# Parent Involvement Coordinator (PIC) 101 Training

**September 11, 2013, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**
**Georgia Department of Education**


**Michelle Sandrock**
**Parent Engagement Program Manager**

**Nathan Schult**
**Parent Engagement Specialist**

# Parent Engagement Program

## Overview

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
*"Making Education Work for All Georgians"*
www.gadoe.org

# Our Program

Communication
GaDOE Programs
Increase student achievement by
ENGAGING & EMPOWERING PARENTS
to become actively involved in their children's education across all grade levels.
External Partnerships
Professional Development

# Communication

## Setting the Stage for Parent Engagement

**"WHEREAS, THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZE THAT THE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PARENTS, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITIES MUST BE VIEWED AS EQUAL WITH SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT *SCHOOLS* MUST TAKE THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING THESE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO ENSURE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS…"**

# Communication

## Parent Engagement Awareness

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PARENT ENGAGEMENT MONTH

WHEREAS: Education is the gateway to a bright

state. Georgia is

CHIEF OF STAFF

PROMOTING

PLAY A

**National Parent Involvement Day**

**November 21, 2013**

**Georgia Parent Leadership Awards**

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) and the Georgia Parent Teacher Association (GA PTA) created the award to recognize parents across Georgia who utilize their various skills and talents to strengthen our schools and positively impact the lives of our children. The award also hopes to inspire all parents to use their unique talents, no matter how big or small, to *lead* the way in building positive outcomes for all children.

# Communication

## Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council

Parents serve as advisors and act as ambassadors. They share the information learned with members of their communities, other families, and schools.

# Communication

## Parent Engagement Awareness

# Communication

## Printed Resources

**Play a role in your child's success in school.**

**Get the facts…**
**Get connected…**
**GET INVOLVED!**

PLAY A ROLE

IN YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS IN SCHOOL.

Get the facts...get connected...GET INVOLVED!

Schools understand that parents are busy people, but there are many different ways you can get involved in your child's education. No matter how little or how much time you have, there are many ways you can positively impact your child's education at school and at home. Remember, when parents get involved and stay involved, all students achieve at higher levels.

1. VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL Schools often send home lists of various ways that parents can volunteer. If they don't, let your child's teachers, principal, or counselors know your special skills and ask what you can do to help.

2. SHOW YOUR CHILD THAT YOU CARE Have a conversation with your child about school and homework regularly. Ask specific questions that inform you about your child's day. Know what classes your child is taking, who your child's friends are, and other essential information.

3. KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE SCHOOL Get to know your child's teachers, principal, counselors and school's parent involvement coordinator. Make it a point to stay in contact with them throughout the school year.

4. EXPRESS HIGH EDUCATIONAL EXPECTATIONS Encourage your child to take challenging courses and monitor your child's academic performance (homework, grades, and test scores) throughout the year. Emphasize effort and achievement.

5. ATTEND SCHOOL MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS, AND EVENTS Make time to attend parent-teacher conferences, parent fairs, curriculum nights, award ceremonies and other school events. Your attendance and support matters to your child.

6. SEEK OUT INFORMATION Request a meeting with your child's teacher regarding any aspect of your child's education. If you have other questions, ask the school by calling or sending a note so they can link you with the appropriate person that can respond to your needs.

7. BE AN ACTIVE PART OF DECISION MAKING COMMITTEES Participate in parent or school leadership organizations. Ask your school about the Parent Teacher Association or Parent Teacher Organization, school council, parent advisory committee or other parent organizations and then join one.

8. MAKE SCHOOL IMPORTANT Talk positively about school with your child. Send your child prepared for school each day with pens, pencils, notebooks, and homework completed. Make school a priority by ensuring they are at school every day and arrive on time.

9. BE SEEN AT SCHOOL Arrange a visit to your child's classroom, have lunch with your child at school, or visit the Parent Center. Your presence matters and shows the school that you are invested in your child's education.

10. BE INFORMED AND RESPONSIVE Ask, collect, read, and respond, if needed, to all information (school policies, field trip information, student handbook, etc.) that is sent from your child's school or teacher. If you need to receive information in a language other than English, call or visit the school.

11. VISIT YOUR SCHOOL'S WEBSITE Access all kinds of information, including homework assignments, class schedules, lesson plans, test dates, and grades on your child's school website. If you don't know your school's website, ask your child's teacher or the school.

12. PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOPS THAT ARE OFFERED Look for great opportunities to meet other parents at school through workshops that cover topics such as child development, school standards, and other shared parent concerns. If workshops are not offered regularly, help plan one or suggest ideas to your school counselors or parent involvement coordinator.

13. PROVIDE A RICH LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AT HOME Make time for meaningful dinner conversations, trips, games, reading time, family sports, and daily routines. Activities like these will contribute to your child's academic achievement at school.

14. DROP IN ON AFTER SCHOOL OR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Pick your child up from after-school activities or stop by a few minutes early to watch your child in action, if you are unavailable during the school day. It is also important to know your child's after school teacher, instructor, or coach.

15. INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO PARTNER WITH THE SCHOOL Encourage local businesses, churches, clubs, or civic organizations that you are involved with to volunteer or financially support the school. Have community partners provide schools and families with information about services and resources they provide that support student learning such as mentoring, tutoring, and service learning activities.

# Communication

## Printed Resources

**Kindergarten Transition**

**Middle School Transition**

**Coming Soon…**

**High School Transition Toolkit**

# Communication
## Printed Resources

FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

### How Can I Build and Sustain Parent Leaders?

Developing parent leaders is a progressive process. Each academic year schools experience a new influx of parents who are at different stages of involvement, awareness, and acceptance of responsibility. As a parent becomes empowered and accumulates the skills to make positive changes, he or she will emerge as a parent leader, taking on leadership roles within the school and community. Utilizing parent leaders effectively will greatly contribute to the overall success and progress of your school and its mission.

