

Request for Flexibility 2014-15 Proposal



INSTRUCTIONS: Please write your responses in the boxes below.

SCHOOL NAME: Chattahoochee High School

CONCEPT NAME: College-style Class

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE: Prepare students for success in college-format courses

Concept Summary	
1) Describe the need/challenge that your school seeks to address.	Over 80% of Chattahoochee graduates attend a 4-year university. Many of these graduates find themselves unaccustomed to and academically underprepared for the format of large, lecture-hall style teaching which is a hallmark of many undergraduate courses. Additionally, some courses at Chattahoochee “fill up”, so not all students are able to enroll in the courses they request.
2) Describe the proposed concept, and explain how it addresses the need/challenge identified above.	Provide Chattahoochee upperclassmen with the option to take a high school course that closely resembles the large, lecture-hall style courses they will need to be prepared for their freshmen year of college. These courses would follow a traditional college schedule, meeting 2 or 3 days per week for an extended period of time similar to the College English format already in place (waive seat time), allow a greater number of students in the class (waive class size), and follow a lecture-style format. In addition to the course’s content standards, the teacher will also teach students skills necessary to be successful learners in this format of instruction. By providing a large, lecture-hall style class, more students would be able to enroll in it, allowing Chattahoochee to have greater flexibility over the master schedule and provide more students with the courses they request.
3) Include any research or evidence that the concept will positively affect your school’s student population. If no research exists, please articulate the rationale for the likelihood of success of the concept, and describe your plans for risk mitigation.	80% of Chattahoochee graduates attend a 4-year university. Nearly half (47%) of students enrolling in American universities drop out before earning a degree. This is largely due to their unpreparedness upon entering college. Many high school students do not have the opportunity to practice learning in a college-like environment with a large number of students, a college-class schedule of longer periods and less days, and a lecture format. This proposal will give interested students this opportunity along with the teacher coaching students on how to be successful learners in this environment. This will help students make the transition to college lecture-style classes more successful. There is very little risk as this format will be optional for interested students; students who are not interested or who feel they will not benefit from practicing learning in this different environment can continue taking traditional high school courses.

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4) Outline the expected results in the columns to the right.	Project Outcomes	Short-Term Goals	Long-Term Outcomes
	Offer course(s) of a similar size and format to college courses.	Upperclassmen voluntarily enroll in college-style course and begin experiencing different format as well as receiving instruction of how to be successful learners in this environment.	Chattahoochee graduates will be better prepared for their freshmen year of college and will be more successful learning in a common college-style environment. Also, more students will be able to enroll in courses of their choosing.

Waiver(s) Requested

5) List any waivers from state law, regulation, and/or rule required to implement the concept. (Facilitators will identify the specific laws, regulations, and/or rules requiring exemption.)	Waiver from Georgia State Board of Education Rule: 160-5-1-.02 School day and school year for students and Employees 160-5-1-.08 Class Size
6) List any flexibility from Fulton County Schools' policy required to implement the concept. (Facilitators will identify the specific Fulton County Schools policies requiring exemptions.)	We are not aware of any flexibility from Fulton County Schools' policy required to implement the concept.

Impact on Students and Families, Personnel, Departments, Processes, and Schools

7) List any impact of the concept on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students and families; ▪ Personnel; ▪ The school schedule; ▪ Transportation; ▪ School nutrition; ▪ Teaching, learning, and assessment; ▪ Other schools; and ▪ Any other area not addressed above. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing a physical space for this large course to meet. • Ensuring that teachers teaching this course and following the prescribed instructional methods will not be negatively affected by Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) evaluations. • Compensating teachers for the additional students they are teaching, and the extra planning, grading, and follow-up that will be necessary. This may be done with additional pay, decreased non-teaching duties, decreased teaching duties, peer facilitators, Teaching Assistants from local universities, etc. • Master calendar scheduling. Due to the structure of the class, it will need to be scheduled either the 1st period of the day, the last period of the day, or adjacent to a lunch period.
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Budget

8) Please use the budget template on the next page to provide the estimated costs of the proposed concept. In the space to the right, please identify, to the extent possible, how you plan to modify your school budget to cover additional costs. If applicable, identify external funding sources.

The school budget would not need to be modified.

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INSTRUCTIONS: Please enter the expected costs of your concept for the applicable school year(s). To calculate the totals for the Amount Budgeted columns, highlight the entire table, and press F9. You may customize the budget items.

SCHOOL NAME:

		2015		2016		2017		
Budget Item	Item Description (Include quantities if applicable)	Amount Budgeted*	Proposed Funding Source(s)**	Amount Budgeted*	Proposed Funding Source(s)**	Amount Budgeted*	Proposed Funding Source(s)**	Notes
Teacher(s)		0		0		0		
Paraprofessional(s)		0		0		0		
Support Staff		0		0		0		
Additional Pay (certified)/Overtime (non-certified)	Teacher stipends for supplemental pay to compensate for additional work load	\$12,000 (2 teacher stipends @ \$6,000 each)	FCS RFF seed fund	\$18,000 (3 teacher stipends @ \$6,000 each)	FCS RFF seed fund	\$24,000 (4 teacher stipends @ \$6,000 each)	FCS RFF seed fund	
Equipment		0		0		0		
Supplies/Materials		0		0		0		
Professional Development		0		0		0		
Independent Contractor(s)		0		0		0		
Transportation		0		0		0		
Supplements		0		0		0		
Other Professional Services		0		0		0		
Other		0		0		0		
Other		0		0		0		
GRAND TOTALS		\$ 12,000		\$ 18,000		\$ 24,000		

*When determining the *Amount Budgeted* for personnel costs, the principal should consult with the Learning Community Human Resources Director.

**For the *Proposed Funding Source(s)*, please indicate which of the following funding sources you intend to use: General Fund, Student Activities Fund, School Foundation/PTA, FCS Seed Fund, Grants, or Other (please specify the source).

Request for Flexibility
2014-15 Proposal

