



STATE OF GEORGIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

Dear School Official:

Congratulations on having students(s) from your school selected to attend the 2008 Georgia Youth Summit. This educational forum, scheduled for September 20 – 22, 2008, is conducted in cooperation with the Georgia Rural Development Council. I serve as chair of that Council and applaud and endorse the work of the leadership committee.

The conference plans to have a team consisting of four young people and one adult representing every county in Georgia at this unique event. Conference participants will be learning about the diversity of opportunities and people in Georgia, participating in leadership development activities and studying the demographics and economic dimensions of our state. The youth and adults will work as a team to develop a plan to return to their community and make recommendations to local decision makers. I am confident the young people at this conference will have a positive impact on the future of Georgia.

The theme for the Summit is *Hear Our Voice See Our Action: Many Voices for One Georgia*. This will truly be an opportunity for the young people of Georgia to have their opinions heard. They will be interacting with state officials, civic and education leaders at local and state levels, faculty of the University of Georgia, and members of the Georgia Rural Development Council.

I am confident that the educational merit and community benefits of this conference warrant your consideration for an excused absence. The event will occur on the Rock Eagle campus of the University of Georgia near Eatonton. The students will be charged to provide a detailed report of the plans and experiences to their principal and superintendent upon returning home.

Please call Dr. Roger C. (Bo) Ryles, at the University of Georgia (706) 542-4H4H with any specific questions. Thanks for your support of these students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sonny Perdue".  
Sonny Perdue