



Dr. Brian Otott
Interim Superintendent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Paulding County Continues to Increase Graduation Rate

Dallas, Georgia – The Paulding County School District is pleased to announce its 2017 graduation rate continues to rise. Paulding’s 2017 4-year Graduation Rate is 84.6%. That is nearly a 3% increase over 2016, and an 8.6% increase since 2011. It is 4% higher than the state average of 80.6%.

The most dramatic increases in the graduation rate came from Paulding County and South Paulding High Schools. Paulding County High School’s graduation rate was 83.9%, a 9.1% increase over 2016. South Paulding’s graduation rate was 86.2%, an increase of 6.2% over 2016.

“Our ultimate goal is to graduate 100% of our students on time, and ensure they are prepared for college or career,” said Dr. Brian Otott, Interim Superintendent of the Paulding County School District. “We are extremely encouraged by the progress we are seeing with our 4-year graduation rate, and are proud that we consistently perform above the state average.”

In 2016, the District implemented a number of initiatives to support student graduation, including:

- Reading and math assessments designed to provide teachers and students with specific data to determine if they are performing on grade level. Parents, students and teachers are provided with resources to support their learning and identify gaps in instruction.
- A position was added to each high school in order to focus on students who are at-risk of not graduating. Each school has been given the flexibility to determine how the additional staff will be used to best meet the needs of the students at their school.
- To support non-traditional learners, the District opened the Paulding Virtual Academy. The goal of the Paulding Virtual Academy is to provide a different school experience for students who are at-risk of not graduating or are seeking an alternative path to graduation.

The 4-Year Graduation Rate is based on when a student first becomes a freshman and is calculated by tracking enrollments, withdrawals, and transfers within that four-year period.

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