

# Program Implementation

The Family-School Partnership Program is focused on working with partners in local school districts and the community to provide parents with the best opportunities and resources to help their children succeed in school.

Although students, parents, and family members are ultimately at the center of our efforts, our intended audience is the district- and school-level staff funded by federal Title I allocations.

The Family-School Partnership Program:

- Develops communications for schools to deliver to parents and families on the factors that influence students' academic success
- Creates collaborative partnerships with external organizations and agencies that support parent and family engagement initiatives to provide needed services, supports, and resources to school districts and parents
- Provides technical assistance, trainings, materials, and professional development opportunities for parent and family engagement strategies and compliance as mandated by law to district and school administrators, family engagement coordinators or liaisons, and other family engagement professionals
- Collaborates and coordinates plans with other Georgia Department of Education programs to ensure that family engagement is a focus of various initiatives across the agency and that school districts are equipped with knowledge of these programs to share with parents and their children

## WHAT IS Family Engagement?

The research is clear that when schools and families support each other, students of all backgrounds and various abilities achieve at higher levels. Parent and family 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 success.



The Family-School Partnership Program is provided by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to assist and assure that Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement regulations are met with meaningful and strategic actions to build parent and staff capacity in schools and school districts under the law. Schools and districts are responsible for ensuring effective engagement of parents by developing and sustaining partnerships to build parent capacity to attain students' high academic achievement.



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# Family-School PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



For more information, please visit:  
[partnerships.gadoe.org](http://partnerships.gadoe.org)

[facebook.com/GaDOEPartnerships](https://facebook.com/GaDOEPartnerships)  
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Richard Woods, State School Superintendent  
*"Educating Georgia's Future"*



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# Resources

The Family-School Partnership Program offers various tools and resources to strengthen parent and family engagement at the school and district level funded by federal Title I allocations. Many of these resources have been designed to empower parents to become actively engaged in their children's education across all grade levels.



To download copies of brochures, or to locate any of the information mentioned, please visit our website at [partnerships.gadoe.org](http://partnerships.gadoe.org) or contact the Family-School Partnership Program at (404) 656-0644.

## FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS

- Georgia network meetings and trainings
- Georgia's Family-Friendly Partnership School Initiative
- Statewide conferences and workshops
- K-12 family engagement strategies
- Family engagement program and job assistance resources
- "What Parents Want Schools to Know" video series

## FOR TITLE I DIRECTORS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

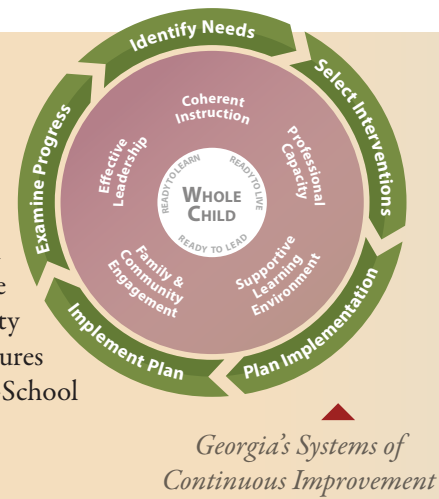
- Building parent and school staff capacity
- Family engagement webinars
- Family engagement coordinator guidance
- Teacher and administrator professional development modules
- Parent and family engagement compliance guidance based on Title I, Part A, Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

## FOR PARENTS

- A Family's Guide to Title I, Part A brochure
- Georgia Student Growth Model Report videos
- Parent leadership recognitions
- State School Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council
- School transition brochures, toolkit, and videos
- Parent strategy cards

## Framework

Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement is a framework that places the "Whole Child" at the center while organizing the process of school improvement within five systems. One of the five systems focuses on Family and Community Engagement which has six structures. These structures are based on the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships.



Standards for Family-School Partnerships



Family Engagement Partners receive monthly emails from the Family-School Partnership Program, like the one shown here, with valuable resources and timely notifications.



## Family Engagement Partners

The Georgia Family Engagement Partners Network is a support system and a vehicle to provide ongoing communication and professional development to district and school staff throughout the state. As advocates for parents in their schools, school staff offer a variety of educational programs, activities, and resources to assist parents in helping their children achieve their maximum academic potential.

Family engagement professionals participate in professional development meetings that are held within their region according to the map below. These meetings connect partners and coordinators from across the state and provide an opportunity to collectively share ideas, best practices, learn about new parent and family engagement resources and strategies, and participate in technical assistance for parent and family engagement compliance. The GaDOE's Family-School Partnership Program supports the work of partners and coordinators by sending a monthly announcement to the Family Engagement Partners Network, providing webinars on parent and family engagement requirements and strategies, and developing various materials and resources.



To join the Family Engagement Partners Network, visit our website at <http://partnerships.gadoe.org>.

## NATIONAL PTA STANDARDS FOR FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2010, the Georgia State Board of Education endorsed the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the state's family engagement model for what parents, schools, and communities can do together to support student success. To learn more about these standards, please visit: [www.pta.org/national\\_standards.asp](http://www.pta.org/national_standards.asp).

## GEORGIA'S RESOLUTION AND STATEMENT ON PARENT ENGAGEMENT

The Georgia State Board of Education and the Georgia Department of Education recognize that parents, schools, and communities must be viewed as equals with shared responsibilities, but schools must take the lead in developing and sustaining these collaborative partnerships to ensure maximum effectiveness. Each partner, however, has a role to play, as clearly outlined in the resolution and statement, and local school officials are strongly urged to use them as a guide in developing local school and district plans and policies. To view the resolution, please visit: <http://bit.ly/gadoepac>.



The Family-School Partnership Program believes that parents, schools, families, and communities working together can create meaningful partnerships that ultimately lead to significant gains in student achievement across the board.