



Student Leadership through ASPIRE Ambassadors

Presented by:

Vision

The vision of the ASPIRE Student Leadership Ambassador training is to develop and promote leadership skills among a select group of students from local school districts who are currently participating in ASPIRE that will transfer to school, home and community. The program trains on select topics of character, trust, respect, integrity, goal setting, public speaking, service & sacrifice and responsibility to name a few. Upon completion, the ASLA will have the skills to present and promote on the benefits of ASPIRE that include self-determination and self-advocacy.

What Leadership Skills Do They Learn?

- Identifying Strengths
- Team Work
- Respect & Ethics
- Problem Solving
- Confidence
- Goal Setting
- Communication & Listening
- Rights and Responsibilities & Character
- Conflict Resolution & Integrity/Trust
- Public Speaking, Service & Practice

History Timeline

Heart of Georgia Region



- 2015/2016 - ASPIRE Student Advisory Council Created - Dodge County Participation
- 2016/2017 - ASPIRE Student Leadership Ambassadors (ASLA) Created
 - Focus on leadership skills among a select group of students from local school districts
- 2017/2018 - ASPIRE Ambassadors expanded - participation from Dodge, Treutlen, & Bleckley County School Districts
- 2018/2019 - Expanded to include students from Laurens and Telfair County School Districts - Included SDI/SDLMI training with teachers and students
- 2019/2020 - Scheduling Conflicts - Some Modules placed online...then COVID
- 2020/2021 - Hoping for a great year!



Who are the ASPIRE Ambassadors

ASPIRE Ambassador Application Process



ASPIRE Ambassadors

The ASPIRE Ambassador Program is designed to teach leadership skills to students with disabilities who already are student leaders in their school, community, and/or home. Students chosen to be ASPIRE Ambassadors must be involved with the implementation of ASPIRE in the East Central Georgia Learning Resource Systems (GLRS) region, district or school and be a middle school or high school student. Chosen students must attend with their teachers or school or district personnel as the trainings and activities will involve both. Students in the program will gain skills such as team work, respect, ethics, rights, responsibility, character and public speaking. The ASPIRE Ambassadors will meet three times a year for ½ day. Additionally all students who participate and complete all days of training will be invited to participate as group leaders and/or presenters at the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance's CAN Conference to be held at Middle Georgia State University. To register a student and their respective teacher, please complete the form below. The attached photo/video release form must be signed and returned with this registration. Please email the completed registration form and the photo/video release forms to amanda@hgresa.org

Registration

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Student Name: | Grade | Has this student participated in the Ambassador program before? Yes No |
| School System: | School | |
| Phone | Email Address | |
| I participate in ASPIRE and I contributed to my IEP team by: | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Participating Teacher | Participating Teacher Cell Number | |
| Signatures | | |
| Student | Date | |
| Parent | Date | |
| Special Education Director | Date | |
| Principal | Date | |
| Teacher | Date | |

East Central GLRS ~ 1405 West Moore Street, Dublin, GA 31021 ~ 478-353-8350 ~ www.ecglrs.org



By you or your child participating in events related to the Georgia Transition Alliance, you are hereby notified by East Central GLRS and Heart of Georgia RESA that they may release photographs or videos in connection with the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance. You or your child's image, likeness and/or sound of my voice as recorded on audio or video tape without payment or any other consideration if they participate in the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance programs. The images may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed. This material may be used in diverse educational settings within an unrestricted geographic area.

Photographic, audio or video recordings may be used for the following purposes:

- conference presentations
- educational presentations or courses
- informational presentations, online websites and/or social media
- educational videos
- media coverage of events related to the Georgia Transition Alliance

I GIVE permission and I acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the above release and agree to allow the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance, East Central GLRS and other agencies associated with the Alliance to use the photographic and video recording as specified above. As a parent/guardian, I have knowledge that by signing this media release form I am waiving any rights to confidentiality regarding the East Central GLRS and Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance's use of the particular image, likeness or voice recording of my child under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

I DO NOT GIVE my permission for the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance, East Central GLRS, or other agencies associated with the Alliance to use photographic or video recordings of me or my child in any situation listed on this document.

Student Full Name: _____
Parent Full Name: _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email Address: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

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How are the Ambassadors Chosen?

Ambassadors are chosen by staff and teachers at each school. The application process is a contract type document requiring signatures of the Student, Parent, Special Education Director, Teacher and the Principal.

Educational Benefits

The leadership skills that students develop enables the students to promote ASPIRE in their school and community. Ambassadors speak at conferences and workshops demonstrating leadership, self-determination and self-advocacy skills developed as a result of participation. These self-determination and self-advocacy skills benefit the student when they graduate and begin their post-secondary journey.

What to Consider When Starting ASPIRE Ambassador Program?

1 Permissions to participate (district, school, home)

2 Time/Location (who, what, when, where)

3 Support of the program

4 How can the students demonstrate the skills learned (home, school, community)?

FY 21 Plans

- Self-Paced Online Modules are Being Developed that Local Districts Can Utilize to Teach Skills to Students.
- Virtual Meetings Will Be Held So Students Can Participate in the Virtual Modules together
 - Zoom & Nearpod



Q&A

For More Information and/or Resources:

Kathy Simmons, Dodge County Parent Mentor

478-374-6489