

360- Degrees of Family Engagement

“Equipping Family Engagement Professionals to lead, observe, and influence in every direction.”

PIC 101 Training September 8, 2010





Lakeita Servance
Parent Engagement Specialist

Michelle Tarbutton
Parent Engagement Program Manager

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

GaDOE Strategic Goals



Goal 1 Increase high school graduation rate, decrease drop out rate, and increase post-secondary enrollment rate.	Status  10  6  33
Goal 2 Strengthen teacher quality, recruitment, and retention.	Status  5  8  7
Goal 3 Improve workforce readiness skills.	Status  1  2  15
Goal 4 Develop strong education leaders, particularly at the building level.	Status  2  2  12
Goal 5 Improve the SAT, ACT, and the achievement scores of Georgia students.	Status  17  19  44
Goal 6 Make policies that ensure maximum academic and financial accountability.	Status  8  4  20

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

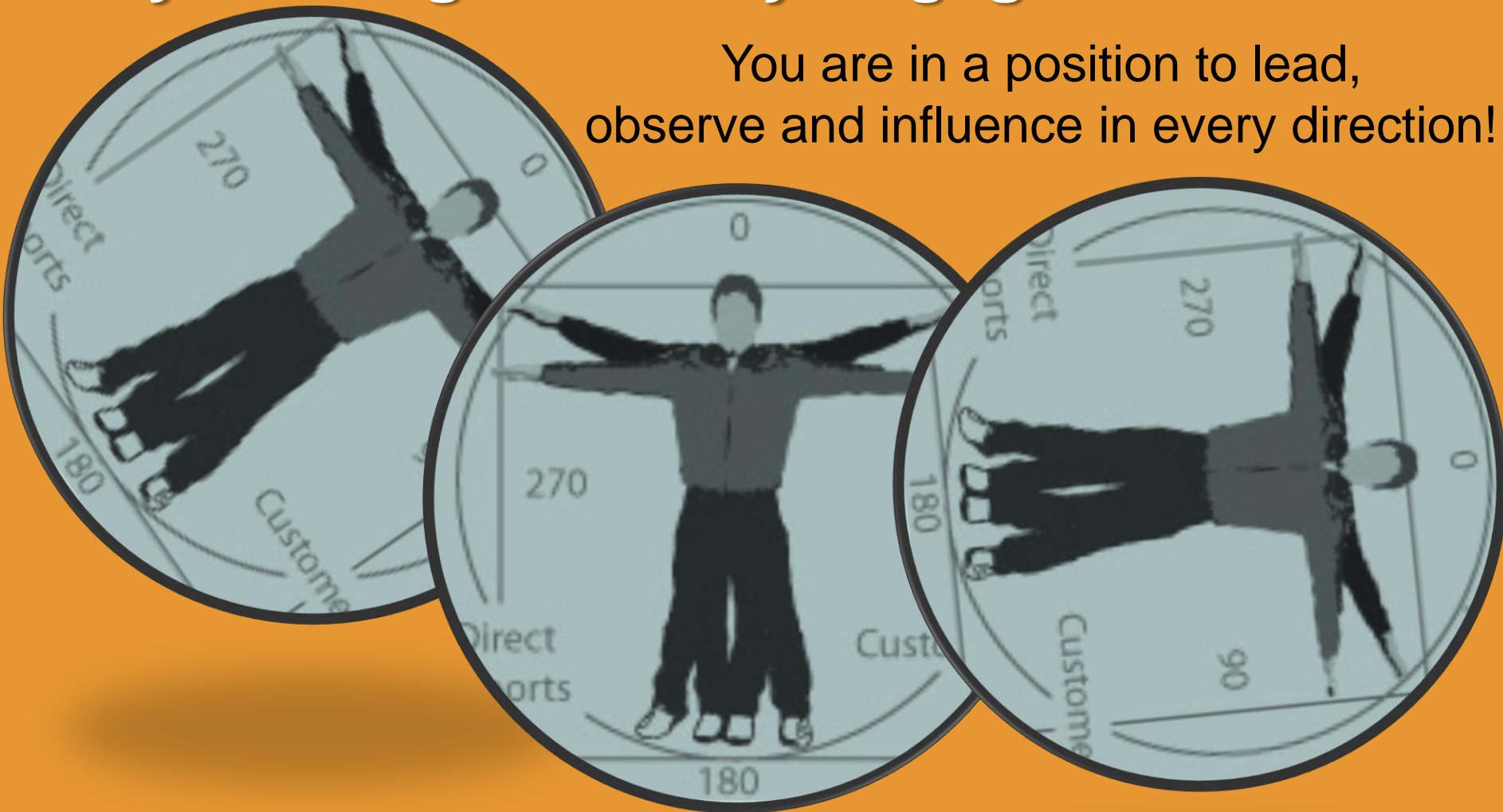


GaDOE Strategic Goals

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Why 360 Degree Family Engagement?

You are in a position to lead,
observe and influence in every direction!



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

PURPOSE



- ☐ **To offer the most recent research, tools and strategies for successfully wrapping school, home and the community engagement around student achievement outcomes.**
- ☐ **To demonstrate how to consistently target measurable outcomes by relying on guidance from Family Engagement Standards and Factors.**
- ☐ **To coach on how to reach a full circle of accountability and sustainability by activating a synergy of partners from Pre-K to post-secondary.**

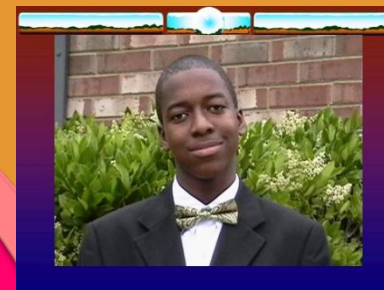
“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

We Are All In This Together!



