



# Comprehensive Needs Assessment 2024 - 2025 School Report



Richmond County  
W.S. Hornsby Middle School

## 1. PLANNING AND PREPARATION

### 1.1 Identification of Team

The comprehensive needs assessment team consists of people who are responsible for working collaboratively throughout the needs assessment process. Ideal team members possess knowledge of programs, the capacity to plan and implement the needs assessment, and the ability to ensure stakeholder involvement. A required team member's name may be duplicated when multiple roles are performed by the same person. Documentation of team member involvement must be maintained by the LEA. Watch the [Planning and Preparation webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

#### Leadership Team

	Position/Role	Name
Team Member # 1	Stacey King	Principal
Team Member # 2	Sheri Calhoun	Assistant Principal
Team Member # 3	Author Mitchell	Assistant Principal
Team Member # 4	Vernon Johnson	Counselor
Team Member # 5	Elizabeth Hooker	Counselor
Team Member # 6	Joann Jones	Instructional Coach
Team Member # 7	LaPorsha Anderson	Instructional Coach

#### Additional Leadership Team

	Position/Role	Name
Team Member # 1	Rashonda Barr	MTSS facilitator
Team Member # 2	Ramona Nora	Media Specialist
Team Member # 3	Brittany	Dorsey-Anderson
Team Member # 4	Shahada Whitaker	REP
Team Member # 5	Alexis Austin	8th grade team
Team Member # 6	Katrina Aaron	Parent Facilitator
Team Member # 7	Dorothy Ready	Special Education
Team Member # 8	Ardis Merriweather	Special Education
Team Member # 9	Kathy Jones	ISS
Team Member # 10		

## 1. PLANNING AND PREPARATION

### 1.2 Identification of Stakeholders

Stakeholders are those individuals with valuable experiences and perspective who will provide the team with important input, feedback, and guidance. Required stakeholders must be engaged in the process to meet the requirements of participating federal programs. Documentation of stakeholder involvement must be maintained by the LEA. Watch the [Planning and Preparation webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

Stakeholders

	Position/Role	Name
Stakeholder # 1	GaDOE School Effectiveness Specialist	Tonya Bradburn
Stakeholder # 2	RESA School Improvement Specialist	Pauline Roberson
Stakeholder # 3		
Stakeholder # 4		
Stakeholder # 5		
Stakeholder # 6		
Stakeholder # 7		
Stakeholder # 8		

How will the team ensure that stakeholders, and in particular parents and/or guardians, were able to provide meaningful input into the needs assessment process?	All stakeholders will be given an opportunity to view and provide feedback in regards to the needs assessment. Parents will also receive a survey to provide specific needs to enhance student achievement and support school improvement goals.
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## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.1 Coherent Instructional System

Analyze the LEA's data (including sections 2.6) and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of instructional needs. Complete a data-informed self-rating for each Georgia School Performance Standard (GSPS). See the [Coherent Instructional System webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

#### Coherent Instruction Data

Curriculum Standard 1 -Uses systematic, collaborative planning processes so that teachers share an understanding of expectations for standards, curriculum, assessment, and instruction		
1. Exemplary	<p>A systematic, collaborative process is used proactively for curriculum planning.</p> <p>Nearly all teachers or groups of teachers, support staff, and leaders within the school have common expectations for standards, curriculum, assessment, and instruction.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>A systematic, collaborative process is used regularly for curriculum planning.</p> <p>Most teachers or groups of teachers within the school have common expectations for standards, curriculum, assessment, and instruction.</p>	
3. Emerging	<p>A collaborative process is used occasionally for curriculum planning.</p> <p>Some teachers or groups of teachers within the school have common expectations for standards, curriculum, assessment, and instruction.</p>	✓
4. Not Evident	<p>A collaborative process is rarely, if ever, used for curriculum planning.</p> <p>Few, if any, teachers or groups of teachers within the school have common expectations for standards, curriculum, assessment, and instruction.</p>	

## Coherent Instruction Data

Curriculum Standard 2 -Designs curriculum documents and aligns resources with the intended rigor of the required standards		
1. Exemplary	<p>Curriculum documents (e.g., lesson plans, unit plans, performance tasks, curriculum maps, scope, and sequence documents, guides) that are aligned with the intended rigor of the required standards are the products of a systematic, collaborative process.</p> <p>These curriculum documents and resources are used and continuously revised by teachers and support staff to ensure an alignment with the intended, taught, and tested standards.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Curriculum documents (e.g., lesson plans, unit plans, performance tasks, curriculum maps, scope and sequence documents, guides) have been designed, and resources are aligned with the intended rigor of the required standards.</p> <p>These curriculum documents and resources guide the work of teachers and instructional support staff.</p>	
3. Emerging	Curriculum documents and resources exist, but they are not complete in all content areas or grade levels or lack the intended rigor of the required standards.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, curriculum documents and resources exist to support the implementation of the intended rigor of the required standards.	

Instruction Standard 1 -Provides a supportive and well -managed environment conducive to learning		
1. Exemplary	<p>A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident throughout the school.</p> <p>Students consistently stay on-task and take responsibility for their own actions.</p>	
2. Operational	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in most classrooms.	✓
3. Emerging	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in some classrooms.	
4. Not Evident	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in few, if any, classrooms.	

## Coherent Instruction Data

Instruction Standard 2 -Creates an academically challenging learning environment		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all teachers create an academically challenging, learning environment (e.g., higher-order thinking skills and processes, active student engagement, relevance, collaboration).  Students consistently work independently and in teams to solve real-world problems that require advanced effort, decision-making, and critical and creative thinking.	
2. Operational	Most teachers create an academically challenging, learning environment (e.g., higher-order thinking skills and processes, active student engagement, relevance, collaboration).	
3. Emerging	Some teachers create an academically challenging learning environment.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers create an academically challenging learning environment.	

Instruction Standard 3 -Establishes and communicates clear learning targets and success criteria aligned to curriculum standards		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all teachers establish and communicate clear learning targets and success criteria aligned to the required curriculum standards. Learning targets are evident throughout the lesson and in student work. Articulation of the learning targets is consistent and pervasive among like content areas and grade levels.	
2. Operational	Most teachers establish and communicate clear learning targets and success criteria aligned to the required curriculum standards.  Learning targets are evident throughout the lesson and in student work.	✓
3. Emerging	Some teachers establish and communicate clear learning targets and success criteria aligned to the required curriculum standards.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any teachers establish clear learning targets and success criteria aligned to the required curriculum standards.	

## Coherent Instruction Data

Instruction Standard 4 -Uses research based instructional practices that positively impact student learning		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all teachers pervasively demonstrate a repertoire of highly effective, research-based instructional practices that positively impact student learning (e.g., providing feedback, cooperative learning, advance organizers, questioning techniques, similarities and differences, reinforcing effort, goal setting, summarizers, graphic representations, reciprocal teaching).	
2. Operational	Most teachers demonstrate a repertoire of effective, research-based instructional practices that positively impact student learning (e.g., providing feedback, cooperative learning, advance organizers, questioning techniques, similarities and differences, reinforcing effort, goal setting, summarizers, graphic representations, reciprocal teaching).	
3. Emerging	Some teachers demonstrate a repertoire of effective, research-based instructional practices that positively impact student learning.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers demonstrate a repertoire of effective, research-based instructional practices that positively impact student learning.	

Instruction Standard 5 -Differentiates instruction to meet specific learning needs of students		
1. Exemplary	<p>Nearly all teachers differentiate instruction (e.g., using flexible grouping, making adjustments, providing choices based upon readiness levels, interests, or needs) to meet the specific learning needs of students.</p> <p>Nearly all teachers plan and implement multiple means of representation, engagement, action, and expression to meet the learning needs of students (UDL).</p> <p>Remediation, enrichment, and acceleration are pervasive practices.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Most teachers differentiate instruction (e.g., using flexible grouping, making adjustments, providing choices based upon readiness levels, interests, or needs) to meet the specific learning needs of students.</p> <p>Most teachers plan and implement multiple means of representation, engagement, action, and expression to meet the learning needs of students (UDL).</p>	
3. Emerging	Some teachers differentiate instruction to meet the specific learning needs of students.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers differentiate instruction to meet the specific learning needs of students.	

## Coherent Instruction Data

Instruction Standard 6 -Uses appropriate, current technology to enhance learning		
1. Exemplary	The use by staff members and students of appropriate, current technology to enhance learning is an institutional practice (e.g., facilitate communication, collaboration, research, design, creativity, problem-solving).	
2. Operational	Most staff members and students use appropriate, current technology to enhance learning (e.g., facilitate communication, collaboration, research, design, creativity, problem-solving).	✓
3. Emerging	Some staff members, students, or both use appropriate, current technology to enhance learning.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers demonstrate a repertoire of effective, research-based instructional practices that positively impact student learning.	

