



GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP
FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

270 PEACHTREE STREET, SUITE 2200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
TEL 404/223-2280 FAX 404/223-2299
www.gpee.org

December 16, 2014

Martha Reichrath, Ph.D.
Deputy State Superintendent
Georgia Department of Education
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Dr. Reichrath:

The Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education has always supported high, rigorous academic standards for our students. We have long held the position that high standards are the foundation to prepare students for the rigors of college and career. If Georgia is to continue to grow economically and be internationally competitive, the quality of our future workforce depends on these standards.

In response to criticism and confusion regarding the Common Core, Governor Nathan Deal asked the State Board of Education to conduct a thorough review, which commenced this summer and consisted of public hearings and extensive surveys. A committee of more than 100 teachers, college professors and curriculum specialists reviewed the feedback received from thousands of participants in order to develop specific recommendations. Those recommendations were reviewed with representatives from the business community who found them to meet their needs in developing a competitive labor force.

The Georgia Partnership supports this review process and the recommended outcomes. As teachers and instructional leaders were leading this effort, we trust their professional judgment about needed rigor in the classroom. We support teachers, education leaders, and the State Board in their support and implementation of these standards. We believe the suggested changes further enhance the already high standards put in place by the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. We recommend the State Board formally adopt the recommended standards currently under public review.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen D. Dolinger
President – Georgia Partnership for Excellence in
Education