**School
Readiness
and Support
Services to
Families**

**Pre – K
School
Transition
Coaches**



**Special
Education
Parent
Mentors**

**Professional
parents partnering
with local school
systems in family
engagement
initiatives**

**Liaison between
home & school.
Builds capacity
through all
stakeholders &
conducts
parent trainings.**

**Title I Parent
Involvement
Coordinators**

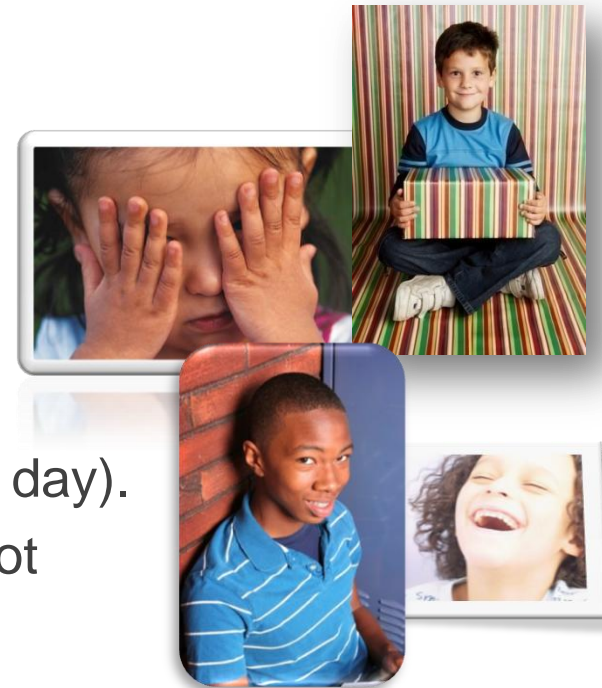


"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

They Are All Our Children

During one year in Georgia...

- 2,513,356 children from birth to age 18 make up 26 percent of the state's population.
- 494,787 children live in poverty (1 in 5 children).
- 5,756 babies are born to girls ages 15 – 17 (16 each day).
- 60,810 of teens ages 16 - 19 are not in school and not working (11 percent).

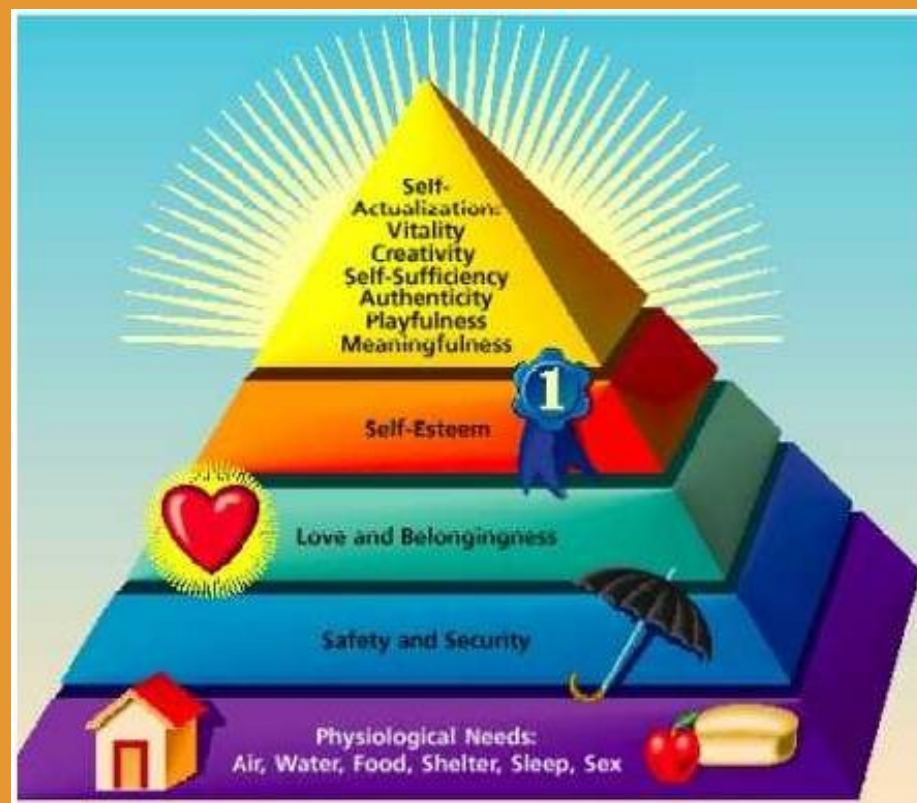


Sources for Georgia statistics include child abuse and neglect, teen births, and low birth weight 2007 data from Georgia Department of Human Resources; and U.S. Census Bureau 2007 data for poverty and high school dropouts. For additional data or information visit gafcporg/kidscount.