Instruction Standard 7 -Provides feedback to students on their performance on the standards or learning targets		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all teachers use the language of the standards or learning targets to provide students with specific, timely, descriptive feedback on their performance.  Nearly all teachers systematically elicit diagnostic information from individual students regarding their understanding of the standards or learning targets.	
2. Operational	Most teachers use the language of the standards or learning targets to provide students with specific, timely, descriptive feedback on their performance.	
3. Emerging	Some teachers use the language of the standards or learning targets to provide students with specific, descriptive feedback on their performance.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers use the language of the standards or learning targets to provide students with feedback on their performance, or the feedback that is provided is not specific, timely, or understandable.	✓

Instruction Standard 8 -Establishes a learning environment that empowers students to actively monitor their own progress		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all students use tools (e.g., rubrics, checklists, exemplars) to actively monitor their own progress.  Nearly all students develop a sense of personal responsibility and accountability by engaging in record keeping, self-monitoring, sharing, exhibiting, and self-reflection.	
2. Operational	Most students use tools (e.g., rubrics, checklists, exemplars) to actively monitor their own progress.	
3. Emerging	Some students use tools to actively monitor their own progress.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, students use tools to actively monitor their own progress.	



## Coherent Instruction Data

Instruction Standard 9 -Provides timely, systematic, data -driven interventions		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all students are provided timely, systematic, data-driven interventions to support their learning needs.  Interventions are designed to meet the needs of each student. The effectiveness of those interventions is consistently monitored and adjustments are made.	
2. Operational	Most students are provided timely, systematic, data-driven interventions to support their learning needs.	✓
3. Emerging	Some students are provided extra assistance or needed support in a timely manner.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, students are provided extra assistance or effective support in a timely manner.	

Assessment Standard 1 -Aligns assessments with the required curriculum standards		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all assessments are aligned with the required curriculum standards. Assessments are reviewed during the school year to ensure alignment.	
2. Operational	Most assessments are aligned with the required curriculum standards.	
3. Emerging	Some assessments are aligned with the required curriculum standards.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, assessments are aligned with the required curriculum standards.	

Assessment Standard 3 -Uses common assessments aligned with the required standards to monitor student progress, inform instruction, and improve teacher practices		
1. Exemplary	Teachers consistently use common assessments aligned with the required standards in nearly all content areas, grade levels, or both for diagnostic, summative, and formative purposes.  The data from the common assessments are analyzed down to the item level, and the results are used to inform instruction and improve teacher practices.	
2. Operational	Teachers use common assessments aligned with the required standards in most content areas to monitor student progress, inform instruction, and improve teacher practices.	
3. Emerging	Teachers use some common assessments aligned with the required standards in a few content areas with a limited amount of data analysis to monitor student progress, inform instruction, or improve teacher practices.	
4. Not Evident	Teachers use few, if any, common assessments to monitor student progress, inform instruction, or improve teacher practices.	✓

## Coherent Instruction Data

Assessment Standard 4 -Implements a process to collaboratively analyze assessment results to adjust instruction		
1. Exemplary	Teachers extensively use a systematic, collaborative process to analyze assessment results. Instruction is consistently adjusted based on the analysis of assessment results across all content areas, grade levels, or both.	
2. Operational	Teachers regularly use a collaborative process to analyze assessment results. Instruction is routinely adjusted based on the analysis of assessment results.	
3. Emerging	Teachers occasionally use a collaborative process to analyze assessment results. Instruction is sometimes adjusted based on the analysis of assessment results.	✓
4. Not Evident	A collaborative process to analyze assessment results does not exist. Instruction is rarely, if ever, adjusted based on the analysis of assessment results.	

Assessment Standard 5 -Implements grading practices that provide an accurate indication of student progress on the required standards		
1. Exemplary	The grading practices used by teachers across nearly all content areas, grade levels, or both, consistently provide an accurate indication of student progress on the required standards.	
2. Operational	The grading practices used by teachers in most content areas, grade levels, or both provide an accurate indication of student progress on the required standards.	
3. Emerging	The grading practices used by teachers in some content areas, grade levels, or both provide an accurate indication of student progress on the required standards.	✓
4. Not Evident	The grading practices used by teachers rarely, if ever, provide an accurate indication of student progress on the required standards.	

## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.2 Effective Leadership

Analyze the LEA's data (including sections 2.6) and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of leadership needs. Complete a data-informed self-rating for each Georgia School Performance Standard (GSPS). See the [Effective Leadership webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

#### Effective Leadership Data

Leadership Standard 1 -Builds and sustains relationships to foster the success of students and staff		
1. Exemplary	Administrators consistently build and sustain relationships to foster the success of students and staff.  The school staff is fully engaged in relationship building through collaboration, internal and external communication, and building trust with staff, students, families, and community stakeholders.	
2. Operational	Administrators regularly build and sustain relationships to foster the success of students and staff.	✓
3. Emerging	Administrators sometimes build relationships to foster the success of students and staff.	
4. Not Evident	Administrators seldom, if ever, build relationships to foster the success of students and staff.	

Leadership Standard 2 -Initiates and manages change to improve staff performance and student learning		
1. Exemplary	Administrators, the school leadership team, and other teacher leaders initiate and sustain change to improve staff performance and student learning.  Administrators, the school leadership team, and other teacher leaders create a sense of urgency for change and effectively communicate a common vision.	
2. Operational	Administrators and the school leadership team initiate and sustain change to improve staff performance and student learning.  The principal provides an appropriate balance of pressure and support to manage the change process for desired results.	
3. Emerging	Administrators initiate change to improve staff performance and student learning but do not sustain the change, remove barriers, or both.	✓
4. Not Evident	Administrators initiate few, if any, changes that impact staff performance and student learning.	

## Effective Leadership Data

Leadership Standard 3 -Uses systems to ensure effective implementation of curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning practices		
1. Exemplary	<p>The principal and other school leaders continually use systems to ensure effective implementation of curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning practices.</p> <p>The principal and other school leaders have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the best practices for curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning.</p>	
2. Operational	The principal and other school leaders often use systems to ensure effective implementation of curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning practices.	✓
3. Emerging	The principal and other school leaders occasionally use systems to ensure effective implementation of curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning practices.	
4. Not Evident	The principal and other school leaders rarely, if ever, use systems to ensure effective implementation of curriculum, assessment, instruction, and professional learning practices.	

Leadership Standard 4 -Uses processes to systematically analyze data to improve student achievement		
1. Exemplary	Extensive, comprehensive processes, including root cause analysis, are used consistently to analyze data (e.g., multiple sources of data: classroom, grade level, departmental, and subgroup, perception data) to improve student achievement.	
2. Operational	Numerous processes are used frequently to analyze data (e.g., multiple sources of data: classroom, grade level, departmental, and subgroup, perception data) to improve student achievement.	✓
3. Emerging	Some processes are in place and used occasionally to analyze data to improve student achievement.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, processes are in place to analyze data to improve student achievement.	

Leadership Standard 5 -Builds leadership capacity through shared decision-making and problem-solving		
1. Exemplary	<p>Extensive structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making and problem-solving and to build their leadership capacities.</p> <p>Administrators collaborate consistently with staff members to gather input.</p>	
2. Operational	Numerous structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making and problem-solving and to build their leadership capacities.	✓
3. Emerging	Some structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making, problem-solving, or both.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making or problem-solving.	

## Effective Leadership Data

Leadership Standard 6 -Establishes and supports a data-driven school leadership team that is focused on student learning		
1. Exemplary	<p>A highly effective, proactive, and data-driven school leadership team is focused on student learning.</p> <p>The leadership team addresses nearly all areas of student and staff learning and school leadership, including the development, implementation, and regular monitoring of the school improvement plan.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>A data-driven school leadership team is established with stakeholder representation (e.g., core and non-core teachers, certified support staff) and is focused on student learning.</p> <p>The school leadership team meets regularly and uses norms and protocols to work effectively and efficiently.</p>	
3. Emerging	The school leadership team is established and has some stakeholder representation but is focused chiefly on school operations rather than student learning.	✓
4. Not Evident	A school leadership team does not exist or does not have adequate stakeholder representation.	

