



Georgia Department of Education

Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

August/September 2017

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Pam Smith, pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us

SBOE Adopts Amendment for Rule 160-4-2-.34 DUAL ENROLLMENT – MOVE ON WHEN READY

On August 24, 2017, the State Board of Education (SBOE) adopted an amendment to the Dual Enrollment Rule listed above to align with the provisions of Senate Bill 211, which was signed into law on April 27, 2017. The amendment includes language that would prohibit school systems from excluding students in dual credit courses from valedictorian and salutatorian determinations under certain circumstances. Georgia code references include O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.3 and O.C.G.A. § 20-2-149.2.

Announcements

Survey to Review Music and Dance Georgia Performance Standards (GPS)

The Georgia Department of Education appreciates all of the helpful feedback from Fine Arts stakeholders regarding the recent survey opportunity for the review of the Georgia Performance Standards for Dance and Music. Your survey feedback will be used to inform the development of Music and Dance Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). The survey was posted for 30 days from August 14, 2017 to September 12, 2107.

Thank you again for taking the time to provide your feedback for the standards revision process for Music and Dance!

REGISTER NOW: Fall Curriculum Leaders' Conference and GACIS

Register now for both the Fall GaDOE Curriculum Leaders' Conference on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 and the Fall GACIS Conference Thursday – Friday, September 28-29, 2017.

The conferences will be held at the Classic Center Conference Center in Athens at the following address:
300 North Thomas St, Athens, GA 30601
(706) 208-0900.

Conference topics will include

- Keynote Presentation by ASCD author Suzy Pepper Rollins - *Learning in the Fast Lane*
- Academic content areas (with information for new GSE for Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts, Media Arts, and Theatre Arts)
- Georgia Virtual Learning
- STEM/STEAM
- College Readiness/Talent Development
- PBIS/School Climate
- Computer Science
- Student Support Service
- Teacher and Leader Support and Development
- CTAE/Move On When Ready
- ESSA/Whole Child
- A New Virtual Learning Journey of Civil Rights in Georgia's History
- Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement
- And More!

The [registration link](#) is located on the GAEL webpage under Events.



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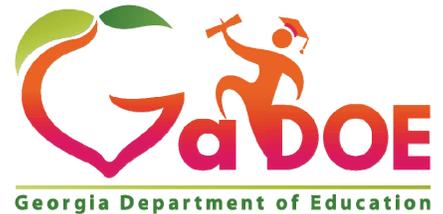


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ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

Stephanie Sanders, ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us

Literacy for Learning, Living, and Leading (L4)

Georgia has a shared expectation that all children are on the path to reading proficiently by third grade and beyond. This expectation is shared by state agencies, communities, and public and private partners. We truly have a movement underway in Georgia--one that engages everyone to support all children as they learn to read, write, and communicate.

Literacy for Learning, Living, and Leading (L4) sets a path for our state to place literacy at the forefront of everything we do. This state literacy plan was developed with input from Georgia's community partners, higher education faculty, teachers, school leaders, and students. The plan lays out efforts to sustain effective programs, to create synergy among communities across the state, and to scale what works to ensure that every child is served.

- [Learn More About L4](#)

Technical College Readiness English/Reading

Materials and lessons to support the Technical College Readiness English/Reading course have been posted to the Teacher Resource Link.

- [View How to Access These Resources](#)

NAEYC Annual Conference

This year's NAEYC conference will be held in Atlanta, GA, November 15 – 18, 2017. For those who have never attended, this popular conference hosts 7,000-8,000 attendees and over 1,000 vendors who share an interest in educating children, ages birth through 8 years.

- [Registration Detail](#)

Literacy Champions Launched with Carmen Deedy

Last month, award-winning Georgia author Carmen Deedy launched the Literacy Champions initiative for students across Georgia in a livestream event. Over 1,000 classrooms watched Ms. Deedy encourage and support students' engagement in literacy-rich activities. Teachers and students who missed the live event can still [watch award-winning author, Carmen Deedy as she engages students in a read aloud](#).

Literacy Champions is aimed at increasing students' enthusiasm and engagement in literacy. By collaboratively engaging students, families, teachers, and librarians in literacy-rich activities, we can all promote students' literacy engagement. Please feel free to share about Champions on Twitter [@GADOEELA](#) and use [#LitChampsGA](#).

Goals for Literacy Champions

- Cultivate engagement of families and community partners
- Celebrate literacy-rich activities in schools and communities, both locally and nationally
- Encourage students' voices in literacy at schools and in the community by increasing student awareness
- Enrich school culture with student-driven programming around literacy during school and in summer programs
- [Find out More at Literacy Champions](#)

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

Stephanie Sanders, ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us

Foundational Reading Skills: A FREE Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

Starting October 2, the [Teaching Foundational Reading Skills MOOC-Ed](#) will help participants more effectively prepare students in grades K–3 with the skills they need to become successful readers. It is organized around the four major research-based recommendations of the [Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade Practice Guide](#) published by the U.S. Department of Education's What Works Clearinghouse. The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation offers this free online professional learning opportunity designed for K-3 teachers and their aides, reading specialists, teacher educators, and parents of K-3 children.

Be Internet Awesome FREE Digital Literacy Curriculum

To make the most of the Internet, kids need to be prepared to make smart decisions. Be Internet Awesome teaches kids, ages 9-13, the fundamentals of digital citizenship and safety so they can explore the online world with confidence. Be Internet Awesome includes curriculum, a video game, parent resources, and online videos about digital safety and digital participation.