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- Self actualization
 - Esteem Needs
- Belonging Needs
 - Safety Needs
 - Psychological



PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

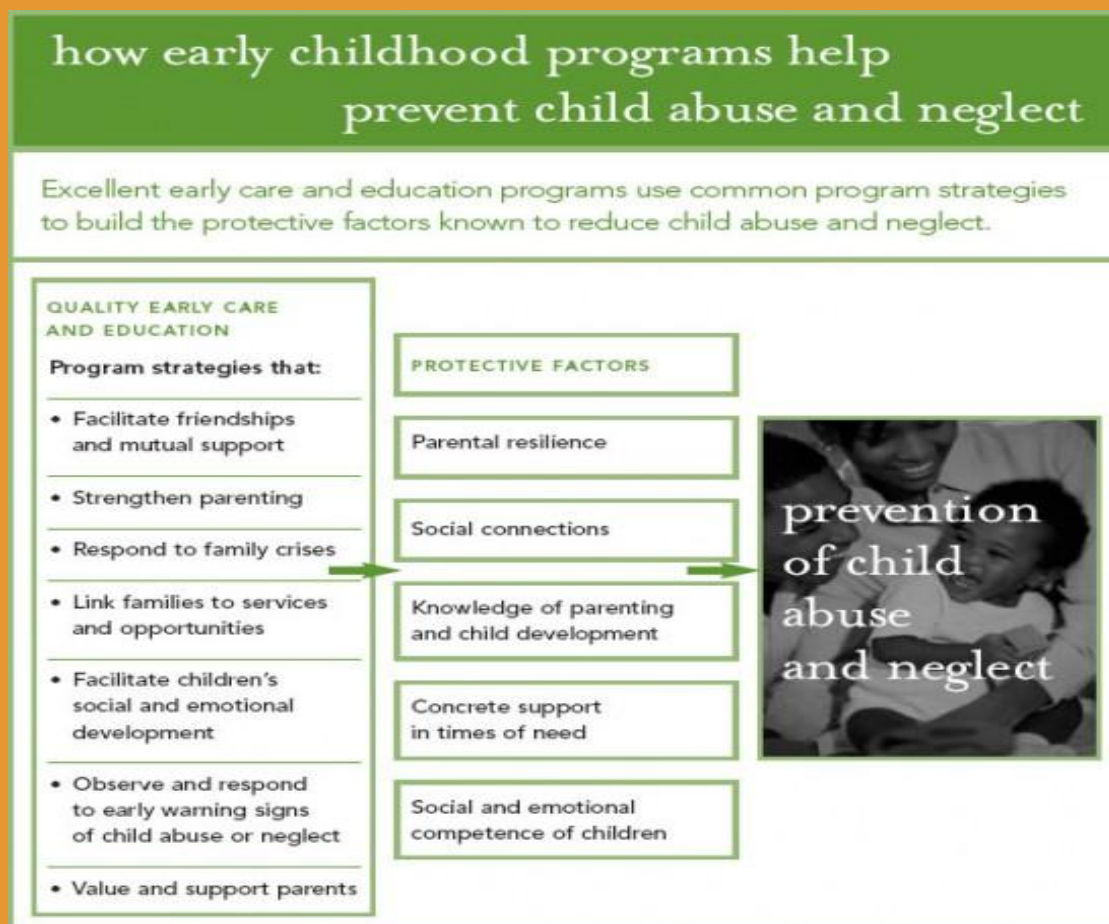


Family – School Partnerships are what parents, schools, and communities can do together to support student success.

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Strengthening Families Protective Factors

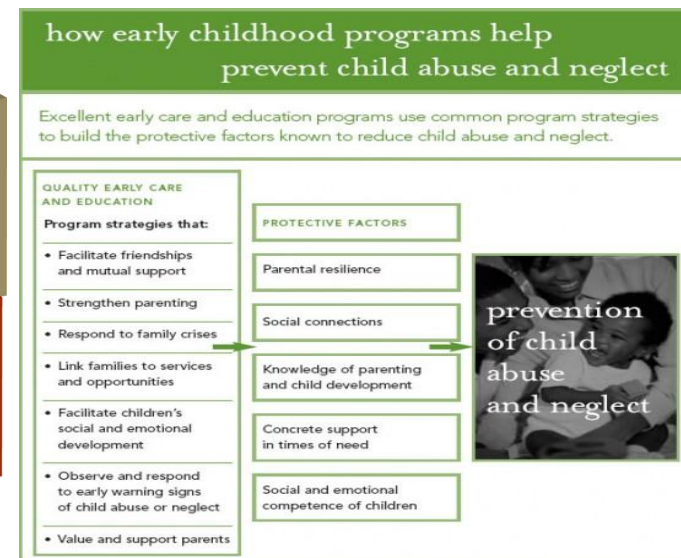
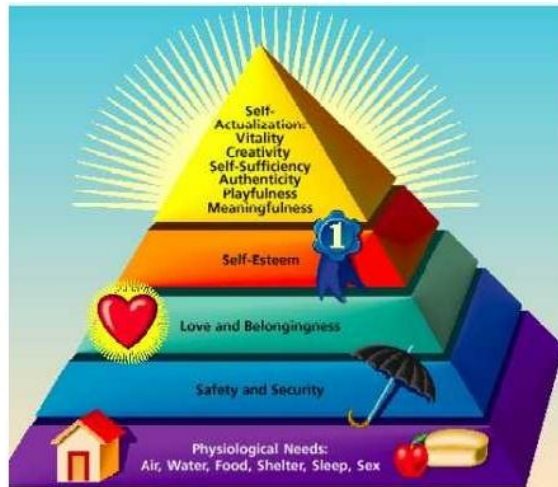
Although Strengthening Families was developed in early care and education programs, partners in a large variety of settings working with many different populations are exploring ways to apply the approach.



Putting it All Together...

