



# Creating a community of civic leaders



GCAPS participants met with Governor Sonny Perdue during a visit to the State Capitol

## You can make a difference in your community by participating in GCAPS!

The Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) knows the advantages of addressing state problems at the local level.

This newly created civic awareness initiative was designed to address our state civic education needs within counties where hands on experience and learning are most beneficial.

### How it Works:

Brings together a diverse group of high school students from the county to learn about and participate in local government.

Begins with an Advisory Committee made up of community leaders that is directed by a Program Manager.

A student delegation is selected and elects leadership amongst themselves.

Designed for high school students in public, private and home schools.

GCAPS is a flexible program that can be implemented county by county according to needs.

## Goal of GCAPS and Student Delegate's Role

To instill an interest in civics, while also creating a desire to either serve in the public sector or become a better informed constituent.

This unique opportunity allows student delegates to gain first hand knowledge of government operations and grants an opportunity to interact with elected officials.

Delegates attend monthly meetings and activities that may include attending a Board of Commissioner's meeting, leadership training, visiting the county jail, touring the state capitol...

Delegates determine and implement projects to educate their peers about civic engagement.

## What is GCAPS?

Georgia Civic Awareness Program  
for Students

A countywide youth leadership program

Conceived by ACCG and implemented  
by Georgia's counties

An initiative that will create partnerships  
between teens and adults

A program designed for students and  
run by students

Created for public, private and home  
schooled teens

Oconee County pilot program accepts a sponsorship check



Acknowledgements and thank you:

*The Coca-Cola Company*

**Holland+Knight**




Georgia  
Civic Awareness  
Program *for Students*

Creating a Community of Civic Leaders

For more information please contact  
Kathleen Bowen, GCAPS Coordinator

50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 1000  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: (404) 522-5022

Fax: (404) 525-2477

Email: [kbowen@accg.org](mailto:kbowen@accg.org) [www.accg.org](http://www.accg.org)

[www.GCAPS.org](http://www.GCAPS.org)