



2015 Phil Pickens Leadership Award Nominee

Sandra Adams

Special Education Director, Hart County

««Accolades of Leadership

- *While in a successful corporate career, began pursuing her dream of being a special educator, earning her Bachelor's, Master's, Specialist and Doctorate*
- *First Georgia special education teacher to achieve National Board Certification in Early Childhood through Young Adulthood Exceptional Needs Specialist in 2000*
- *Served as teacher, lead Special Education teacher, and Assistant Principal before becoming Director of Special Education Services for Hart County Schools*

««Modeling Collaboration and Partnership

- *Takes pride in assisting one family at a time, believes in positive relationships and interacting with parents*
- *Listens actively at IEP meetings and draws parent out to discuss what is truly on their minds*
- *Ensures parents are satisfied with student's IEP goals and progress report before end of IEP meetings*

««Building Home/School/Community Partnerships

- *Established new parameters for CBVI program*
- *Encouraged and supported a "Coffee Shop" for teaching students basic skills needed before working in a community-based location*
- *Supports annual "Family Picnic" to provide families with food, fun, information, networking opportunities and to raise community awareness by partnering with local fire departments, EMTs, Parent to Parent of Georgia and local merchants*
- *Initiated a transition to middle school program to introduce staff, facilities, and procedures to students and families*

««Leadership and Involvement with GaPMP

- *Integrated the Parent Mentor into the GraduateFIRST project for at-risk students*
- *Guided the Parent Mentor to meet with each high school parent to improve parent survey results*



Georgia
Parent Mentor
Partnership