### What Steps Can I Take to Develop Parent Leaders In My School Community?

1. Develop a structure or system that is designed to educate parents in your school about the function of the school board, school and district policies, test score interpretation, and parental rights and responsibilities related to education.
2. Offer quality parent engagement opportunities for parents to acquire the tools they need to effectively implement parent engagement strategies at home and at your school.
3. Ask parents at the beginning of the school year about their interests to allow adequate time for those interests to be developed and utilized throughout the school year.
4. Include parents in the school's mission writing process and highlight the important role they play in the school-family-community partnership alongside the faculty and staff.
5. Set a goal to engage in meaningful conversation with the parents at your school and ask for their input on the decisions that directly impact school improvement and student achievement.
6. Reinforce confidence in your parents and their ability to be credible and worthy educational stakeholders, capable of acting on behalf of all students.
7. Make sure parents feel welcomed and cultivate a school community of trust, where both teachers and parents believe that each one has the other's best interest in mind as they both strive to make positive changes within the school and community.

*Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent*
*"Making Education Work for All Georgians"*

**Parent Leadership Development Guides for Parents and Administrators**

# Communication
## Printed Resources

### What is Title I?

Title I is the largest federally funded program for elementary, middle, and high schools. Through Title I, money is given to school districts around the country based on the number of low-income families in each district. Each district uses its Title I money for extra educational services for children most in need of educational help. The focus of the Title I program is on helping all students meet the same high standards expected of all children.

*Title I helps students, teachers and parents!*

Title I programs can help:

- Children do better in school and feel better about themselves
- Teachers understand the needs and concerns of students and parents
- Parents understand their child and be more involved in the child's education

### What is My Role In Supporting My Student's Success?

Parents are an important part of the Title I team and are partners with the school in helping all students achieve.

As the parent of a child in a Title I school, you have the right to:

- Be *involved* in the planning and implementation of the parent involvement program in your school
- *Ask* to read the progress reports on your child and school
- *Request* information about the professional qualifications of your child's teacher(s) including the degrees and certifications held, and whether the teacher is certified in their respective area of instruction
- Help to *decide* if Title I is meeting your child's needs, and offer suggestions for improvement
- *Ask* about your child's school designation under the new Georgia ESEA Flexibility Waiver
- *Know* if your child has been assigned, or taught by a teacher that is not highly qualified for at least four consecutive weeks
- Help *develop* your school's plan for how parents and schools can work together

### What is the State's Role in Supporting My Student's Success?

The Georgia Department of Education is required to carry out the following actions:

- Partner with other agencies and institutions to provide leadership and guidance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools in accord with Section 1118, Parental Involvement, of ESEA to enable parents to become strongly involved in their children's education.

- Disseminate to LEAs and schools information about effective parental involvement practices that:

- Make use of the most current professional research
- Foster high achievement by all students
- Lower the barriers to greater participation by parents in the process of review and improvement in school planning

- Provide parents with an easy-to-understand annual state report card regarding student achievement and the professional qualifications of instructional staff.

- Review the progress of each LEA annually to determine:

- If each LEA is carrying out its responsibilities regarding assessment, parental involvement, school improvement and support, and the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals

- Monitor compliance with Title I law, including review of the LEA's parental involvement policies and practices.

### What is the School District's Role in Supporting My Student's Success?

Local educational agencies (LEAs) are defined as school districts, county offices of education, and direct-funded charter schools that are responsible for the following actions:

- Plan and implement educational programs, activities, and procedures as required under Title I that involve parents
- Reserve 1% of Title I funds for parental involvement activities if the LEA receives more than $500,000
- Develop a parental involvement policy with the participation of parents
- Provide full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities and parents of migratory children, and when appropriate, in a language and format that they can understand
- Conduct annual parent surveys and implement changes based upon the results of those surveys
- Build capacity by providing early literacy and technology trainings that will help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement

### What is the School's Role in Supporting My Student's Success?

Some Title I schools are schoolwide programs. This means that school staff work to improve the school's educational program in an effort to increase the achievement of all students, particularly those who are low achieving and thus could benefit from extra supports or services. Other schools may have a targeted assistance program, which means that only certain students and their parents can benefit from the additional services Title I provides. Title I schools are responsible for the following actions:

- Send notifications to parents about the school's policy in an understandable language and format
- Hold an annual meeting, at a convenient time for parents, to discuss the school's parental involvement plan, budget, how funding is spent and the rights of parents to be involved
- Develop jointly, with the parents of participating students, a school-parent compact
- Offer parental meetings at various times (schools may also pay for transportation and childcare, when reasonable and necessary)
- Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the school parental involvement policy
- Build capacity by supporting the development of parent advisory councils or parent leadership teams
- Provide information to parents about the state standards and curriculum and how parents can monitor their child's progress

**To learn more or view Title I, Part A Parental Involvement, Section 1118 of ESEA in its entirety, please visit:**

http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg2.html

# Communication
## Online Resources

# Parent Engagement Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4, Summer 2011

"Successfully Engaging Georgia's Parents"

Inside this issue:


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| Gardening Fun for Children | 3 |
| Summer Readiness | 3 |
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"Making Education Work for All Georgians."

## "A New Vision Soaring for Georgia's Students!"

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent

When I took the oath a few months ago to serve as Georgia's State School Superintendent, I knew my mission was simple: to help Georgia's students be successful in the classroom. This work has begun, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

My vision of *Making Education Work for All Georgians* is focused on providing greater opportunities for Georgia's students, to graduate with a meaningful diploma that will open doors to their futures, whether in the workplace or post-secondary studies. Parents play a large role in the success of this vision.

Under my administration, the Georgia Department of Education will be a service-oriented organization that provides information, technical assistance, guidance, and other critical forms of support to parents, schools, and school districts. My focus is on doing what is best for our children and I know it is yours, too. When parents are engaged, students have the ability to overcome various challenges and are inspired to stay in school, resulting in productive young adults prepared for their chosen career or post-secondary endeavors.

Together, if we focus on doing what is best for our children and prepare them to soar beyond our expectations, I am convinced that our state will reap the benefits for years to come.

Sincerely,

Dr. John D. Barge,
State School Superintendent

## Highlights: Parent Engagement Program

The mission of the Georgia Department of Education's Parent Engagement Program is to increase student achievement by engaging and empowering parents to become actively involved in their children's education across all grade levels.

While your local school and community is the best place to obtain information first, we are excited to inform you about the following events that recently took place to recognize the important role parents play in their children's education:

- The Kindergarten Transition Toolkit is now available for parents and educators to download from the Parent Engagement website. This toolkit provides parents with all of the information needed to help their child successfully transition into Kindergarten. Both, parents and educators are encouraged to utilize this information over the summer.
- Georgia's First Statewide Family Engagement Conference will be held at The Classic Center in Athens, GA, from February 16-18, 2012. This is a new opportunity being launched through a collaborative partnership between the Georgia Department of Education and Georgia PTA for parents and educators, particularly those in Title I schools. The conference theme is: *"Building Connections: Striving for Excellence, Empowerment, and Equity in Education."* More information on this conference will be forthcoming in the months ahead.
- The Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council conducted their final meeting for SY 2010-2011on May 4, 2011. For detailed information about this council or to review the meeting minutes, please visit the website listed below.
- Check out the "Get Involved!" brochure that lists 15 different ways parents and families can get involved in their children's education. The brochure is not age specific, so all parents can utilize this resource.

To obtain copies of the brochure or to locate copies of any of the information mentioned above, contact the Parent Engagement Program at 404-656-2633 or visit our website at:

http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/tss_title.aspx?PageReq=ParentEngagement


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"Haciendo participar exitosamente a los padres de Georgia"

# *Boletín de participación de los padres*

## Valorizando la educación

Dr. John D. Barge, Superintendente de las Escuelas Estatales

Durante mis conversaciones y reuniones, a menudo se plantea una pregunta: ¿cómo hacemos la educación de nuestros niños más valiosa? Recientemente, Education Week reveló los resultados de su 17° encuesta *Quality Counts* anual, que califica a todos los estados respecto de indicadores educativos claves. Me complace informar que Georgia se posicionó séptima en el país por segundo año consecutivo y recibió un puntaje perfecto en el indicador sobre Transición y Alineamiento, lo que incluye a la Educación para la Infancia Temprana y la Preparación para la Universidad. Aunque es importante creoer en nuestros éxitos, no quedan dudas de que Georgia está comprometida con el dictado de educación valiosa y de calidad desde la infancia temprana a través de la preparación para la universidad y la carrera.

Es una emoción absoluta ver a las escuelas de todo el estado implementar estrategias y prácticas maravillosas e innovadoras que involucran a padres y alumnos en el proceso de aprendizaje. A medida que abrimos un nuevo capítulo con el Índice de Rendimiento de la Preparación para la Universidad y la Carrera, confío en que veremos más pruebas de cómo las escuelas y maestros continúan formando a nuestros alumnos para que conquisten nuevos derechos.

Finalmente, invito a todos los padres a sumarse a nosotros para hacer más valiosa la educación para nuestros estudiantes participando y tomando un rol activo en la educación de sus hijos. Este es un momento muy importante del año, conducimos a nuestros estudiantes exitosamente hacia la recta final de otro ciclo escolar. ¡Espero seguir compartiendo con ustedes más noticias sobre el gran trabajo y los logros de todos los estudiantes de Georgia!

Atentamente

Superintendente de las Escuelas Estatales

### MANTÉNGASE EN SINTONÍA...

¿Lo ha escuchado? ¡La planificación de la Conferencia de Participación Familiar 2014 está en camino! No se pierda esta fantástica oportunidad de conocer nuevas ideas y escuchar lo que está sucediendo en el estado para apoyar la participación familiar en nuestras escuelas. Busque más detalles sobre la inscripción y las fechas para la Conferencia de Participación Familiar 2014 pronto.

Family Engagement Building Connections

Padres, ¡queremos escuchar sobre usted! ¿Tiene un momento de participación de los padres favorito para compartir de este ciclo escolar? Envíenos su momento y asegúrese de incluir detalles del evento, incluido lo que sucedió, quién participó y por qué fue su MOMENTO PARTICIPE.

## Mejores momentos de los padres en PARTICIPE...

Me quedé en Pre jardín de infantes con mis mellizos y los observé realizar la clase con su maestra. En el recreo, parecía que todos los niños querían servirme el almuerzo, jugaron a los camareros y camareras y me trajeron un plato tras otro con bebidas.¡Ahora los mellizos quieren que vuelva todos los días!

- Lisa Epps, McIntosh Escuela Primaria

La nueva tecnología me sorprende. Puedo estar en contacto con mis dos hijas, así como con sus maestros casi todos los días. Tengo una maravillosa relación con Rossville Middle School. El personal y los maestros me hacen sentir en casa.

- Laura McNabb, Rossville Middle School

Pude asistir a todas las actividades en las que participaban los padres en Russell Elementary una vez por mes. Fue divertido estar allí con la frecuencia suficiente para conocer a los estudiantes y cómo nuestro hijo estaba interactuando con sus nuevos amigos. Pude ir y ayudar con algunas presentaciones en varios grados. Me encanta poder estar en la escuela con la frecuencia neceesaria para conocer a todos los amigos cuando nuestro hijo hace referencia a ellos en sus historias sobre su día.

- Padre anónimo, Russell Elementary School

Mi esposo y yo asistimos al desayuno literario de la escuela de mi hija. Desayunamos juntos y tuvimos una conversación agradable, tal como hacemos en casa. Realmente nos conectó y nos involucró mientras compartimos unas de las comidas más importantes del día en la escuela.

