

# 2015-16 Officers and Board

## President

**Laura Nurse, APR**, Gwinnett County Public Schools  
[laura\\_nurse@gwinnett.k12.ga.us](mailto:laura_nurse@gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

## President-Elect

**Cindy Ball**, Rockdale County Public Schools  
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## Secretary/Treasurer

**J.D. Hardin**, Henry County Schools  
[john.hardin@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:john.hardin@henry.k12.ga.us)

## Vice President of Communications

**Courtney Burnett**,  
City Schools of Decatur  
[cburnett@csdecatur.net](mailto:cburnett@csdecatur.net)

## Vice President of Member Services

**Yolanda Stephen**, Troup County School System  
[stephenyk@troup.org](mailto:stephenyk@troup.org)

## Vice President of Professional Development

**Robyn Brunson**, Greene County Schools  
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## Immediate Past President

**Karen Stroud**, Douglas County Schools  
[karen.stroud@douglas.k12.ga.us](mailto:karen.stroud@douglas.k12.ga.us)

## Ex-Officio Members of the Board

**Accreditation Chair Pat Holloway, APR**  
[pat.holloway@dalton.k12.ga.us](mailto:pat.holloway@dalton.k12.ga.us)

**Georgia Vision Project Liaison Tim Hensley, APR**  
[thensley@floydboe.net](mailto:thensley@floydboe.net)

**GaDOE Liaison Matt Cardoza**, [mcardoza@gadoe.org](mailto:mcardoza@gadoe.org)

**Contest Co-Chairs Susan Hale, APR, and Charles White**  
[Hales1@fultonschools.org](mailto:Hales1@fultonschools.org)  
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**Newsletter Editor Carrie McGowan**  
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**Social Media Coordinator Tammy Garnes**  
[tgarnes@atlantapublicschools.us](mailto:tgarnes@atlantapublicschools.us)

## Region 1 Director Meghan Frick

[mfrick@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mfrick@doe.k12.ga.us), (404) 416-2286

Atlanta City, Bartow and Cartersville City, Butts, Carroll and Carrollton City, Catoosa, Chattooga and Trion City, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb and Marietta City, Coweta, Dade, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd and Rome City, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon and Calhoun City, Haralson and Bremen City, Heard, Lamar, Monroe, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Spalding, Walker and Chickamauga City, and Whitfield and Dalton City.

## Region 2 Director Justin Pauly

[jpauly@gsba.com](mailto:jpauly@gsba.com), (770) 962-6843

Baldwin, Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Columbia, Dawson, DeKalb and Decatur City, Elbert, Fannin, Forsyth, Franklin, Glascock, Greene, Gwinnett and Buford City, Habersham, Hall and Gainesville City, Hancock, Hart, Henry, Jackson and Commerce City and Jefferson City, Jasper, Jefferson, Jones, Lincoln, Lumpkin, Madison, McDuffie, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Putnam, Rabun, Richmond, Rockdale, Stephens, Taliaferro, Towns, Union, Walton and Social Circle City, Warren, Washington, White, and Wilkes.

## Region 3 Director Stephanie Hartley

[Stephanie.Hartley@bcsdk12.net](mailto:Stephanie.Hartley@bcsdk12.net), (478) 952-1753

Baker, Bibb, Brooks, Calhoun, Chattahoochee, Clay, Colquitt, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Harris, Lee, Macon, Marion, Meriwether, Miller, Mitchell and Pelham City, Muscogee, Peach, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Terrell, Tift, Thomas and Thomasville City, Troup, Turner, Upson, Webster and Worth.

## Region 4 Director Amy Nunnally

[ajnunnally@burke.k12.ga.us](mailto:ajnunnally@burke.k12.ga.us), (706) 554-5101

Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bleckley, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Camden Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Dodge, Dooley, Echols, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Glynn, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Jenkins, Johnson, Houston, Lanier, Laurens and Dublin City, Liberty, Long, Lowndes and Valdosta City, McIntosh, Montgomery, Pierce, Pulaski, Screven, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs and Vidalia City, Treutlen, Twiggs, Ware, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilcox and Wilkinson.

