



What is GFO SWSS/IE2?

In 2008, House Bill 1209 was signed into law, allowing local school boards to enter into a performance contract with the Georgia Department of Education for flexibility on Title 20 state laws, rules, and guidelines, in exchange for increased accountability. In March 2016 the Georgia Board of Education approved the Georgia Flexibility Option Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS/IE2) Performance Contract with the district. The contract period runs from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2022 and provides limited flexibility on state laws, rules, and guidelines.

School Accountability

The performance contract uses the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) as the main accountability measure for all district schools (excluding Charter Schools). Each district school is required to annually increase their performance by 3% of the gap between the baseline year CCRPI score and 100 (without the inclusion of Challenge Points). Baseline year for all schools is SY 2015-16.

Schools demonstrating a trend of improvement, and meeting the equivalent of three years' of targeted improvement by the end of the contract period, will be deemed as meeting the accountability requirements of the contract.

School Consequences

If a school fails to meet their accountability measures, one of three options may occur:

1. The school can be converted to a Charter School
2. The school can be transferred to a non-profit or for profit education organization
3. The schools governance can be turned over to a successful district

What limited flexibility waivers were approved for the district?

Financial/Human Resources Flexibility

- Class-size and Reporting requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182)
- Direct Classroom Expenditures/Expenditure Controls (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171)
- QBE Financing except to the extent it relates to funding (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161)
- Program Enrollment & Appropriation (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160)
- Categorical Allotment requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186)
- Salary Schedule requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212)
- Certification requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-108, 200, 201, and 204)
- Personnel Required (SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22)
- Guidance Counselor (SBOE Rule 160-4-8-.05)

Academic Flexibility

- ELL Program Requirements (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156)
- Educational Programs (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-153, 154, 154.1, 155)
- Enrollment of students in school to which not originally assigned (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131)
- Promotion and Retention (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-283)
- Middle School Program Criteria (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290)
- Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Program (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12) (high schools only)
- School Day and School Year for Students and Employees (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, 160(a), and 168(c))
- Education Program for Gifted Students (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.38)
- Instructional Extension (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-184.1)
- Competencies and Core Curriculum, Online Learning (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-140.1)
- Graduation Requirements (SBOE Rules 160-4-2-.47 and 160-4-2-.48)

SCCPSS utilizes a district level waiver review and use process for the implementation of approved flexibility waivers listed above. See additional information below for Board Policy and Regulations.

Additional information

School Board Policy and Regulation: BDH and BDH-R Suspension of Policies/Waivers

SCCPSS GFO SWSS/IE2 Website: t20.sccpss.com

Georgia's Department of Education: <http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Policy/Pages/IE2.aspx>

Governor's Office of Student Achievement: <http://gosa.georgia.gov/strategic-waiver-school-systems-swssie2-evaluation/>

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