



# Joint Budget Hearing

Georgia Department of Education  
January 22, 2020

# Thank you for a historic session for public education!



QBE fully funded for second year



\$3,000 salary increase for certified staff



Dedicated funding for mental health; school safety

“The message sent with the pay raise...was so positive. It made a statement about the importance of teachers to the state.” – *teacher, Oconee RESA listening session*

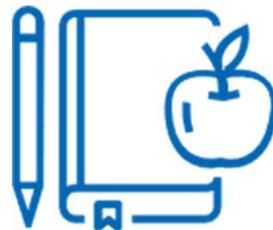
# Strong Gains for Georgia Public Schools



Ranked 13<sup>th</sup> for K-12 Achievement (Ed Week Quality Counts)



Outscoring national average on ACT & SAT



Georgia Milestones: scores up or steady on 25 of 26 assessments



Graduation rate of 82%; CTAE graduation rate of 96.54%

Georgia's public schools continue to make **significant improvements** on **national and state** metrics.

# Challenges Remaining in Public Education

**Poverty:** One in four Georgia students lives with food insecurity. More than 38,000 students are homeless.

**Rural resource gaps:** Rural schools are dealing with a shrinking tax base and high-need student populations. Areas like transportation present funding challenges.

**Teacher recruitment and retention:** Over 40% of teachers leave the profession by year five.

# Challenges Remaining in Public Education

## Concerns with high-stakes testing:

Attendees at every listening session raised concerns about the time dedicated to high-stakes assessments and the impact of those tests on students & on instruction.

**Student mental health:** 11.3% of students said they had seriously contemplated suicide within the last 12 months (Georgia Student Health Survey)

# Legislative Priorities

2020

## Responsible & Aligned Accountability

- State testing requirements more closely aligned to federal minimum
- Streamline competing accountability systems and eliminate duplication

## Strengthening the Teacher Pipeline

- Robust Teacher Pipeline legislation
- Changes to allow districts to utilize retired educators full-time in high-need teaching positions

[gadoe.org/legislative](http://gadoe.org/legislative)

# Legislative Priorities

2020

## Expanding Opportunities for Students

- Expand opportunities for fine arts and computer science instruction
- Ensure sustainability and quality of the Dual Enrollment program

## Funding Public Education & Renewing Rural Georgia

- Support additional funding for transportation in rural school districts
- Support funding for additional school counselors to support student mental health needs

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**Thank you for your  
support of Georgia's  
public schools &  
students.**

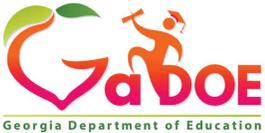
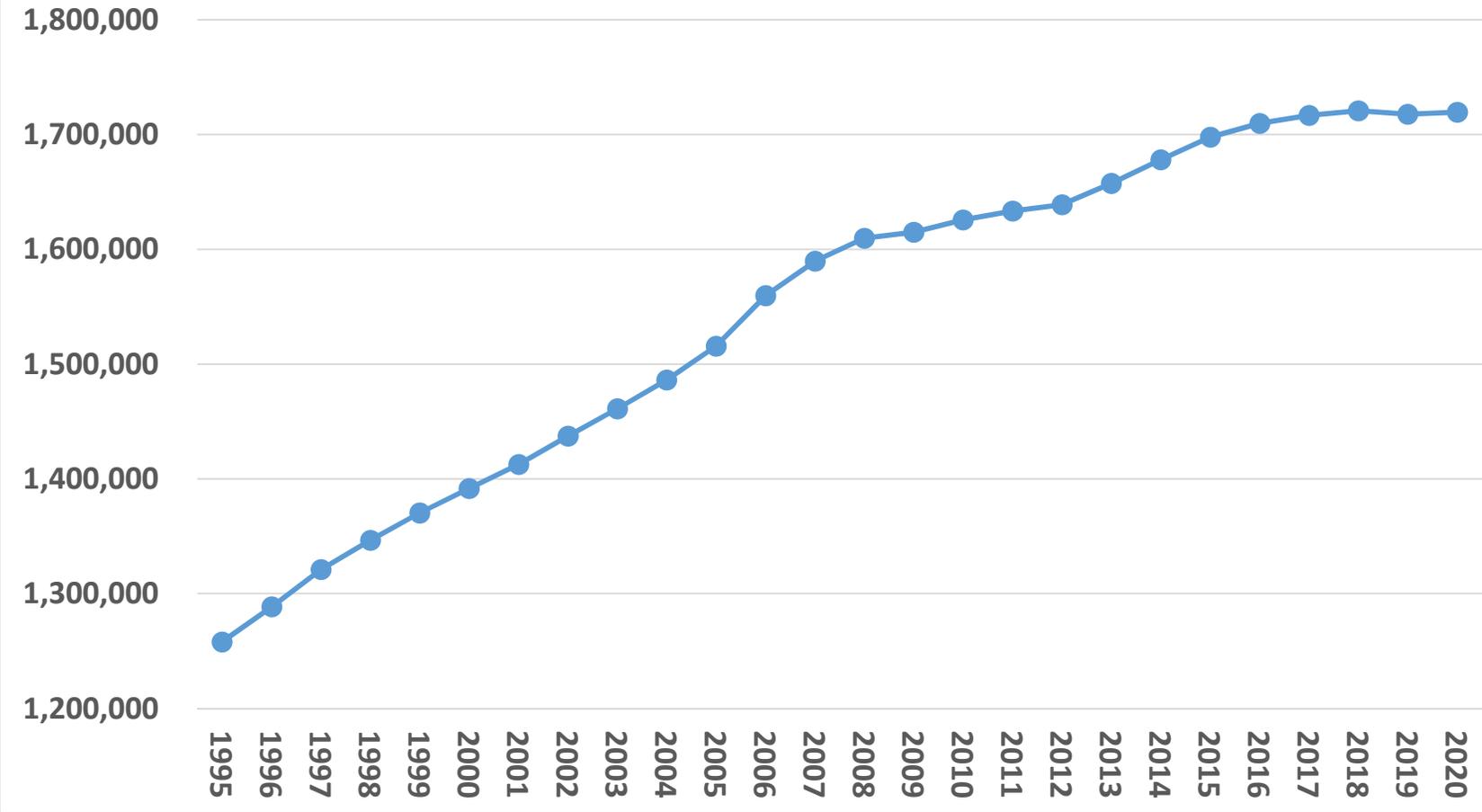
*We look forward to working with  
you this session.*



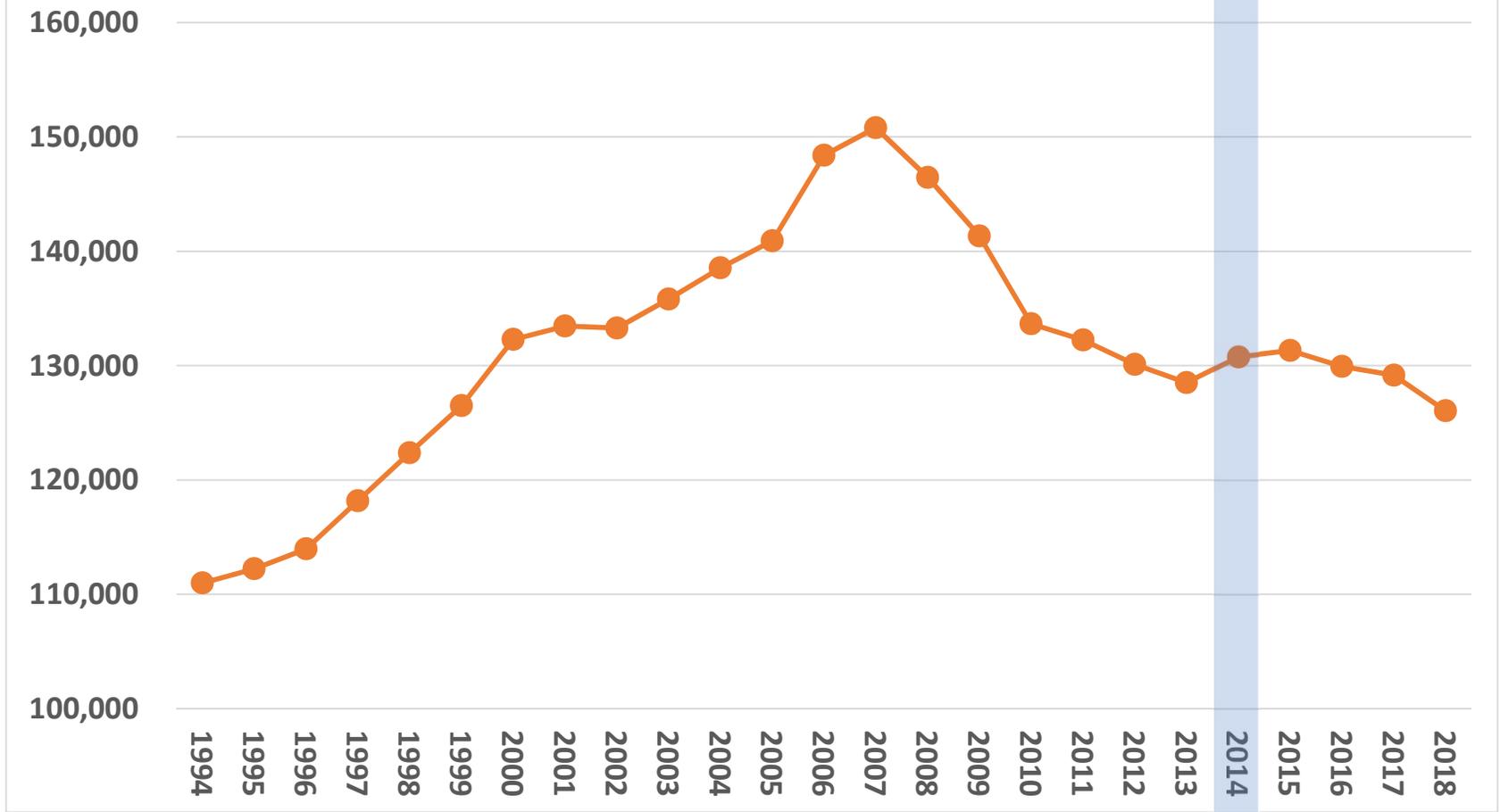
# Ted Beck

## Chief Financial Officer

# Georgia K12 Enrollment (1995 - 2020)



### Births in Georgia (1994 - 2018)



## FTEs by QBE Category (FY10 to FY20)

