



One of the best ways for a church to serve their community is by “adopting” a local school. *It can be as simple as 1-2-3!* Churches all across Georgia area making a great impact in the lives of children in their communities by meeting needs of the local schools. Below are some suggestions for how your group and/or church can adopt a school in your community.

1. Pray

Start by praying for your school. Find out the names of the principal, other administrators, teachers, counselors, support staff. Ask church members to pray for them by name. Pray for the children in the school. Ask God to open opportunities for you meet needs in the school.

2. Connect

Call your local school and ask to speak with a counselor or principal. Explain who you are, what church you are from & why you are calling. (“We want to find out if there any needs in your school our church can meet.”) Ask if you can schedule an appointment to meet with the counselor in person.

Think of yourself as missionaries to your local school. Learning about their culture and their needs is priority. Rather than approaching with a suggestion of how you want to help, ask them to tell you how they most need help. Then, ***make it easy on the school as you meet the need.***

3. Serve

Below are some ideas and ways other churches have been involved with their local schools. Remember—these are only ideas. The needs in your local school may be different. Listen carefully & only offer these suggestions if needed.

- Feed sports teams before and/or after competitions
- Provide food or snacks during summer camps (band camp, football camp, etc.)
- Volunteer to help with big events at the school
- Offer your church facility for school meetings
- Supply weekend food bags for children who receive free/reduced lunch during the week.
- Provide bags of basic hygiene items the school nurse can share with students who need them.
- Academic mentoring, especially with reading and math.
- Support backpack, coat or school supply drives
- Title 1 schools have parent support centers and ways volunteers can be trained to support children.