*All districts are county districts unless noted as a city system. City systems are listed with the county in which they are located. Members from charter schools, educational facilities, and education agencies and associations are served in the region in which they are located.*



## Who We Are and What We Do

*Chartered in 1973, the Georgia School Public Relations Association (GSPRA) is a professional organization for school communicators and school-community relations specialists. GSPRA is an affiliate of the National School Public Relations Association and was designated as a Blue Ribbon Chapter of NSPRA for 25 years before the launch of the NSPRA Mark of Distinction Awards. In 2010 and, again, in 2015, GSPRA earned NSPRA's Mark of Distinction as an Exemplary Chapter. GSPRA members also have earned the prestigious Awards for Distinguished Service in both the single project and year-round project categories.*

*GSPRA is a vital medium for exchanging information and ideas and is a wellspring of professional growth for education communicators statewide. The guiding philosophy is that the organization is enriched by the addition of each new member. GSPRA offers many quality services and resources for its members including support and mentoring for new communications staffers; regional and statewide conferencing opportunities; and staff development resources for schools and*

## Our Members

While most GSPRA members are school system public relations professionals, we also have members who are administrators, school-level communicators, public relations professionals from education associations, and superintendents. *Why such a diverse membership?* The answer lies in the association's recognition that establishing and maintaining effective relationships between a school or school system and its publics is not a one-person job. Every member of the administrative team of a school and school system bears some responsibility for relationship-building and/or communicating school policies and procedures.

## Member Services

One of the greatest assets GSPRA offers its members is a statewide network of school communicators. Imagine the benefit of having advice and information at your fingertips on topics such as school finance campaigns, media relations, crisis communication, budget issues, community relations, publications, and more. GSPRA's vibrant online community gives members a venue for seeking and offering advice, resources, and samples on key issues.

GSPRA's electronic newsletter provides members with regular updates from the association regarding chapter news, news from the Georgia Department of Education, and other items related to enhancing job performance and tracking the latest education trends.

On GSPRA's website ([www.gspr.org](http://www.gspr.org)), visitors will find information about the organization and its members, conferences and other learning opportunities, and more. GSPRans with active membership status have access to members-only resources, including posted samples in the Resource Vault, the *E-Vox* archives, the member directory, and job postings. GSPRA also has a presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Linked In.

A hallmark of GSPRA is its annual professional development seminar, traditionally held in the fall. No other conference in Georgia offers public relations professionals and education leaders the opportunity to focus on public education issues and how to communicate them. During the year, webinars and regional events offer additional opportunities to network, learn, and share ideas with neighboring school systems.

GSPRA is proud, too, of offering numerous awards that recognize excellence in school public relations. GSPRA's annual Publications, Photography, and Electronic Media Contest honors the year's best work and gives participants valuable feedback from fellow practitioners. Awards programs coincide with the annual conference.

The administration of GSPRA is handled by the officers of the association, who are elected by the members annually. As a result, GSPRA is able to keep the cost of membership to just \$50 per year. GSPRA's membership year runs from one annual conference to the next and dues are included in the conference fee. Members unable to attend the conference can maintain their GSPRA membership by paying the \$50 membership fee. (*See details on paying membership fees to the right.*)

## Join GSPRA online

GSPRA uses Yahoo Group to maintain an online community for its members. With a single e-mail, registered GSPRans broadcast requests and responses to every subscriber in the online group. Imagine having the advice of PR professionals statewide, all on standby waiting to help! New members receive information on how to take advantage of this great opportunity for instant communication.

Visit us online: [www.gspr.org](http://www.gspr.org)

## Invest in yourself. Join GSPRA today.

If you are interested in joining the Georgia School Public Relations Association, please fill out this form and send it along with your dues payment to:

J.D. Hardin  
GSPRA Secretary/Treasurer  
c/o Henry County Schools  
33 N. Zack Hinton Pkwy.,  
McDonough GA 30253  
[john.hardin@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:john.hardin@henry.k12.ga.us)  
Phone: 770-957-6601, ext. 161  
Fax: 770-914-6178

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School/System/Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues:** \$50 per year (*GSPRA's membership year runs from fall conference to fall conference. Dues are bundled into conference registration or may be paid separately for those unable to attend the conference.*)