



Dr. Melvin Johnson, Chair
Dr. Michal A. Erwin, Vice Chair
Mr. Stan O. Jester
Mr. James L. 'Jim' McMahan
Dr. Joyce Morley
Mr. Marshall D. Orson
Mrs. Vickie B. Turner

Dr. R. Stephen Green, Superintendent

DeKalb School board urges its citizens: Say NO to state takeover of local schools

After careful consideration, the DeKalb County Board of Education urges voters to vote **NO** on proposed Constitutional Amendment #1, the Opportunity School District amendment.

Local control of education is a bedrock American principle. We strongly believe that citizens whose taxes pay for a majority of the cost of educating our children should exercise control over decisions relating to that education. We believe it is not only wrong but risky to give up local control to a new state bureaucracy. The Board strongly believes that the answer to improved academic outcomes and achievement is in the classroom and the schoolhouse, with **motivated, well-trained teachers; engaged, challenged students; and involved, supportive parents, caregivers, and communities.**

To accomplish our goals of restoring DeKalb's national reputation for academic excellence and for providing world-class services to our students, staff, and communities, DeKalb County Schools will continue to invest in our children and our teachers. We have demonstrated our commitment over the last year by eliminating all teacher furlough days and granting multiple pay increases for our teachers and staff. We are steadfast in our commitment to improve educational outcomes for all DeKalb students as we transform our schools through rigor, relevance, and relationships. Voting **NO** to a state takeover of our local schools will allow DeKalb to continue its progress for all our children.