## Effective Leadership Data

Leadership Standard 7 -Monitors and evaluates the performance of teachers and other staff using multiple data sources		
1. Exemplary	<p>Monitoring the performance of teachers and other staff through observations, surveys, data, and documentation is consistent and comprehensive, resulting in highly accurate performance evaluations.</p> <p>A comprehensive system is in place to provide teachers and staff with ongoing, accurate, timely, detailed, descriptive feedback related to their performance.</p> <p>Administrators use the evaluation process to identify role models, teacher leaders, or both.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Monitoring the performance of teachers and other staff regularly occurs using data or documentation, generally resulting in accurate performance evaluations.</p> <p>Teachers and staff receive accurate, timely, descriptive feedback related to their performance.</p>	
3. Emerging	<p>Monitoring the performance of teachers and other staff is inconsistent, incomplete, or lacks data or documentation, sometimes resulting in inaccurate performance evaluations.</p> <p>Teachers and staff receive some descriptive feedback related to their performance.</p>	✓
4. Not Evident	<p>Monitoring the performance of teachers and other staff rarely occurs or often results in inaccurate performance evaluations.</p> <p>Teachers and staff receive little or no descriptive feedback related to their performance.</p>	

Leadership Standard 8 -Provides ongoing support to teachers and other staff		
1. Exemplary	A comprehensive support system that is timely and targeted to individual needs is provided to teachers and other staff.	
2. Operational	Most support provided to teachers and other staff is targeted to individual needs.	✓
3. Emerging	Some support provided to teachers and staff is targeted to individual needs.	
4. Not Evident	Support to teachers and staff does not exist or is not targeted to individual needs.	

## Effective Leadership Data

Planning and Organization Standard 1 -Shares a common vision and mission that define the school culture and guide the continuous improvement process		
1. Exemplary	<p>A common vision and mission have been collaboratively developed and communicated to nearly all stakeholders.</p> <p>The culture of the school has been deeply defined over time by the vision and mission, which are updated as needed.</p> <p>The daily work and practices of staff consistently demonstrate a sustained commitment to continuous improvement.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>A common vision and mission have been developed through a collaborative process and communicated to most stakeholders.</p> <p>The vision and mission define the culture of the school and guide the continuous improvement process.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	A common vision and mission have been developed by some staff members but have not been effectively communicated so that they guide the continuous improvement process.	
4. Not Evident	A common vision and mission have not been developed or updated or have been developed by a few staff members.	

Planning and Organization Standard 2 -Uses a data-driven and consensus-oriented process to develop and implement a school improvement plan that is focused on student performance		
1. Exemplary	<p>A school improvement plan has been developed using a data-driven and consensus-oriented process with input from nearly all stakeholders.</p> <p>The plan includes appropriate goals and strategies with a strong focus on increasing student performance.</p> <p>This process and plan consistently guide the work of the school staff.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>A school improvement plan has been developed using a data-driven and consensus-oriented process with input from most plan stakeholders.</p> <p>The plan includes appropriate goals and strategies with a focus on increasing student performance.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	<p>A school improvement plan has been developed with input from some stakeholders.</p> <p>The school improvement plan is based on incomplete data analysis with limited focus on student performance.</p>	
4. Not Evident	An up-to-date, data-driven school improvement plan focused on student performance is not in place.	

## Effective Leadership Data

Planning and Organization Standard 3 -Monitors implementation of the school improvement plan and makes adjustments as needed		
1. Exemplary	<p>The goals and strategies of the school improvement plan are continually monitored by administrators, the school leadership team, and teacher leaders to evaluate the impact on student performance.</p> <p>Ongoing adjustments are made based on various performance, process, and perception data.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>he goals and strategies of the school improvement plan are regularly monitored by administrators and the school leadership team to evaluate the impact on student performance.</p> <p>Adjustments are made to the plan, as needed, based on the analysis of data.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	The goals and strategies of the school improvement plan are occasionally monitored by administrators.	
4. Not Evident	The goals and strategies of the school improvement plan are rarely, if ever, monitored.	

Planning and Organization Standard 4 -Monitors the use of available resources to support continuous improvement		
1. Exemplary	<p>The use of available resources (e.g., personnel, time, facilities, equipment, materials) to support continuous improvement is consistently monitored.</p> <p>School schedules and processes are designed to make effective use of personnel, time, materials, and equipment.</p>	
2. Operational	The use of available resources (e.g., personnel, time, facilities, equipment, materials) to support continuous improvement is frequently monitored.	✓
3. Emerging	The use of available resources to support continuous improvement is inconsistently monitored.	
4. Not Evident	The use of available resources to support continuous improvement is rarely, if ever, monitored.	



## Effective Leadership Data

Planning and Organization Standard 5 -Develops, communicates, and implements rules, policies, schedules, and procedures to maximize student learning and staff effectiveness		
1. Exemplary	<p>Rules, policies, schedules, and procedures are developed with stakeholder input, effectively communicated, and consistently implemented throughout the school to maximize student learning and staff effectiveness.</p> <p>These rules, policies, schedules, and procedures are consistently reviewed and revised as needed.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Rules, policies, schedules, and procedures are developed, communicated, and implemented throughout the school to maximize student learning and staff effectiveness.</p> <p>These rules, policies, schedules, and procedures are periodically reviewed and systematically revised as needed.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	Rules, policies, schedules, and procedures are developed but are not effectively communicated or are implemented inconsistently across the school.	
4. Not Evident	<p>Rules, policies, or procedures are not developed, are poorly communicated, or are ineffectively implemented.</p> <p>In some cases, rules, policies, schedules, or procedures are out of date or have become barriers to student learning or staff effectiveness.</p>	

## Effective Leadership Data

Planning and Organization Standard 6 -Uses protocols to maintain the school campus and equipment providing a safe, clean, and inviting learning environment		
1. Exemplary	<p>Protocols (e.g., safety drills, tornado drills, inclement weather plans, current crisis plan, school-wide safety plan, maintenance protocols, facility-use protocols, functional custodial schedules) are used extensively to maintain the school campus and equipment providing a safe, clean, and inviting learning environment.</p> <p>A proactive maintenance process is in place, and repairs are completed in a satisfactory and timely manner, when needed.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Protocols (e.g., safety drills, tornado drills, inclement weather plans, current crisis plan, school-wide safety plan, maintenance protocols, facility-use protocols, functional custodial schedules) are used to maintain the school campus and equipment providing a safe, clean, and inviting learning environment.</p> <p>The school and campus are clean, well-maintained, inviting, and safe.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	<p>Protocols are sometimes used to maintain the school campus and equipment.</p> <p>The school and campus are partially clean, maintained, and inviting, but some safety issues exist.</p>	
4. Not Evident	<p>Protocols do not exist or are rarely, if ever, used to maintain the school campus and equipment.</p> <p>The school and campus are not clean, maintained, or inviting, and safety issues exist.</p>	

## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.3 Professional Capacity

Analyze the LEA's data (including sections 2.6) and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of professional capacity needs. Complete a data-informed self-rating for each Georgia School Performance Standard (GSPS). See the [Professional Capacity webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

#### Professional Capacity Data

Leadership Standard 5 -Builds leadership capacity through shared decision-making and problem-solving		
1. Exemplary	Extensive structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making and problem-solving and to build their leadership capacities.  Administrators collaborate consistently with staff members to gather input.	
2. Operational	Numerous structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making and problem-solving and to build their leadership capacities.	✓
3. Emerging	Some structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making, problem-solving, or both.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, structures exist for staff to engage in shared decision-making or problem-solving.	

Professional Learning Standard 1 -Aligns professional learning with needs identified through analysis of a variety of data		
1. Exemplary	Professional learning needs are identified and differentiated through a collaborative analysis process using a variety of data (e.g., student achievement data, examination of student work, process data, teacher and leader effectiveness data, action research data, perception data from students, staff, and families).  Ongoing support is provided through differentiated professional learning.	
2. Operational	Professional learning needs are identified through a collaborative analysis process using a variety of data (e.g., student achievement data, examination of student work, process data, teacher and leader effectiveness data, action research data, perception data from students, staff, and families).	✓
3. Emerging	Professional learning needs are identified using limited sources of data.	
4. Not Evident	Professional learning needs are identified using little or no data.	

## Professional Capacity Data

Professional Learning Standard 2 -Establishes a culture of collaboration among administrators and staff to enhance individual and collective performance		
1. Exemplary	Administrators and staff, as a foundational practice, consistently collaborate to support leadership and personal accountability and to enhance individual and collective performance (e.g., construct knowledge, acquire skills, refine practice, provide feedback).  Teachers conduct action research and assume ownership of professional learning processes.	
2. Operational	Administrators and staff routinely collaborate to improve individual and collective performance (e.g., construct knowledge, acquire skills, refine practice, provide feedback).	✓
3. Emerging	Administrators and staff sometimes collaborate to improve individual and collective performance.	
4. Not Evident	Administrators and staff rarely collaborate to improve individual and collective performance.	

Professional Learning Standard 3 -Defines expectations for implementing professional learning		
1. Exemplary	Administrators, teacher leaders, or both consistently define expectations for the implementation of professional learning, including details regarding the stages of implementation and how monitoring will occur as implementation progresses.	
2. Operational	Administrators, teacher leaders, or both regularly define expectations for the implementation of professional learning.	✓
3. Emerging	Administrators, teacher leaders, or both occasionally define expectations for the implementation of professional learning.	
4. Not Evident	Administrators, teacher leaders, or both rarely, if ever, define expectations for the implementation of professional learning.	

