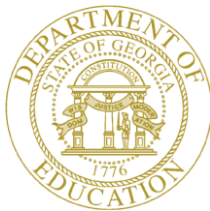


***Georgia's Disproportionality Stakeholder Committee Meeting***  
***January 19, 2011***



***Focus:*** Review of the Georgia Self Assessment Monitoring Protocol

***Summary:*** The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) focused on the state's procedures to provide a review of policies, procedures and practices for disproportionality. During the previous sessions, the stakeholders agreed to bring additional committee members to benefit from the meaningful collaboration. The new stakeholders contributed greatly to the process!

Dr. Donna Drakeford facilitated the day by sharing Georgia's Self Assessment Monitoring Protocol with the committee. The GaDOE collaborated with other stakeholders to develop the initial Self Assessment that was used in 2006. Since then, minor tweaks have been made to the document. In light of additional guidance from Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Georgia believed that the monitoring protocol would provide a much more effective review of policies, procedures and practices with additional revisions. Georgia's initial monitoring protocol included indicators that address compliant indicators and best practices indicators. The State believed that the assessment of best practices in local schools and districts was necessary to inform systemic programmatic changes. Although best practices were included in the protocol, those indicators did not impact noncompliance determinations. The State asked the committee to discuss if the monitoring protocol should exclusively address compliance.

The committee divided into several groups to further review the Georgia instrument. In addition to the review of Georgia's monitoring protocol, the committee reviewed a sampling of self assessments used by other states. Susan Durant, Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC), facilitated the reporting out of groups, and Debbie Gay, State Director of Special Education, assisted the committee in outlining pertinent next steps.

### ***Recommendations:***

- The Georgia Self Assessment Monitoring Protocol should be revised to provide a comprehensive review of compliant policies, practices, and procedures.
- GaDOE should request additional documentation and evidence from districts to verify that the appropriate data were examined to address the problem.
- Onsite verification of the process should be added to the State's procedures.
- The State should embed "parents/community" in other focus areas.
- The State should consider developing a separate rubric, similar to Georgia's School Keys, to clearly outline implementation of best practices.
- A newly revised monitoring protocol should not use a rating scale to provide feedback about noncompliance. Terms such as "rarely", "sometimes", and "frequently" are not appropriate in reviewing compliant practices.

#### ***Note: The following stakeholders attended the committee meeting.***

Alston, Cori	GaDOE, Education Program Manager (English Speakers of Other Languages)
Brooks, Kristina	Oconee County, Director of Special Education
Brown, Phillip	Oconee County, Middle School Administrator
Burrell, Denise	Griffin-Spalding County, Associate Superintendent
Drakeford, Donna	GaDOE, Education Program Specialist (School Improvement Specialist)
Durant, Susan	Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC)
Falk, Jennifer	Parent to Parent of Georgia, Advocate
Freer, Paula	GaDOE, Education Program Specialist, (Emotional and Behavioral Disorders)
Fretwell, Quentin	DeKalb County, Director of Student Relations
Garcia, Mikki	Chatham County, Special Education Director
Gay, Deborah	GaDOE, Director (Division for Special Education Services and Supports)
Gibbs, Mary	Stewart County, Parent Mentor
Henderson, Jasolyn	GaDOE, Education Program Specialist (PBIS)
Hodges, Jeff	GaDOE, Education Program Specialist (Safe and Drug Free Schools)
Homan, Jay	Butts County, Middle School Administrator
Jones, Wanda	GaDOE, Education Program Manager (Data Collections)
Martin, Terry	Fulton County Schools, Teacher
Meyjes, Gregory	Kennesaw State University, Chair, Department of Inclusive Education
O'Connell, Ginny	GaDOE, Education Program Manager (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)
O'Connor, John	DeKalb County, Executive Director of Special Services
Ryan, Donna	Assistant Superintendent for Special Services and Assessment
Schreiner, Lodus	Georgia Learning Resources System (GLRS) Metro East, Program Specialist
Simpson, Robert	DeKalb County, Administrator
Smith, Cristy	GLRS Metro East, Director
Smith-Dixon, Zephine	GaDOE, Education Program Manager (Elementary Curriculum/School Improvement)
Walker, Adrienne	GaDOE, Assessment Research and Development
White, Lynda	Butts County, Superintendent