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For Immediate Release

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GES, GCHS among the 74 schools removed from Priority and Focus lists

April 11, 2017 – The Georgia Department of Education released today that 74 out of 243 have exited the Priority and Focus Schools lists. Greensboro Elementary School, a Focus School, and Greene County High School, a Priority School, are among the schools removed from the Priority and Focus lists.

Priority Schools represent the lowest-performing five percent of Title I schools based on achievement data, plus schools with a graduation rate below 60 percent for two consecutive years. GCHS met the exit criteria by having graduation rates greater than 60 percent for the past two consecutive years.

Focus Schools represent the lowest-performing 10 percent of Title I schools based on achievement gap data. That data examines the gap between a school's lowest performing 25 percent of students and the state average, and the extent to which that gap is closing. GES closed its achievement gap by at least 2.5 points, allowing it to meet exit criteria for schools placed on the Focus list.

"Today is a day to celebrate," said Greene County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Houston. "Our schools have worked hard over the past few years to make the improvements needed in order to be removed from both the Focus and Priority Schools lists. While we are aware that there is still much work to do, we are proud of this accomplishment. We will continue to take the steps needed to increase rigor in our schools and improve teaching and learning across the district."

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