

April 24, 2020

Dr. Xernona Thomas, Interim Superintendent  
Clarke County School System  
440-1 Dearing Extension  
Athens, GA 30606-2043

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Enclosed is the report of the Cognia Special Review for Clarke County School System conducted on January 26-28, 2020. The findings of the Special Review are presented in the report for the consideration and further action by Clarke County School System.

Based on the findings of the Special Review and in accordance with Cognia (formerly known as AdvancED) policy, Clarke County School System will continue its accreditation with the status of **Accredited Under Review**. The status of *Accredited Under Review* requires an annual, onsite Monitoring Review as mentioned further in this letter.

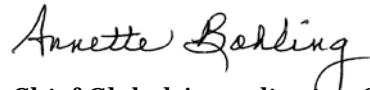
The findings of the Special Review Team indicate that the school system is not meeting several of the *Cognia Performance Standards for School Systems*. The report includes Improvement Priorities that must be acted upon by the school system. The responsibility lies with the school system to identify and implement corrective steps to address the Improvement Priorities and to meet the accreditation Standards noted in the report. As such steps are implemented, school system officials should ensure that appropriate evidence, including documentation of results, is maintained. Such evidence and documented results will be reviewed during the onsite Monitoring Review(s). Also, the responsibility lies with the school system to share the contents of the report with the system's governing body and the community.

To ensure progress is being made, Clarke County School System is required to host an on-site Monitoring Review prior to December 2020. The purpose of the Review will be to evaluate the school system's progress in addressing the Improvement Priorities listed in the Special Review report. A progress report template is enclosed with this mailing for use by your school system. The progress report must be submitted to Cognia within two weeks prior to the Monitoring Review. We will work with you to select convenient dates and to plan the details for the Monitoring Review.

Dr. Xernona Thomas, Interim Superintendent  
Clarke County School System  
April 24, 2020  
Page 2

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact Dr. Claudia Carter, Senior Vice President, Evaluation Services, at [claudia.carter@cognia.org](mailto:claudia.carter@cognia.org). Dr. Carter will contact you to plan for the Monitoring Review.

Sincerely,



Chief Global Accreditation Officer

enc: **Special Review Report: Clarke County School System: January 26-28, 2020**  
**AdvancED Policies and Procedures for Accreditation and Certification: June 29, 2018**  
**Monitoring Review Report Template (for use by Clarke County School System)**