A Crosswalk for Parent Programs

Hierarchy of Needs Family-School Standards Protective Factors



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

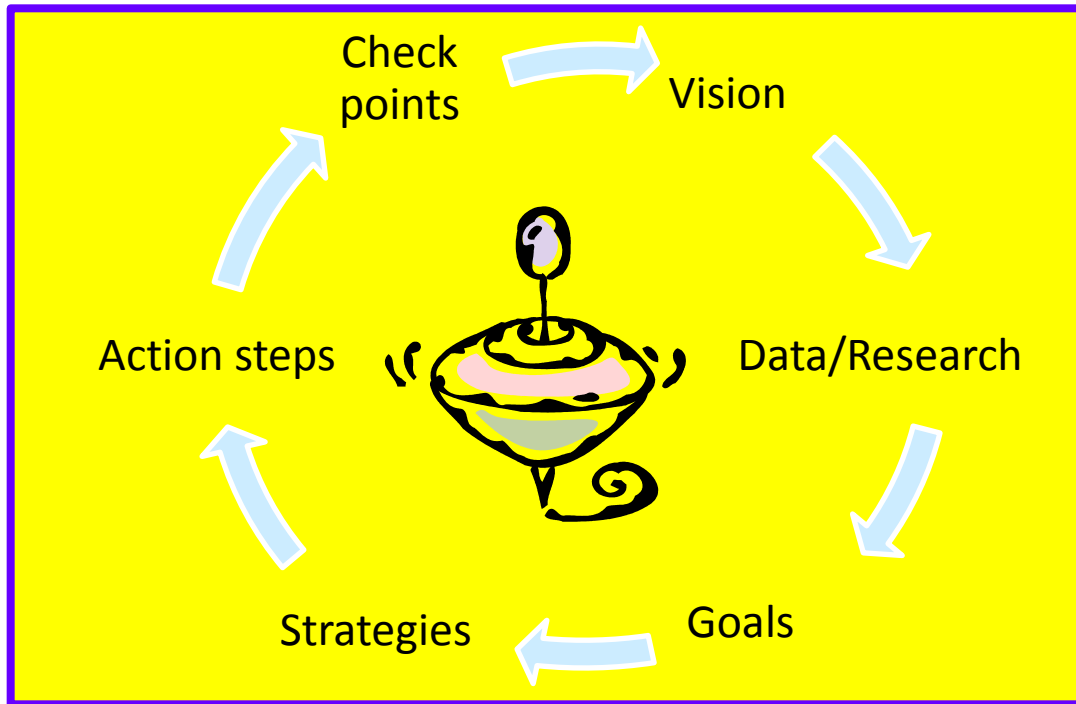
Thinking About Family Engagement...

- Meaning of Family Engagement
- Promoting Engagement
- Successful Strategies for Engaging Families
- Building Capacity for Educators/School Staff
- Creating a Responsive School Culture
- Cultural Respect and Dignity for Families
- Welcoming Environments in Schools
- Community Involvement

Questions taken from the IDEA Partnership Dialogue Starters for Effective Strategies on Family Engagement, U.S. Department of Education, 2009.

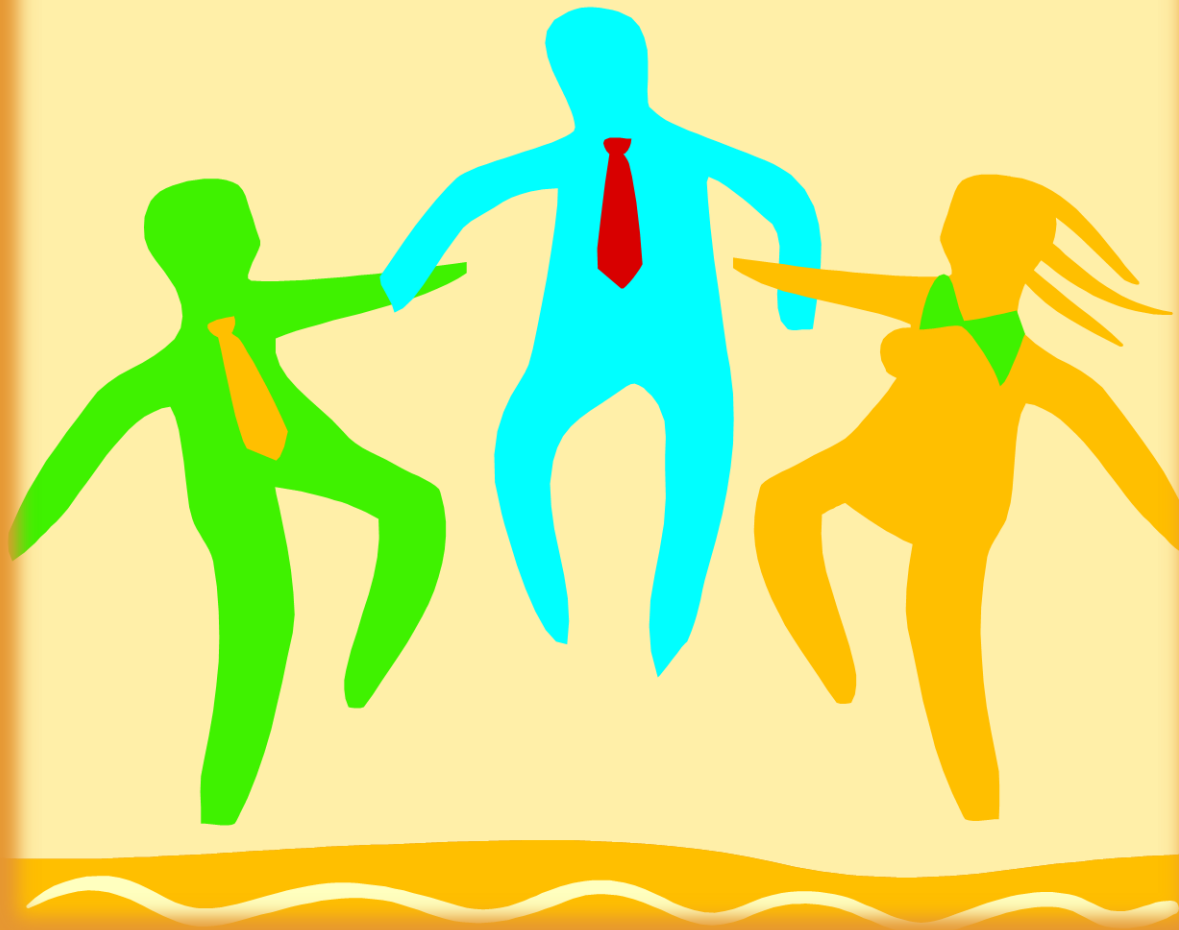
"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

