



News from the Georgia School Boards Association
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Puckett Named GSBA Professional Development Specialist

Jim Puckett, Ed.D. has been named the newest member of the Georgia School Boards Association's professional development team. He began his new position as professional development specialist in August. He comes to GSBA from the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders, where he served 12 years as executive director. Prior to his appointment with GAEL, Dr. Puckett served GSBA in various leadership roles for six years, including deputy director.

"GSBA is fortunate to have Dr. Puckett return to our association," said Jeannie M. (Sis) Henry, GSBA executive director. "He is known for his leadership and expertise in working with school boards and school administrators across Georgia. This experience will be a tremendous asset for GSBA."

In his new role, Dr. Puckett will plan GSBA's conferences and regional workshops. In addition, he will provide training and retreat services to local boards. He will also serve as the liaison with the Georgia Board of Education.

A 1967 graduate of Emory University, Dr. Puckett began his career as a teacher at Buford High School. He served 17 years with the Buford City Schools as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. He also served as superintendent for the last seven years he was in Buford.

Between 1984 and 1986, Dr. Puckett was director of research and leadership development for the Metropolitan (Atlanta) Regional Educational Service Agency (MRESA). In 1986, Puckett began a four-year term as director of the Georgia Education Leadership Academy of the Georgia Department of Education and, in 1990, joined GSBA as director of training and board development.

Puckett holds four college degrees. In 1967, he graduated from Emory with a bachelor of arts in political science. Puckett's next three degrees came from the University of Georgia and include a master's of education in educational administration (1975); an educational specialist degree in educational administration (1980); and a doctorate in education (1984).

GSBA is a voluntary association of the state's 180 elected boards of education. It's mission is to ensure excellence in the governance of local school systems by providing leadership, advocacy and services, and by representing the collective resolve of Georgia's 180 elected boards of education. Please visit www.gsba.com for more information on the association.

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