



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

Executive Summary – March 2013

In accordance with the District Accountability System's Goal 4, Objective A, the school district is committed to increasing parental involvement as measured by the number of outreach activities conducted at each school.

While all stakeholders play a key role in the growth of public education, parental involvement is one of the most important factors contributing to student success. A supportive parent who is fully vested in their child's education will have a powerful impact on student achievement and positive behavior in the classroom. Schools where parents feel welcome and have opportunities to connect with faculty and staff will reap the reward of an educational partnership that fosters a vibrant, caring learning environment.

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System has developed **Objective 4A: Engaging our Students' Parents**, as a component for measuring successful activities that reflect parental engagement. This objective has been expanded to include nine key areas of measurement that, at the completion of the school year, will be included in a rubric to determine the level of quality at which Savannah-Chatham Public Schools are working to increase parental involvement.

Model PTA continues to be a factor that demonstrates collaboration between parents and teachers, and remains a key component within this objective. Schools that achieve this distinction provide representation of involvement through effective, well managed Parent Teacher Associations. The list of schools that have obtained Model PTA will be released in April by the Georgia PTA.

As the school year progresses, schools have been active in reaching parents. While many are utilizing communication channels through the distribution of newsletters and the usage of the district's call out system, school events are also very popular. At Windsor Forest High School, parents are encouraged to attend a "State of the School Night" where key school updates are provided. Area colleges are also invited to inform parents and help with important information regarding post-secondary endeavors. The Thunderbolt PTA works closely with faculty to implement the "Dads of Great Students" campaign designed to encourage fathers to volunteer at the school. At Juliette Low, parents enjoy learning with students in the application of fun science experiments. The "Science in School Day" provides a great opportunity for parents to engage with faculty and students in the classroom. Isle of Hope K-8 offers healthy engagement activities through "Family Zumba Night" and a fun filled "Family Costume Parade" each October. Woodville Tompkins continues to grow its annual "Woodville Showcase." Now in its second year, this weekend event serves as a platform to display the array of technical and career choices that are taught through a vigorous curriculum at the school.



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Other events that are popular with many schools throughout the district include Math and Science Night, the Father/Daughter Dance, School Book Fairs, PTA Movie Night, and Family Reading Night.

In addition to site specific events, many district-wide activities exist that bring parents, students and district personnel together. These events are often promoted at the schools through site based communication channels, providing additional avenues for school to parent connections.

The Student Success Expo has become a signature community engagement event for the district. In its fourth year of operation, the event is made possible with the help of many dedicated business partners and provides an effective community based event that brings students, parents, businesses, and collegiate partners together to gain a greater understanding of the many specialty programs and career pathway offerings available in our school district. The event has grown each year and continues to impress with over 6,000 individuals in attendance. Parent involvement has also grown each year with the Student Leadership Program. This high-energy leadership initiative kicks off each year with a celebration that involves over 600 students, 150 Community Advisors, and teachers from every high school. During the kick-off, parents are invited to take part in the celebration and gain a full understanding of the benefits the program has to offer. Arts and student performance based activities continue to draw great parent interest. The LINKS Incorporated Youth Art Exhibition delivers a standing room only art showcase filled with students and parents, the Chatham Association of Educators' annual Spelling Bee fills the Savannah High auditorium with parents and family members eager to cheer for student spellers, and DEEP SPEAKS is quickly becoming a parent favorite as student authors come together for an evening of poetry readings at the Savannah Theatre.

The above listed samples provide highlights of successful events and initiatives that bring parents and schools together. The district will continue to support activities that encourage parental engagement and strengthen connections with our parents. This report details by school (**see tables 1,2,3,4,5**), the parental engagement activities being utilized through March 2013. The September 2013 report will include Model PTA results and will include a rubric based on information drawn from the full 2012-2013 school year.



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Table 1: **Elementary Schools (Activity through March 2013)**

School	Tracks Parent Volunteer Hours	# of Parent Conferences Offered	Uses Newsletter/Flyers	Uses the Call-Out System	Posts Information with Web Based tools	Offers Academic and Moral Based Parent Activities	# of PTA Meetings Conducted	Model PTA Application Submitted
Bartow	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Bloomingtondale	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3+	Yes
Butler	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
CEMCS	Yes	2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Gadsden	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Garden City	No	2	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3	Yes
Gould	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3+	Yes
Haven	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Heard	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Hodge	Yes	2	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Howard	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3+	No
Largo-Tibet	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
Low	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Marshpoint	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	2	Yes
Pooler	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
Port Wentworth	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Pulaski	Yes	1	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Shuman	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
J.G. Smith	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3+	No
Southwest	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Spencer	Yes	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Thunderbolt	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
West Chatham	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
White Bluff	No	2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Windsor Forest	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes



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Table 2: K-8 Schools (Activity through March 2013)

School	Tracks Parent Volunteer Hours	# of Parent Conferences Offered	Uses Newsletter /Flyers	Uses the Call-Out System	Posts Information with Web Based tools	Offers Academic and Moral Based Parent Activities	# of PTA Meetings Conducted	Model PTA Application Submitted
East Broad	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	2	No
Ellis Montessori	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Garrison	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Georgetown	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Godley Station	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No/Yes	3	Yes
Hesse	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Isle of Hope	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes

Table 3: Middle Schools (Activity through March 2013)

School	Tracks Parent Volunteer Hours	# of Parent Conferences Offered	Uses Newsletter /Flyers	Uses the Call-Out System	Posts Information with Web Based tools	Offers Academic and Moral Based Parent Activities	# of PTA Meetings Conducted	Model PTA Application Submitted
Bartlett	No	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Coastal	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	3+	Yes
DeRenne	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No/Yes	3	No
Hubert	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
Mercer	No	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Myers	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Oglethorpe Charter	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	2	No
Southwest	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
West Chatham	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes



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Table 4: High Schools (Activity through March 2013)

School	Tracks Parent Volunteer Hours	# of Parent Conferences Offered	Uses Newsletter/ Flyers	Uses the Call-Out System	Posts Information with Web Based tools	Offers Academic and Moral Based Parent Activities	# of PTA Meetings Conducted	Model PTA Application Submitted
Beach	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	1	No
Groves	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No
Islands	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	No
Jenkins	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Johnson	Yes	3	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	2	No
New Hampstead	No	3	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Savannah Arts Academy	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes
Savannah High- LS	No	3	No	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3	Yes
Windsor Forest	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No	0	No
Woodville Tompkins	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	No

Table 5: Other Educational Centers (Activity through March 2013)

School	Tracks Parent Volunteer Hours	# of Parent Conferences Offered	Uses Newsletter/ Flyers	Uses the Call-Out System	Posts Information with Web Based tools	Offers Academic and Moral Based Parent Activities	# of PTA Meetings Conducted	Model PTA Application Submitted
Coastal GA Comp.	No	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No/Yes	0	No
Early College	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/Yes	3+	Yes



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Rubric: Available at the completion of the 2012-2013 school year.

Rubric All Schools	Minimal Progress 0%-24% of Schools (1 point)	Fair Progress 25%-50% of Schools (2 points)	Moderate Progress 51%-79% of Schools (3 points)	Significant Progress 80%-96% of Schools (4 points)	Excellent On Target 97%-100% of Schools (5 points)
Achieves Model PTA status.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conducts three or more PTA meetings within the year.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Organizes morale/spirit based parent activities at the school.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Organizes academic based parent activities at the school.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Keeps parents informed using school/parent newsletters.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Keeps parents informed using web-based tools.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Keeps parents informed using the call-out system.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conducts three or more parent conferences.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Documents parent volunteer hours.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA