
performance contract from the State Board of Education

The Big Four

Waivers of state class size, expenditure control,
certification, and salary schedule requirements

The Case

1. What will you be able to do with a charter that you can not do without a charter?

Hart County Charter System rationale:

- Serve students with greater flexibility
- Involve community and parents, School Governance Teams, more in decision making in using state and local resources
- Serve students who fall behind and those who excel with Innovative solutions
- Support community needs and as a whole with greater accountability by the school system

Charter System: The Case

Planning Spring – Fall 2013

- Over 50 community and school staff participated in the planning process including some middle school students
- Research Teams studied existing charter systems and areas of need in Hart County Schools
- Summarized research to develop the petition concept to determine waivers needed, the governance structure, and the desired areas of focus for Hart County

Area of Focus

The community, staff and parents indicated the important role of Hart County Schools is to graduate students with strengths in the following areas:

1. Sound academic knowledge and skills
2. Critical thinking, reasoning and problem solving

3. Work ethic enhanced with Social Skills & Citizenship
4. Preparation for vocation/skilled employment

ACADEMIC OBJECTIVES, PLANS AND WAIVERS

2. What are your school system's student performance objectives for the proposed charter term?

Student Performance Goal 1: The percentage of 3rd – 8th grade students meeting or exceeding state standards on each area of the CRCT (Reading, ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) will exceed the state percentage of students meeting or exceeding on the CRCT by the 2017/2018 school year. We are working to decrease the number of students scoring at Performance Level 1, did not meet, by 50% by 2017-2018.

Student Performance Goal 2: The percentage of 3rd – 8th grade students exceeding state standards on each area of the CRCT (Reading, ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) will meet or exceed the state percentage of students exceeding on the CRCT by the 2017/2018 school year. We are working to increase the number of student scoring at Performance level 3 by 50% by 2017-2018.

Student Performance Goal 3: The percentage of high school students meeting or exceeding state standards on each EOCT (9th grade Literature, American Literature, Coordinate Algebra/Math I, Analytic Geometry/Math II, Physical Science, Biology, US History, Economics) will exceed the state percentage of students meeting or exceeding on the EOCT by the 2017/2018 school year.

ACADEMIC OBJECTIVES, PLANS AND WAIVERS

student performance objectives continued

Student Performance Goal 4: The percentage of high school students exceeding state standards on each EOCT (9th grade Literature, American Literature, Coordinate Algebra/Math I, Analytic Geometry/Math II, Physical Science, Biology, US History, Economics) will meet or exceed the state percentage of students exceeding on the EOCT by the 2017/2018 school year.

Student Performance Goal 5: The percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the Grade 5 Writing Assessment, Grade 8 Writing Assessment, and Georgia High School Writing Test will exceed the state percentage of students meeting or exceeding on the writing assessments by the 2017/2018 school year.

Student Performance Goal 6: The percentage of students exceeding state standards on the Grade 5 Writing Assessment, Grade 8 Writing Assessment, and Georgia High School Writing Test will meet or exceed the state percentage of students exceeding on the writing assessments by the 2017/2018 school year.

Student Performance Goal 7: The Hart County graduation rate will meet or exceed the state graduation rate by the 2017/2018 school year

Academic Objectives, Plans, and Waivers

3. What specific actions will your school system take to achieve your student performance objectives during the proposed charter term?

[Note: actions are pending until they are fully developed and approved by the school-level governance team]

Data teams in all schools – teachers talking about student work

Redefinition of graduation

Credit by exemption in high school (seat time)

Course work for admission requirements preparation

Proactive support for struggling and advanced students

Bring your own technology for students and staff

STEM application at all levels (course work on agriculture in Hart County)

Increased opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery in real-life, community-based settings (community service)

Academic Objectives, Plans and Waivers

4. Which of the specific actions in your academic plan require a waiver of state law, rule, or guidelines?

[Note: waivers will not be requested or used until a plan is in place that meets the BOE and superintendent's approval]

Redefine the graduation rule

Expand the options of delivering gifted and remedial courses and services

BYOT Bring your own technology/ Allow personal technology in the classroom

Allow credit by exam in the high school

Redefine seat time

Small class sizes

Organizational Objectives, Plans and Waivers

5. What is the system's plan to maximize school level governance?

Governance

Local board of education will still be in place with their current rights and responsibilities

Superintendent will still be in place with the same responsibilities

Principals will still be in place with the same responsibilities

Teachers and other staff will still be in place with the same responsibilities

School Councils will mature into School Governance Teams and have new authority

4 Responsibilities of a School Board

Strategic Plan

Adopt a five-year strategic plan

Budget

Adopt a budget to fund the strategic plan

Superintendent

Hire a leader to implement the strategic plan
within budget

Accountability

Hold the leader accountable for implementing
the strategic plan within budget

Organizational Objectives, Plans and Waivers

School Councils will become School-Based Governance Teams

[Note: The 2014-2015 school councils will be invited to serve the first term.]

