

# Excelling in Public Education

## Study Teams and Focus

**Literacy and School Readiness**  
Focus on reading readiness and development from birth to 5 years

### Team 1: Birth through 3 years

**Chairs:** Susan Schwartz/Ed Kitchen  
**Members:** Jean Goodman, Chris Payne, Ann Pinto, Janet Howard, Teresa Tollison, Suzanna White, Glynnise Highsmith, Linda Olinger, Debbie Toler

#### Focus

How can the community organize to assure that children 0-3 get the verbal and reading skills necessary to be reading-ready? How can the LAUNCH program be supported?

### Team 2: 4yrs to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**Chairs:** Jim Morgan, Ann Busby

**Members:** Joslyn Becoats, Steve Sumerford, Kem Ellis, Michelle Schneider, Barbara Frye, Robin Britt, Linda Hestenes, Drs. Ruffin, Hampton, Davis (NC A&T)

#### Focus

How can the community at large work with the schools to assure that all children are reading at grade level by the end of the third grade?

**Connecting to the Future Economy**  
Help teachers, counselors, and student understand the educational and experience needs for jobs in the future

### Study Team

**Chairs:** George Clopton, John Modest  
**Members:** Don Cameron, Dan Lynch, Lonnie Baxley, Anita Bachman, Bob Garinger, Lauren Hill, Jay Harris, Davis Montgomery, Greg Chabon, GCS/CTE Director

#### Focus

Given the changes in the Triad economy, how can students and teachers have a solid understanding of the academic preparation needed for a new economy? How can students graduate from high school "work ready" and "college ready." What connections with the business community will enhance and leverage skills?

**School and Leadership Development**  
Focus on school forms/structure such as KIPP and activities for principal and other leadership development

### Team 1: Forms/Structure

**Chairs:** John Ellison, Beth Folger  
**Members:** April Harris, Cathy Levinson,

#### Focus

How can the success of early colleges and other programs be enhanced with new efforts (such as KIPP or STEM schools)? What can the community do?

### Team 2: School & Leadership Development

**Chairs:** Jim Melvin, Mona Edwards

**Members:** Martha Snavley, Shirley Morrison, David Moff, Alan Duncan, AmEx repre., plus one or two other corporate HR training and development reps.

#### Focus

How can leadership development programs be developed/enhanced to assure talented and skilled principals and other administrators for effective schools?

**Parent Academy**  
Focus on enhancing development of Parent Academy in support of GCS

### Study Team

**Chairs:** Robin Saul, Nora Carr  
**Members:** PTA rep; TBA

#### Focus

How can the focus and programs of the GCS parent academy be expanded and enhanced to leverage effectiveness? What supplementary organizations and programs exist?

**Character Education**  
Focus on enhancing character education program with community based programs and activities in support of GCS

### Study Team

**Chairs:** Brenda Elliot Johnson, TBA  
**Members:** Donna Newton, Cathy Hamilton, Hollie Rose, Hayes Clement, Rob Clapper, Odell Cleveland

#### Focus

What experiences and programs can be developed within and beyond the schools to develop well-rounded, ethical, and moral individuals as citizens of the future? What programs and organizations in the County can enhance GCS efforts? How can meaningful service/learning projects be developed?