- Lorena Lean, Riverside Primary School


Todos los derechos reservados

# Communication
## Online Resources

- Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) Parent Guides
- CCGPS Parent Videos
- Parent Leadership Strategy Cards
- FAQ for Parents and Families on Georgia's ESEA Flexibility Wavier

National PTA
everychild.onevoice.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO
Student Success

5TH GRADE

This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 5th grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. It focuses on the key skills your child will learn in these subjects, which will build a strong foundation for success in the other subjects he or she studies throughout the school year. This guide is based on the new Common Core Georgia Performance Standards, which have been adopted by more than 40 states. These K–12 standards are informed by the highest state standards from across the country. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined in these standards, he or she will be well prepared for 6th grade.

WHY ARE ACADEMIC STANDARDS IMPORTANT?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. They help set clear and consistent expectations for students, parents, and teachers; build your child's knowledge and skills; and help set high goals for all students.

Of course, high standards are not the only thing needed for our children's success. But standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. Standards help parents and teachers know when students need extra assistance or when they need to be challenged even more. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

You should use this guide to help build a relationship with your child's teacher. You can do this by talking to his or her teacher regularly about how your child is doing — beyond parent-teacher conferences.

At home, you can play an important role in setting high expectations and supporting your child in meeting them. If your child needs a little extra help or wants to learn more about a subject, work with his or her teacher to identify opportunities for tutoring, to get involved in clubs after school, or to find other resources.

THIS GUIDE INCLUDES

- An overview of some of the key things your child will learn in English/literacy and math in 5th grade
- Ideas for activities to help your child learn at home
- Topics of discussion for talking to your child's teacher about his or her academic progress

Georgia PTA
everychild.onevoice.

National PTA
everychild.onevoice.

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# Communication
## GaDOE Parent Website

Georgia Department of Education
Making Education Work For All Georgians!

parent engagement
Select Language
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Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent

Home | Students | Parents | Teachers | Business & Industry | Contact Us

Georgia Department of Education > External

- AskDOE
- Charter Schools
- Communications
- Excellence Recognition
- Governmental Affairs
- Policy
- State Board of Education

**Parents**

**Message**

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Sincerely,

Dr. John D.

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**Vision St**

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No Child LEFT BEHIND

College and Career Ready Performance Index
**WAIVER**
Application

1 2 3 4

## How Do I....

**Students**
- Take Classes Online
- Prepare for EOCT, GHSGT, CRCT, GAA
- Waivers & Variances from Graduation Test Requirements
- 2011-2012 School Calendar

Read More

**Parents**
- Find Schools in my Area
- Discover What My Child Is Learning in School
- Learn Ways to Support My Child
- Georgia Special Needs Scholarship
- Georgia Tax Credit Program

Read More

**Teachers**
- Access Instructional Resources
- Request Teaching Certificate
- Access the Online Assessment System
- Access CCGPS Resources and Materials

Read More

School Reports

- By State
- By District
- By School

**Press Releases**

| Release Date | Title |
|---|---|
| 3/27/2012 | Georgia Teacher named National Online Teacher of the Year Finalist |
| 3/23/2012 | 2012 Governor's Honors Program (GHP) Finalists Selected |
| 3/20/2012 | Focus Schools |
| 3/14/2012 | GEORGIA PRIORITY SCHOOLS |
| 3/8/2012 | Marietta Center for Advanced Academics Designated as Georgia's First Official STEM School |

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# External Partnerships

Parent to Parent of Georgia

GFPE Georgia Foundation for Public Education
ENVIRONMENT · SKILLS · PERFORMANCE

Georgia Family Connection Partnership

SMART START

United Way
United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta

Communities In Schools Georgia

Georgia Appleseed

The Ritz-Carlton

Bright from the Start
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Parents as Teachers

strengthening families GEORGIA

Georgia PTA
every child. one voice.

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"
www.gadoe.org

# Professional Development

The Georgia Parent Involvement Coordinator (PIC) Network is comprised of 5 Regions and over 900 Parent Involvement Coordinators throughout our state serving at the school or district level.

**join-parentengagement@list.doe.k12.ga.us**

# Professional Development

## 2014 Georgia Family Engagement Conference

For Educators and Parents TOGETHER…

Register Now!

A Partnership Conference of GaDOE, Title I, Part A, Georgia PTA, and United Way

**January 9 – 11, 2014**

**The Classic Center, Athens, GA**

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"
www.gadoe.org

# Professional Development

## Presentations, Workshops, and Tools

# Professional Development
## Presentations, Workshops, and Tools

- Summary of Presentations, Workshops, Initiatives and Tools
- 360 – Degrees of Family Engagement Process and Plan
- Professional Development Snapshot Modules
- Make and Take Parent Workshops
- Parent Engagement Compliance and Strategies Webinars

# Professional Development
## Presentations, Workshops, and Tools

- Systemic Family Engagement: A Comprehensive Guide to Implementing an Effective Title I Parental Involvement Program
- Parent Involvement Compliance Technical Assistance
- PIC Guidance Job Descriptions, Chart and Timeline
- Compliance Checklists, Templates and Guidance
- Parent Involvement Notification Templates
- Family Engagement Strategy Sheets
- Engaging Parents Calendar
- Resource Guide
- PIC Spotlight

# Professional Development

Georgia's Family-Friendly Partnership School initiative

# Professional Development

## Georgia's Family – Friendly Partnership School Awards

The Georgia Family – Friendly Partnership School Awards are annual awards that recognize Title I schools for their exceptional commitment to fostering welcoming environments that encourage families to become active partners in improving student achievement and success.

### 2014 Family—Friendly Awards

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) launched the Georgia Family - Friendly Partnership School initiative in the summer of 2010 to assist Title I schools, families and communities in working together to create welcoming environments that lead to increased student achievement. A welcoming environment increases family engagement which, in turn, helps students earn better grades, graduate from high school and enroll in post secondary education. This award takes the initiative a step further by recognizing Title I schools that have gone above and beyond to create an environment where families and community members feel that they belong and now play an important role in supporting their school's student success.

