The Clayton County Education Issue Work Group held its first meeting on Friday, June 24th with community leaders and educators in attendance. Organizations represented included Clayton County Public Schools, the local Parent and Teachers Association, the Clayton County Board of Health, Clayton State University, Clayton County Cooperative Extension, and Georgia Power.

Sue Chapman, Operations Coordinator with the Archway Partnership, provided the members of the Clayton Education Issue Work Group with an introduction to the Archway Partnership. Dr. Edmond Heatley, Clayton County Public Schools Superintendent, demonstrated his support by attending the first meeting as an advisor to the work group. Dr. Heatley presented the following three key questions to begin a discussion in developing educational priorities in the work group:

- What skills do our students need?
- What are we seeing in our students?
- What are we not seeing in our students?

Three priorities were identified by the group as a result of the discussion: 1) Workforce and College Readiness 2) Technology as a Learning Tool, and 3) Parent Engagement and Education. These priorities will be shared with appropriate faculty to determine higher education resources that might be brought to bear on the priorities. The Clayton County Education Issue Work Group will meet monthly to continue their dialogue on the education issues and opportunities of the community.