



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent  
"Educating Georgia's Future"

Note takers and participants recorded extensive stakeholder feedback during the Fulton County ESSA meeting. This document highlights the high-level summary and common themes from the meeting.

### ***Accountability Common Themes***

1. Stakeholders are interested in their schools' ability to grow students and offer opportunities in other subject areas and outside of the school.
2. CCRPI is too complex, yet it still does not capture the full picture of a school. CCRPI should be streamlined, simplified and focused on school improvement.
3. The state should rate schools based primarily on student growth, but also include school climate measures and how well the schools prepare students for life after graduation.

### ***Assessment Common Themes***

1. Assessment results should be shared with school and district administrations in a timely fashion so that improvements can be made at the classroom, school, and district levels.
2. The amount of time devoted to assessment should be reduced and the state should consider other changes to the structure of the assessments.
3. Parents want to know what their children have learned and the areas they need to focus on.

### ***Educator and Leader Development Common Themes***

1. Stakeholders prioritized content knowledge, years of experience, leadership and skills such as communications, problem solving and cultural sensitivity as important qualifications for teachers and principals.
2. Barriers to equal access to effective teachers and principals include lack of training for teachers and principals, staffing issues and external factors such as poverty, family context, health and language or culture barriers.

### ***Federal Programs to Support School Improvement Common Themes***

1. Stakeholders commented on the current use of funds. They want clear guidance around Title I funds in particular and clearer parameters and flexibility around use of funds in general.
2. Title 1 funds have helped to address student needs and increased student achievement and participation in schooling.
3. Stakeholders noted the importance of partnering with community organizations, the business community and parents to support students both academically and socially and emotionally.

### ***Education of the Whole Child Common Themes***

1. All students should have access to all types of instruction, both rigorous academic instruction and electives that speak to their passions and interests.
2. Health, arts and technology should be fully integrated into the curriculum at all levels.
3. The system needs more resources for social workers/psychologists and other mental health care supports.