

The Power of the Partnership – Partnering with Us

Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education – a nonprofit, non-partisan organization, works diligently to improve student achievement and workforce development in Georgia.

We strengthen our power to do so when various groups of stakeholders engage with us in efforts to provide all students the opportunity to succeed, particularly those students from low-income homes in which they are the first to graduate high school and attend college.

An important intended result of our work of increasing the number of college and career ready graduates is supporting and spurring the much needed economic growth of our state.

Partnering with us allows partners to join our engaged state's business, education and government leaders in strengthening our power to improve student achievement.

Highlights of our diligent work – our award winning publications and programs, viewed as valued resources by our numerous stakeholders, include:



Top Ten Issues to Watch

13th Edition



An award winning annual report highlighting and providing recommendations on critical educational issues in Georgia. The report, based on thorough and non-partisan research, is widely disseminated to inform and influence policy, business, community, and advocacy leaders to make sound decisions. More than 3,500 copies are distributed to a wide cross-section of education stakeholders throughout the state and reached hundreds of readers through downloads. Presented to a joint Georgia House Education Committee and Georgia Senate Education & Youth Committee meeting, and featured on Georgia Public Broadcasting's Lawmakers program, featured on "Georgia Focus," a Georgia News Network public affairs radio show broadcast on more than 130 stations statewide, in the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives newsletter, in James magazine, used as curriculum material in Georgia colleges of education.

What our stakeholders say...

"The Top Ten Issues to Watch publication should be mandatory reading for every legislator serving the people of Georgia. As elected representatives, our charge is to make informed decisions. This one report provides a wealth of information in almost every key area of education policy. I wouldn't think of addressing legislation without first reviewing my Top Ten."

– Sen. Fran Millar, Chair, Georgia Senate Higher Education Committee

Critical Issues Forums

Ongoing Since 1992



Public programs offered three times a year examining specific topics of interest (such as improving teacher quality, early learning, STEM education, changing student demographics, etc.) to inform and influence leaders to make sound education policy decisions. Subject matter experts take a hard look at issues, panel discussions often follow that allow closer inspection, with audience participation a regular feature. Draws large audiences from business, government, education and civic communities.

What our stakeholders say...

"The Critical Issues Forums are perfect examples of how the Georgia Partnership raises public awareness of key education issues. The forums always address front-burner topics with analysis and expert commentary. No other organization can present such a consistently engaging, successful program. Participants always leave with new information, ideas and renewed energy to make a difference in Georgia's public education system."

– Shan Cooper, Chief Transformation Officer, WestRock Company

Education Policy Fellowship Program

Launched in 2008



A critical resource for individuals, organizations, and the state to increase the knowledge of Georgia's leaders about education policy and linkages between policy and practice. Provided training to 200 Fellows in eight cohorts. One of 15 states affiliated with national umbrella organization, Institute for Educational Leadership.

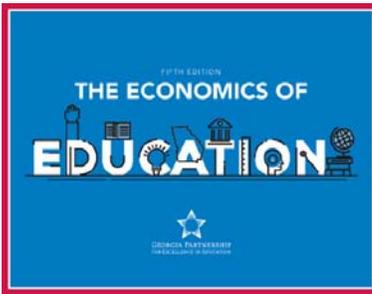
What our stakeholders say...

"EPFP provided me an extraordinary learning experience. The program broadened my grasp of complex education policy issues and the many factors affecting them – from budget concerns to changing demographics to rural versus urban districts. It increased my capacity to better engage communities in understanding the fierce competitive environment that exists for top talent around the world and the urgency

that must be placed on improving our systems so Georgia's students can compete. EPFP, undoubtedly, better equipped me to be a strong advocate for improving public education."

– Diane McClearn, Director, Community & External Relations, Oglethorpe Power Corporation

visit www.gpee.org for more information



Since the 2004 release of the first edition publication, the Partnership has made approximately 285 Economics of Education presentations and reached 8,500 individuals from business, education, and government agencies

Audiences include community organizations, economic developers, leadership development programs, and business groups. The presentations are tailored to reflect current local situations

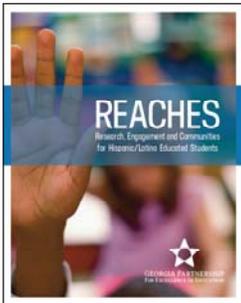
What our stakeholders say...

The Partnership has been a vital part of the Department of Community Affairs Economic Development/ Leadership training program through the Georgia Academy for Economic Development. Education plays a vital role in a region's economic development potential, and we rely on the Partnership to help us emphasize this during our training. This important message is featured on our final training day almost as a keynote address, because it is so well done and so well received by our class members."

– Saralyn H. Stafford, Division Director, Community Development, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Reaches Replication Guide

Released in 2015



The REACHES (Research, Engagement and Communities for Hispanic/Latino Education Students) Replication Guide highlights how two school systems were empowered and took steps to strengthen the education pipeline leading to college and career readiness for their Hispanic/Latino students

Over half of Calhoun City schools' REACHES Pre-K students learning English exceeded kindergarten readiness expectations with six to eight months of literacy intervention. With the strategic addition of an English Learners Student Liaison, REACHES high schoolers had a 93 percent academic class pass rate. In Tattnall County, REACHES provided diversity training for all system educators to improve their cultural competency skills and launched a free English language program, helping reduce the language barrier for participating parents

What our stakeholders say...

"The program has been a good return on investment. Our educators, Hispanic families and community leaders all have a stake in and benefit from this initiative."

– Dr. Gina Williams, Superintendent, Tattnall County Schools

Better Standards for a Better Georgia Coalition

Established 2014



The Partnership-led Coalition that successfully kept in place a reform framework of high educational standards that will benefit all Georgia students

Includes 25 leading organizations with statewide reach

Continuing to lead the BSBG Coalition efforts and inform the public through the Better Standards for a Better Georgia website to ensure high standards remain in place

What our stakeholders say...

"The Georgia Partnership serves our state well in the hot debates over educational policy. As a graduate of the Georgia Academy for Economic Development and Leadership Macon, I have profited immensely from the Partnership's contributions to leadership training. In truth, every Georgian is directly or indirectly part of the decision-making process. Better Standards for a Better Georgia Coalition is a valuable, real-time clearinghouse that provides the means for each one of us to understand the complex demographic, social, and economic factors and to analyze differing points of view dispassionately."

– Gigi Cabell, Citizens Advisory Board, The Telegraph, Macon, Georgia

Tooting Our Horn

Recent

Flashlight Award – for successfully spearheading advocacy efforts to gain final passage of an appropriate student data usage bill, the Partnership was recognized by the Data Quality Campaign (DQC) for "outstanding work by a national or state-based non-profit organization in promoting and protecting effective data use in the service of students." In making this recognition, the DQC stated that it "values the incredible work GPEE has done, bringing together a wide range of community partners to ensure Georgia's student data policies were reasonable, sustainable and in the service of students."

Communications – a key aspect of the work of the Partnership, consistently recognized as being produced at the highest professional level. In 2016, the Partnership received two gold and one silver awards from the Georgia School Public Relations Association. The organization's web site and the Media Symposium event won gold honors and the Top Ten Issues to Watch in 2016 report was honored with a silver award.

MOST particularly, at the Partnership, we are pleased and proud that our work received a 93 percent approval rating from our stakeholders (via our 2015 biannual stakeholder survey).



**GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP
FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**

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