PLAN



The planning process is circular. The results from one step initiate actions in the next move! However, the planning process does not necessarily always flow in one direction.

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



Applying the **key planning components**, to the state and local school systems' family engagement work in student achievement.

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

What Are the Key Components of a Plan?



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

GOAL SETTING

S

SPECIFIC

M

MEASURABLE

A

ATTAINABLE

R

RELEVANT

T

TIME-BOUND

Goal

**A specific statement
of an intended
outcome.**

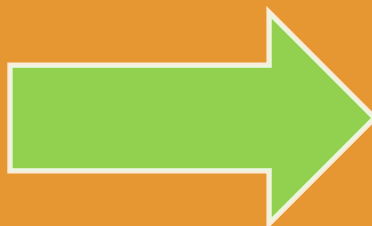
"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

State Goal

To increase the high school graduation rate, to decrease the high school dropout rate, and to increase the post-secondary enrollment rate.

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

What does this mean to me?

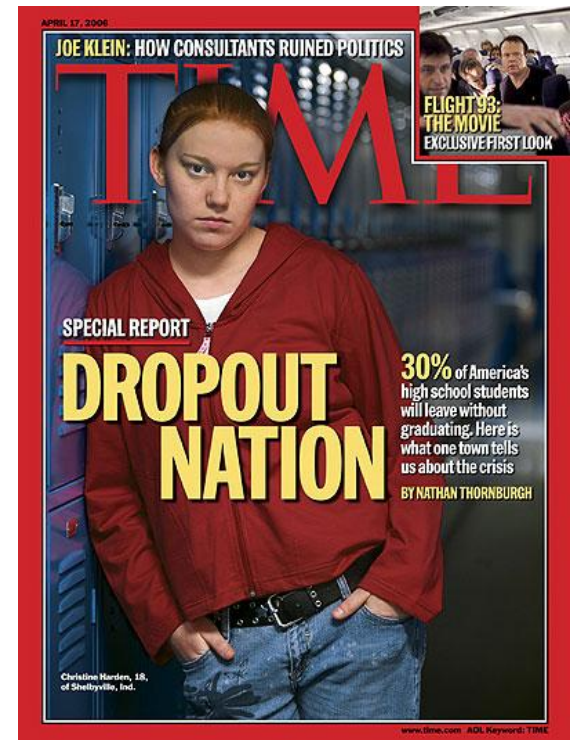


"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Key risk factors predictive of school dropout are:

- ✓ Problem behaviors coupled with academic difficulties.
- ✓ Repeated use of exclusionary discipline practices, such as suspension.
- ✓ High absenteeism and retention.

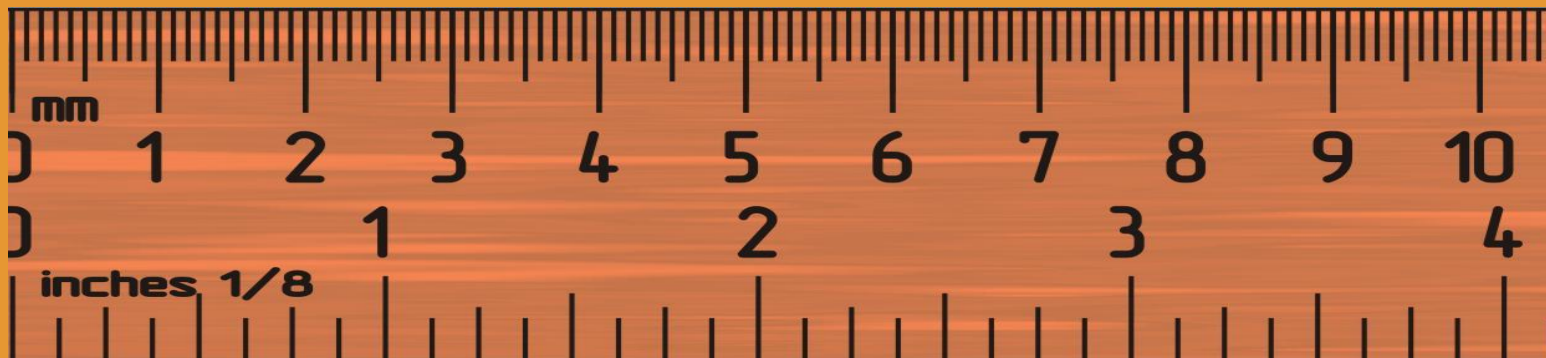
(National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD), 2010)



“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Objective

A sub goal that identifies a short-term, measurable step within a designated period of time that is moving toward achieving a long-term goal.



