



**JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON
DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR HIGHLY SKILLED
TALENT AT YOUNGER AGES**

DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

26 September 2023



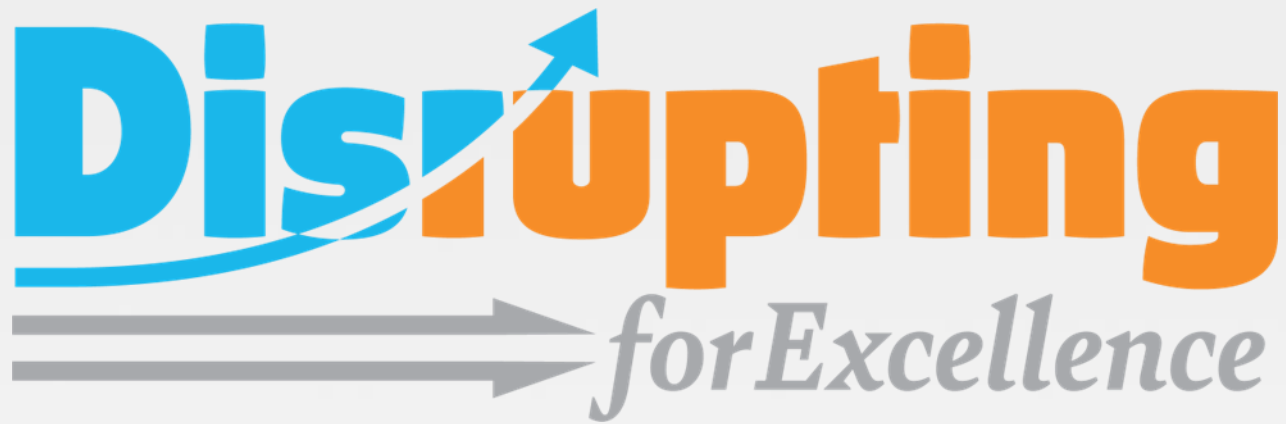
Introduction and Gratitude

Appreciate the invitation to discuss dual enrollment from a DCSD and, particularly, an early college model perspective.

Mr. Edward Conner, Principal of DeKalb Early College Academy (since 2013)

DeKalb Early College Academy is:

- § **One of seven early college model schools in Georgia**
- § **Second oldest early college model school in Georgia (2006)**
- § **Far and away, the most successful version [CCRPI, 2020 NBRS of Excellence]**



The Aim of Early College Model Schools

- **Maximize Exposure to College for:**
 - First-Generation College Goers
 - Low Income Families
 - Female Scholars
 - People of Color
- **Compress Money and Time**
- **Academic Rigor, Plus How to Navigate the College Terrain**