### To Learn More

To learn more about the
Georgia Family - Friendly Partnership School Initiative
or how your school can apply for this award
please visit:

*http://tinyurl.com/cg5cxa6*

GEORGIA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

THE RITZ-CARLTON

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS

## To Learn More

To learn more about the
Georgia Family - Friendly Partnership School Initiative
or how your school can apply for this award
please visit:

***http://tinyurl.com/cg5cxa6***

# GaDOE Programs

# Website Resources…

**Click the First Search Option on the Next Page: Parent Engagement Program**

**www.gadoe.org**

# Website Resources…

- Alternative Education Program
- **Federal Programs**
- GAPPS Analysis
- Governor's Honors Program
- Professional Learning
- School Improvement Services
- Teacher and Leader Effectiveness

## Parent Engagement Program

**Parent Engagement is an ongoing process that increases active participation, communication, and collaboration between parents, schools, and communities with the goal of educating the whole child to ensure student achievement and succes..**

The Georgia Department of Education's Parent Engagement Program ensures that Title I, Part A parental involvement regulations are met with meaningful and strategic actions to build parent capacity as mandated by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Schools and districts must ensure that strong strategies are in place to: 1) build capacity to involve parents/stakeholders in an effective partnership with the school; and 2) share and support high student academic achievement.

The research is clear that when schools and families support each other, students of all backgrounds and various abilities achieve at higher levels. Therefore, the Parent Engagement Program believes that parents, schools, families, and communities working together can create meaningful partnerships that ultimately lead to significant gains across the board in

### Contact Information

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Email:
msandrock@doe.k12.ga.us

### Parent Engagement Programs' Links

- Georgia's Family-Friendly Partnership School Initiative
- Parent Involvement Compliance Documents
- Best GET INVOLVED Parent Videos
- Information for Parents
- Parent Engagement Month 2011
- Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council
- PIC Meetings: Minutes and Materials
- Presentations
- Modules and Workshop Templates
- 360-Degrees of Family Engagement Process

**Parent Engagement Program**

**Presentations, Workshops, Tools, Guidance, Compliance Letters, and Publications**

# Parent Engagement Poetic Pondering

## Networking

# Quick Break

# Understanding Title I, Part A, Section 1118 to Improve Parent Involvement

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"
www.gadoe.org

# Understanding the Law to Improve Parental Involvement

## The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)

**Title I, Part A:** IMPROVING THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THE DISADVANTAGED

- **Sec. 1118** Parental Involvement
- **Sec. 1112** Local educational agency plans
- **Sec. 1114** Schoolwide programs
- **Sec. 1115** Targeted assistance schools
- **Sec. 1116** Academic assessment and local educational agency and school improvement

# Title I Parental Involvement

**Title I, Part A is a federally funded program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. It is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in order to reinforce and amplify efforts to improve teaching and learning for students furthest from meeting state standards.**

# Title I Parental Involvement

Title I, Part A provides for ***substantive parental involvement*** at ***every level of the program***, such as in the development and implementation of the ***State and local plan***, and in carrying out the ***LEA and school improvement provisions***. ***Section 1118*** contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for SEAs, LEAs, and schools related to involving parents in their children's education. It is this section that identifies critical points in the process of improving teaching and learning where ***parents and the community can intervene and assist in school improvement***.

(Continued)

# Title I Parental Involvement

Although section 1118 is extensive in scope and has many requirements for LEAs and schools, the ***intent is not to be burdensome.*** These provisions reflect ***good practice in engaging families in helping to educate their children***, because ***students do better*** when ***parents are actively involved*** in the education process, both at ***home and at school***.



United States Department of Education,
Parental Involvement, Non-Regulatory Guidance, 2004

# Purpose of the Law

| Parental Involvement | Parent & Family Engagement |
| --- | --- |

Letter of the Law → Spirit of the Law

# Viewing the Law

- Obligation
- Constraint
- Rules
- Liability
- Ominous

# Viewing the Law

- ✓ Blueprint
- ✓ Ideas
- ✓ Opportunity
- ✓ Improvement
- ✓ Empowerment

# Viewing the Law

- ☑ Parent Involvement Plan
- ☑ School-Parent Compact
- ☑ Communication
- ☑ Annual Evaluation
- ☑ Schoolwide Plan
- ☑ Staff Development
- ☑ Parent Training
- ☑ Community Partnerships
- ☑ Title I Meeting
- ☑ Expenditures

# Title I Parent Involvement

*The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) provides the Parent Engagement Program to assist and ensure that Title I, Part A parental involvement regulations are met with meaningful and strategic actions to build parent capacity in schools and school districts under the law.*

# Definition of Parent Involvement

*Parent involvement is defined as the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, to include and ensure:*

# Definition of Parent Involvement

Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning

Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school

Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making to assist in the education of their child

The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Title I, Part A, Subpart 1, section 1118 of the ESEA

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

- ***Parental Involvement:*** Parent participation in the systems and activities of the school. There are opportunities for parent participation in a variety of program activities that support student learning and success, including policy and program decision making.

- ***Parent/Family Engagement:*** Goal-directed relationships between staff and families that are mutual, culturally responsive, and that support what is best for students and families both individually and collectively. Staff and families share responsibility as true partners for student learning.



Adapted from *Family Engagement as Parent Involvement 2.0,*. HHS/ACF/OHS/NCPFCE. 2012.

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

| Parental Involvement | Parent Engagement |
| --- | --- |
| Ideas and energy come from the schools and government mandates | Ideas and energy emerge from parent/community needs and priorities elicited from parents by staff |
| Schools are leading with their institutional self-interests and desires – *leading with their mouths* | Schools are leading with the parents' self-interests in an effort to develop genuine partnerships – *leading with their ears* |



Adapted Learning First Alliance, Larry Ferlazzo,, 2009.

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

| Parental Involvement | Parent Engagement |
| --- | --- |
| Pushing parents to do something about what school staff sees as important for their child | Parents are challenged to do something about what they feel is important to them and to their child |
| Completing tasks selected by the school staff – or simply sharing services and information | Parents are leaders who are integral to identifying a vision and goals while then performing the tasks needed to achieve them |



Adapted Learning First Alliance, Larry Ferlazzo,, 2009.

