

Richard Woods, State School Superintendent

Georgia School for the Deaf
Leslie Jackson,
Superintendent

**NOTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT IN PRIORITY SCHOOL
FLEXIBLE LEARNING PROGRAM (FLP)
JULY 27, 2016**

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Student:

Your child attends Georgia School for the Deaf, which receives federal Title I funds, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, to help its students achieve at higher levels. Despite the progress made by our students, Georgia School for the Deaf has been designated as a Priority School under Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver for the 2016-17 school year. This designation is based on our school's performance in 2011 and we keep this designation for three years, having begun in 2012.

A Priority School receives its designation in one of two ways: 1) It is in the lowest performing 5 percent of all Title I schools in the state based on student test scores, and there has been a lack of growth in these test scores over a number of consecutive years, or 2) It is a Title I-participating or Title I-eligible high school with a graduation rate less than 60 percent over a number of consecutive years.

As you know, GSD students tend to struggle in academic performance due to language delays. Although trend lines in every tested area continue to show increased achievement in standard scores, it continues to be difficult to achieve State expectations in percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standards on State assessments. This is true particularly in the areas of Reading, ELA, and Writing as measured by State assessments (CRCT, EOCT, GHSGT, GHSWT, 3rd, 5th, & 8th Grade Writing assessments).

As a Priority School, we will work together with parents/guardians, our community, and the Georgia Department of Education to develop a school plan that delivers the necessary support to address the learning needs of our students and increase their academic success. One of the main interventions we will provide is a Flexible Learning Program (FLP).

Priority Schools are required to develop and offer FLPs. The FLP offers extra academic help to students through tutoring, remediation and/or other educational supports. The goal of the FLP is to increase student learning, grades, and test scores. Your child is eligible to receive FLP services. FLP services will begin at our school on 08/04/14.

All GSD students will receive an additional hour of reading intervention/enrichment Monday–Thursday. This will be delivered in a small group setting. The students are grouped based on scores from the STAR Reading assessment, so that they receive data-based targeted instruction and remediation (Tier 2 intervention). In addition, all students receive Math intervention for 30 minutes each Monday and Tuesday (Tier 2) and further reading intervention/

enrichment (Tier 3) for 30 minutes each Wednesday and Thursday.

All GSD students will automatically be served in our FLP unless written notice from you is received by Bobby Bond at 232 Perry Farm Rd SW, Cave Spring, GA 30124.

Seven parent meetings will be held to provide more information on the FLP services being offered at our school. These meetings will provide you the opportunity to understand the FLP services being provided to your child, as well as provide you with a copy of our school's written FLP plan. Please plan to attend one of these meetings. The first meeting will take place on Sunday, August 3, 2014. The six additional regional meetings, which will take place at different locations throughout the year, are tentatively scheduled for the following Tuesdays: Aug. 26, 2014; Sept. 9, 2014; Sept. 16, 2014; Sept. 23, 2014, and Sept. 30, 2014. Times and locations of these meetings will be presented to you in the school's Family Handbook and Parent Involvement Plan on Sunday, Aug. 3, 2014.

An important part of the Georgia School for the Deaf's success is parent participation and support in developing activities to improve student achievement. We hope that you will become involved in our school improvement work as we continue to monitor student achievement and set high expectations. If you are interested in participating in the development of our school improvement plans, being part of our family engagement team or have questions regarding the FLP, please contact Bobby Bond, our Parent Involvement Coordinator, at 706-777-2225 or bbond@doe.k12.ga.us.

Thank you for all that you do to support your child's education.

Sincerely,

Leslie Jackson
Superintendent