Georgia has cut nearly $1 billion from schools.

Here’s what that means for Georgia’s children.
Georgia has cut money to public schools by nearly a billion dollars. When you cut funding, other things get cut—like jobs, programs, resources, classroom supplies, and now even school days.

Our schools should have 180 days of classroom learning time. Nearly two-thirds of Georgia school districts have cut those learning days—some by more than 30 days—because of lack of money.

Research shows that effective student learning is directly connected to learning days in the classroom. Students are spending fewer days in school than ever before. If we want to boost student achievement and strengthen our schools, we need to get our students and teachers back in the classroom. We need 180 Days.

We have a plan, but we’re going to need your help.

The 180 Days Initiative by GAE.

The Georgia Association of Educators (GAE) believes that every student should have a fully-funded, 180 days of classroom learning. Returning to a fully-funded school calendar will strengthen our state’s public schools and increase student achievement. If you agree Georgia children deserve 180 days, then help us spread the word about this issue.

After ten years of funding cuts, Georgia school systems are educating more students with fewer teachers—in larger classes and on fewer school days. We’ve chosen to cut learning time to save money. This short-sighted solution comes with long-term consequences for our children and our state.

Colorado
Connecticut
Massachusetts
New York
Tennessee

will add at least 300 hours of learning time to the school calendar in an effort to boost student achievement.

67%

Georgia has the lowest high school graduation in the South and fourth-lowest in the nation. Only New Mexico, Washington, D.C., and Nevada fall below Georgia.

Nearly 1 in 4 districts reported reducing its school calendar by more than one week this school year.

As few as 144.

While Georgia schools dropped from 180 days to as few as 144, schools in competing, higher-performing countries like South Korea and Japan require students to attend nearly 200 days of school.

This problem belongs to all of us—so does the solution.

Here’s what you can do to help.

1. Spread the word. Student achievement is a community issue. Talk to friends, neighbors, and more.

2. Connect. Go to www.gae.org/180days to learn more, get materials, and fix this problem.

Recently, Governor Nathan Deal led lawmakers to restore funding to reinstate the 180-day standard year for children enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten. It’s time to restore a fully-funded school year for all children.