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

| Parental Involvement | Parent Engagement |
| --- | --- |
| Schools do things for parents or tell them what they should be doing with their child | Schools help parents do things for themselves and elicit ideas about what services families need |
| Schools tend to focus on supporting students by strengthening and assisting school programs and priorities | Schools support students by developing parent relationships and working with parents to improve their school community |



Adapted Learning First Alliance, Larry Ferlazzo,, 2009.

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

| Parental Involvement | Parent Engagement |
| --- | --- |
| Schools see it as the responsibility of one staff member (Parent Involvement Coordinator) | Schools see it as the responsibility of all staff members embedded into the school culture/priorities |
| Revolves around outputs – number of parents who show up for a school event | Revolves around parent and student progress in achievement – evidence of positive, goal directed relationships |



*Family Engagement as Parent Involvement 2.0,*. HHS/ACF/OHS/NCPFCE. 2012.

# Parental Involvement vs. Parent Engagement

| Parental Involvement | Parent Engagement |
| --- | --- |
| Revolves around a small percentage of families involved in school leadership opportunities | Revolves around reaching all families in various goal directed ways |
| Collect data from children and families on information about parent participation | Utilize data from children and families to improve services to increase student academic achievement |



*Family Engagement as Parent Involvement 2.0,*. HHS/ACF/OHS/NCPFCE. 2012.

# Formula for Success

**Parental Involvement**

**&**

**Parent Engagement**

**Improved Academic Achievement & Student Success**

# LEA Parental Involvement Policy

*Each LEA that receives Title I funds must develop jointly with, agree on, and distribute to parents of all students in the Title I programs a written parental involvement policy.*

| | |
|---|---|
| The LEA Parental Involvement Policy must be… | Revised each year |
| | Developed jointly with parents of eligible Title I students |
| | Agreed upon with parents of eligible Title I students |
| Section 1118 (a)(2) | Distributed to all parents of eligible Title I students |

# The LEA Parental Involvement Policy

Section 1118 (a)(2)(A) *describe how the LEA will –*

*involve parents in the joint development of the plan under section 1112, and the process of school review and improvement under section 1116;*

Show evidence that the plan was developed jointly with parents of eligible Title I students

Include a section which states how parents of eligible Title I students will be included in the joint development of the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP)

Parents must be able to provide their input in the plan, not just approve a plan developed by the LEA

# The LEA Parental Involvement Policy

Sec. 1118 (a)(2)(B) *describe how the LEA will –*

*provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities that improve student academic achievement and school performance;*

- LEA guidance and assistance
- School visits and trainings
- Materials and resources
- Professional development

# The LEA Parental Involvement Policy

Section 1118 (a)(2)(C)

*describe how the LEA will –*

*build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement as described in subsection (e);*

Equipping parents with skills and competencies which they would not have otherwise

Training or mentoring that increases the skills of people or of the community

Creating a sustainable infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of parents to ensure academic achievement and student success

# The LEA Parental Involvement Policy

Sec. 1118 (a)(2)(D) *describe how the LEA will –*

*coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under this part with other programs, such as the Head Start program, Even Start program, Parents as Teachers program, and Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-run preschool programs;*

The LEA policy must describe what will be done, who will be doing it, and when the parental involvement strategies will be completed

The LEA must explain how it will coordinate and integrate parent involvement with these programs

# The LEA Parental Involvement Policy

Section 1118 (a)(2)(E) *describe how the LEA will –*

*conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served under this part, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section, and use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies described in this section.*

Focus group

Surveys

Open discussion forum

# The LEA Parent Involvement Policy

Section 1118 (a)(2)(F) *describe how the LEA will –*

*involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part.*

# Reservation of Funds

*Each LEA receiving over $500,000 in Title I monies shall reserve not less than one percent of Title I funds for parental involvement activities, including promoting family literacy and parenting.*

*At least 95 percent of the funds reserved must be distributed to Title I schools.*

Sec. 1118 (a)(3)(A) and (C)

# Reservation of Funds

Section 1118 (a)(3)(B) *Parents of children receiving Title I services shall be involved in the decisions regarding how reserved funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.*

The LEA must include parents of eligible Title I students in the decision of how the funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.

**Parents must be able to provide their input into how parent involvement funds are spent, not just approve the involvement budget developed by the LEA.**

# What is Never Allowable

- $ *Alcohol*
- $ *Award programs*
- $ *Gifted programs*
- $ *Entertainment*
- $ *Parties*
- $ *Cash prizes*
- $ *Incentives*
- $ *Gifts*
- $ *Tokens*
- $ *Never pay a parent to attend a school event*

# School Parental Involvement Policy

*Each school served under this part shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of subsections (c) – (f)*

Section 1118 (b)(1)

| Subsections (c) - (f) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Policy Involvement | Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement | Building Capacity for Involvement | Accessibility |

# School Parent Involvement Policy

*Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand.*

*Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.*

Sec. 1118 (b)(1)

# Policy Involvement

Section 1118 (c)(1) *Each school served under this part shall -*

*convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved*

During the meeting,

- Explain Title I, describe Title I requirements, and inform parents as to how they can be involved.
- Inform parents of their right to be involved in the school improvement plan, explain the school's designation status, and the Flexible Learning Program, if applicable.

# Policy Involvement

Section 1118 (c)(2) *Each school served under this part, shall –*

*offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;*

- Schedule meetings at various times
- Offer meetings in a variety of formats
- Funds are used to provide transportation, childcare and home visits
- Consider home visits, one-on-one meetings

# Policy Involvement

Sec. 1118 (c)(3) *Each school served under this part shall –*

*involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy*

Parents of eligible Title I students must be involved in the development, planning, and review of the:

- School-level Parent Involvement Policy
- School-Parent Compact
- Schoolwide Title I Program Plan
- School Improvement Plan
- CLIP
- Parental Involvement Budget
- Flexible Learning Program Plans (if applicable)

The school parent involvement policy must state that parents were included in its development and describe the process in which they were involved.

