



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

August 12, 2015

Dear Title I Director:

We all share a common belief that parents are key partners in our on-going work to ensure overall student success in Georgia. We also recognize that new opportunities for building stronger, equal partnerships with shared responsibilities between your parents, your schools, and your communities are continually needed. With this in mind, I am very excited to announce a collaborative partnership between the Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Communities in Schools of Georgia, and United Way of Greater Atlanta for parents and educators, particularly those in Title I schools.

WHAT: Georgia Family Engagement Conference
WHEN: February 4-6, 2016
WHERE: The Classic Center - Athens, Georgia
WHO: Parent Leaders, District and School Level Administrators, School Based Title I Educators, Parent Involvement Coordinators, Community Partners, and Other Educators

While still somewhat early, I urge you to make your district and local Title I schools aware of this opportunity, encouraging them not only to send educators who will benefit from this conference, but to also permit parents of eligible Title I students to participate. For those of you who attended the 2012 & 2014 Georgia Family Engagement Conferences you know it is one not to be missed! Districts and schools are encouraged to:

- Use their Title I funds to support appropriate parent attendance and involvement in this event, inclusive of travel and other associated costs;
- Send appropriate staff members whose duties and responsibilities include Title I parent engagement;
- Have parents and educators who attend the conference share information learned with other parents of children enrolled in Title I programs, as well as school staff and other community partners; and
- Plan ahead by budgeting funds for both Title I educators and parents to attend.

More information is available on the [2016 Georgia Family Engagement Conference Webpage](#) for you to share with your colleagues. If you have questions please contact Amy Park, Parent Engagement Program Manager, at (404) 463-1956 or apark@doe.k12.ga.us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with you to support strong family and community engagement in our schools. Together, and through initiatives such as this, we will continue to build on our goal of educating Georgia's future.

Sincerely,

Avis King
Deputy State Superintendent
Office of School Improvement