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A-1: LEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXHIBIT ONE (1)

**Lee County School District and Lee County High School
Standards for Accreditation Recommendation for Accredited - Probation status**

Violation

· Lee County School District: Violation of 1-C.2.1 (probationary)—Each school district shall maintain accurate student records including graduation requirements. Specifically, the District did not maintain accurate, up-to-date transcripts, and parents/students were not notified of issues/significant changes such as students waiving Smart Core.

· Lee High School: Violation of 1-C.2.2 (probationary)—For graduation, students must have acquired a minimum of twenty-two (22) units of credit as determined by the State Board of Education. Specifically, students expecting to graduate did not have appropriate guidance to schedule a minimum of twenty-two units of approved credit, and student transcripts did not reflect the appropriate courses aligned with Smart Core or Core.

Summary

The last day for seniors at Lee County High School is May 10, 2019. Without immediate intervention, 35/56 (63%) seniors will not graduate on time (May 24) and with an accurate transcript. Because of lack of adult oversight, student transcripts contain errors, course schedules do not include the required 22 credits, students are not on track for Smart Core, and students are not enrolled and supported through credit recovery.

Since the initial ADE monitoring on February 5, 2019, little urgency has been exhibited by the adults to meet the needs of these students. The appeal documents, received March 20, 2019, are the first evidence that some students have been enrolled in credit recovery classes and parents have been contacted about these issues.

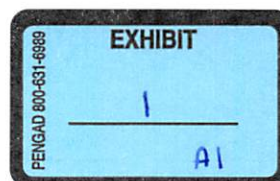
The district's rate of progress to address and resolve the graduation deficiencies does not exhibit the urgency by which these 35 students need in order to graduate on time with the required 22 units of credit. These 35 students need our immediate intervention. These students have 46 calendar days to complete numerous credit recovery courses in addition to attending and completing their regular senior schedule of classes. We are asking much from these seniors. We need to demand more from the adults.

Grade 12 - 2019

12 seniors still need to be enrolled in 16.5 credits of recovery courses.

12 seniors are currently enrolled in 30 credits of recovery courses with limited progress.

2 seniors have not had access to the required 22 credits with 10 additional student transcripts still needing verification of documentation. One noted error has not been corrected to date.



Grade 11 - 2019

20 students have transcript errors

31/44 on time credits (70%)

Grade 10 - 2019

13 students have transcript errors

31/48 on time credits (65%)

Grade 9 - 2019

2 students have transcript errors

32/48 on time credits (67%)

****This data does not reflect cohort data for graduation rate purposes.

Graduating class of 2018

36 students graduated on Smart Core

13 students had enough credits, but not reported as Smart Core in Triand

9 students were flagged for not having appropriate credits

- One student graduated 1/10/2019 with 21.5 credits
- One student graduated 5/31/2018 but failed English 11 2nd semester
- Six students may have graduated on IEP but documentation is incomplete, with three of the students having failed numerous courses without credit recovery documented.

Lee County School District Timeline of Events

Tuesday, February 5, 2019

An on-site monitoring visit was conducted on February 5, 2019, as a result of high risk on the federal risk assessment. A desk audit revealed multiple discrepancies within senior transcripts, therefore, a standards monitoring was also conducted on February 5, 2019. During the monitoring visit, transcript issues were identified and Roy Causbie shared Smart Core and Core credit planning documents with the High School counselor.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

A review of Triand indicated that the transcript issues had not been resolved and a follow-up visit was scheduled for February 26, 2019. During the February 26 monitoring visit, Assistant Commissioner Deborah Coffman, Chief of Staff Gina Windle and Standards Support Specialist Dr. Kristi McIntosh met with Lee County High School Principal Mr. Earnest Simpson, High School Counselor Mr. Todd Taylor, and Lee County Superintendent Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson to review each of the 56 senior transcripts. During the transcript analysis, multiple discrepancies were identified that included data entry errors, students needing credit recovery (that had not been scheduled), students missing required courses (that had not been scheduled), and students that would need a Smart Core waiver to graduate on time. The counselor recommended support from ADE one day each week.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

The next day (February 27) Dr. McIntosh was notified that the counselor was suspended on February 21, 2019.

The counselor was reinstated and returned to work on February 28, 2019.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

ADE scheduled a follow-up visit for March 5, 2019. During this visit, Deborah Coffman and Dr. Kristi McIntosh reviewed each transcript again with High School Counselor Mr. Todd Taylor.

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Assistant Commissioner Deborah Coffman emailed a letter to Superintendent Ms. Elizabeth Johnson regarding a notice of probationary status appeal hearing.

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Director of Monitoring Ms. Tracy Webb emailed a letter to Superintendent Ms. Elizabeth Johnson indicating required corrective actions regarding Standards for Accreditation and Federal Programs. Documentation of completing the corrective actions is required from the district by April 6, 2019.

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

The counselor was suspended on March 6, 2019.

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

ADE scheduled a follow-up visit for March 13, 2019. Standards Support Specialists Dr. Kristi McIntosh and Ms. Krista Harrell met with Lee County High School Principal Mr. Earnest Simpson and High School Counselor substitute Ms. Billie McCray to review each senior transcript. Ms. McCray did not have access to a computer, eSchool, or Triand.

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

ADE received an email from Superintendent Ms. Elizabeth Johnson containing an appeal letter and evidence packet.

Monday, March 25, 2019

Special State Board Meeting scheduled for 10:30 a.m.

History
Lee County School District

April 8, 2013

State Board voted to classify Lee County School District in Academic Distress.

June 10, 2013

State Board voted to classify Lee County High School as first-year Probationary Status of Standards for Accreditation.

April 10, 2014

State Board voted to place Lee County School District under State Authority - Board of Directors removed; Superintendent Murdock remained.

May 8, 2014

State Board voted to classify Lee County School District in Fiscal Distress.

June 12, 2014

State Board voted to classify Lee County High School as second-year Probationary Status of Standards for Accreditation.

February 12, 2015

State Board voted to remove Lee County School District from Academic Distress classification.

March 12, 2015

State Board voted to return Lee County School District to local control upon election and training of a school board of directors.

September 14, 2017

State Board voted to remove Lee County School District from Fiscal Distress.

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ARKANSAS)
) ss.
COUNTY OF SALINE)

I, SHARON K. HILL, CCR, a Certified Stenomask Reporter and Notary Public before whom the foregoing proceedings was taken, do hereby certify that the same is a true and correct transcription before the Arkansas State Department of Education, State Board of Education, in Little Rock, Arkansas, on March 25, 2019, that the said proceedings was reduced to typewritten form by me or under my direction and supervision; and that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct transcription of all proceedings had in said matter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I have no contract with any parties within this action that affects or has a substantial tendency to affect impartiality, that requires me to relinquish control of an original transcript or copies of the transcript before it is certified and delivered to the custodial agency, or that requires me to provide any service not made available to all parties to the action.

WITNESS, MY HAND AND SEAL, THIS DATE: March 31, 2019.



Sharon K. Hill

SHARON K. HILL, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 670