# Policy Involvement

Sec. 1118 (c)(4) *shall – provide parents of participating children*

*(A) timely information about programs under this part*

*(B) a description and explanation of curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet*

*(C) opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible*

Provide information in a timely manner (before child begins to receive services)

Develop and distribute the process for scheduling meetings, making suggestions, and responding to suggestions

Provide parents with a description & explanation of:

- the curriculum
- academic assessments used
- expected proficiency levels

# Definition of Parent Involvement

*Parent involvement is defined as the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities*

## Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Section 1118 (d) *each Title I school shall - jointly develop with parents of all children served under Title I a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.*

School must have a school-parent compact signed and dated by each party

The compact must be developed jointly with parents of Title I students

The compact must outline how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement

Shall serve as an active document by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve state standards

## Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Section 1118 (d)(1) *describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality-curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under this part to meet the state's student achievement standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children*

**School Responsibility – Academic Achievement Standards**

- High-Quality Curriculum & Instruction
- Supportive & Effective Learning Environment

**Parent Responsibility – Supporting Children's Learning**

- Monitoring Attendance
- Homework Completion
- Volunteering
- Decision Making

# Parent-School Compact

**Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

Section 1118
(d)(2)(A)(B)(C) shall -

*address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum -*

*(A) parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement*

*(B) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress*

*(C) reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities*

# Building Capacity for Involvement

*To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement,*

*each school and LEA assisted under this part, shall -*

Section 1118(e)

# Building Capacity for Involvement

Section 1118 (e)(1) *shall provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or LEA, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children*

- Educate parents & provide awareness about the Georgia state standards (CCGPS & GPS) & student achievement standards
- Educate parents about state and local academic assessments (EOCT & CRCT)
- Provide parents with assistance on how to monitor their children's progress
- Assist parents in working with educators

# Building Capacity for Involvement

Section 1118 (e)(2) *provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;*

The LEA and school will provide materials and parent trainings to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement

# Building Capacity for Involvement

Section 1118 (e)(3) *educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;*

# Building Capacity for Involvement

Section 1118 (e)(4) *shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;*

Increase parental involvement

Improve awareness

Establish relationships

# Building Capacity for Involvement

Section 1118 (e)(5) *shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;*

Section 1118 (e)(14*) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request,*

# Building Capacity for Involvement

## Each school and LEA assisted under this part, may –

- Involve parents in the training for staff
- Provide necessary literacy training from funds received
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities
- Train parents to enhance involvement of other parents
- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement
- Establish district-wide parent advisory council
- Develop appropriate roles for community organizations

# Building Capacity Summary

Communication

Training

Information

Partnerships

Educate

# Accessibility

*In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, LEA and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.*

Section 1118 (f)

# Other Required Parent Notifications

- School Designation Status
  (Priority, Focus, Title I Alert or Title I)
- Flexible Learning Program (if applicable)
- ESEA Public School Choice (if applicable)
- Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications
- Highly Qualified Teacher

# In Summary

Title I parents must be involved in:

- Annual Title I meeting
- District and school policy development, revision, and review
- Targeted Assistance/Schoolwide plan development, revision, and review
- School improvement plan revision and review
- Title I funds/budget development, revision, and review
- CLIP revisions and review
- Annual assessment/evaluation of Title I plan

# In Summary

While schools or LEAs may elect to review/revise their parental involvement policy, schoolwide program, CLIP, the parent involvement budget, and other Title I programs and activities with parent advisory teams, school councils, parent leadership teams, parent councils, principal leadership teams…

…LEAs and schools must ensure that ALL parents of eligible Title I children are invited to provide input and feedback into the development of the parent involvement policy, schoolwide program, CLIP, the parent involvement budget, and other Title I programs and activities

# Meetings to Involve All Parents in the Title I Planning Process

- School annual Title I meeting
- Principal's planning meeting*
- Parent advisory board meeting*
- School council meeting*
- Open house/School orientation
- District annual Title I meeting
- Student-teacher-parent conferences
- Curriculum night/Parent workshops
- Parent leadership meeting*
- Principal's leadership meeting*
- School leadership meeting*

* Cannot be the only meeting, all parents must have the opportunity to be involved

# Invite Parents!

Invitations
Newsletters
Marquee announcement
Community billboard
Business partner flyers
US mail
Website
Phone message system
Text message
Email
School calendar

Newspapers
Public service announcements
Television announcements
Pre-planning packets
Church announcements
Church bulletins
Information meeting flyers
Parent center
Front office
Social media

# Document Parent Input and Involvement in the Title I Planning Process

- Dated sign-in sheets
- Dated planning meeting agendas
- Dated planning meeting minutes/notes
- Documentation with parent comments/and suggestions
- District and school policy revisions/comments
- School surveys with parent comments/suggestions
- Photographs
- End-of-year evaluations
- Email comments and suggestions
- Distribution of information packet
- Document verification sheet
- Dated annual meeting agenda
- School council planning meeting agendas/minutes
- Principal/administrator planning meeting agendas/minutes

# Important Reminders

Ensure the connection between all parent involvement goals, activities, and funds.

Maintain documentation for activities that were paid for using the parent involvement set-aside and evaluate the effectiveness of your parent involvement spending.

Date all documents with the month, day, and year.

Always have a sign-in sheet, meeting agendas at all parent meetings and take meeting minutes documenting parents suggestions and input.

Always send parent information and communications regarding meetings, programs, and workshops in multiple ways and through various communication mechanisms.

