



**GEORGIA
SOUTH-**

**Georgia Center for Educational Renewal
"Committed to Closing the GAPS"**

RESEARCH YOU CAN USE NOW!

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GOOD LUCK

If you decide to implement this program, please let the Georgia Center know. If you are interested in this program, but feel you need additional advice or support, please contact Dr. Charles Reavis at the Georgia Center for Educational Renewal at careavis@georgiasouthern.edu

or call
912-681-5719

Many lists of suggestions for raising achievement in high poverty schools exist. One must be selective. The list below was developed by the High Poverty Schools Initiative that is housed in the offices of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) based on an extensive study of high achieving high poverty schools compared to moderate achieving high poverty schools. The Georgia Center for School Renewal can provide support on the areas listed in this report. Let us know if we can be of assistance.

HIGH IMPACT SCHOOLS CULTURE

Focus on preparing students for college and careers
Official policies focus on academics
Teachers/administrators express consistent views about student achievement
Teachers embrace external assessments and standards.

CORE

Staff members have consistently higher expectations for all students and take responsibility for helping students succeed.

Encourage all students to take high-level courses.
Use data for future planning.

SUPPORT

Provide extra help to students that are behind without delaying entry into grade-level courses and the college-prep track.
Administrators and teachers take responsibility for providing extra help to struggling students.
Carefully monitor student progress to identify problems early.
Counselors proactively monitor progress and arrange help as members of the academic team.
Use their partnerships with businesses and colleges to support student postsecondary opportunities.

TEACHERS

Teachers are assigned based on student needs.
Support for new teachers is focused on instruction and curriculum.
Administrators adjust class sizes to give struggling students more attention.
Principals have more control over hiring.

TIME AND OTHER RESOURCES

High-impact schools are more deliberate at organizing "catch up" time for struggling students.
Provide underperforming ninth graders with more reading and/or reading instruction.
Students spend more time in college-prep courses.
Have more strategies for and are stricter about protecting academic time.
Underperforming freshman students spend more of their senior year in academic courses than they did during their freshman year.

AVERAGE SCHOOLS

Prepare students for graduation.
Official policies focus on rules.
Teachers and administrators are less consistent.
Teachers in average schools tolerate them.

Staff members do not consistently have higher expectations for all students and do not take responsibility for helping students succeed.
Restricts access.
Use data to measure past student performance.

Average schools do not.

Extra help is optional.

Provide help after students have faltered.
Counselors intervene through referrals.

Use these partnerships for dropout and drug-abuse prevention.

Teachers are more likely to be based on teacher desires.
New teacher support is more social and personal.
Class size in average schools is more uniform.

Principals have less control over hiring.

"Catch up" time for struggling students not as deliberate.

Underperforming ninth graders not provided with as much reading and/or reading instruction.
Students spend more time in remedial courses.
Less strategies for and are less strict about protecting academic time.
Proficient freshman students spend more of their senior year in academic courses than they did during their freshman year.

THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM GRANT PROGRAM

Grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to at least one hundred K-12 public schools for use in establishing a new outdoor classroom or enhancing an existing one; the deadline is August 31 for mid-September notification. For more information, visit www.lowes.com/lowes/lkn?action=pg&p=AboutLowes/outdoor/index.html.