Members (6-9) voted to serve on staggered 4-5 year terms

Principal will be the chairperson for the first two years

Teachers (2) will be elected by teachers (principal may appoint 1 teacher)

Parents (2) will be elected by parents

Students (1-2) will be selected by the school-based leadership team

(middle and high only)

Community/business (2) people selected by the school-based governance team

Train as a substitute for the school (optional- to build communication)

Organizational Objectives, Plans and Waivers

School-Level Governance Team Authority

In budget:

Member of the school-level budgeting process

Approve budgeting allocation of the state charter system allocations based on school improvement plan

Approve the Title I school-level budget

Approve recommended fund raiser budget

In resource allocation:

Recommendation of budget allocation at the school level based on guidelines

Approve recommended field trips & expenditures of funds

In personnel decisions:

Serve with Superintendent and others on interview team for new principal

Participate in recommendation/ feedback to superintendent regarding new principal from preselected candidate slate

Organizational Objectives, Plans and Waivers

School-Level Governance Team Authority

In monitoring school improvement plans:

Work with leadership team and administration in analyzing and revising school improvement planning

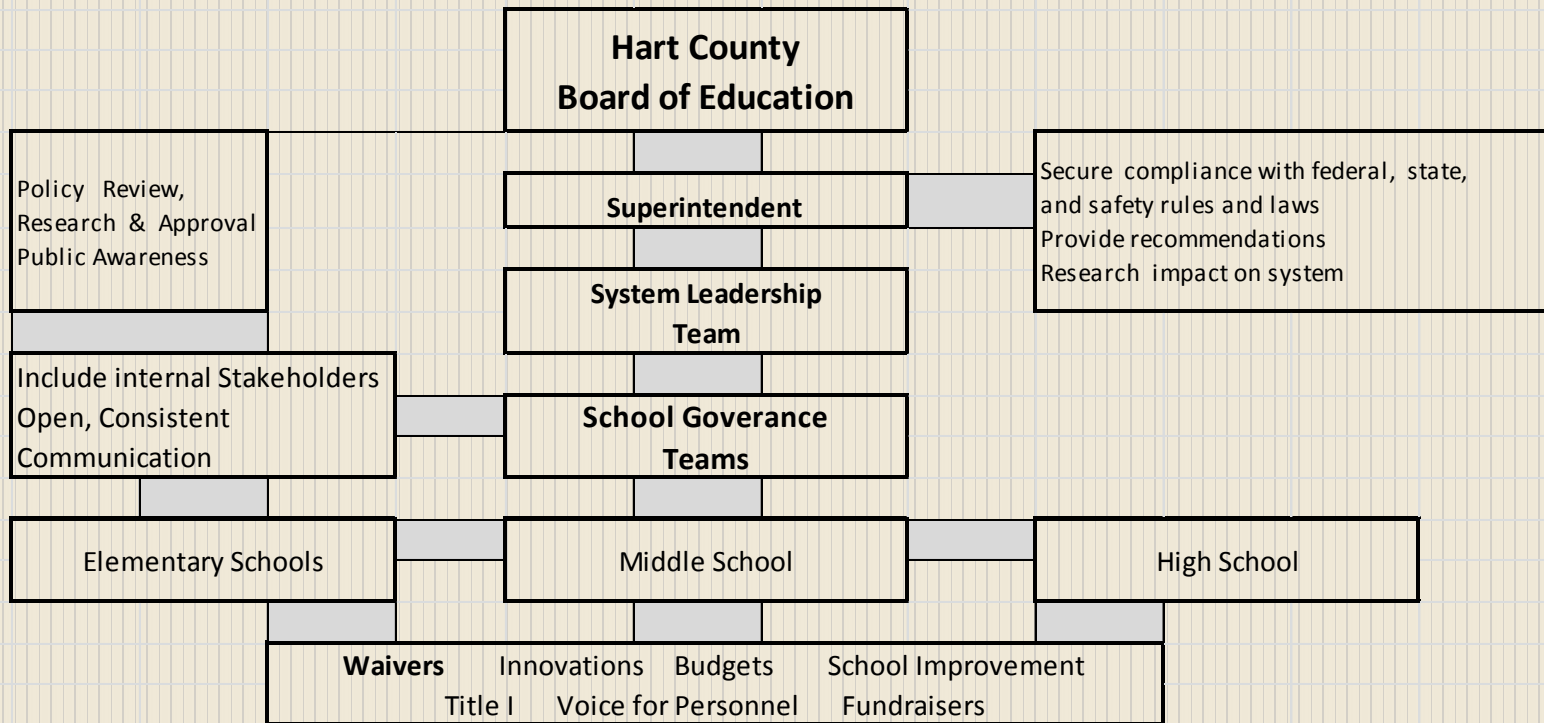
In curriculum:

Review the curriculum program in place and other programs that may be considered for adoption

In school operations:

Serve on school operations procedures review committees such as safety, schedules, budgeting, maintenance, and staffing.

Hart County Communication Chart



Organizational Objectives, Plans and Waivers

School-Level Governance Team Training Topics:

Year 1:

School Improvement
Planning
Budgeting
Decision Making
Effective Meetings
Board Etiquette
Sunshine Laws
Creating By-Laws
Best Hiring Practices

Year 2:

Effective Schools
Instructional
Technology
Assessment
Special Education Law

Year 3:

Based on needs
survey of School-
Level Governance
Teams

If funds are appropriated for the QBE weight for charter systems, for what purposes would you use the additional funds you would earn as a charter system?

FINANCIAL GOAL 1: To maintain a minimum of 65% of budget expenditures for instructional initiative

determined by School Leadership and School Governance.

FINANCIAL GOAL 2: To evaluate the fidelity of the initiative implementation resulting in student progress

FINANCIAL GOAL 3: To maintain yearly audit statues with no findings.

Actions:

- SGT will determine greatest education need after discussion with School Leadership Team
- Develop an evaluation system to identify the value of expenditures against outcomes
- Review of current expenditures and identify alternative spending using the charter system waiver
- Develop a process for school-level governance teams to provide input into the budget process
- Develop a system to tie expenditures back to specific school and district goals

Hart County Charter System Moving Forward

September 2013	2 hearings
October 2013	BOE approval
November 1 2013	Submit application to DOE
January 2014	Onsite visit
February 2014	Complete contract
March-May 2014	DOE approval
July 2014	Operational as Charter system

Hart County Charter System

Questions or Comments

Thank you for joining us!

Contact information

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