## Professional Capacity Data

Professional Learning Standard 4 -Uses multiple professional learning designs to support the various learning needs of the staff		
1. Exemplary	<p>Staff members actively participate in job-embedded professional learning that engages collaborative teams in a variety of appropriate learning designs (e.g., collaborative lesson study, analysis of student work, problem solving sessions, curriculum development, coursework, action research, classroom observations, online networks).</p> <p>Professional learning includes extensive follow-up with descriptive feedback and coaching.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Staff members actively participate in professional learning, most of which is job-embedded, which includes multiple designs (e.g., collaborative lesson study, analysis of student work, problem-solving sessions, curriculum development, coursework, action research, classroom observations, online networks) to support their various learning needs.</p> <p>Professional learning includes follow-up with feedback and coaching.</p>	
3. Emerging	Some staff members are engaged in professional learning that makes use of more than one learning design to address their identified needs.	✓
4. Not Evident	Staff members receive single, stand-alone professional learning events that are informational and mostly large-group presentation designs.	

Professional Learning Standard 5 -Allocates resources and establishes systems to support and sustain effective professional learning		
1. Exemplary	<p>Extensive resources (e.g., substitute teachers, materials, handouts, tools, stipends, facilitators, technology) and systems (e.g., conducive schedules, adequate collaborative time, model classrooms) are allocated to support and sustain effective professional learning.</p> <p>Opportunities to practice skills, receive follow-up, feedback, and coaching are provided to support the effectiveness of professional learning.</p>	
2. Operational	Adequate resources (e.g., substitute teachers, materials, handouts, tools, stipends, facilitators, technology) and systems (e.g., conducive schedules, adequate collaborative time, model classrooms) are in place to support and sustain professional learning.	✓
3. Emerging	Some resources and systems are allocated to support and sustain professional learning.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, resources and systems are provided to support and sustain professional learning.	

## Professional Capacity Data

Professional Learning Standard 6 -Monitors and evaluates the impact of professional learning on staff practices and student learning		
1. Exemplary	Monitoring and evaluating the impact of professional learning on staff practices and increases in student learning occurs extensively.  Evaluation results are used to identify and implement processes to extend student learning.	
2. Operational	Monitoring and evaluating the impact of professional learning on staff practices and student learning occurs routinely.	✓
3. Emerging	Monitoring and evaluating the impact of professional learning on staff practices occurs sporadically.	
4. Not Evident	Monitoring and evaluating the impact of professional learning on staff practices occurs rarely, if ever.	

## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.4 Family and Community Engagement

Analyze the LEA's data (including sections 2.6) and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of needs related to family and community engagement. Complete a data-informed self-rating for each Georgia School Performance Standard (GSPS). See the [Family and Community Engagement webinar](#) for additional information and guidance. Visit Georgia's Family Connection Partnership's [KIDS COUNT](#) for additional data.

#### Family and Community Engagement Data

Family and Community Engagement Standard 1 -Creates an environment that welcomes, encourages, and connects family and community members to the school		
1. Exemplary	The school has a well-established, inviting learning environment that welcomes, encourages, and connects family and community members to the school.  Numerous opportunities are given to family members to become actively engaged in school-related events and improvement efforts as participants, event managers, and workers.	
2. Operational	The school has created an environment that welcomes, encourages, and connects family and community members to the school.	✓
3. Emerging	The school has made some progress toward creating an environment that welcomes, encourages, and connects family and community members to the school.	
4. Not Evident	The school has not created an environment that welcomes, encourages, or connects family and community members to the school.	

Family and Community Engagement Standard 2 -Establishes structures that promote clear and open communication between the school and stakeholders		
1. Exemplary	Extensive structures that promote clear and open communication between the school and stakeholders have been effectively established and implemented.  Structures are continuously monitored for reliable and interactive communication.	
2. Operational	Most structures that promote clear and open communication between the school and stakeholders have been effectively established and implemented.	✓
3. Emerging	Some structures that promote clear and open communication between the school and stakeholders exist.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, structures that promote clear and open communication between the school and stakeholders exist.	

## Family and Community Engagement Data

Family and Community Engagement Standard 3 -Establishes relationships and decision-making processes that build capacity for family and community engagement in the success of students		
1. Exemplary	<p>A wide variety of relationships and collaborative decision-making processes (e.g., business partnerships, school councils, parent or family organizations, academic and extra-curricular booster clubs, civic organizations, tutoring services, post-secondary partnerships) are pervasive in promoting student success and well being.</p> <p>Expectations for family and community engagement are embedded in the culture and result in stakeholders being actively involved in decision-making.</p>	
2. Operational	Numerous relationships and decision-making processes (e.g., business partnerships, school councils, parent or family organizations, academic and extra-curricular booster clubs, civic organizations, tutoring services) effectively build capacity for family and community engagement in the success of students.	
3. Emerging	Limited relationships and decision-making processes have been initiated by the school to build capacity for family and community engagement.	✓
4. Not Evident	Relationships and decision-making processes for families and the community are non-existent, or those that do exist contribute minimally to student success.	



## Family and Community Engagement Data

Family and Community Engagement Standard 4 -Communicates academic expectations and current student achievement status to families		
1. Exemplary	<p>The school staff provides families with ongoing, detailed academic expectations and/or graduation status (e.g., four-year graduation plans, syllabi, academic advisement protocols).</p> <p>Extensive communication related to the current achievement level of individual students is provided (e.g., progress reports, student-led parent conferences, report cards, reading level reports, state test reports, school-based assessment reports, online reporting system).</p>	
2. Operational	<p>The school staff communicates academic expectations and/or graduation status (e.g., four-year graduation plans, syllabi, academic advisement protocols) throughout the year.</p> <p>Regular communication related to the current achievement level of individual students is provided (e.g., progress reports, parent conferences, report cards, reading level reports, state test reports, school-based assessment reports, online reporting system).</p>	
3. Emerging	<p>The school staff communicates some academic expectations at the start of the year.</p> <p>Some communication related to the current achievement level of individual students is provided.</p>	✓
4. Not Evident	<p>The school staff does little to inform families of academic expectations.</p> <p>Little, if any, communication related to the current achievement level of individual students is provided.</p>	

Family and Community Engagement Standard 5 -Develops the capacity of families to use support strategies at home that will enhance academic achievement		
1. Exemplary	The school continually develops the capacity (e.g., parent training, lunch and learn, make-it and take-it) of families to use support strategies at home that will enhance academic achievement.	
2. Operational	The school frequently develops the capacity (e.g., parent training, lunch and learn, make-it and take-it) of families to use support strategies at home that will enhance academic achievement.	
3. Emerging	The school occasionally develops the capacity of families to use support strategies at home that will enhance academic achievement.	✓
4. Not Evident	The school seldom, if ever, develops the capacity of families to use support strategies at home that will enhance academic achievement.	

## Family and Community Engagement Data

Family and Community Engagement Standard 6 -Connects families with agencies and resources in the community to meet the needs of students		
1. Exemplary	The school has a systematic process in place to connect families with an array of agencies and resources (e.g., Y-Clubs, after-school programs, health and counseling services, community service agencies, civic organizations, tutoring services) to meet the needs of students.	
2. Operational	The school regularly connects families to agencies and resources in the community (e.g., Y-Clubs, after-school programs, health and counseling services, community service agencies, civic organizations, tutoring services) to meet the needs of students.	✓
3. Emerging	The school sometimes connects families to agencies and resources in the community to meet the needs of students.	
4. Not Evident	The school does little to connect families with agencies and resources in the community to meet the needs of students.	

## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.5 Supportive Learning Environment

Analyze the LEA's data (including sections 2.6) and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of needs related to a supportive learning environment. Complete a data-informed self-rating for each Georgia School Performance Standard (GSPS). Student subgroups with a count of less than 15 are denoted by "TFS" (too few students). See the [Supportive Learning Environment webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

#### Supportive Learning Environment Data

Instruction Standard 1 -Provides a supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning		
1. Exemplary	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident throughout the school.  Students consistently stay on-task and take responsibility for their own actions.	
2. Operational	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in most classrooms.	✓
3. Emerging	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in some classrooms.	
4. Not Evident	A supportive and well-managed environment conducive to learning is evident in few, if any, classrooms.	