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Objective

To increase student achievement by engaging and empowering parents to be actively involved in their children's education across all grade levels.



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



National and state evidence indicate that a high drop out rate and a wide gap in achievement cannot change without effective family engagement.

“Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and families.”

Family “disengagement” is one of the multiple risk factors of drop out

A lack of communication between families and school and the family feeling “unwelcomed” are two triggers that predict future drop out.

(C. Hammond, J. Smink, & S. Drew: National Dropout Prevention Center.
D. Linton: Communities In Schools, Inc., May 2007)



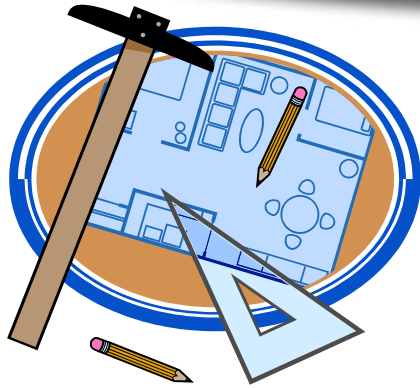
“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Strategy

**A broad internal plan of action
that will aid in achieving a
particular goal.**



“Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and families.”



Strategies

- ✓ **Embed sustainable family, school, and community engagement initiatives in school improvement work to increase student achievement.**
- ✓ **Increase communication between home, school and community through training and collaborative activities that meet the needs of families.**
- ✓ **Build capacity and leadership by activating the National PTA Standards for Family – School Partnerships.**

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Strategies in Action



- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Capacity Building
- ✓ Standards
- ✓ Protective Factors
- ✓ Hierarchy of Needs
- ✓ Achievement
- ✓ Goals
- ✓ Data
- ✓ Research

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."



Initiative

**A program, project,
or process that
assists in
implementing a
particular strategy.**

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



Initiatives

By looking at current activities, teams can develop an overall continual program, project or process that can lead the work in implementing a particular strategy or strategies to reach the goal.

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Action Plans...



Your **action plan will move the team along to carry out a designated initiative**

Refer to the Action Plan as your team carries out the work !

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

A PLANNING TOOL.

After looking at your activities & developing measurable initiative(s), here is a best practice in community building!



Before planning how to meet the initiative try **MAPPING** to identify the nontraditional collaboration that is waiting for your students!

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Why Reach Out Beyond the School?

Educators face a multitude of issues in today's classrooms and many are impossible to manage without family and community partners.



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Culture

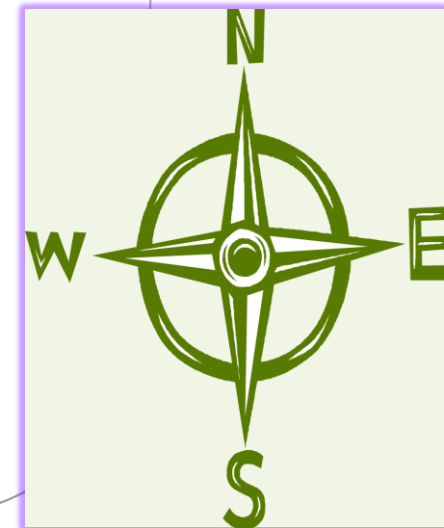
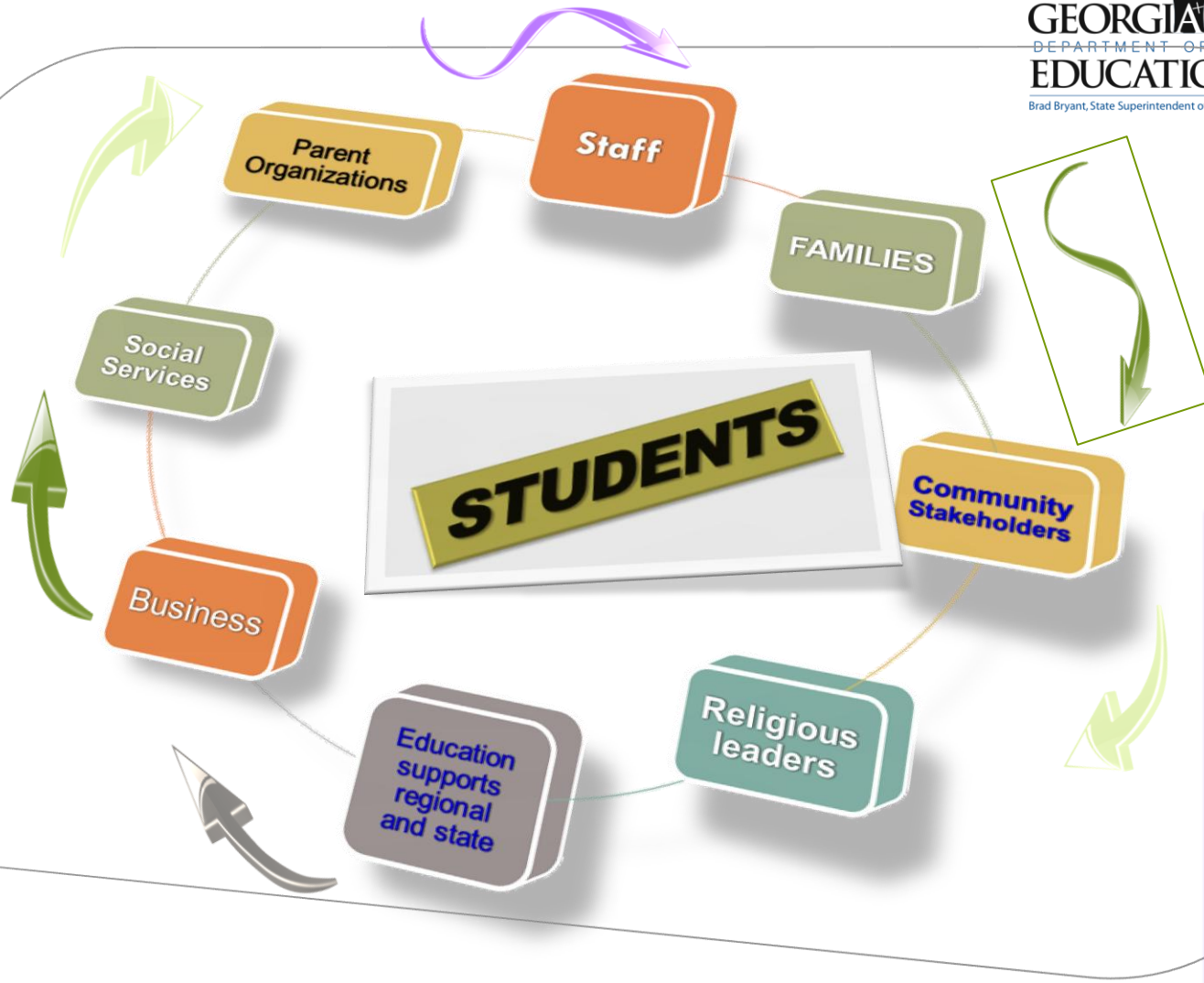
Economics

