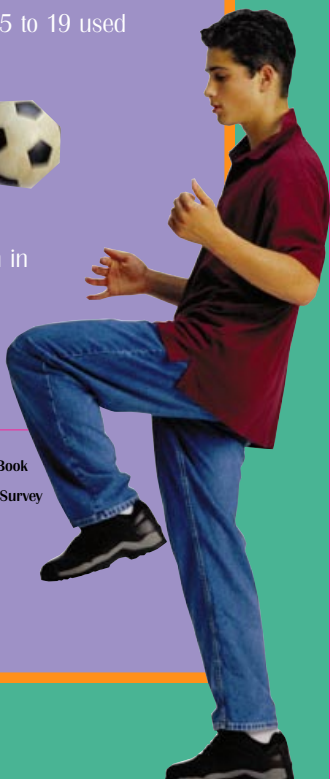


Why Do Georgia's Children Need a School Health Program?

- Georgia ranks 43rd (out of 50 states and the District of Columbia) for children's overall well being*
- 31% of male teens and 21% of female teens rarely or never wear a seatbelt when riding in a car*
- 28% of teens age 15 to 19 carried a weapon during the past 30 days*
- 41% of teens age 15 to 19 were in a physical fight during the past 12 months*
- 24% of teens age 15 to 19 tried cigarette smoking*
- 44% of teens age 15 to 19 drank alcohol*
- 14% of teens age 15 to 19 used marijuana*
- 66% of teens age 15 to 19 had sexual intercourse*
- Georgia ranks 45th in infant mortality**
- 25% of U.S. children are over weight (CDC)



*1998-99 Georgia Kids Count Data Book

**1993 Georgia Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The Georgia Partnership for School Health is a collaborative effort of the following organizations:

- | | |
|--|---|
| American Academy of Pediatrics, Georgia Chapter | Georgia Dietetic Association |
| American Cancer Society, Southeast Division, Inc. | Georgia Federation of Professional Health Educators |
| American Heart Association, Georgia Affiliate | Georgia Hospital Association |
| American Lung Association of Georgia | Georgia Nurses Association |
| American Red Cross, Metro Atlanta Chapter | Georgia School Boards Association |
| Atlanta Public Schools | Georgia School Counselors Association |
| Boys and Girls Club, Metro Atlanta | Georgia School Food Service Association |
| Centers for Disease Control and Prevention | Georgia School Superintendents Association |
| Children's Healthcare of Atlanta | Georgia State University, School of Nursing |
| Cobb County Board of Health | Georgians for Children |
| Coweta County Health Department | Girl Scouts of U.S.A., Northwest Georgia Council |
| Dairy and Food Nutrition Council of the Southeast | Junior League of Atlanta |
| DeKalb County Board of Health | Medical Association of Atlanta Alliance |
| Family Connection | Just Say No |
| Georgia AIDS Coalition | Morehouse School of Medicine Dept. of Pediatrics |
| Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance | North Georgia College & University |
| Georgia Association of School Nurses | Georgia Parent Teachers Association |
| Georgia Bureau of Investigation | Professional Association of Georgia Educators |
| Georgia Dental Association | Regional Education Services Agencies |
| Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health | Safe Kids of Georgia |
| | School Social Workers Association of Georgia |
| | Southwest Health District |
| | University of Georgia, Cooperative Extension Service, and Health Promotion and Behavior |

Loving, Caring, and Sharing



**Division of Public Health
Family Health Branch
Office of Infant
and Child Health Services**

Two Peachtree Street NW
11th Floor

Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142
(404) 657-4143 • (404) 463-6729

Website: <http://health.state.ga.us/programs/child/index.shtml>

Form 321S DPH00.40HW

Our vision is for Georgia's children to be healthy and to learn to be healthy



Georgia Partnership for School Health

The Partnership's Mission is to Create an Environment in Which Children Can Be Healthy and Can Learn

Georgia Partnership for School Health was formed in December 1992. The Partnership was started from a grant awarded to a number of organizations represented by the American Cancer Society, Southeast Division, to address the issue of school health education in Georgia.



What Do School Health Programs Provide?

Healthy School Environment:

A safe and caring environment is conducive to learning.

School Health Education/Instruction:

- Disease prevention
- Mental health
- Environmental health
- Growth and development
- Nutrition
- Consumer health
- Personal health
- Community health
- HIV/AIDS education
- Health careers
- Family living
- Safety
- Alcohol/other drug abuse prevention

School Health Services:

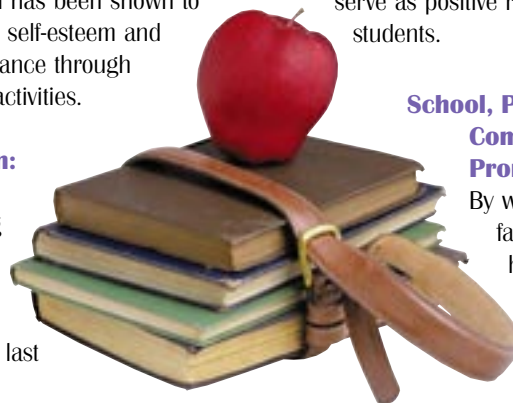
The school works with families to determine an individual student's health needs, which may include vision and hearing screening, immunizations and first aid, assistance with medication, health care plans, or linkage with a primary health care provider.

School-based Physical Education:

Physical education has been shown to improve children's self-esteem and academic performance through planned physical activities.

School Nutrition:

A healthy diet enhances learning and promotes the development of good eating behaviors that will last a lifetime.



School-based Counseling, Psychological and Social Services:

School counselors, psychologists, and social workers provide support for individual students, teachers, and staff.

Employee Health Promotion:

Wellness programs encourage staff to adopt healthier lifestyles, which enable them to serve as positive role models for their students.

School, Parent, Family, and Community Health Promotion Partnerships:

By working together, schools, families, and communities help children develop to their fullest potential.

What Can I Do?



- Ask your local school administration about school health programs available in the school and community.
- Obtain information and support from Georgia Partnership for School Health members and organizations.
- Educate your state and local decision makers about the importance of supporting effective school health programs.
- Support your local school system by getting involved.

Get Involved...Our Children's Health Depends On It