

Georgia Charter System Foundation Awards

FAST FACTS – from Charter Systems District Awards Applicants Charter Systems Successes with Charter Flexibility

Barrow County Schools: Barrow County School System is committed to ensuring an exceptional education that leads each student to become a high achieving and responsible citizen. Charter flexibility has enabled the school system to implement innovative instructional practices and processes to meet the academic needs and creative interests of students. Use of distributed leadership and shared governance has provided numerous opportunities to develop local, state, and national partnerships to accomplish the mission, vision, and goals of the school system. Barrow County School System is "Boldly Committed to Student Success" and the entire staff is continuously challenged to be Barrow BOLD (Building Our Learning Differently)

<u>Calhoun City Schools</u>: Flexibility: Calhoun City Schools utilizes charter system flexibility to redefine the classroom. Innovative scheduling, flexible calendars, virtual learning, and mobile learning labs have helped explore many opportunities for students. Flexible scheduling coupled with the partnership between the Calhoun College and Career Academy and Advent Health Care Clinic has been a way to enrich and support the healthcare pathway. The school / hospital partnership allows flexibility in waiving specific requirements that would be in place in a traditional urgent care to allow students to work on-site. Students practice and apply learned skills in real world environments and situations

Candler County Schools: The Candler County School District has greatly benefitted from the flexibility that is derived from being a charter system. The opportunity to obtain charter distinction was intended so that systems could determine ways in which their needs might be best met. As such, the Candler County School District has been able to utilize flexibility to enhance program offerings and identify well suited individuals to provide program services. This is critical in systems such as ours that may be smaller in nature but determined to afford our students as many quality programs and opportunities as possible. Purposeful collaboration between internal and external stakeholders is critical to the identification of needs, opportunities, solutions, and evaluation of effectiveness. Our local school governance teams are an essential component to the entire process.

Cartersville City Schools: Exercising charter system flexibly provides the autonomy to create and sustain an exceptional, accountable learning environment for all students and stakeholders. Our community, and the hopes and dreams they have for our students, drive our work and the way we hold ourselves accountable. We strive to use flexibility to make minor adjustments that create a major impact on our students and ultimately our community

<u>Chattahoochee County Schools</u>: In ChattCo, we have successfully changed the narrative of what it is to be educated in a rural system. From 1:1 technology, pathways that lead to immediate career placement, and meaningful STEM opportunities, our rural community is thriving. Innovation has led to nearly 60% of students reaching national growth targets in reading and math. With a four-year cohort graduation rate of nearly 94%, students are prepared for college and career readiness with more than 88% of graduates earning at least one college credit. These consistent outcomes are a testament to the charter flexibility.



Dublin City Schools: Since becoming a charter school district in 2011, Dublin City Schools has prided itself on both implementing innovations to meet students' needs and sharing our results with local and state partners. Thanks to Charter system flexibility, we've employed innovative strategies across all grade levels, provided quality environments and resources, enhanced transparency resulting in greater community engagement, and widened the talent pool for professionally qualified staff. Some of the most notable examples of our charter implementation include Baby Irish, DCS's Job Fair, The Irish Gifted Academy, Leaping Leprechauns, Option B, Tiny House Projects and The Dr. Jaroy Stuckey Workforce Development Initiative

Evans County Schools: The Evans County Charter School System continues to transform the lives of its students. All students are acquiring twenty-first century skills that will give them the edge in any career and allow them to change as the workplace changes. Different success stories abound! From traditional dual to Option B enrollment, students are completing more college work than ever and enhancing their learning with related work experience.

Lumpkin County Schools: Our mission and vision for the Lumpkin County School System is to educate and empower lifelong learners as we prepare all students for successful and productive lives in an ever-changing world. A primary tenet central to our success is the shared understanding of our educators that 'all students' means the path of success for one student can be very different from that of another. With that acknowledgement and commitment, Lumpkin County Schools, a premier charter system in Georgia, remains dedicated to a flexible and innovative approach to serving today's students.

<u>Union County Schools</u>: Union County Schools utilizes the charter system flexibility to ensure "Success for ALL" across our district. From teaching certification of industry professionals to providing students with the best, equitable educational opportunities, all stakeholders within our district benefit from the flexibility of our charter. This allows us to focus on doing what is in the best interest of our students, who are our top priority, as we invest in our future. Due to our use of flexibility, Union County Schools is consistently a top performing district within our RESA.