

Exhibit B – Flexibility Component of Contract

For the Valdosta City School System

Under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-80 and SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.33, the Valdosta City School District is seeking flexibility for all its schools from the following state statutes and associated rules in exchange for greater accountability (as outlined in the SWSS Partnership Contract), over the life of a five-year contract which allows for six years of flexibility between the Valdosta City School Board of Education and the Georgia State Board of Education, except as prohibited in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-82(e).

- **Attendance Protocol: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.2**
Flexibility will allow the district and schools to devise protocols for managing student attendance issues.
- **Awarding Units of Credit for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce: SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.15**
Flexibility will allow schools greater ability to award credit based on student demonstration of competency.
- **Categorical Allotment Requirements, Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20: O.C.G.A. § 20-2- 167, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-183 to 20-2-186**
Flexibility will allow the district to develop a budget based on system and school strategic plans, without limitation based on state-required use of funds.
- **Class Size, Reporting, and Staffing: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-182**
Flexibility will allow schools to better manage human resources to meet student needs, and enable the district to better manage financial resources in support of school staffing needs.
- **Competencies/Prescribed Courses/Online Learning: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-140.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-142**
Flexibility will allow the district and schools to revise courses of study and sequencing of curriculum around locally developed competencies.
- **Comprehensive Health/Physical Education Program except as prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 20- 2-82(e): SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.12**
Flexibility will allow the district and schools to manage certain instructional time and program requirements, and may provide the opportunity to develop alternative paths for students to meet state standards for these courses of study.
- **Educational Programs: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151.2, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-153, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-154, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-154.1, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-155, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-156**
- **Education Program for Gifted Students: SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.38**
Flexibility will allow schools to be more innovative in devising delivery models that meet student needs in the areas of Early Intervention, Remedial Education, Alternative Education, English Learner, and Gifted Education.
- **Expenditure Controls: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-171**
Flexibility will allow the district to expend funds based on district and school improvement plans, rather than state-required categories.
- **Graduation Requirements for the purpose of substitution of equivalent or higher level requirements which will assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to be**

**successful as they continue their education at the postsecondary level and/or enter the workforce:
SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.47 and SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.48**

Flexibility will allow the local board to adopt alternative graduation requirements that are equivalent to or higher than current state requirements. Also, schools will have flexibility to award credit based on mastery rather than seat time.

- **Instructional Extension: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-184.1**
Flexibility will allow the district to utilize state funds allocated for the Instructional Extension Program in a manner that best meets student needs.
- **Organization of Schools/Middle School Programs/Scheduling: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-290**
Flexibility will allow schools to devise instructional and operational plans in response to student needs, without limitation based on state-determined organizational and time requirements.
- **Personnel Required: SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.22**
Flexibility will allow the district to allocate state funds for the employment of personnel based on district and school needs and priorities, rather than the state allotment sheet.
- **Promotion and Retention: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-283, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-284**
Flexibility will allow the district to establish promotion/retention criteria, as well as protocols for making placement decisions in a timely manner while preserving due process rights.
- **QBE Financing except to the extent it relates to funding: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161**
Flexibility will allow the district to receive all earned QBE funding, while also allowing the district to deliver various programs and services without programmatic restrictions tied to state funding.
- **Salary Schedule: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-212**
Flexibility will allow the district to devise a salary schedule that will help schools attract and retain high-quality personnel.
- **Scheduling for Instruction: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160(a) (except to the extent it relates to funding), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c)**
Flexibility will allow schools to schedule for instruction in ways that may better meet the needs of students, without the limitation of instructional time requirements and program restrictions set by the state.
- **School Day and Year for Students and Employees: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160(a), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-165 (except to the extent it relates to funding), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c)**
Flexibility will allow the district to alter the requirements for minutes of instruction at each level, schedules, and staffing. Adjustments to the school day and/or year based on student and financial considerations will be available.