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Chief Academic & Accountability Officer
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Dr. R. Stephen Green
Superintendent

Office of Federal Programs
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**FY17 ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER FLEXIBLE LEARNING PROGRAM (FLP):
COLUMBIA MIDDLE SCHOOL (FOCUS)**

January 11, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 requires that parents or guardians who have children attending a Title I school be notified of how well their school is preparing its students for college and/or a career, as well as the school's designation status under Georgia's 2016 ESEA Flexibility Waiver. Your child's school receives Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state academic achievement standards. Despite the progress made by students, your child's school has been designated as a Focus School under Georgia's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver for the 2016-2017 school year.

Under the 2016 renewal of Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Waiver, certain Title I schools continue to be designated as Reward, Priority, or Focus Schools. The Waiver allows the use of the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) as the comprehensive report card for all schools in Georgia, providing a score between 0-100 for each school measuring how well the school is doing in preparing its students to be successful in college and/or a career.

Focus Schools are among the lowest 10% of Title I schools in the state that have a subgroup or subgroups with low achievement in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's CCRPI.

As a Focus School, the school will work collaboratively with parents/guardians, the community, and the school district office to develop a school turnaround plan and will implement interventions to respond to the specific needs of the students in the school. One of the interventions that will be provided throughout the year is a Flexible Learning Program (FLP). The FLP program offers academic assistance such as tutoring, remediation and other educational interventions designed to increase the academic achievement of students within the school. Therefore, as part of efforts to improve student achievement and implement ESEA, your child may be eligible to receive FLP services, based upon meeting multiple educational selection criteria and federal rank order prioritization requirements. The FLP services will begin the week of January 17, 2017 through January 28, 2017.

This year, the district provided several meetings during the summer to inform parents/stakeholders about the Flexible Learning Program. A minimum of two school parent/stakeholder meetings will be held to provide more information on the FLP services offered at your child's school. The school meetings will provide an opportunity for parents/stakeholders to review, revise and provide input on the 10 component FLP plan. We want to ensure that our parents/guardians continue to be informed about the educational interventions available to students to increase student academic achievement. For questions or additional information contact Dr. Myisha Warren, Title I Director, Office of Federal Programs at 678.676.0219 or email her at myisha_warren@dekalbschoolsga.org.

Respectfully,

Dr. Lisa Martin
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