



**Georgia Department of Education  
FY17 Title I Committee of Practitioners  
Summary Minutes**

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 2016-2017 Committee of Practitioners consists of 45 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 July, 2015 board meeting. Members represent Title I and Curriculum Directors, superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, vocational teachers, classroom teachers, parents, Local Education Agency (LEA) Board of Education Members, private schools, LEA charter schools, Migrant Education Program Coordinators, pupil services personnel, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Department of Early Education.

The Committee of Practitioners met twice during FY17. The first meeting was convened on Friday, November 5, 2016. The Summary Minutes from the last meeting were presented and approved. Dr. John Wight welcomed the group, which has over one third of the membership serving for the first time. Dr. Randy Phillips then gave an overview of the meeting to make the membership aware of what they would be discussing. Dr. Craig Geers, Associate Superintendent for Federal Programs presented news regarding the Status of Georgia's State ESEA Plan including the State Organizational Chart, private schools and the new ombudsman position, the State Advisory Committee, the theme of Educating the Whole Child, and \$17 Million dollar for resources including enrichment, technology, and Title IV.

Dr. Ken Banter discussed the Private School Consultation Process including how the LEA has to design and plan services in the consultation with the private school, the meeting should be held by the end of October, and how the consultation continues throughout the year. Dr. Eric McGhee presented to the Committee the new Foster Care Requirements and then the Committee broke into groups to discuss and give feedback on the morning topics. The individual groups then shared with the whole Committee. The Committee then set the spring meeting date for March 23, 2017 and Reimbursement forms were disbursed. The meeting was adjourned.

The second meeting was convened on March 23, 2017. The Summary Minutes from the November meeting were presented and approved. There were three main topics for discussion. Lynn Howard, COP Chairperson opened the first presentation on ESSA: Additional 3% State Set-Aside. District Student Services would be funded by a 3% SEA Set Aside. This could include Comprehensive Support of Schools, Targeted Support of Schools, and a reduction in the amount of funding for each school. In deciding to reserve these funds, the SEA must also take on new administrative and oversight tasks (Section 1003A (e)). It would be possible to take 11% off the top of the state allocation prior to sending funds to districts and schools. The emphasis on using this Set Aside would be on support for failing schools.



**Georgia Department of Education  
FY17 Title I Committee of Practitioners  
Summary Minutes**

Dr. John Wight, Federal Programs Director, continued with the next presentation to the group, which was on Title I Reward Schools and Title I Reward Districts. This is a positive and good way to recognize schools and districts that are continuing to make progress. It was suggested that we should look for ways to expand this in order to recognize more schools in the state. Title I could consider expanding, but also refining how these schools are determined by the Department.

After the Group Review of Title I Reward Schools and Title I Reward Districts, Carly Amber, Title II Program Manager, led the discussion on the Private School Reservation Process. We are attempting to create a date base of emails to ensure equitable services are provided. Carly met with the Archdiocese of Atlanta to discuss ways to ensure their students are receiving equitable services.

Shaun Owens, Director of Consolidated Federal Initiatives and the State Private School Ombudsman discussed an upcoming webinar in April and May on private schools. She also reviewed a complaint form for private schools and maintained her office is one of a liaison. Dr. John Wight, gave some final remarks on the Summer Conference in June. The Committee then discussed the fall meeting date, deciding on November 14, 2017. The meeting was adjourned.

An additional Conference was convened on June 28, 2017. It was a “Go-To-Meeting”. The membership was able to log in to the meeting from their computer, tablet, or smart phone and participate in all discussions. The Conference meeting topic, the Consolidation of Federal Administrative Funds so they meet a single cost for the Federal Programs with regards to the Administrative Set Asides, was presented by Chairperson, Lynn Howard. The group discussed the determination of procedures and reasonable caps for the Federal Programs that could be set aside for Administration.

Some of the Federal Program caps discussed were Title I Part A (10%), Title I Part C (Migrant) (2%), Title I Part D (N&D) (2%), Title II Part A (10%), Title III Part A (2%), Title IV Part A (2%), 21<sup>st</sup> Century (10%), Title IV Part B (10%), and Title V Part B (2%).

Procedures discussed included once allocated you cannot change your mind, there can be no additional funds for Administration, same amounts allowable for State vs Federal, and Indirect Cost. Final remarks were made by Lynn Howard, the Committee of Practitioners Chairperson, and the Title I Program Managers, Dr. Randy Phillips and Dr. Ken Banter. All items were tabled for additional discussion at the Department. The conference meeting was adjourned.

*Robyn S. Planchard, Ed.S.*  
Title I Education Program Specialist