The meeting will begin promptly at 9:30

1. All microphones will be muted.
2. Please type all questions in the chat field.
3. A frequently asked questions document will be drafted from your questions and emailed to all participants.
4. Thank you for your patience.
GNETS Facilities
Online Meeting

Matt Jones
Chief of Staff
Georgia Department of Education
Opening Message

Welcome

Purpose of this Meeting

Support and Assistance
DOJ Findings

The July 2015 letter from the Department of Justice expressed concerns regarding GNETS facilities.

Facilities do not have or lack adequate:

- Gymnasiums
- Cafeterias
- Playgrounds
- Library
- Labs
- Lighting
- Maintenance
- Even or paved parking lots
- Central air conditioning
- Window air conditioning units
- Rooms for:
  - Art
  - Music
  - P.E.
  - Vocational
- Media Center
The GNETS facilities have undergone a three-part assessment.

1. A Program Evaluation by the Office of Planning and Budget
2. A Facilities Condition Assessment by GaDOE regional facilities team
3. A Facilities Condition Assessments by the professional architectural team
GaDOE Findings

• After an in-depth analysis of data from these assessments, Nine of the GNETS facilities should no longer be considered as a site to support the instructional and therapeutic needs of students.

• Findings in the reports were related to:
  • Building Structures
  • ADA access
  • Overall Maintenance
  • Cafeteria and playgrounds
Closing of Priority Facilities

• Currently students are receiving GNETS services in several sites across the state.

• Per direction given by the State Board of Education, nine out of the multiple sites will need to relocate students immediately (before the beginning of school).

• The Georgia Department of Education and the State Board of Education are here to listen and support you through this process.
Steps Forward

1. Collaborate and plan exit strategies with all stakeholders (districts served, GNETs, RESAs, Fiscal Agents and GaDOE regional facilities staff).

2. Transition students out of these sites prior to the opening of school per State Board of Education policy decision.

3. Review IEPs for the impacted students to determine student’s Special Education Related Services and decide if those services could be delivered in the least restrictive environment.

3a. When appropriate schedule IEP team meetings to update student’s IEPs for transition.
Steps Forward

4. Contact GaDOE regional facilities staff if you require support with locating alternate sites.

5. Consider sites outside of the current district if necessary.

6. Contact GaDOE facilities department to approve relocation to another stand alone facility.
We appreciate the work of the GNETS programs and other state agencies on this effort.