Instruction Standard 2 -Creates an academically challenging learning environment		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all teachers create an academically challenging, learning environment (e.g., higher-order thinking skills and processes, active student engagement, relevance, collaboration).  Students consistently work independently and in teams to solve real-world problems that require advanced effort, decision-making, and critical and creative thinking.	
2. Operational	Most teachers create an academically challenging, learning environment (e.g., higher-order thinking skills and processes, active student engagement, relevance, collaboration).	
3. Emerging	Some teachers create an academically challenging learning environment.	
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, teachers create an academically challenging learning environment.	✓

## Supportive Learning Environment Data

Instruction Standard 8 -Establishes a learning environment that empowers students to actively monitor their own progress		
1. Exemplary	Nearly all students use tools (e.g., rubrics, checklists, exemplars) to actively monitor their own progress.  Nearly all students develop a sense of personal responsibility and accountability by engaging in record keeping, self-monitoring, sharing, exhibiting, and self-reflection.	
2. Operational	Most students use tools (e.g., rubrics, checklists, exemplars) to actively monitor their own progress.	
3. Emerging	Some students use tools to actively monitor their own progress.	✓
4. Not Evident	Few, if any, students use tools to actively monitor their own progress.	

School Culture Standard 1 -Develops, communicates, and implements rules, practices, and procedures to maintain a safe, orderly learning environment		
1. Exemplary	Rules, practices, and procedures that maintain a safe, orderly learning environment are proactively developed, communicated, and consistently implemented across the school.  These rules, practices, and procedures are continually monitored and revised as needed.	
2. Operational	Rules, practices, and procedures that maintain a safe, orderly learning environment are developed, communicated, and implemented.	✓
3. Emerging	Rules, practices, and procedures are developed and communicated but are ineffective or inconsistently implemented across the school.	
4. Not Evident	Rules, practices, and procedures that maintain a safe, orderly, learning environment are not developed nor updated or are poorly communicated.	

## Supportive Learning Environment Data

School Culture Standard 2 -Establishes a culture of trust and respect that promotes positive interactions and a sense of community		
1. Exemplary	<p>Extensive evidence (e.g., positive and respectful interactions, appreciation of diversity, tolerance, understanding) exists that a culture of trust and respect has been established.</p> <p>A pervasive commitment to promoting positive interactions and a sense of community is evident.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>Evidence (e.g., positive and respectful interactions, appreciation of diversity, tolerance, understanding) exists that a culture of trust and respect has been established.</p> <p>A sustained commitment to promoting positive interactions and a sense of community is evident.</p>	
3. Emerging	<p>Some evidence exists that a culture of trust and respect has been established.</p> <p>A limited commitment to promoting positive interactions and a sense of community is evident.</p>	✓
4. Not Evident	<p>Little or no evidence exists that a culture of trust and respect has been established.</p> <p>Unresolved conflicts interfere with a sense of community.</p>	

School Culture Standard 3 -Establishes a culture that supports the college and career readiness of students		
1. Exemplary	<p>Extensive evidence (e.g., advisement, career counseling, transition coaching, high expectations) exists that the beliefs and practices of the school support the college and career readiness of students.</p> <p>The school culture supports addressing individual achievement needs and strengths to prepare students for success.</p>	
2. Operational	Evidence (e.g., advisement, career counseling, transition coaching, high expectations) exists that the beliefs and practices of the school support the college and career readiness of students.	
3. Emerging	Some evidence exists that the school supports the college and career readiness of students.	✓
4. Not Evident	Little or no evidence exists that the school supports the college and career readiness of students.	

## Supportive Learning Environment Data

School Culture Standard 4 -Supports the personal growth and development of students		
1. Exemplary	The school staff consistently provides a comprehensive system of support (e.g., counseling, mentoring, advisement, coaching, goal setting, time management, problem solving) to maximize the personal growth and development of nearly all students.	
2. Operational	The school staff regularly provides support (e.g., counseling, mentoring, advisement, coaching, goal setting, time management, problem solving) to enhance the personal growth and development of students.	✓
3. Emerging	The school staff sporadically supports the personal growth and development of students.	
4. Not Evident	The school staff does little to support the personal growth and development of students.	

School Culture Standard 5 -Recognizes and celebrates achievements and accomplishments of students and staff		
1. Exemplary	<p>The school community consistently recognizes and celebrates the achievements and accomplishments of students and staff.</p> <p>The celebrations are publicized within the school and to the community and support the culture of the school.</p>	
2. Operational	The school community regularly recognizes and celebrates the achievements and accomplishments of students and staff.	✓
3. Emerging	The school community periodically recognizes or celebrates the achievements or accomplishments of students and/or staff.	
4. Not Evident	The school community rarely, if ever, recognizes or celebrates the achievements or accomplishments of students or staff.	

## Supportive Learning Environment Data

Planning and Organization Standard 1 -Shares a common vision and mission that define the school culture and guide the continuous improvement process		
1. Exemplary	<p>A common vision and mission have been collaboratively developed and communicated to nearly all stakeholders.</p> <p>The culture of the school has been deeply defined over time by the vision and mission, which are updated as needed.</p> <p>The daily work and practices of staff consistently demonstrate a sustained commitment to continuous improvement.</p>	
2. Operational	<p>A common vision and mission have been developed through a collaborative process and communicated to most stakeholders.</p> <p>The vision and mission define the culture of the school and guide the continuous improvement process.</p>	✓
3. Emerging	A common vision and mission have been developed by some staff members but have not been effectively communicated so that they guide the continuous improvement process.	
4. Not Evident	A common vision and mission have not been developed or updated or have been developed by a few staff members.	

## 2. DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

### 2.6 Data Analysis Questions

Analyze the LEA's data and answer the guiding questions to determine existing trends and patterns that support the identification of demographic and financial needs. Student subgroups with a count of less than 15 are denoted by "TFS" (too few students).

What perception data did you use? [examples: student perceptions about school climate issues (health survey, violence, prejudice, bullying, etc.); student/parent perceptions about the effectiveness of programs or interventions; student understanding of relationship of school to career or has an academic plan]	Perception data used to determine school climate issues were GA Health climate survey, school council meeting minutes and discussion information, GSAPS review data and school created parent Title surveys.
What does the perception data tell you? (perception data can describe people's knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, perceptions, competencies; perception data can also answer the question "What do people think they know, believe, or can do?")	The perception data suggest that the school needs the appropriate resources to promote academic growth. The surveys and discussion information also suggest that the school needs an update to the facilities and outside marquee for community information purposes.
What process data did you use? (examples: student participation in school activities, sports, clubs, arts; student participation in special programs such as peer mediation, counseling, skills conferences; parent/student participation in events such as college information meetings and parent workshops)	The process data used include student participation in school activities, sports activities, student council participation and parent and student counseling workshops.
What does the process data tell you? (process data describes the way programs are conducted; provides evidence of participant involvement in programs; answers the question "What did you do for whom?")	The process data shows that students are excited during the school days about school PBIS activities, sports activities and stakeholder presentations. It was extremely difficult to get parent participation outside of sports activities and honors days.



What achievement data did you use?	Achievement data used was GMAS, iReady, CMA, student grades and discipline and attendance reports.
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What does your achievement data tell you?	The achievement data shows that more than 63% of students are two or more grade levels below in reading. It also shows that because of deficits in reading students struggle in both Science and Social Studies.
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What demographic data did you use?	Demographic data used was ESOL, gender, age and students with disabilities.
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What does the demographic data tell you?	Demographic data tells that students (19% population) with disabilities struggle in reading more than math. Also that ESOL students have deficits in both reading and math areas.
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### 3. NEEDS IDENTIFICATION AND ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

#### 3.1 Strengths and Challenges Based on Trends and Patterns

Read the trends and patterns summaries from each section of the data analysis process. Use the information in these summaries to complete 3.2 and 3.3. Using the summaries in 3.1 and other local data, describe the strengths and challenges or answer the guiding questions for each program. Include strengths and challenges related to: a) general program implementation, and b) students and adults involved in or affected by the program. Focus on strengths and challenges that will assist in the identification of needs during 3.2. Watch the [Identifying Need webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

##### Strengths and Challenges Based on Trends and Patterns

<p>Coherent Instructional: Summarize the coherent instructional system trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>Planning for Quality Instruction, teachers have the tools and resources to plan coherent instruction and lessons. They have been equipped with the knowledge of Learning Targets and Success Criteria. 43% of students are motivated to receive coherent instruction towards academic success. Some special education classes and remedial classes self-monitored progress towards academic success. 56% of students use current and appropriate technology. Challenges include teacher implementation of Learning Targets and Success Criteria. 80% of teachers lack Rigor within their instructional practice. 87% of teachers do not clearly present Learning Targets and Success Criteria to students. 93% developing or below in differentiating and personalizing instruction for students.</p>
<p>Effective Leadership: Summarize the effective leadership trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>Effective leadership trends show that the leadership team has made an increase in the use of data to inform school based instructional decisions. The school leadership has made improvements on providing teachers with equitable resources to support individual and collaborative goals for professional learning .</p>
<p>Professional Capacity: Summarize the professional capacity trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>The important trend shows that each teacher needs additional instruction in verbalizing learning targets and success criteria. Students needs strategies assist with basic literacy and math skills.</p>

## Strengths and Challenges Based on Trends and Patterns

<p>Family and Community Engagement: Summarize the family and community engagement trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>The trends show that there needs to be a plan to assist parents in attending academic conferences. There is a current plan to assist families with special needs and emergency situations.</p>
<p>Supportive Learning Environment: Summarize the supportive learning environment trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>Students have a variety of needs at Hornsby Middle School. Students have access through our mental health team, backpack program, food pantry, clothing closet, and hygiene assistance as needed.</p>
<p>Demographic and Financial: Summarize the demographic and financial trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>Important trends and patterns that support the needs of stakeholders show that students need additional meals on the evenings and weekends. There is also a large homeless population. Therefore there is need for assistance with permanent housing support.</p>
<p>Student Achievement: Summarize the student achievement trends and patterns observed by the team while completing this section of the report. What are the important trends and patterns that will support the identification of student, teacher, and leader needs?</p>	<p>Student achievement data shows that at 62.79% of students are two or more grade levels behind in English Language Arts and 63.82% in Reading. This shows that students need support in literacy skills. GA Milestone results have not been released for Math scores.</p>

IDEA – Special Education, Economically Disadvantaged Children, and English Learners.

