



**GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP
FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**

Bus Trip 18 Rider School Reflections

Overall Reflections

This has been a real blessing for me. When elected to the local school board I can speak concepts and ideas that can assist our scholars today and in the future. We throughout Georgia can do better. In fact, we must so that our future citizens can also prosper as they seek employment and world class opportunities.

The trip was a great success. Our theme: Flexibility, Greater Focus On Results, was seen at all the schools. They all went above what was required. Thanks for inviting me!

Excellent! Inclusion of the arts in all schools was encouraging. Wonderful to see strong leadership for a change. I continue to gather gems of information. It provides new approaches and heightens my respect for outstanding educators in the schools. I missed visiting schools outside urban Georgia.

I loved participating in the trip! I learned a lot and saw some wonderful teaching practices that I can take back to the classroom where I student teach. I hope to be able to attend this trip again!

Great trip – I will certainly be able to take things back to my school.

I truly appreciate this opportunity. This is an experience of a lifetime that I would wish on every citizen. To see these schools, educators, communities and businesses partnering revives my faith in our America. I have new found faith in the charter schools and plan to support these efforts in any way I can. I will also be an Advocate in any way you need me to for all that GPEE is doing. Please keep this going and keep improving every year.

Great interacting with kids!

Excellent Examples!! I wish all GA teachers, students & parents could've seen what we saw. Very inspirational!

This year's bus trip showed me a great deal about flexible grouping, flexible schedules, and flexible educators. I can use this in my future as and educator who implements more flexible scheduling.

I generally don't get much out of Middle School visits but this time was the exception. I got lots of ideas to use with my fifth graders.

Outstanding trip!

This trip is a great way to bring educators and the community together to see what is occurring in our schools. It's an eye – opener on how we as a society can learn and go back to our schools to make changes.

I am very fortunate to have taken part on this trip. It has expanded my horizons and motivates me to continue reaching further into education outside of the classroom.

This trip has confirmed that for me the following aspects of a school are what brings success: climate/culture, student focus from administrative to community, and technology in student hands. I will advocate for my students to receive all.

The trip will help me utilize different approaches in classrooms when working with teachers. Great selection of schools!

This has allowed me to see some positive and innovative things going on in education (K-12). My desire is to plug into an area or group that is working to make a difference in 21st century education in Georgia.

It seemed as if rigor was more of a theme than flexibility. I was very impressed by the many uses of technology and the philosophy most schools shared concerning text books. The creative and engaging lessons that were demonstrated for us are invaluable.

The greatest impact was the flexible ways each school provided an environment for positive learning and success of all students involved. Business partners really do add to the success of the schools they work with.

Excellent trip – students, motivated teachers and flexible administrators made the hugest impression on me. It just goes to show, it can be done!

As a junior at Clayton State University, this trip was ground-breaking for my career. I saw how the many ways of differentiating instruction benefit the well-being of each student's education. I am happy to be up and coming to the many changes education is experiencing.

I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in this wonderful educational experience! I only wish that every teacher in Georgia could take the bus trip to gain new ideas and be encouraged about education and “what can be!” I hope to make this an annual event so that I can share what I see!

I learned a lot about the benefit of charters.

I have received far more than I expected. Everything GPEE did to provide us with the insights and experiences of education at its best was delivered as promised. Thank you, GPEE Staff – Job well done!

Overall, this trip has had such a great impact on my philosophy as a future educator. I intend to get to know my students and find what their interests and passions are to help them learn. It's not about skin color, social economics, or location; it's about showing them you care about them and their future. I will never forget my experiences on the 18th annual GPEE bus tour. Thank You!!

The Bus Trip has greatly enhanced my awareness of the different styles of teaching and learning. It has given me wonderful ideas to take back to my own community. Thank you so much for the opportunity. It will be an experience I will treasure for a lifetime!

Inspirational, informative; loved it!

This has been and is always an awesome educational experience. It's inspiring to see individuals exemplify excellence and caring as it relates to our youth. Cradle to college concept is one that all school officials should embody.

My area of interest is special education. From the charter schools and gifted programs, I got many ideas about an interactive classroom.

The Bus Trip allows us as educators an opportunity to network with teachers across the state sharing ideas and lessons. Please continue to provide this wonderful experience. I get some of my best ideas from the educators I've met along the way!

I think every parent should take this opportunity to learn all they can about education. I would also love to see more students get the opportunity to participate. Maybe they could help drive some changes in their own environment. This could be a great project for a student. They could choose a "best practice" that they would like to implement at their school. This is also a great opportunity for educators and business leaders to begin to comprehend the connection and strength in a connection between them.

There was great diversity in participation – representative of the investors and stakeholders in public education.

I'm so enlightened and encouraged. I know that there are schools that have resolved any issues in the performance (grad rate) of African American males. Now I need to strategize how we can make it a statewide, national solution that engages all communities.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to kids! A great trip!

I am so glad I was able to attend this trip. I must say that it is one of the best experiences that I have had.

This or a similar tour should be made available to all Georgia Pre-service teachers.

This was a great opportunity! I have enjoyed myself. I have learned so much. I hope that I can take the things that I learned back to my classroom. I have often thought about moving up here so I can work in these great schools.

I would love to receive some additional information about starting a bus tour for the education program at my school.

Here is my takeaway: It does take an effective team to run a school that gets results – but I see evidence that integrating the arts, providing a vision for children and a constant reminder of where they can go and what they can be, setting the bar high, using data to drive instruction or create scaffolding for those who need support, all contribute. I saw children of poverty who were bright-eyed, articulate, and setting goals for themselves. Amazing!

The Bus Trip was absolutely the most amazing educational journey that I have had! It was exciting to see innovative thinking and flexibility in Georgia schools. I can't wait to go back and share with my school and central office!

I'm very glad I participated. This event was awesome/wonderful. One of Georgia's best kept secrets. I will spread the word!

The diverse schools this year made it one of the best trips that I've taken. It seems to get better and better. Great job GPEE in your selection process.

This trip was an amazing opportunity. There's so much negative out there regarding education and teacher performance so this trip was one of confirmation, hope, and belief in American education. The public needs to hear/see more of the good!

Wonderful opportunity; please keep it up!

Thank you for a wonderful trip. Keep up the good work, team! Excellent!!!