MAPPING Your Initiatives

Individuals
School
Families
Community
Region
State

Transportation

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Don't let the roadblocks get in the way!

- **Board Policy**
- **Money**
- **Training availability**
- **Missing skills**
- **Personalities**
- **Relationships**



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

- STEP #1: *Set direction with the*
Statewide Goal.
- STEP #2: *Focus where to go with the*
Objective.
- STEP #3: *Guide the plan by*
Family Engagement Strategies.
- STEP #4: *Set up a your plan with*
INITIATIVE(S).
- STEP #5: Find the measurable
OUTCOME



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Outcome

A measure that examines the effectiveness of a specific initiative.



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

To reach the State Goal,
we must measure family
engagement in achievement.



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

What Are You Currently Counting?

- **Sign-in Sheets**
- **Surveys**
- **Evaluations**
- **Activity Reports**
- **Newsletters/Events**
- **Personal Contact**
- **Parent Conferences**



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

What Do These Tell Us?



- **Sign-in Sheets**
 - Who shows up to school, events, or to volunteer.
- **Surveys/Evaluations**
 - What information parents liked learning.
- **Conferences/Surveys**
 - What parents and students need.
- **Personal Contact**
 - If parents called or asked us for help.
- **Newsletters/Events**
 - Efforts we take to inform parents, and opportunities offered.

Taking those numbers into the achievement equation....

Looking at what you are currently tracking, determine what emerging qualitative and quantitative data could lead to the desired achievement outcome!

Next, decide if you need to make some changes to your family engagement plan to truly impact student achievement.



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

So What Is The Next Level?

- Attendance
- Discipline Reports or Referrals
- Increase in parent's questions about a particular academic topic
- On-time Promotion
- Graduation
- Parent Signatures on "Take Home" folders indicating he/she reviewed or completed assigned activities with their child.
- Student Grades
- Student Test Scores
- Kindergarten Readiness

Now Let's Look At An Example!

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



Example

ACTIVITIES FOR ACTION PLAN

- ✓ CRCT math practice quizzes sent home to the middle school parents of students who fell 10-20 points below passing. Parent mentor and PIC follow up with phone calls and home visits.
- ✓ Delivered test scores in sealed envelopes and take time to talk to families.
- ✓ A math problem is published in the monthly Parent Newsletter. Steps are given on how to solve the problem.
- ✓ Leadership training conducted for parents interested in assisting other parents with children's homework.



Initiative

Partner with school staff to coordinate academic and social support at home.

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Scorecard, Example # 1



GOAL

To increase the high school graduation rate, to decrease the high school dropout rate, and to increase the post-secondary enrollment rate.

OBJECTIVE

To increase student achievement by engaging and empowering parents to be actively involved in their children's education across all grade levels

STRATEGY

Embed sustainable family, school, and community engagement initiatives in school improvement work to increase student achievement.

INITIATIVE

Partner with school staff to coordinate academic and social support at home.

OUTCOMES

- 50% or more of the targeted Middle School students will pass the CRCT for the 2009-2010 school year and 12 other identified students will improved their scores from the previous year by 20%.
- The absentee rate will decrease by 30%.
- A parent of 85% of the identified students will participate in more than 50% of the activities listed in the action plan for this initiative.

MAPPING

Partnerships between educators, community members and families.

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

MAPPING

HOME VISITS PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION ON FAMILY NEEDS:

transportation issues; high poverty rates; trust issues between parents and school; more than 80 percent of targeted students came from a home with a single mother; lack of after school community activities; and little understanding by family members of the graduation expectations.

Meetings between school parent engagement professionals, graduation coach and principals also showed a need to increase awareness and understanding among staff of home environment outside of school.



"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

So what happened
when everyone got in our
corner wanting us to
Succeed?
We did!