IDEA – Special Education, Economically Disadvantaged Children, and English Learners.

Using the summaries in 3.1 and other local data, describe the strengths and challenges or answer the guiding questions for each program. Include strengths and challenges related to: a) general program implementation, and b) students and adults involved in or affected by the program. Focus on strengths and challenges that will assist in the identification of needs during 3.3. Watch the [Identifying Need webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

Strengths	Special education and ESOL learners showed some growth in retaining grade level standard instruction on GMAS.
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Challenges	Students in these subgroups fall below their peers in all content areas.
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### 3. NEEDS IDENTIFICATION AND ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

#### 3.2 Identification and Prioritization of Overarching Needs

Use the results of 3.1 to identify the overarching needs of the LEA. Determine the priority order of the identified needs based on data, team member and stakeholder knowledge, and answers to questions in the table below. Be sure to address the major program challenges identified in 3.1. Watch the [Identifying Need webinar](#) for additional information and guidance.

##### Overarching Need # 1

Overarching Need	Students need to be able to read and comprehend grade level Informational (Nonfiction) Text.
How severe is the need?	High
Is the need trending better or worse over time?	Worse
Can Root Causes be Identified?	Yes
Priority Order	1

Additional Considerations	There is a large number of waiver and first year teachers. The teachers need literacy strategies to support reading instruction.
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##### Overarching Need # 2

Overarching Need	Improve students' ability to deconstruct mathematical word problems and explain how they solved them using math language.
How severe is the need?	High
Is the need trending better or worse over time?	Worse
Can Root Causes be Identified?	Yes
Priority Order	2

Additional Considerations	Strategic targeting of numeracy and mathematical vocabulary to bridge the gap between foundational skills and mathematical reasoning is necessary.
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## Overarching Need # 3

Overarching Need	Teachers do not understand the importance/purpose of providing an effective social emotional lesson to students.
How severe is the need?	High
Is the need trending better or worse over time?	No Change
Can Root Causes be Identified?	Yes
Priority Order	3

Additional Considerations	
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## Overarching Need # 4

Overarching Need	Special Education population of students need additional support to increase academically. They are performing significantly below grade level in both reading and mathematics.
How severe is the need?	High
Is the need trending better or worse over time?	No Change
Can Root Causes be Identified?	Yes
Priority Order	4

Additional Considerations	
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### 3. NEEDS IDENTIFICATION AND ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

#### 3.3 Root Cause Analysis

Select the top 2-4 overarching needs from 3.2. Conduct a separate root cause analysis (RCA) for each need. Any RCA tools and resources can be used, but suggestions are available as part of the [Identifying Need webinar](#). After describing the RCA process, complete a table for each selected overarching need.

Overarching Need - Students need to be able to read and comprehend grade level Informational (Nonfiction) Text.

Root Cause # 1

Root Causes to be Addressed	Instructional Practices & Evidence-based Strategies aren't consistent with teachers.
This is a root cause and not a contributing cause or symptom	Yes
This is something we can affect	Yes
Impacted Programs	Title I - Part A - Improving Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged

Additional Responses	Equipping teachers with effective instructional strategies, assessment tools, and ongoing professional development opportunities to support teacher development. Word part Strategies. Comprehension Strategies, Fluency Practice, Concept Maps, Vocabulary Strategies
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Overarching Need - Improve students' ability to deconstruct mathematical word problems and explain how they solved them using math language.

Root Cause # 1

Root Causes to be Addressed	Teachers inability to deconstruct standards to create and implement rigorous grade level learning targets and success criteria in the mathematics content area. Some teachers have not received the professional learning in teaching mathematical vocabulary.
This is a root cause and not a contributing cause or symptom	Yes
This is something we can affect	Yes
Impacted Programs	Title I - Part A - Improving Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged

## Root Cause # 1

Additional Responses	Students and teachers would benefit greatly from training in Desmos Classroom and use of the Desmos testing calculators. Additionally, PL surrounding vocabulary and the CUBES problem solving strategy would be beneficial to help students break down word problems and solve them with fidelity.
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Overarching Need - Teachers do not understand the importance/purpose of providing an effective social emotional lesson to students.

## Root Cause # 1

Root Causes to be Addressed	The school lacks resources (time, manpower, supplies, etc.) to effectively train teachers throughout the school year on Second Step, Social-Emotional Learning and how it positively affects students' behavior and learning.
This is a root cause and not a contributing cause or symptom	Yes
This is something we can affect	Yes
Impacted Programs	Title I - Part A - Improving Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged

Additional Responses	Second Step, schoolwide discipline referrals & data, school culture & climate, student academic success, attendance
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Overarching Need - Special Education population of students need additional support to increase academically. They are performing significantly below grade level in both reading and mathematics.

## Root Cause # 1

Root Causes to be Addressed	Co-teaching and collaborative models and strategies, Instructional Practices & Evidence-based Strategies aren't consistent with teachers.
This is a root cause and not a contributing cause or symptom	Yes
This is something we can affect	Yes
Impacted Programs	Title I - Part A - Improving Academic Achievement of Disadvantaged

Additional Responses	
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# School Improvement Plan 2024 - 2025



Richmond County  
W.S. Hornsby Middle School

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

## 1 General Improvement Plan Information

## General Improvement Plan Information

District	Richmond County
School Name	W.S. Hornsby Middle School
Team Lead	Stacey King
Federal Funding Options to Be Employed (SWP Schools) in this Plan (Select all that apply)	Consolidation of Funds – Fund 150: Consolidation of State/Local and Federal Funds
Select the Funds that the LEA anticipates will be consolidated	Title I, Part A

Factors(s) Used by District to Identify Students in Poverty (Select all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Free/Reduced meal application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Eligibility Program (CEP) - Direct Certification ONLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (if selected, please describe below)

## 2. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

## 2.1 Overarching Need # 1

## Overarching Need

Overarching Need as identified in CNA Section 3.2	Students need to be able to read and comprehend grade level Informational (Nonfiction) Text.
Root Cause # 1	Instructional Practices & Evidence-based Strategies aren't consistent with teachers.
Goal	By May 2025, ELA, Science, and Social Studies teachers will implement evidence-based comprehension and vocabulary strategies to increase the percentage of students scoring at developing learner and/or above on the English Language Arts GMAS from 36% to 46%.

## Action Step # 1

Action Step	Implement the RCSS Instructional Framework with fidelity which includes: Step 1: Understanding the Standards Step 2: Design Standards-Based Lesson Step 3: Communicate the Learning Expectations Step 4: Implement the Lesson Step 5: Assess for Success Step 6: Analyze the Results Step 7: Relearn and Reassess Step 8: Celebrate Success
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and weekly walk-throughs. By October, 80% of teachers will be in compliance of posting student-friendly learning targets and success criteria that are aligned with the standard.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing progress monitoring and benchmark tools to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency. By October Content Mastery Assessment, 50% of students will score developing or higher in all content areas.
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coach for Reading/English Language Arts, Administration
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

## Action Step # 1

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 2

Action Step	Implement small differentiated group instruction during core content areas and Intervention blocks.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and weekly collaborative planning
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing progress monitoring and benchmark tools to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coach for Reading/English Language Arts; Teachers
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 3

Action Step	Teachers will implement and utilize researched based comprehension strategies and vocabulary instruction for Science and Social Studies using informational text within Lexile grade bands. Comprehension strategies will include: 1. Graphic Organizers (Compare/Contrast, Tables/Charts for notes/categorizing, Images, Brainstorming Mapping) 2. Provide Background and Activate Prior Knowledge 3. Active reading with annotation 4. Pre-Teach new and important concepts 5. Vocabulary instruction and wordmaps 6. Repeated Reading . Spiral Reviews Strategies will be chosen based upon content units and specific standards.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning; 80% of teachers will implementing specific strategy by September 15, 2023.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing content mastery assessments to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency; 50% of students will perform at developing or higher on Content Mastery Assessments and/or teacher created assessments in Science, Social Studies, and ELA.
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coaches; Teachers
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 4

Action Step	All content area teachers will implement weekly constructed response writings using the R.A.C.E. strategy to increase student performance on the GA Milestone End of Grade Assessment. (R.A.C.E. - Restate, Answer, Cite Evidence, Explain)
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning; 80% of teachers will incorporate writing into instruction by November 2023.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing content mastery assessments to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency; 50% of students will score developing on the Content Mastery Assessment writing sections.
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coaches; Teachers
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## 2. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

## 2.2 Overarching Need # 2

## Overarching Need

Overarching Need as identified in CNA Section 3.2	Improve students' ability to deconstruct mathematical word problems and explain how they solved them using math language.
Root Cause # 1	Teachers inability to deconstruct standards to create and implement rigorous grade level learning targets and success criteria in the mathematics content area. Some teachers have not received the professional learning in teaching mathematical vocabulary.
Goal	By May 2025, math teachers will increase student achievement from 40% to 50% on developing or higher on the iReady spring diagnostic using evidence based instructional strategies.

