



# apple bytes

*a monthly news update from the  
Georgia Appleseed Center for Law & Justice*

June 2013

Georgia Appleseed's extensive work on effective student discipline continues to take root in significant ways. In this issue of *AppleBytes*, learn how our four-month old Columbus field office is already having an impact on schools in Muscogee County, under the direction of Teddy Reese, Deputy Director of Projects (and member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.).

## Keeping kids in class...but how?

Georgia Appleseed's extensive research on school discipline has revealed astounding statistics on out of school suspension rates in some schools in Georgia. How best to address this? Here is where Georgia Appleseed's 3 unique core competencies stand out. We (1) research to understand, then (2) report on what we learn, and spark activity to (3) create lasting change that increases fairness and provides greater opportunity.

An example of this unique approach is the series of local community meetings Georgia Appleseed has held in conjunction with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Georgia Legal Services and the Southern Center for Human Rights. These presentations have served as a springboard to advocacy, resulting in the formation of community work groups committed to improving outcomes for their kids.



Presenters at Metro Atlanta School Districts 'Keep Youth in School' Workshop

Columbus and Albany advocate groups have each adopted different approaches and, in effect, serve as test models for action. In Columbus, review of the system-wide student code of conduct is under way. First step

was a student focus group to collect feedback from the kids themselves; parent and community focus groups will follow. Meanwhile, the Albany community group is targeting their effort on individual schools with serious out of school suspension rates.

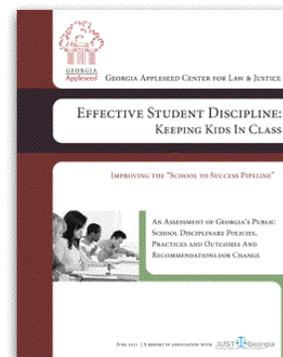


Key to each approach is that



Everyone is talking about Georgia Appleseed!

Your contribution today will support our work on behalf of Georgia's children...thanks!



the foundation of these conversations rests in the hands of the community. Georgia Appleseed and its collaborative partners supply the framework of opportunity, expertise, and research to help communities seek answers and to respond effectively for their kids.



Learn the facts.  
Read our report  
**Effective Student Discipline:  
Keeping Kids  
in Class**

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