“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”



**More
students
passed
the CRCT
and more
attended
the day of
testing!**

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Supporting Data



Quantitative Data

	T otal or avg.
Total # of Targeted Students	120
% of the students that had passing test scores on Reading or Math	59%
% of different test grades improved	61%
% of the students that improving their math or reading scores on at least one of the CCT tests	70%
# of the total students that improved both test scores	62
% of the students that passed their math and/or reading tests that did not pass last year	45%
# of students that passed both test that did not pass them last year	19

Qualitative Data included interviews with the families. It was learned that families are frustration with the testing dates occurring the week after Spring Break. Some parents reported a difficult time getting students back into the routine.

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



Example

ACTIVITIES FOR ACTION PLAN

- ✓ Home visits are conducted before schools start with each incoming 9th grader's family and any other new family to the school.
- ✓ A School Action Team made up of parents, community members, and school staff to disseminate information and integrate parents and the community into student learning.
- ✓ Local businesses, churches and community organizations in the area are sent personalized letters throughout the year inviting them to school events, sharing school news, and informing them of school hours, policies, etc.
- ✓ Each grade completes a student/parent project to enhance the school or community throughout the course of the school year. Teachers tie the project to academic standards and make students complete an assignment on the project as well.



Initiative

**Ensure parents and
community members
are equal and active
partners with the
school.**

"Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and families."

Scorecard, Example # 2



GOAL

To increase the high school graduation rate, to decrease the high school dropout rate, and to increase the post-secondary enrollment rate.

OBJECTIVE

To increase student achievement by engaging and empowering parents to be actively involved in their children's education across all grade levels

STRATEGY

Build capacity and leadership by activating the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.

INITIATIVE

Ensure parents and community members are equal and active partners with the school.

OUTCOMES

- Number of excused absences will decrease by 10% in the 2010 – 2011 School Year.
- Number of unexcused absences will decrease by 50% in the 2010 – 2011 School Year.
- Number of students targeted as at-risk will have less than 3 unexcused absences for the 2010 – 2011 school year and these student's grades will increase by 20% from the previous year.
- A parent or family member of these targeted at-risk students will attend or assist with at least one activity in this initiative's action plan within each grading period.

MAPPING

Parents, Family Members, Students, Local Businesses, Churches, Community Organizations, School Staff, Local Community Parks, Graduation Coach

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



**Student
Attendance
increased!
Students
were in the
classroom
learning
and test
scores for
the school
increased!**

“Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and families.”

Supporting Data



Quantitative: All of the data to collect for your outcomes is quantitative but in addition you will also want to measure things such as:

- Number of parents who attend activities
- Number of home visits completed
- Number of new community partners who contact the school

Qualitative: Record data such as:

- Parent feedback from home visits
- Comments from community members and what they offer to do for the school
- Minutes from School Action Team Meetings
- Parent and Teacher feedback from Parent/Student Community Project

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

HOW CAN DATA CHANGE?

Questions to consider:

- Who do I need to collaborate with that may benefit from my efforts and produce change?
- What other data may be helpful to know?
 - ✓ *What data may be important to include that will help tell the story?*
- Is there a Best Practice I can build?
- Who will I target?
 - ✓ *Will it be an entire school or a small group of families?*
 - ✓ *Is this group already created or will I need to find a way to create a targeted group?*

“Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and families.”

Remember:

- ✓ **Focus on achievement goal and sustain what ever you start!**
- ✓ **Embed your family engagement strategy into the action plan**
- ✓ **Find new partners**
- ✓ **Use quantitative and/or qualitative data to make decisions and for planning**
- ✓ **Set Benchmarks with your data collection**
- ✓ **Build parent leaders among nontraditional groups of parents**
- ✓ **Build capacity among parents who feel isolated with the help of your new parent leaders!**

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”



**Georgia family engagement is
on the move and we will be one
of the first states in the nation to
show that measuring family
engagement can be done!**

“Meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and families.”

Finally, remember it is never too early to ensure every student graduates with his/her high school class.

TO REACH THE STATE GOAL:

Develop *measurable* **OBJECTIVES** that embed evidenced-based family engagement practices into the work of school improvement.

Enact **INITIATIVES** based on the PTA Parent Involvement Standards that support the family engagement **STRATEGIES** with sustainable **ACTIVITIES**. While measuring **OUTCOMES** in student achievement!



“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Where Do I Go From Here?

- **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS**
- **Evaluate Your School Community**
- **Develop a Plan with Reasonable Expectations**
- **Collaborate**
- **Acquire Teacher and Administrator Buy-In**
- **Share Updates and Knowledge with School/District Staff**
- **Link Parent Engagement Efforts to Student Achievement**

**Remember: You are in a position to lead,
observe and influence in every direction!**



Michelle Tarbutton

Parent Engagement Program Manager
Outreach Programs
mtarbutton@doe.k12.ga.us
404-931-9204

Lakeita Servance

Parent Engagement Specialist
Outreach Programs
lservance@doe.k12.ga.us
404-656-2633

Patti Solomon

Family Engagement Specialist
Division for Special Education
psolomon@doe.k12.ga.us
404-657-7328



Lori Smith

Resource Coordinator Program Coordinator
Georgia Pre K Program
Lori.smith@decal.ga.gov
478-550-0974

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

360- Degrees of Family Engagement

“Equipping Family Engagement Professionals to lead, observe, and influence in every direction.”

PIC 101 Training September 8, 2010

Lakeita Servance
Parent Engagement Specialist

Michelle Tarbutton
Parent Engagement Program Manager

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”