## Action Step # 1

Action Step	During collaborative planning, teachers will internalize math units to ensure effective implementation of the new math standards utilizing RCSS Instructional Framework and the GaDOE instructional resources. Mathematical Practices include 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. (MP.1) 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (MP.2) 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. (MP.3) 4. Model with mathematics. (MP.4) 5. Use appropriate tools strategically. (MP.5) 6. Attend to precision. (MP.6) 7. Look for and make use of structure. (MP.7) 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning. (MP.8)
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By October, 80% of teachers will be in compliance of posting student-friendly learning targets and success criteria that are aligned with the standard.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing progress monitoring and benchmark tools to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency. By October Content Mastery Assessment, 50% of students will score developing or higher in all content areas.

## Action Step # 1

Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coach targeted for Math; Administration
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 2

Action Step	All math content teachers will implement small group instruction in core content and intervention.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By October, 80% of teachers will implement have implemented weekly problem-solving constructed response in mathematics.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing progress monitoring and benchmark tools to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency. By October Content Mastery Assessment, 50% of students will score developing of higher in all content areas.
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coach targeted for Math; Administration
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly



## Action Step # 2

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 3

Action Step	Teachers will incorporate the math instructional frameworks in all math classrooms (Engage, Explore, Apply, Reflect).
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By November 2023, 50% of students will participate in Saturday Academy or Extended learning day to receive support and/or intervention.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	Continuously analyzing assessment data, using ongoing progress monitoring and benchmark tools to track student progress, utilizing data to inform instruction by identifying areas of strength and weakness, review and analyze student work samples for proficiency. By December, Content Mastery Assessment, 50% of students will score developing or higher in all content areas.
Position/Role Responsible	Instructional Support Coach targeted for Math; Teachers
Timeline for Implementation	Quarterly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## 2. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

## 2.3 Overarching Need # 3

## Overarching Need

Overarching Need as identified in CNA Section 3.2	Teachers do not understand the importance/purpose of providing an effective social emotional lesson to students.
Root Cause # 1	The school lacks resources (time, manpower, supplies, etc.) to effectively train teachers throughout the school year on Second Step, Social-Emotional Learning and how it positively affects students' behavior and learning.
Goal	By May 2025, students in grades 6th - 8th will increase the percentage of students missing fewer than 18 days by 10%. By May 2025, the number of faculty and staff with fewer than 8 absences will increase by 10%. By May 2025, at least 90% of students will complete 24 SEL lessons as measured by the panorama SEL and Canvas platforms. By May 2025, teachers will implement at least 24 SEL Lesson via Panorama and Canvas platforms.

## Action Step # 1

Action Step	Students will be recognized monthly for maintaining 90% of the attendance protocol. All faculty and staff will maintain an attendance rate of fewer than 1 day absent monthly.
Funding Sources	N/A
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Supportive Learning Environment
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Monitoring of hallways, cafeteria, restrooms and during transitions. 85% of teachers are implementing PBIS at the operational level.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	SONAR platform, utilizing data to identifying areas of strength and weakness. 35% decrease in discipline referrals.
Position/Role Responsible	Administration, Guidance, PBIS Team
Timeline for Implementation	Yearly

## Action Step # 1

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	RCSS provides professional learning and supports through monthly meetings with the PBIS Support Team and administration.
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## Action Step # 2

Action Step	Teachers will monitor student absences daily and implement the steps of the Attendance Protocol Checklist as well as contact parents of students with 2 or more absences.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Supportive Learning Environment
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Jaguar Den of Trust; By October 2023, 80% of teachers implementing SEL strategies through Panorama survey.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	RTI, PBIS, Mental Health and SEL behavior team will monitor chronic behaviors and repeat offenders. 20% improvement in students' self-reported emotional well-being, as measured by pre- and post-surveys assessing students' self-awareness, emotional regulation, and overall happiness.
Position/Role Responsible	Administration, Counselor, Teachers, MTSS Facilitator
Timeline for Implementation	Monthly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 3

Action Step	Implement Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons to help students develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Migrant Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Supportive Learning Environment
Method for Monitoring Implementation	PBIS recognition calendar, 85% of teachers are implementing PBIS at the operational level.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	RTI, PBIS, Mental Health and SEL behavior team will monitor chronic behaviors and repeat offenders. 35% decrease in discipline referrals.
Position/Role Responsible	PBIS team, Teachers
Timeline for Implementation	Monthly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## 2. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

## 2.4 Overarching Need # 4

## Overarching Need

Overarching Need as identified in CNA Section 3.2	Special Education population of students need additional support to increase academically. They are performing significantly below grade level in both reading and mathematics.
Root Cause # 1	Co-teaching and collaborative models and strategies, Instructional Practices & Evidence-based Strategies aren't consistent with teachers.
Goal	By May 2025, we will increase the number of students with disabilities scoring developing and higher from 8% to 11% on the ELA Georgia Milestone Assessment and the number of students scoring developing and higher from _____ % to _____ % on math Georgia Milestone Assessments.

## Action Step # 1

Action Step	Provide Professional Learning in coteaching to include general education teachers.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By October, 80% of teachers will be in compliance of posting student-friendly learning targets and success criteria that are aligned with the standard.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	iReady, Content Mastery Assessments, GMAS, standards based exit tickets
Position/Role Responsible	S. Calhoun, SWD monitoring team
Timeline for Implementation	Monthly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 1

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 2

Action Step	Provide professional learning for teachers serving students with disabilities focusing on effective strategies to increase rigor during small group instruction in ELA and Math core content.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Coherent Instruction
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By October, 80% of teachers will be in compliance of posting student-friendly learning targets and success criteria that are aligned with the standard.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	iReady, Content Mastery Assessments, GMAS, standards based exit tickets
Position/Role Responsible	S. Calhoun, SWD monitoring team
Timeline for Implementation	Monthly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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## Action Step # 3

Action Step	Gen Ed. and Special Ed. teachers will collaborate to plan lessons to ensure accommodations and modifications are met for SWD per thier Individualized Education Plans.
Funding Sources	Consolidated Funding
Subgroups	Economically Disadvantaged Foster Homeless English Learners Race / Ethnicity / Minority Student with Disabilities
Systems	Effective Leadership
Method for Monitoring Implementation	Classroom observations, Instructional Awareness Walks, and collaborative planning. By October, 80% of teachers will be in compliance of posting student-friendly learning targets and success criteria that are aligned with the standard.
Method for Monitoring Effectiveness	iReady, Content Mastery Assessments, GMAS, standards based exit tickets
Position/Role Responsible	S. Calhoun, SWD monitoring team
Timeline for Implementation	Monthly

What partnerships, if any, with IHEs, business, Non-Profits, Community based organizations, or any private entity with a demonstrated record of success is the LEA implementing in carrying out this action step(s)?	
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### 3. REQUIRED QUESTIONS

