**NBC News: Education Nation**

NBC News has initiated a national conversation on the state of education in America this week with its programming entitled *Education Nation*. The “event” includes nationally broadcast interviews, panels and interactive elements that focus on improving education in our country. To follow the summit, go to: [www.educationnation.com](http://www.educationnation.com) and see both live and archived news on the topic.

There are many references to ways in which we can “enhance” and “partner” with our schools. Specific initiatives which may affect how Extension programs in the schools include a move toward more charter schools, extending the school year, and creating a “culture of excellence” within the school buildings. Our goal as Extension educators should be to be closely involved in the creation of this culture.

Workforce preparedness and its importance in relation to our economy has also been a big part of the discussions thus far. There has never been a better time to lift up the work that Georgia 4-H is doing in relation to workforce preparation.

We must remain aware of the issues our schools are facing and offer resources which are appropriate. Start by tuning in to Education Nation this week and learning more.

Past *DeskTopics... and School Matters* are archived on the County Operations page on our intranet at [http://www.caes.uga.edu/intranet/coextopr/](http://www.caes.uga.edu/intranet/coextopr/). Just follow the path to Strategic Initiatives.