



Faith's Friday FLASH

GA Graduation/Drop out
Prevention Project

Volume 1, Issue 3
January 25, 2008

FLASH! YOU HEARD IT HERE! our focus...ATTENDANCE



As we continue our work within our schools, it will be important to keep in mind our

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

“Did the school meet its performance target or the threshold criterion?”

If the target was missed, what factors contributed to the miss?

Remember that the focus of this project is Students with Disabilities...we need to look at specific students and determine interventions/strategies that will make a difference.



Faith Huff, Collaboration Coach

fhuff@pioneerresa.org

Patricia Davalos, GA Latino Family Outreach Liaison

pdavalos@pioneerresa.org

Patty Solomon, Parent Liaison, Professional Learning Unit

PSolomon@doe.k12.ga.us

COACHES TRAINING

JAN 30, 2008 9:30-3:00

Disability Connection

170 College Street

Macon, GA 31201

Bring requested information (see p.3) for work session
Most accurate directions found on Yahoo Maps

Team Member Changes or Team Training Absences?

Contact Susan Brozovic

SBrozovic.doe.k12.ga.us

Keeping sending your pictures; they are great!
You are all wonderful!

Log in your coaching activities



Please see page 4 for very important information regarding your parent team members.

I have requested sample copies of the forms that you are working on from the NDPC-SWD.

PHASE I: ANALYZE DATA & IDENTIFY CRITICAL NEEDS



... Another group hard at work!

Phase I

District and school demographics

Student performance (graduation, dropout, course completion, retentions AYP, EOC tests, CRCT tests, other test data)

District/school policies and procedures (including attendance and discipline)

Assessment, curriculum, and instructional systems

Current initiatives (academic, attendance, and discipline) and partnerships that can be leveraged

Transition and post-secondary outcomes data

Parent/family engagement

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

Is the examination of relevant data complete?

*If yes, are you able to identify which factors are influencing dropout in your district? What changes can be made to improve?

*If no, what additional data will you need to make this determination?



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Bring to the Jan 30th coaches training:

- Attendance Policy and available data (over the last 4 years if possible)
- Action Plan (activity 8; Please provide me with a copy of plan)
- Data probes (please provide me with a hard copy)
- Standards for Implementing a High Quality School Graduation/Dropout...
- Essential tasks and timeline for Implementing a High Quality School Graduation/Dropout Prevention Program (Please provide me with a copy)
- Attribute Sheet/Attendance (Please have completed and provide me with a copy)

Please be prepared to discuss:

- Information from the Student Engagement Webinar-Jan. 22.
- How students will be selected for targeted support for the Student Engagement portion of the Implementation Plan.
- What are the needs of the Collaborative Coaches and how can we best meet these needs.
- Share 2-3 min. report- out on your experiences with your teams thus far.

We will preview the rest of Year 1 and discuss how Year 2 is taking shape and ask for your feedback.

Collaboration Coaches,

Each parent on a high school or middle school SPDG team, who is not a school employee, will receive a \$100 stipend to attend the February trainings. The stipend will be mailed to the parent leader after the training. Parents, who are school employees, and receiving salary to attend the workshop will not qualify. Details on reimbursements are forthcoming but we would appreciate you letting your teams know about the stipends for the upcoming February trainings.

We are hoping the stipend will offset some costs so your parent member can attend the training because we will be discussing Family Engagement and featuring Michael O'Neal, a parent who started the successful Parent University in Savannah and Peyton Williams, who tells a powerful story of dropping out of school at 16 and then turning her life around by going back to school. These powerful stories, along with strategies to build family leadership and capacity among nontraditional involved parents, and the newly edited Georgia C.A.F.E. (Circle of Adults Focusing on Education) video, will be discussed. Each team will receive a copy of the video.

We will contact your parents, who gave contact information to Patti Solomon at the past trainings next week to answer questions and let them know about the stipend. Please let us know if there are school teams without parent members so Patti and Debbie Currere, a state parent leader who is a parent mentor and also contracts with the DOE on the SPDG, assist you in finding and training a parent.

The stipend will be instead of the respite assistance first discussed.

Patricia Murray Solomon
Parent Liaison, Professional Learning Unit
Division for Special Education Services
Office of Standards, Assessments and Instruction
GA Department of Education
1870 Jesse Hill Jr., Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30334-5010
404-657-7328
FAX 404-651-6457
psolomon@doe.k12.ga.us