

Gwinnett Parent Coalition

Dismantle the School to Prison Pipeline

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2012

Gwinnett STOPP Issues Statement Regarding the Mis-Education of Gwinnett County Public Schools' Students

Snellville, GA - Gwinnett Parent Coalition to Dismantle the School to Prison Pipeline (Gwinnett STOPP) along with other advocacy organizations, concerned parents and community members have come together to determine a course of action that effectively addresses community complaints regarding Gwinnett County Public Schools. We are focusing on staffing/curriculum; retaliation against parents and students; and effective parent involvement/communication. The slavery math questions, parents and students arrested at school at a principal's pleasure, the rapidly decreasing graduation rate (58% for black males and 66% for white males reported at the January GCPS board meeting), the opportunity gap that students with disabilities and students of color are experiencing, coupled with the disparate discipline rates unveiled by the U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection release and warrant a community call to action.

In addition, we are concerned that the GA DOE announced under the NCLB waiver granted to Georgia, our Broad Prize winner has 3 priority schools, defined as the bottom 5% performance rate for Title I in the entire state and 7 focus schools, defined as the bottom 10% performance rate. We await the release of Alert Schools, defined as Title I and Non-Title I Schools, which will be identified by Graduation Alert Subgroup Alert and CRCT Subject Alert. It appears that the state agrees with Gwinnett STOPP that there are no defined success outcomes for our two alternative schools since they comprise 2 of the 3 priority schools.

While we have just begun this very important task, we want you to be aware that we are quiet but busy! We have not, and will not, go away until all Gwinnett County students and parents are treated with respect and dignity, all teachers involved in developing or distributing the racially inflammatory assignments be fired and the system operates transparently and opportunity gaps are closed.

To the community- Three school board seats are coming up for re-election. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that we have professional, culturally competent leadership sitting at the helm. We have a sign-up sheet if you'd like to join us for this vital community planning.

Gwinnett STOPP is a grassroots parent-led, community-centered organization in Gwinnett County. Members of the coalition, in addition to parents, include the ACLU of Georgia, the Georgia State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Rho Kappa Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and other community stakeholders. Gwinnett STOPP is an active member of the Dignity in Schools Campaign (DSC) and regularly partners with other state and local organizations.

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Our Coalition Partners

ACLU of Georgia

Rho Kappa Lambda Chapter
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc

Georgia State Conference NAACP

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