
CTO UPDATES – November 2018

Assistant Principal Leadership Development

As a part of the Turnaround Office's leadership focus, assistant principals from partner schools will be convening in Macon on Wednesday, December 5th. The training will focus on instructional leadership, data-driven practices, and promoting a positive school climate/culture.

Critical Issues Forum (Sponsored by the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education)

The GPEE sponsored a *critical issues* forum on November 7th at the Georgia Pacific Center Auditorium (Atlanta). The focus of the forum was to explore the design and progress of the state's turnaround efforts. Dr. Thomas provided an overview of the Chief Turnaround Office's efforts and Dr. Tangela Madge, Superintendent of Randolph County Schools, joined the panel to share their district's experience working with the Turnaround Office. A second forum is tentatively being planned for January.

Dooly County Schools Superintendent Selected

Several weeks ago, Dr. Craig Lockhart was confirmed as the new Superintendent for Dooly County Schools. Dr. Lockhart has hit the ground running and immediately engaged in the district's teaching and learning efforts, talent management, and community engagement. Kudos to the Georgia School Boards Association who led the selection process and to the Dooly School Board for their diligence in identifying their new district leader.

Health & Wellness Initiative

The CTO team is progressing toward offering partner schools a systematic health and wellness opportunity to identify and respond to students' health barriers (i.e. asthma, hearing, language and communication, mental/behavioral health, nutrition, oral health, vision). This focus on non-academic needs is an essential component of the CTO's theory of action to improve academic outcomes at partner schools. The anchor of this initiative is conducting student health screens in partner schools.

Rural Teaching & Learning Resources

The CTO office has launched a targeted teaching & learning focus with its rural district partners. Districts have confirmed resource and bandwidth gaps related to curriculum resources, instructional support, and formative assessment practices. These components make up the instructional infrastructure, the district-level teaching and learning conditions that are critical for school-level success.

Talent Management Focus

The CTO office has sponsored a series of talent management convenings for its partner districts. This focus, aligned to the critical District Conditions to promote school-level transformation, has been identified as a tremendous barrier for CTO partners. On Tuesday, December 4th another convening will be held in Macon to support districts in creating a short and long-term action plan to increase the number of effective teachers and leaders in their targeted schools. Principal Supervisors will also be convening on December 4th to further examine their role in supporting and holding schools accountable.