

# Power of the Partnership Partnering with Us

The Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that works diligently to improve student achievement and workforce development in Georgia.

Over the last 32 years, the Partnership has built a solid reputation as a trusted, nonpartisan voice capable of bringing diverse, key stakeholders to the table – policymakers, media, educators, business, philanthropic and community leaders, advocates, and parents. The Partnership's work - impacting all 1.7 million public school students in our state - is undertaken to make Georgia a top-performing state where all children have the same access to a high-quality education and an equitable opportunity to graduate from high school, college and/or career ready, while providing Georgia with a well-educated, skilled, and prepared workforce.

Partnering with us allows partners to engage Georgia's business, education, and government leaders in strengthening our power to improve student achievement.

Highlights of our diligent work – award winning publications and programs, viewed as valued resources by our numerous stakeholders, include:

## Top Ten Issues to Watch

## 20th Edition (Launched in 2004)



The Partnership's Top Ten Issues to Watch publication is an award winning annual report highlighting and providing recommendations on critical educational issues in Georgia. The report, based on thorough and non-partisan research, is widely disseminated to inform and influence policy, business, community, and advocacy leaders to make sound decisions.

Approximately 1,500 copies are distributed annually to a wide cross-section of education stakeholders throughout the state with hundreds more readers being reached through digital downloads.

The report is presented annually in the joint Georgia House Education Committee and Georgia Senate Education & Youth Committee meeting; has been featured on Georgia Public Broadcasting's Lawmakers program, "Georgia Focus," a Georgia News Network public affairs radio show broadcast on more than 130 stations statewide; the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives newsletter, in *James* magazine, and used as curriculum material in Georgia colleges of education.

What our stakeholders say...

"The Georgia Partnership does an extraordinary job of "making the case" with each of the ten areas... The Top Ten Issues to Watch is a fantastic study guide for educators—from the classroom to the board room. I am grateful for your work! Rest assured, over the next few weeks, we will be pulling apart the publication to digest its contents as we work to push each of the framework levers to drive educational improvements in the Newton County School System."

-Samantha Fuhrey, 2020 Georgia School Superintendent of the Year (retired), Newton County School System

## EdQuest Georgia



**Charting Educational Reform** 

EdQuest Georgia is a multifaceted, ten-year initiative designed to expand educational opportunity and accelerate economic growth in Georgia by achieving our **North Star Goal: ensuring 65% of Georgia's adult population has a post-secondary credential by 2033**. At the foundation of this initiative is the EdQuest Georgia 2023 Framework, which serves as the overall state policy map for what Georgia should be doing to for the next ten years to achieve its desired education and workforce outcomes. Embedded in the Framework is the

EdQuest Georgia 2023 State Policy Plan, which serves as an implementation guide for the next two years prioritizing immediate must do's to move the overall Framework forward.

#### What our stakeholders say...

"EdQuest Georgia is the most comprehensive education policy framework I've seen in in my education career. It is readable and logical and thereby provides a template for reflection and growth. EdQuest is the reference for public education in Georgia."

- Jimmy Stokes, EdD, Executive Director (retired), Georgia Association of Educational Leaders

award winning annual report highlighting

Launched in 2017

Critical Issues Forums Launched in 1992



Drawing large audiences from the business, government, education and civic communities, our Critical Issues Forums are public programs designed to inform and influence leaders to make sound education policy decisions. Each Forum features subject matter experts who take a hard look at important education issues, as well as panel discussions and opportunities for audience engagement. Each Forum is recorded and featured on our website to reach broader audiences.

#### What our stakeholders say...

"The Critical Issues Forums are perfect examples of how the Georgia Partnership raises public awareness of key education issues. The forums always address front-burner topics with analysis and expert commentary. Attendees always leave empowered with new information and ideas, as well as a renewed energy to positively impact Georgia's public education system."

- Mike Donnelly, Atlanta Region President, Wells Fargo, Georgia Partnership Board Past Chair

## The Economics of Education

## 5th Edition (Launched in 2017)



Since the release of the first edition in 2004, the Partnership has made approximately 375 Economics of Education presentations and reached 11,000 individuals from business, education, and government agencies with a clear message that investing in education is essential to Georgia's economic success. Audiences include community organizations, economic developers, leadership development programs, and business groups, and each presentation is tailored to reflect local situations.

#### What our stakeholders say...

"Education is a high-leverage economic development strategy that can pay tremendous long-term dividends for counties or regions. The Partnership's Economics of Education report really spotlights that fact in an accessible way and illuminates how building the capacity of community and business leaders across Georgia is key to improving the education and workforce development pipeline."

- Kevin Greiner, President & CEO, Gas South, Georgia Partnership Board Past Chair

## Education Policy Fellowship Program

Launched in 2008



The Education Policy Fellowship Program is a critical resource not only for individuals and organizations, but also the state of Georgia, as it deepens Georgia leaders' understanding of the policy process and equips them to be change agents in their communities. Since its inception, the program has trained over 200 Fellows across 14 cohorts and is one of 17 states affiliated with the national umbrella organization, Institute for Educational Leadership.

#### What our stakeholders say...

"As a member of the inaugural class of EPFP Fellows, I was willing to serve as a test case for building Georgia's capacity to address public education policy. My experience was powerful and informative because our class was quite diverse in terms of sectors,

and education journey. When all was said and done I was a true believer in the EPFP Fellowship! More than a decade later, I still look at our class photo every day that I am in the office to inspire me to keep fighting the good fight for public education."

- Atiba Mbiwan, Executive Director, The Zeist Foundation

#### Rural Learning Network

## Launched in 2020



The Georgia Partnership established regional initiatives in the form of the Rural Learning Network (RLN) to disseminate and amplify best practices in addressing issues concerning educational attainment, post-secondary completion, and workforce development, especially in Georgia's hardest to reach communities. The network engages local leaders from education, business and the community to help build local capacity and partnerships to address opportunities and challenges, especially in rural Georgia.

This work seeks to provide a shared-learning network for community leaders to learn from each other and raise awareness of best-practice work already happening across the state of Georgia.