

Dear Superintendent Haralson,

Georgia Charter Systems believe meaningful change in education can occur only if principals, teachers, parents, business and industry leaders and community partners are empowered with the authority and flexibility to make decisions to meet the individual needs of each student. Ben Hill County Schools have exceeded these expectations, and the criteria set forth demonstrating the following attributes:

Flexibility to change existing policies, practices, and waivers to increase academic level of students. Innovation that encourages participation and collaboration by the Governance Team, Principal, Teachers, Students and Community. Commitment to achieving a district-wide program to be implemented with the support of faculty, students, and other individuals and groups involved and the ability to sustain changes over the long-term. Achievement that demonstrates productive work of LSGTs that improves academics and student success.

THEREFORE, on behalf of the Charter System Foundation, the Charter System Foundation Board of Directors, and Executive Director Dan Weber; we are pleased to announce that Ben Hill County Schools has been selected *The 2021 Charter System of the Year*.

Congratulations.

Ben Hill County Schools was formally recognized at the 2021 Virtual Awards Ceremony on November 16, 2021.

Sincerely,

## Michele Taylor

Michele Taylor Charter System Foundation Board Chair

Dan Weber

Dan Weber

Charter System Foundation Executive Director