Advancing School Leadership for Continuous Improvement
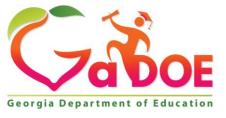
Increasing Graduation Rate: What's Your Plan?

Winter Instructional Leadership Conference

February 25-26, 2020

Gail Parmer
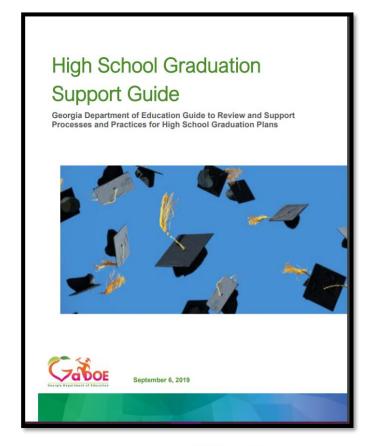**School Effectiveness Specialist**

Session Norms

- Place electronics on silence/vibrate.

- Remain engaged in learning.

- Respectfully share opinions.

- Ask questions for clarification to avoid making assumptions.

Session Goal

To learn and collaborate using the GaDOE High School Graduation Plan Support Guide to identify evidenced based practices that address your school's identified challenges to improving the graduation rate.

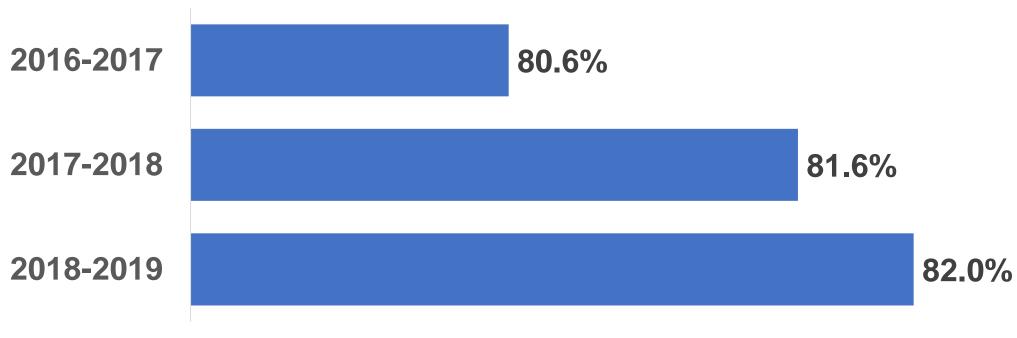[High School Graduation Plan Support Guide](#)

Graduation Rate – All Students

4-Year Graduation Rates for Georgia

2016-2017   80.6%

2017-2018   81.6%

2018-2019   82.0%

■ 4-Year Graduation Rate (%)

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Graduation Rate – Race/Ethnicity

STATE	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017
American Indian/ Alaskan	76.03%	76.8%	79.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	90.83%	90.3%	91.2%
Black	79.57%	79.4%	77.8%
Hispanic	75.85%	74.6%	73.6%
Multi-Racial	82.30%	82.0%	81.5%
White	85.61%	84.9%	84.0%

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Graduation Rate – Subgroups

STATE	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017
Economically Disadvantaged	77.2%	77.1%	76.4%
Not Economically Disadvantaged	88.0%	87.3%	85.7%
Limited English Proficient	59.3%	57.9%	59.0%
Students With Disability	62.9%	61.1%	58.9%
Students Without Disability	84.5%	84.1%	83.2%

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Graduation Rate Targets

What is your school's target?

[Graduation Rate Targets Resource 2020](#)

February 2020
National Lessons Learned Conference for K-12 Schools

Which of these students will drop out?

Which of these students will drop out?

Has not passed math for 2 consecutive years

Absent from school 22 days last school year

New to community. Family has moved 3 times this school year.

Averages 15 office referrals/year for disruptive behavior
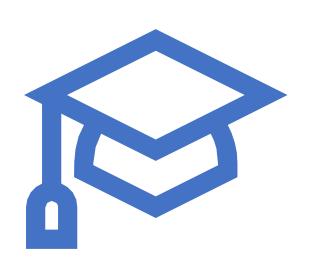
GaDOE
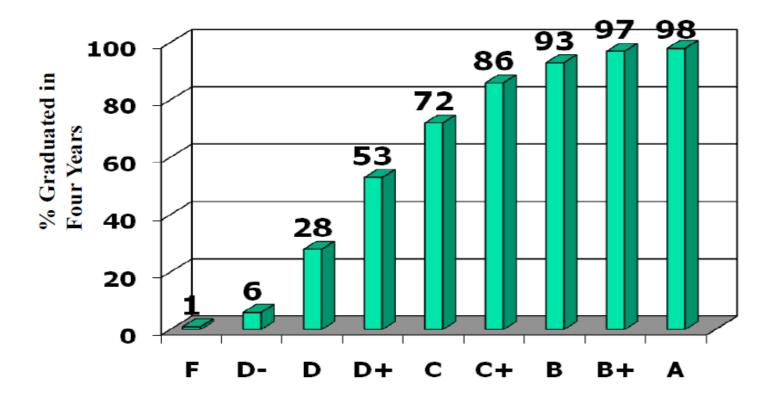Georgia Department of Education

Grade Retention and School Dropout

- Retention of one grade – increases risk by 40%
- Retention of two grades – increases risk by 90%