# And Remember…

## Quality Family Engagement Programs are:

| SYSTEMIC | INTEGRATED | SUSTAINABLE |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Family Engagement is purposely designed as a core component of educational goals, such as school readiness and student achievement | Embedded into structures and processes including professional development, teaching and learning, community collaboration, and the use of data for continuous improvement and accountability | Will have adequate resources, including public-private partnerships, to ensure effective strategies with the power to impact student learning and achievement |

## Formula for Success!



Weiss, Lopez, and Rosenburg, *Beyond random acts: Family, school and community engagement as an integral part of education reform*, 2010.

# Lunch

Using the markers, please write **horizontally** one barrier you have experienced, or feel you will experience, regarding your work in parent engagement on the side of your paper lunch bag. As you leave for lunch, place the bag on the registration table.

***Please return by 12:45. We will start on time!***

# Parent Engagement 101

## Strategies for Implementation

# How Do You See Me?

# 9 Truths You Must Know Now

1. **P**arent involvement is all about the **children**
2. **P**arent involvement boosts **student achievement**
3. **C**ommunication with parents must be **carefully planned** and **two way**
4. **I**t is important to treat **parents as partners** instead of as clients
5. **P**arent **trust** in your school is required for student achievement
6. **P**arent involvement **barriers are real** – and must be addressed
7. **S**chool **staff** makes all the difference in parent involvement
8. **I**t is important to make sure you don't have a parental involvement **disconnect**
9. **K**now **why parents say** they are not more involved



Dr. John H. Wherry, President
The Parent Institute ® 2012

# Parent Engagement 101

How can we motivate parents to be more involved in their child's education?

What do we do with parents when they are involved?

How do we connect parent engagement to impact student achievement?

# Impact of Parent Engagement

**Over 40 years of research confirms that parents' engagement in their child's education is one of the best ways to boost achievement**

**Studies show that students with involved parents, no matter what their income or background, are more likely to:**

- ✓ Earn higher grades
- ✓ Be promoted, pass their classes and earn credits
- ✓ Attend school regularly
- ✓ Show improved behavior and better social skills
- ✓ Graduate and go onto postsecondary education

**Studies find that community organizing contributed to these changes in schools:**

- ✓ Upgraded school facilities
- ✓ Improved school leadership and staffing
- ✓ Higher-quality learning programs for students
- ✓ New resources and programs
- ✓ New funding for after-school programs and family supports



*A New Wave of Evidence.*
Henderson, A. & Mapp, K.

# Steps to Build a Strong Parent Engagement Program

Invite families, staff and community members to meet you

Understand the population and needs of your school

Provide specific ways parents can contribute

Acquire teacher and administrator buy-in

Expand communication methods

Collaborate with others

Build relationships

## Connect with other PICs and GaDOE!

# Parent Involvement Coordinator Primary Responsibilities and Duties

**› Parent Involvement Resources**

**C**onduct classes, workshops, and activities

**P**rovide technical assistance

**C**reate Title I informational materials and opportunities

**› › Program Evaluation**

**C**onduct annual Title I surveys to assess the needs of parents

**R**eview and analyze results of Title I surveys

**P**repare and share a report of results for all stakeholders

**› › › Compliance**

**M**aintain excellent records and documentation of all Title I events

**E**nsure compliance with all Federal and State guidelines

**R**eview GaDOE monitoring documents frequently

# Parent Involvement Coordinator Primary Responsibilities and Duties

**Program Coordination and Collaboration**

**C**reate a family-friendly school climate with parents and teachers

**P**artner with other parent engagement professionals and agencies

**Seek Professional Development**

**P**articipate in opportunities at the local, regional, and state levels

**R**esearch free training opportunities, especially on-line

**Serve as the Liaison**

**A**dvise and train parents on how to address academic issues

**H**elp Title I parents understand the educational system

**Staff Training**

**W**ork with principal to be on the agenda to share results

**P**rovide training on how to communicate and work with parents

# General Roles and Responsibilities

**S**erve as intermediate contact for concerns and comments

**E**xpand opportunities for volunteer service

**E**nsure compliance with federal requirements as they relate to Title I parental involvement

**D**evelop community collaborations

**P**romote parents as equal partners

**A**dvise and train parents

**P**rovide referrals

# Planning, planning, planning

August
September
October
November
December
January
February
March
April
May

# You will wear many hats…

Home Visitor

Parent Partner

Friend

Link to Community Services

Advocate

Facilitator

Advisor

Parent Educator

Family Engagement Specialist

Liaison

Catalyst for Change

Parent Outreach Coach

# Survival Skills

- Strong interpersonal skills
- Excellent communication and organizational skills

- Knowledge of family engagement research
- Knack at developing partnerships and relationships
- Strong understanding of student achievement data
- Ability to speak eloquently to school/district leaders
- Self-motivated and work well independently as well as with teams

# Overarching Themes

Partner and Communicate Clearly

Reshape Policies to Welcome Families

Plan Systematically and Thoughtfully

Break Down Barriers

Use Data

# Easy Victories

**Meet and welcome all parents**

**Recognize positive efforts**

**Listen to parent suggestions**

**Avoid making pre-judgments**

**Provide advance notice**

**Work with all clerical staff**

# Parent Involvement

# Breaking Down Barriers

## Sharing of Parent Engagement Best Practices

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
*"Making Education Work for All Georgians"*
www.gadoe.org

# What are the Barriers?

Poverty

Language

Communication

Time

Transportation

Perception

Support

Participation

Cultural

Fear/Unwelcoming Environments

# PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

Family – School Partnerships are how and what parents, schools, and communities can do ***together*** to support student success.

# Breaking Down Barriers

1. Read the assigned standard. Discuss what the standard means and why it is important to overcoming the barriers you face in parent engagement?
2. Engage in dialogue with your group around the posed questions.
3. List the innovative strategies and activities that you would like to implement this year to engage parents and families.

# Round One

**Families are active participants in the life of the school and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class**

**Families and school staff engage in regular two-way meaningful communication about student learning**

# Round Two

**Families and school staff continuously *collaborate* to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively**

**Families are empowered to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their successes**

# Round Three

**Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs**

**Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expand learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation**

# Questions

# Contact Information

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