DeKalb Early College Demographic Snapshot

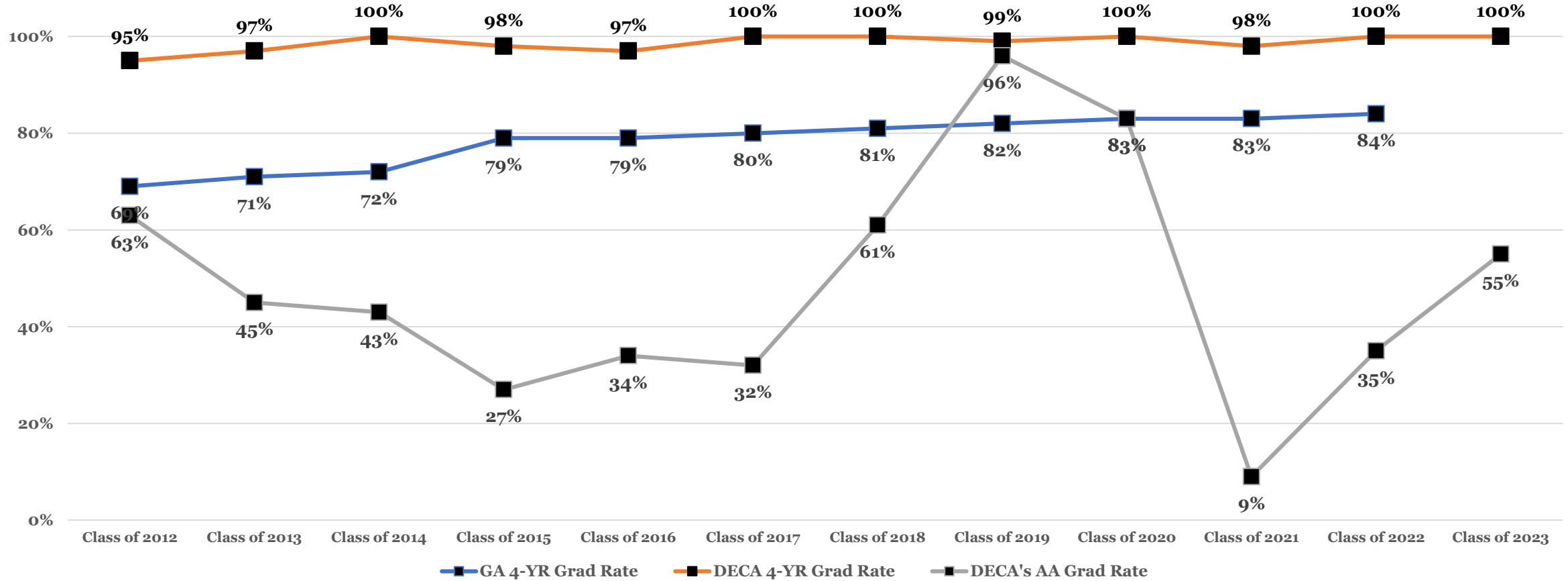
- **Total Student Population = 299**
- **Female-to Male Ratio = 73% to 27%**
- **Free/Reduced Population = 65%** (We are a Title I school.)
- **Gifted Scholars = 35%**
- **Multi-Language Learners = 4%**
- **73% Black**
- **14% Hispanic**
- **10% Asian**
- **2% White**
- **1% Multi-racial**

The DeKalb Early College Academy Story

- National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence – Highest Performing Schools (US DoE, 2020)
- Top 4 High School in Georgia, including #1 in 2013** (CCRPI / Ga DoE, 2012-2019)
- Title I Distinguished School for Top 5% in Assessments (Ga DoE, 2012-2022)
- *U.S. News & World Reports* - Best High Schools Recognition (2012-2023)
- Greatest Gains and Highest Performing Accountability Awards (GOSA, 2015-2019)
- Georgia School of Excellence (Ga DoE, 2012)

Scholars' Stories Behind These Numbers Are So Much Better, More Inspiring!

Graduation Rate Comparisons



Evolving Past HB 444

§ Suggestions for Sustaining Dual Enrollment

§ Increase funding for Early College Model Schools

§ Include more enrollment opportunities through the Technical College System of Georgia

§ Include CTAE/Industry Certifications as part of Dual Enrollment

Evolving Past HB 444, cont.

§ Set up a Parallel Structure to HOPE Career Grant for Traditional College Pathway (similar to SB 86 co-sponsored by Senator Matt Brass) and for more Technical College Pathways

§ Allow Access to HOPE After Current 30-Hour Cap of Dual Enrollment Met

127 Semester Hours Covered by HOPE

97 Hours Left After Tapping Into Additional 30 Hours for an Associates

24 Hours = Full time for a Year

Still Covers 8 Semesters or 4 Years (approx.) with Two of Them Already Done

Parent and Scholar Acknowledgements About Early Access, Grade Requirements

Disrupting

for Excellence

College Readiness in Two Years Is Doable.

**A More Robust Dual Enrollment Mode
Enhances the Mission of the Early College
Model and Promotes Opportunity
and Equity For All High School Scholars.**



Thank you again,

**JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON
DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR HIGHLY SKILLED
TALENT AT YOUNGER AGES**

**Dual Enrollment & CTAE produce the
most amazing young Georgia citizens!**