

# **Georgia Department of Education Title I Committee of Practitioners Report 2006-2007**

The Georgia Title I Committee of Practitioners as established under Section 1903, State Administration of ESEA amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, is directed to be substantially involved in the review and comment on any proposed or final State rules, regulations, and policies relating to Title I prior to their publication. In an emergency situation where such rule or regulation must be issued with a very limited time to assist local school districts with the operation of the program under Title I, the Department may issue a regulation without prior consultation, but shall immediately thereafter convene the State Committee of Practitioners to review the emergency regulation before issuance in final form. The Committee is also provided with updates on national education reform activities, changes in Title I legislation and regulations, and other pertinent State and Federal information.

The 2006-2007 Committee of Practitioners consists of 38 members representing the required groups as defined in Section 1903 of the NCLB Act of 2001 and each of Georgia's 13 Congressional Districts. The State Board of Education approved membership at its December 2005 meeting. Members represent Title I and Curriculum Directors, superintendents, principals, vocational teachers, classroom teacher, parents, Local Education Agency (LEA) Board of Education Members, private school, LEA charter schools, Migrant Education Program Directors, pupil services personnel, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Department of Corrections.

The 2006-2007 Committee of Practitioners met only one time during 2006-2007. This meeting was convened via teleconference on May 7, 2007. Nine Committee of Practitioner members and four Title Programs personnel attended the meeting. The specific items for input were the final drafts of the **Georgia State Board of Education Rule for Public School Choice** and the **Guidelines for the Implementation of State Board of Education Rule for Public School Choice in Title I Schools**.

The Committee has been a major contributor to this rule proposal and its guidance from its inception and has resulted in many valuable suggestions to assure that the Public School Choice Rule and Guidance is a true collaboration of practitioners from school districts who would be responsible for the implementation the adopted rule. This meeting provided the Department with an opportunity to take further input to change and clarify areas of concern.

The committee members continue to request that at least one face-to-face meeting each year be continued. Teleconferences are considered to be an acceptable way to handle emergency situations, but each expressed that small group work sessions in evaluating proposed items is of more value than evaluating items alone. The Department plans to continue with the two face-to-face meetings per year schedule with the flexibility to have called meetings as needed.