

## Special Education

Special education is "specialized instruction" provided for students (3-21) who are determined to have a specific disability as defined by Public Law 94-142 and amended by the 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It may be provided by one or several special teacher(s). Also, related specialists will sometimes assist in delivering services for a child.

## Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as "Section 504," is a nondiscriminatory statute enacted by the United States Congress. The purpose of Section 504 is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students.

## Child Find Procedures

Child Find is the school system's attempt to locate any children (3-21) who are suspected of having a disability, Special education and/or related services may be recommended if a disability interferes with a child's learning. Speech/Language Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy are some of the related services that may be offered.

When should a child be referred to Child Find?

- If there are birth complications or a medical condition that interferes with development and/or learning.
- If a child appears to have social or emotional difficulties that interfere with his/her ability to learn.
- If a child appears to learn more slowly than children his/her own age.
- If a child has speech that cannot be understood by others.

Who may refer children? -Parents/legal guardians -Other family members - School personnel -Physicians -Child care providers -Community agencies - Infants & Toddlers Program.

## Seclusion and Restraint for all Students

State Rule: 160-5-1-.35

The seclusion of students is prohibited in the Laurens County School System. The use of restraint is limited to those situations in which students are a danger to themselves or others. Prone restraints are prohibited in all situations. Laurens County Schools has adopted the HELP (Human Empowerment and Leadership Principles) program that focuses on maintaining a physically and emotionally safe environment. Training is provided to those staff who are in positions in which they may be called upon to physically restrain students. An update HELP training is provided annually. A Physical Restraint Incident Report Form should be completed on each incidence of restraint. **Written** notification should be provided to parents within a reasonable time, not to exceed one school day from the use of restraint, when physical restraint is used.

For more information on Section 504 rights, Child Find Procedures, and/or Seclusion and Restraint please contact Stacey Sanders, Spec. Ed. Director at 478-272-4767, staceysanders@lcboe.net, or visit:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6>

(Select "Child Find Procedures for Laurens County Schools")

## Laurens County School Contacts

<http://www.lcboe.net/schools>

### East Laurens Primary \*

Mrs. Sherri Moorman, Principal  
950 Highway 80 East  
East Dublin, GA 31027  
478-272-4440

### East Laurens Elementary \*

Mr. Hugh Kight, Principal  
960 Highway 80 East  
East Dublin, GA 31027  
478-272-8612

### East Laurens Middle School \*

Mr. Ernest Holmes, Principal  
930 Highway 80 East  
East Dublin, GA 31027  
478-272-1201

### East Laurens High School

Mr. Eddie Morris, Principal  
920 Highway 80 East  
East Dublin, GA 31027  
478-272-3144

### Northwest Laurens Elementary \*

Dr. Amy Duke, Principal  
3330 Highway 80 East  
Dudley, GA 31022  
478-676-3475

### Southwest Laurens Elementary \*

Mr. Kelland Waldrep, Principal  
1799 Highway 117  
Rentz, Georgia 31075  
478-984-4276

### West Laurens Middle School

Mr. Tim Franks, Principal  
332 West Laurens School Road  
Dublin, GA 31021  
478-272-8452

### West Laurens High School

Mr. Clifford Garnto, Principal  
3692 Highway 257  
Dexter, GA 31019  
478-875-1000

\*Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards.

# Laurens County Schools 2015-2016

## Parent Notification

**Dr. Juli Alligood**, Interim Superintendent, Title I-A, & Testing

**Ms. Holly Deal**, Assoc. Superintendent, Title II-A, Title VI-B, & Pre-K

**Dr. Jameson Travick**, Assoc. Superintendent, Migrant, ESOL, Gifted, CTAE

**Mr. Keith Hall**, Assoc. Superintendent, Human Res., & Transportation

**Ms. Stacey Sanders**, Special Education

**Mrs. Marquita Timmons**, LCSW, Social Worker-West, Homeless Liaison

**Mrs. Summer Faulk**, Social Worker-East

**Mrs. Donna Sapp**, School Nutrition

**Mr. McKinley Kemp**, Maintenance

**Mr. Lance Smith**, Technology

## Laurens County School System

467 Firetower Road

Dublin, GA 31021

Phone: 478-272-4767

FAX: 478-277-2619

[www.lcboe.net](http://www.lcboe.net)



As required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The Laurens County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services or activities, in access to them, in treatment of them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations. For additional information, please contact the Laurens County Board of Education.

## Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals

### **Teachers**

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires that all teachers of core academic subjects be "highly qualified." This document states who may be considered "highly qualified." Note: A teacher who is "highly qualified" may not necessarily be fully certified. To be fully certified and "highly qualified" a teacher must meet all of the state's certification requirements and be assigned appropriately for the field in which he or she is teaching.

### **Paraprofessionals**

Federal law requires that all paraprofessionals who work in a program supported by Title I, Part A funds be "highly qualified." Georgia requires all paraprofessionals be "highly qualified." All Georgia paraprofessionals must hold a valid state paraprofessional certificate issued by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Parent notification is not required for paraprofessionals who are not "highly qualified."

