



District Accountability Plan Goal 4, Objective A Engaging Our Students' Parents

Annual Report – August 2011

Executive Summary

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System views community engagement as a vital factor in raising student achievement. We believe that all community members are meaningful stakeholders in education, having an essential and positive role in successfully educating our students. Incorporated in this belief is the understanding that parents play a vital role in a child's education. As the child's first teacher, and generally the one constant in the student's educational life-span, the parent will impart the greatest influence for growth at home and in the educational environment. To support this process **Objective 4A, Engaging our Students' Parents**, was created.

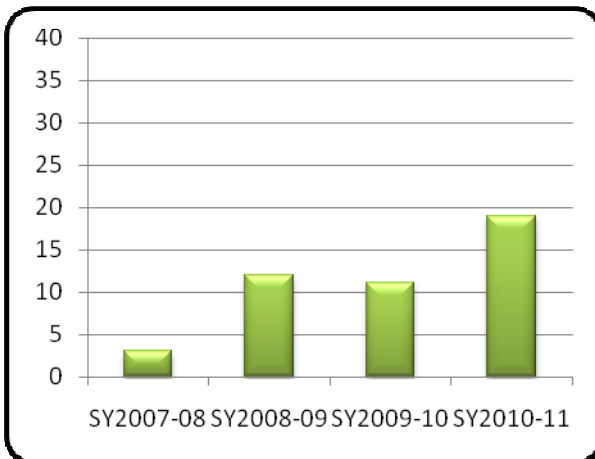


Figure 1

Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Model PTA status for the 2010-2011 school year. This is a significant increase from the previous year. See Figure 1.

The purpose of this objective is to increase the level of parental involvement in the educational process as measured by the attainment of Model PTA, a status determined by the Georgia PTA. The target for this objective is to have at least 30 schools achieve Model PTA status by school year 2012.

Model PTA designation requires a school to meet 13 out of 14 administrative guidelines, as well as operational requirements. According to the Georgia PTA, the purpose of Model PTA is to encourage and develop a path for local units to be in "Good Standing." These requirements provide an outline and process

for parents to be effectively engaged as advocates and school partners. The Georgia PTA has awarded 19 schools in the

The Model PTA designation for school year 2011 was awarded to the following schools: Bloomingdale Elementary, Butler Elementary, Hesse Elementary, Jacob G. Smith Elementary, Juliette Low Elementary, Marshpoint Elementary, May Howard Elementary, Pooler Elementary, Shuman Elementary, Spencer Elementary, West Chatham Elementary, Charles Ellis K-8, Garrison K-8, Godley Station K-8, Isle of Hope K-8, Hubert Middle, Beach High, Groves High and Jenkins High. See tables 1,2,3,4, and 5 for additional details.

The increased number of schools attaining Model PTA has occurred through a collaborative effort. School PTAs worked with the district’s Office of Public Information & Community Engagement to provide Parental and Family Engagement training for parents and teachers. They also assisted in the development of the district’s “Principals & Partners” outreach events to encourage dialogue between parents, neighbors, and school principals. In addition, as a result of their dynamic efforts, the Savannah-Chatham PTA Council was recognized by the Georgia PTA for a significant 18 percent increase in membership, moving from 6,066 members in the previous school year to 7,150 members in the 2010-2011 school year.

In conclusion, we will continue to support and grow Model PTA status within the schools through increased awareness efforts at the school, PTA meetings, and County PTA Council meetings. We are also looking to expand the objective to include additional metrics in other areas of parental involvement that influence a child’s education; such as, parent portal usage, school to parent communication efforts, PTA meetings held, and activities held at schools that encourage participation and strengthen relationships. A rubric will be created to identify the metrics being monitored along with descriptions, examples, and levels of quality for each one. We will work with the Community Engagement Task Force to assist in creating the rubric for school usage.

Table 1

Elementary Schools

School	Achieved Model PTA Status 2008-2009	Achieved Model PTA Status 2009-2010	Achieved Model PTA Status 2010-2011
Bartow	Yes	No	No
Bloomingtondale	No	Yes	Yes
Butler	No	Yes	Yes
Coastal Empire Montessori	No	No	No
Gadsden	No	No	No
Garden City	No	No	No
Gould	No	No	No
Haven	No	No	No
Heard	No	No	No
Hodge	No	No	No
Howard	No	No	Yes
Largo-Tibet	No	Yes	No
Low	Yes	No	Yes
Marshpoint	No	Yes	Yes
Pooler	No	No	Yes
Port Wentworth	No	No	No
Pulaski	No	No	No
Shuman	No	No	Yes
J.G. Smith	No	No	Yes
Southwest	Yes	Yes	No
Spencer	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thunderbolt	No	No	No
West Chatham	No	No	Yes
White Bluff	No	No	No
Windsor Forest	No	No	No

Table 2

K-8 Schools

School	Achieved Model PTA Status 2008-2009	Achieved Model PTA Status 2009-2010	Achieved Model PTA Status 2010-2011
East Broad	Yes	No	No
Charles Ellis	No	No	Yes
Georgetown	Yes	No	No
Godley Station	N/A	N/A	Yes
Esther Garrison	No	No	Yes
Hesse	Yes	Yes	Yes
Isle of Hope	No	No	Yes

Table 3

Middle Schools

School	Achieved Model PTA Status 2008-2009	Achieved Model PTA Status 2009-2010	Achieved Model PTA Status 2010-2011
Bartlett	No	No	No
Coastal	No	No	No
DeRenne	Yes	No	No
Hubert	No	Yes	Yes
Mercer	No	No	No
Myers	No	No	No
Oglethorpe	Yes	No	No
Southwest	No	No	No
West Chatham	No	Yes	No

Table 4

High Schools

School	Achieved Model PTA Status 2008-2009	Achieved Model PTA Status 2009-2010	Achieved Model PTA Status 2010-2011
Beach	Yes	No	Yes
Groves	No	No	Yes
Jenkins	Yes	No	Yes
Johnson	Yes	No	No
Savannah Arts	No	No	No
Savannah High	No	No	No
School of Law and Criminal Justice	N/A	Yes	No
School of Liberal Studies at SHS	N/A	Yes	No
Windsor Forest	No	No	No

Table 5

Other Sites

School	Achieved Model PTA Status 2008-2009	Achieved Model PTA Status 2009-2010	Achieved Model PTA Status 2010-2011
Coastal GA Comprehensive	No	No	No
Early College	N/A	N/A	No