



District Accountability System Goal 4, Objective C
Engaging Neighborhoods & Communities
Annual Report – July 2012
Executive Summary

The purpose of the District Accountability System's Goal 4, Objective C is to develop direct contacts between school principals and the communities / neighborhoods they serve. This also includes our military community. By 2014, every principal will present or participate in at least two civic or community events that are geographically related to the school by the end of each school year.

The efforts related to this objective have the potential to provide greater supports in other areas of Strategic Goal 4. As connections are made through participation at community events, schools gain access to business partnership opportunities, mentor resources, and have the ability to develop stronger relationships with parents. Additionally, the community connections often times provide mutually beneficial supports in the areas of safety, school beautification, and neighborhood development.

During the 2011-2012 school year, 51 schools out of 53 met the goal. See data listed by school in tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

School principals were actively engaged with citizen groups, neighborhood associations, non-profit organizations, and faith-based groups. While some were making connections and presentations at various events, others were participating in hands-on civic efforts that directly benefited the community in which the school is located. One such example includes Hodge Elementary School, whose efforts resulted in a "Neighborhood Pride" Service Award presented by the City of Savannah. Hodge Elementary School students, teachers, staff, parents, and members of the Cann-Jackson Park Neighborhood Association all partnered with the City of Savannah in the Cann-Jackson Park Cleanup during the 4th Annual Operation Clean Sweep (Westside). The event clearly showcased the school's commitment to enhance community engagement through partnerships with our neighborhoods and involvement in civic events.

As each site made strides to achieve this target, district support was also provided through a collaborative partnership with the City of Savannah's Neighborhood Renaissance initiative and the SCCPSS Division of Public Information and Community Engagement. Now in its second year, the Principals and Partners community event was organized with the specific intent to bring community resources together with our school principals. This civic venue included participation from not only city resources, but county organizations as well, thereby opening the opportunity for all schools to participate. Principals had the opportunity to speak to, and connect with, a number of community organizations including the Savannah Youth Council, DEEP Reading, the Chatham County Youth Commission, Hands on Savannah, SCMPD Savannah Impact, HAAF Children and Youth School Services, the City of Savannah's Recycling Education Program, Greenbriar Children's Center, Live Oak Public Libraries, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. The event was well attended and a number of school principals were on hand. Plans will continue in the 2012-2013 school year to continue and expand this district driven event.

In addition to the connections made at Principals & Partners, many school administrators were actively involved in their own outreach efforts. Whether principals were involved in a district

organized town hall meeting or were participating in their respective municipality's council meetings, they were making connections and were available to the public. Some examples include Bloomingdale's principal speaking at the Bloomingdale City Council Meeting, the Savannah Arts principal meeting with the Ardsley Park Home Owners Association and the Ardsley Park Garden Club to discuss beautification of the school property, Bartlett Middle's principal attending the Hunter Army Airfield "Welcome Back to School" event, and the Beach High School principal making regular appearances at the Healthy Savannah Advisory board. In addition to generating valuable contacts in their communities, these engagements serve to inform stakeholders of our efforts to provide a quality education for all students in Savannah-Chatham County.

The district's belief in generating strong connections with the community through regular civic involvement is evident in the expansion of this target. The 2011-2012 school year represents an increase to at least two community engagements by school principals each year. It is important to note that due to the increase of this target, year to year comparisons of this goal are not applicable.

Through the continued development of district events such as Principals & Partners, regular communication with administrators as to opportunities and expectations surrounding this objective, and the commitment of dedicated school principals, SCCPSS is sure to see the attainment of the 100% target as prescribed by the 2014 timeline.

Table 1: **Elementary Schools**

School	Achieved Target?
Bartow	Yes
Bloomingdale	Yes
Butler	Yes
Coastal Empire Montessori	Yes
Gadsden	Yes
Garden City	Yes
Gould	Yes
Haven	Yes
Heard	Yes
Hodge	Yes
Howard	Yes
Largo-Tibet	Yes
Low	Yes
Marshpoint	Yes
Pooler	Yes
Port Wentworth	Yes
Pulaski	No
Shuman	Yes
J.G. Smith	Yes
Southwest	Yes
Spencer	Yes

Thunderbolt	Yes
West Chatham	Yes
White Bluff	Yes
Windsor Forest	Yes

Table 2: **K-8 Schools**

School	Achieved Target?
East Broad	Yes
Ellis	Yes
Georgetown	Yes
Godley Station	Yes
Garrison	*Yes
Hesse	Yes
Isle of Hope	Yes

Table 3: **Middle Schools**

School	Achieved Target?
Bartlett	Yes
Coastal	Yes
DeRenne	Yes
Hubert	Yes
Mercer	Yes
Myers	Yes
Oglethorpe	Yes
Southwest	Yes
West Chatham	Yes

Table 4: **High Schools**

School	Achieved Target?
Beach	Yes
Groves	Yes
Islands	Yes
Jenkins	Yes
Johnson	Yes
Savannah Arts	Yes
Savannah High	Yes
Windsor Forest	Yes
Woodville-Tompkins	Yes

Table 5: **Other Sites**

School	Achieved Target?
Coastal GA Comprehensive	Yes
Early College	Yes
Scott LC	No

*Because an administrative change took place at the Esther F. Garrison School of Visual and Performing Arts during the 2011-2012 school year, the Assistant Principal's activities at this school are associated with this goal.