### **Required Notification: Right to Know –ESEA Sec. III(h)(6)(A)**

Parent's Right to Request a Teacher's and a Paraprofessional's Qualifications: By law, Laurens County Schools are required to notify parents that they may request information regarding the teacher's or the paraprofessional's professional qualifications, including the following:

- Whether the teacher/paraprofessional has met the Georgia Professional Standards Commission certification requirements for the grade level and subject area(s) in which the teacher provides instructions.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Georgia qualifications or certification criteria have been waived.
- The college major and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher.
- Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

If a parent wishes to request information concerning their child's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s) that provide educational services, the parent must provide a written request to the school principal.

### **20 Day Parent Notification Letter–ESEA Sec. III(g)(6)(B)**

Laurens County Schools are required to notify parents if a teacher who is not "highly qualified" is teaching their child a core academic content course. Parental notification is required if a teacher who is not "highly qualified" teaches their child for four consecutive weeks or more. This includes notification when students are taught for four or more consecutive weeks by single or multiple substitute teachers in instances where there is no teacher of record and/or in the absence of the teacher of record (sick or maternity leave, etc) Parental notification is not required for teachers who are not the teacher of record for core academic subjects. Effective 2006-2007, the parent notification requirement applies to teachers who teach core academic content subjects in Title I and Non-Title I schools and programs.

For more information on Highly Qualified Teachers/Paraprofessionals contact the LCBOE Title II-A Director, Holly Deal, at 478-272-4767, hollydeal@lcboe.net or visit:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6>

(Select "Parents Right to Know—Teacher Qualifications")

## Migrant

The purpose of the Migrant Education Program (MEP) is to ensure that migrant children fully benefit from the same free public education provided to other children. To achieve this purpose, the MEP addresses the special educational needs of all migrant children to better enable children to succeed academically. More specifically, the purpose of the MEP is to:

- Support high-quality, comprehensive educational programs for migrant children to reduce the educational disruption from repeated moves.
- Ensure that migrant children moving among states are not penalized by disparities between state curriculums, graduation requirements, academic content, or achievement standards.
- Ensure that migrant children are provided with appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging state academic content and student achievement standards that all children are expected to meet.
- Design programs to help migrant children overcome educational disruption, culture & language barriers, social isolation, health related problems, and other factors that inhibit their ability to do well in school.
- Ensure that migrant children benefit from state and local systemic reforms.

For more information contact the LCBOE Migrant Services Director, Dr. Jameson Travick at 272-4767, jamesontravick@lcboe.net or visit:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6>

(Select "Purpose of the Migrant Education Program")

## Homeless

In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the LCBOE will work with homeless children, youths, and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school in a manner that will not stigmatize or segregate them on the basis of their status as homeless. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible, including Head Start and comparable pre-school programs, Title I, similar state programs, educational programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, vocational and technical education programs, gifted and talented programs, and school nutrition programs. For more information contact the LCBOE Homeless Liaison, Marquita Timmons at 478-279-3495, marquitatimmons@lcboe.net or visit:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6>

(Select "McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and Policy")

## LCBOE Gifted and Talented

Our mission is to provide gifted education services that are tailored to the intellectual, academic, creative, social, emotional, and motivational needs of the gifted student. For more information, contact the LCBOE Gifted Coordinator, Dr. Jameson Travick at 478-272-4767, jamesontravick@lcboe.net or visit:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/242>

(Select "Parent Resources")

## HB251

HB251 Laurens County School-to-School Transfer Requests. The Laurens County Board of Education, in compliance with House Bill 251 (HB251), has developed a process giving Laurens County parents/guardians the option to request that their children attend any Laurens County school in the system, based on space availability. In accordance with the law, Laurens County has developed a process for parents to exercise the school transfer option and a process to determine space availability. For more information pertaining to the Laurens County School-to-School Transfer Request option, request submission deadlines, the implementation procedures, a preliminary list of schools with available classroom space, and an application to request a transfer, please visit the link below:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6>

(Select "FY16 HB251 School-to-School transfer request")

## Fraud and Compliance

All employees, board members, consultants, vendors, contractors, and other parties maintaining a business relationship with the Laurens County School District shall act with integrity and due diligence in matters involving District fiscal resources.

Employees who suspect that financial fraud impropriety or irregularity has occurred shall immediately report those suspicions to their immediate supervisor and/or the Superintendent/Designee, who shall have the primary responsibility for initiating necessary investigations. Investigations shall be conducted in coordination with legal counsel and/or other internal or external departments or agencies as appropriate.

For more information on LCBOE's Fraud Prevention Regulations please visit <http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6> and select "FY16 Administrative Regulation for Reporting Fraud"

## Complaint Resolution Policy and Procedures

Any individual, organization, or agency (complainant) may file a complaint with the Laurens County BOE if that individual, organization, or agency believes and alleges that the LCBOE, GA Dept. of Ed., or any agency or consortium of agencies is violating a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The complaint must allege a violation that occurred not more than one year prior to the date that the complaint is received, unless a longer period is reasonable because the violation is considered systemic or ongoing.

As part of its assurances within the ESEA program grant application and pursuant to Section 9306 within the Title I, Part A of the ESEA, the Laurens County BOE has adopted and posted local written procedures for the receipt and resolution of complaints alleging violations of law in the administration of covered federal programs.

Further information on the LCBOE Complaint Procedures is available on the website:

<http://www.lcboe.net/Content2/6> (Select "FY16 Complaint Regulation")

Or

By request at the Laurens County Board Office Reception Desk (see address on the front of flyer).