Understanding the Relationship Between Grades and Graduation

(The Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago, 2007)

Relationship of Attendance to Graduation Rates

Days Absent in 8th Grade	Graduation Rate 5-Years Later
15+ days	38%
11 - 14 days	61%
6 - 10 days	72%
1 - 5 days	80%
0 days	82%

Georgia Department of Education, 2016

15 Effective Dropout Prevention Strategies

Family Engagement	Service Learning	Safe Learning Environment	Early Childhood Education	Active Learning
Professional Development	Mentoring / Tutoring	Educational Technology	Alternative Schooling	School-Community Collaboration
After- & Out-of-School Instruction	Career & Technical Education	Early Literacy Development	Systematic Approach	Individualized Instruction

National Dropout Prevention Center

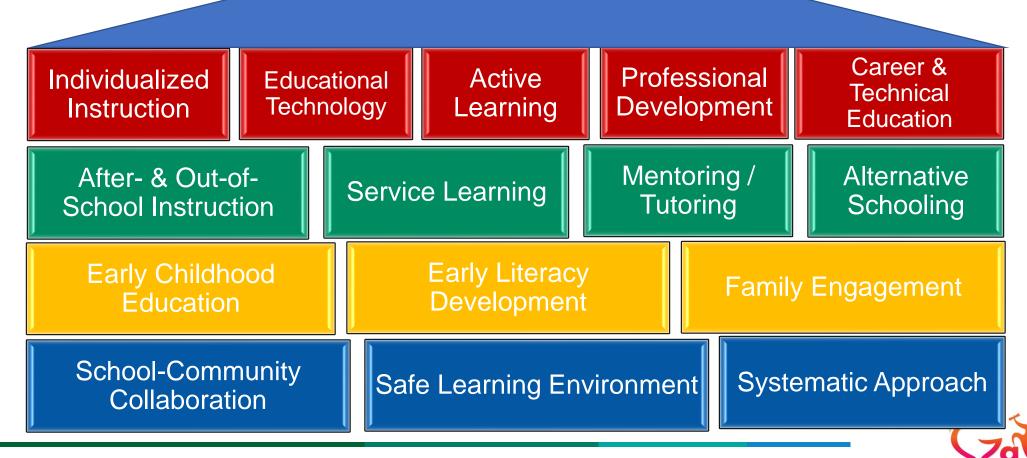GaDOE
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How do we select strategies?

Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected and Applied

National Dropout Prevention Center
Successful Practices Network

| Individualized Instruction | Educational Technology | Active Learning | Professional Development | Career & Technical Education |

| After- & Out-of-School Instruction | Service Learning | Mentoring / Tutoring | Alternative Schooling |

| Early Childhood Education | Early Literacy Development | Family Engagement |

| School-Community Collaboration | Safe Learning Environment | Systematic Approach |

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Think about the research linking students with disabilities and dropouts:

- Students with IEPs are:
  - ➢ 85% more likely to repeat a grade
  - ➢ 3 times more likely to drop out of school
  - ➢ 2 times more likely to be suspended

- Chronic absenteeism is a problem with 19% of students with IEPs missing three or more weeks of school each year.
- Only 65% of students with IEPs graduate in four years.

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Why literacy?
The power of literacy

"Underdeveloped literacy skills are the number one reason why students are retained, assigned to special education, given long term remedial services, and why they fail to graduate from high school."

Vincent Ferradino and Gerald Tirozzi, former Executive Directors of NAESP, NASSP

Offering a holistic education to **each and every child** *in our state.*

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From My Kids/Your Kids to OUR Kids

TWO STRATEGIES:

1. Literacy for ALL

2. Engaging the Faculty in Professional Dialogue: Structured Discussion Groups

CTE WORKS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- High school students involved in CTE are more engaged, perform better and graduate at higher rates.

- Taking one CTE class for every two academic classes minimizes the risk of students dropping out of high school.

- The average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs is 93 percent, compared to an average national freshman graduation rate of 80 percent.

- 91 percent of high school graduates who earned 2-3 CTE credits enrolled in college.

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Top 10 Indicators for Dropping Out

- Poor academic performance linked to retention
- Chronic Absenteeism
- Poverty
- Ethnicity/Race
- Limited English Proficiency
- Urban Schools
- Rural Schools
- Teen Sexual Activity
- Disruptive Students
- Children with Special Needs

Greatest Challenges in Improving the Graduation Rate at Your Schools

What research-based strategy would most effectively address the identified issue?

- **High School Graduation Support Guide**

Directions for Activity

- Move to assigned groups based on common issues

- Based on the assigned resources to explore in the High School Graduation Support Guide:
  - Each group develops action steps to address the issue
  - Record on the chart paper
  - Post on your group's wall

Gallery Walk

Post questions or suggestions for each group's plan using post-its.

Back to the Drawing Board with Your Group

- **Consider comments/questions from Gallery Walk**
- **Prepare final plan to address your group's issue**
- **Decide on a speaker(s) for your group to report out**

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Share Plans to Increase Graduation Rate with Whole Group

*Offering a holistic education to **each and every child** in our state.*

Questions/Comments

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Session Feedback

Thank you for attending our session. Please take a moment to provide your feedback.

https://tinyurl.com/2020ILC

Share your conference highlights now!

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