



## Georgia Department of Education Title I Committee of Practitioners Report 2011-2012

The Georgia Title I Committee of Practitioners as established under Section 1903, State Administration of ESEA 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 2011-2012 Committee of Practitioners consists of 30 members representing the required groups as defined in Section 1903 of the ESEA Act of 1965 and each of Georgia's 13 Congressional Districts. The State Board of Education approved its membership at its October 2011 meeting. Members represent Title I and Curriculum Directors, superintendents, principals, vocational teachers, classroom teachers, parents, Local Education Agency (LEA) Board of Education Members, private schools, LEA charter schools, Migrant Education Program Directors, pupil services personnel, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Department of Corrections.

The 2011-2012 Committee of Practitioners met twice during 2011-2012. The first meeting was convened on November 17, 2011. In addition to the Committee of Practitioner members, Title Programs personnel attended the meeting held at the Georgia Department of Education in Atlanta. **Each of the Title Programs gave a brief summary of their Program to the Committee of Practitioners.** The specific item for input was the **GaDOE ESEA Flexibility Waiver that involved the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). The presentation was given by Jennifer Davenport, Title I Program Manager. Margo DeLaune, Title I Director, reported on information concerning State-Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support that had been developed by the Title I Department.**

The second meeting was convened on March 8, 2012. Committee of Practitioner members and Title Programs personnel attended the meeting. The specific items for input were the **GaDOE ESEA Flexibility Waiver concerning Priority, Focus and Alert Schools, presented by Jim Milliman and Jennifer Davenport. The Committee broke into groups to discuss the waiver and how it would change from SES. They reported their findings and the general consensus was favorable. The second presentation was by Michelle Sandrock from the Parent Engagement Unit. She discussed new Middle School Transition ToolKit and presented handouts for the Committee to review. The meeting was adjourned by Carol Grady, the COP Chairperson.**

The Committee has been a major contributor of many valuable suggestions to assure that a true collaboration of practitioners from school districts who would be responsible for the implementation of the new Georgia Flexibility Waiver and the Flexible Learning Plans was an integral part of the process. By having the Committee look at the barriers and the enablers at the district, school, and classroom level, the Department is able to change and clarify areas of concern.

The committee members continue to request the two face-to-face meetings each year. They also agree small group work sessions in evaluating proposed items is of more value than evaluating items alone. In



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addition, they found having the information sent to them ahead of time via email is a positive way for them to arrive at the meeting with enough background knowledge to make their discussions more meaningful. The Department plans to continue with the two face-to-face meetings per year schedule with the flexibility to have called meetings as needed. **The first meeting for the 2012-2013 year will be November 8, 2012.**