#### 3.1 Stakeholders, Coordination of Activities, Serving Children, and PQ

##### Required Questions

<p>1. In developing this plan, briefly describe how the school sought advice from individuals (teachers, staff, other school leaders, paraprofessionals, specialized instructional support personnel, parents, community partners, and other stakeholders).</p>	<p>Input was received from stakeholders during face-to-face meetings held in the spring along with surveys that were shared with all stakeholders. In May of 2024, the Leadership Team worked together to review last year's plan and the data (including Stakeholder surveys) for this year's plan. All Leadership Team members were involved in the evaluation of data (Annual State assessments, local screeners, local tests for mastery, and other pertinent data points). The plan will be brought back to the school for all faculty and staff to review and to share input. The plan will then be shared with school stakeholders for feedback.</p>
<p>2. Describe how the school will ensure that low-income and minority children enrolled in the Title I school are not served at disproportionate rates by ineffective, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers.</p>	<p>The Human Resources and Federal Programs Departments of the Richmond County School System collaborate to ensure that children enrolled in Title 1 schools are not served at disproportionately high rates by ineffective, out-of-field, or inexperienced instructors. We will look at the School Improvement Dashboard equity data, which includes data factors about teacher effectiveness, experience, and background provided at the district and school level. We concentrate on identifying disparities, assessing district and school systems and programs that may have contributed to these injustices, and then adopt strategies/activities to alleviate those inequities. Our school improvement plan, which will include an equity component and improvement goals, will address the observed gaps. In addition, school leaders were provided assistance in the scheduling process by giving statistics to help them make the best scheduling decisions for student achievement. To recruit elite talent we participated in various career fairs, offered a virtual fair, attended college and university fairs, and used technology avenues. The district also operate our Grow Your Own initiative in collaboration with our local university's Teach Richmond program. Stipends are available in high-need areas. We also used a PQ ESSA automated software to offer certification information, out-of-field status, and teacher suggestions for specific courses. The department of communication assists schools with branding and provides professional development to school interview panels.</p>
<p>3. Provide a general description of the Title I instructional program being implemented at this Title I school. Specifically define the subject areas to be addressed and the instructional strategies/methodologies to be employed to address the identified needs of the most academically at-risk students in the school. Please include services to be</p>	<p>This year, we will continue our use of Title I tutors hired a to help assist with our students who are not reading on grade level. The Literacy and math tutors looks at the Lexile levels and quantiles of each student and determines the growth band. This is shared with the Media Specialist, teachers, and parents. Students are encouraged to read within this growth band and work within their deficit math areas. iReady data is used to determine how the students are progressing and if the reading and/or math level is increasing. The tutors reach out to guardians or caregivers to share information about how to help at home. The</p>



<p>provided for students living in local institutions for neglected or delinquent children (if applicable).</p>	<p>Augusta Public Library has partnered with the school system and has made it easy for students to access their resources. The School's Media Specialist has cataloged books by Lexile levels and can help students pick appropriate materials. Teachers have implemented silent sustained reading to ensure that students have at least 15 minutes of uninterrupted time each day. Schoolwide morning intervention is also being implemented to address both reading and math deficits using coteaching direct instruction.</p>
<p>4. If applicable, provide a description of how teachers, in consultation with parents, administrators, and pupil services personnel, will identify eligible children most in need of services in Title I targeted assistance schools/programs. Please include a description of how the school will develop and implement multiple (a minimum of 2) objective, academic-based performance criteria to rank students for service. Also include a description of the measurable scale (point system) that uses the objective criteria to rank all students.</p>	<p>The RCSS will not have any Title I targeted assistance schools during the 2024-2025 school year.</p> <p>Targeted assistance schools may use funds received only for programs that provide services to eligible children identified as having the greatest need. In the event the district gets a targeted assistance school in the future, each targeted-assistance Title I school will create a plan to assist the school and local educational agency to meet its responsibility to provide services to all identified students in the targeted-assistance program to allow them the opportunity to meet the state's challenging academic achievement standards.</p>

## 3. REQUIRED QUESTIONS

## 3.2 PQ, Federally Identified Schools, CTAE, Discipline

## Required Questions

5. If applicable, describe how the school will support, coordinate, and integrate services with early childhood programs at the school level, including strategies for assisting preschool children in the transition from early childhood education programs to local elementary school programs.	Not applicable as we are a middle school.
6. If applicable, describe how the school will implement strategies to facilitate effective transitions for students from middle grades to high school and from high school to postsecondary education including: Coordination with institutions of higher education, employers, and local partners; and Increased student access to early college, high school, or dual or concurrent enrollment opportunities or career counseling to identify student interest and skills.	<p>The CTAE Department will work closely with the Student Services Department to ensure middle school students (8th grade) are assessed using YouScience. This performance measure will help identify interests, natural talents, and aptitudes to assist the students in selecting a high school pathway that aligns to individual student data. Additionally, we will ensure visits by high school representatives to the feeder middle schools to share information about the various career pathways with 8th grade students, facilitate 8th grade tours to high schools, and continue to host Career Days/Fairs for both middle and high school students. During the master scheduling process, the schools are asked to schedule a feeder school visit from one grade level to the next to assist in making informed course selections. For example, we coordinated an opportunities for future 5th graders to visit our middle school and our 8th graders to visit the feeder high school. All high schools are strongly encouraged to host a Freshman Orientation. This was an opportunity for students to learn about requirements and what to expect in high school, as well as begin to build community with their fellow classmates and reduce anxiety related to this transition. RCSS provides Dual Enrollment opportunities by partnering with several local colleges (Augusta University, Augusta Technical College, Georgia Military College, etc.) High school students have opportunities to take classes on the college campus, at their local high school or virtually. Students and parents will refer to the School Choice guide to help make the best decisions for their future. Students are made aware of these opportunities via their school counseling programs and utilization of the GAFutures website. Additional support for high schools will include recruiting business and industry partners to provide work-based learning opportunities for career awareness and exposure through Job Shadowing and Manufacturing Days, attendance/participation in the Skills Challenge and college tours through the high schools' CTSOs (Career Technical Student Organization). A new program recently approved by the Board of Education is with the Richmond County Fire Department to help seniors take the Fire Department's entrance exam. RCSS also provides summer opportunities in the Students2Work partnership to provide high school students opportunities to work in career areas of their choice,</p>

	<p>based in part on YouScience results. During the 2024-25 school year, in collaboration with Columbia County School System, RCSS will continue the Junior Achievement program for 6th and 7th grade students to provide them real-life experiences to prepare them for life beyond high school and to make them aware of post-secondary opportunities.</p>
<p>7. Describe how the school will support efforts to reduce the overuse of discipline practices that remove students from the classroom, specifically addressing the effects on all subgroups of students.</p>	<p>In an effort to decrease class/school removal time, the district is working with school staff to offer a variety of supports and strategies. When students need time to calm down, a reflection or calming room may be used. This would include soft lighting and calming music or sounds. PE may include Yoga and breathing exercises to help students control themselves. Behavior Coaches were hired to work with students, parents, teachers and school administrators to implement effective practices aimed at increasing instructional time and reducing removals from class. District staff also partners with the Emory Autism Center, RESA, and GLRS for professional learning, modeling, and coaching in schools and programs where the data demonstrates elevated challenges with student behavior. District level Instructional Specialists are also working closely with teachers and school administrators to improve delivery of engaging instruction and alternative methods for managing classroom behavior for our students with disabilities as well as other student subgroups. MTSS Facilitators are working closely with teachers and school administrators to help students get the assistance that they need. Student engagement is an effective way to negate discipline issues. One form of engagement is ensuring that students have the use of technology within the classroom. In addition, RCSS is investing in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), for all students. The PBIS Framework is being implemented in our school, with some RCSS schools implementing "Essential Features of School Wide Behavior Expectations, through the lens of PBIS". The expectation is that over time, with training and coaching, all RCSS schools will implement the PBIS Framework. A PBIS District Data Team in the Office of School Climate regularly monitors discipline data for all schools and student subgroups, communicates with various stakeholders, including community members and members of the Department of Juvenile Justice, and work collaboratively with the CSRA RESA School Climate Specialist, to provide professional learning and coaching, to administrators, coaches and teachers. The PBIS Coaches (each PBIS School has a coach), attend monthly meetings with PBIS Coordinator to monitor discipline practices, receive professional learning, and collaborate and action plan around best practices. The PBIS Schools hold monthly PBIS Team meetings to solve problems around discipline data and action plans to ensure continued positive outcomes. A minimum of two times a year, the District PBIS Leadership Team also hosts meetings with all stakeholders to analyze system-wide discipline data trends and create Action Plans based on data outcomes.</p>

## ADDITIONAL RESPONSES

<p>8. Use the space below to provide additional narrative regarding the school's improvement plan.</p>	<p>The Richmond County School System is committed to a continuous improvement cycle for System and School Improvement Planning. In this cycle, the system and schools review data and determine areas of greatest need through a comprehensive needs assessment. Then, root causes are examined, and initiatives are developed. The School Improvement Plan is evaluated at 60 days and 120 days. The Richmond County School System Leadership Team reviews data points and determines if the SIP (School Improvement Plan) goals are progressing. If goals are not progressing, the RCSS Leadership Team offers support to help the school move forward. At the end of the year, the school's Leadership Team will use State Assessment data and other pertinent data to determine if goals were met. One key component to examining this data is breaking it down to the student's names – not just looking at percentages or sub-groups. Knowing exactly who to target and how to intervene is critical in this process. The Continuous Improvement Cycle allows schools to determine if the schoolwide program has been effective based on student achievement data and to help determine if new initiatives and action steps need to be taken.</p>
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