- [Learn More](#)
- [Play Your Way to Internet Awesome by Exploring Interland](#)

DECAL- PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UNIT

Demetria Joyce, demetria.joyce@decals.ga.gov

Planning Educational Activities for Children (PEACH)

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning announces the launch of Phase 2 of PEACH (Planning Educational Activities for Children). PEACH is an interactive website that puts thousands of high-quality, developmentally appropriate activities at teachers' fingertips. The activities available are designed for children ranging in age from birth to five years old and are directly linked to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS). With input from focus groups across the state, we've added new features. In Phase 2, teachers now have ability to:

- Create customized lesson plans
- Create and generate customized schedules
- Copy plans into multiple classrooms
- Share plans with others across the state
- Include multiple age groups on a single lesson plan
- Choose a variety of activities in each of the GELDS domains
- Explore GELDS domains and strands with a new drop-down feature
- Create and add unique activities of their own
- Add children's names to individualized activities
- Plan for adaptations or modifications as needed
- Design a plan to assess children's progress
- Designate favorite activities to come back and use later
- Create customized "favorite folders"
- Listen to audio examples of songs
- View images of how to create materials and games
- Save lesson plans
- Print, download, or email lesson plans
- Get immediate support using the Help Desk feature
- [Access PEACH](#)

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SOCIAL STUDIES

Joy Hatcher, jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us

Message from GaDOE Social Studies: Thank You for Your Patience and Support!

A great resource library takes time to build. We stock the shelves continuously. Visit the [Social Studies GSE webpage](#) to see new resources for social studies content and instruction and look for them on TRL.

Join the GaDOE Social Studies Leadership PLC on edweb.net to access current information and opportunities, and to connect with other [#GAsocialstudies](#) leaders. Episode one, season 2, of our Leadership webinar series “Social Studies Adventures with Joy and JoAnn” will air in early September. Information on how to join will be posted in the Leadership PLC.

- [Information on how to join GaDOE Social Studies PLCs for leaders and educators](#)

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mike Tenoschok, mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us

Understanding Adapted Physical Education

Please inform your teachers that a new webinar has been posted on the Health & Physical Education page of the GADOE Website. [Understanding Adapted Physical Education](#) is a 34-minute webinar presented by Dave Martinez, a nationally recognized expert in the area of APE (Adapted Physical Education).

- [View Webinar](#)

GEORGIA VIRTUAL LEARNING

Margaret Thomas, margaret.thomas@gavirtualschool.org

Fall Options for Students

Do you have a student with a scheduling conflict? Need a solution for some of your Dual Enrollment - Move On When Ready students? Do you have a transfer student unable to complete a graduation requirement because your school does not offer a World Language course or CTAE Pathway? Georgia Virtual School can be a solution for those students. GaVS is currently enrolling students for the fall semester with start dates through September 18, 2017.

- [GaVS Fall Course Offerings](#)

Redesigned Teacher Resource Link (TRL)

Leslie Waldon, leslie.waldon@doe.k12.ga.us

TRL now has new look! The Redesigned Teacher Resource Link is a One-Stop Shop for Teachers. There are 28,000+ downloadable resources available. There's also an Essential Toolkit for K-5 teachers. The redesigned features include user-friendly search options categorized by grade-level standards, along with Curriculum Maps, Frameworks, Glossaries, and Teacher Guidance documents. To access these resources, click the “TRL” tab within the State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). If you do not have SLDS access, please request access through your district's Student Information System (SIS) Coordinator.

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WORLD LANGUAGES

Patrick Wallace, pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us

World Language 2016-2017 Course Enrollment Data

Overall world language course enrollment in Georgia's public schools during the 2016-2017 school year increased by over 13,000 students since 2015-2016! This represents the 5th straight year of increasing enrollment in world language courses statewide. The largest increases were in elementary school enrollment, with over 93,000 students statewide in grades K-5 learning a world language, an increase of nearly 10,000 students from last school year. By language course, Spanish continued to remain strong, increasing by nearly 15,000 students from the previous school year. Small gains were also reported in Latin, Japanese, American Sign Language and Portuguese. Small decreases were reported in French, German, Chinese and Arabic.

In addition, in 2016-17, 1,133 Seals of Biliteracy were officially reported in Spanish, French, Chinese, German and Latin as well as several additional European languages. More information about Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy can be found [here](#).

Over 4,200 Georgia students were enrolled in 40 Dual Language Immersion Programs across the state in Spanish, German, French and Chinese in Georgia last school year. The Dual Language Immersion model is a research-proven delivery model that supports literacy and overall academic achievement for both native and non-native English speakers. Several large-scale longitudinal studies of this model have confirmed that both native English speakers and non-native English speakers perform better academically overall, obtain higher levels of English literacy, show improved cognitive ability, and show significant improvement in the closing of the achievement gap between diverse learning groups regardless of socio-economic background.

Georgia World Language Educator of the Month

Every school day, nearly 3,000 world language educators enter classrooms all across our great state and passionately engage with the learners under their care to provide them with a cultural and linguistic experience that will benefit their future lives. Without the selfless and dedicated service of our world language education professionals, our children's education would not be complete. Therefore, we are pleased to extend individual teachers this small recognition of their efforts and, in so doing, to honor all our world language educators in Georgia.

On August 21, 2017, **Mrs. Melissa Radu from Smyrna Elementary School** was recognized as our first recipient as **Georgia's World Language Educator of the Month**. Mrs. Radu is a Dual Language Immersion Teacher who has offered endless amounts of support throughout Cobb County--developing and sharing lessons, mentoring new teachers, presenting at the county and state level as well as Georgia's Dual Language Immersion Institute this past summer and always does so with a smile. Melissa is always available to answer any questions or to offer suggestions. She is a very dedicated teacher!

Do you know a current world language teacher who has made a difference in your life and the lives of others? Do you know a teacher who goes above and beyond to provide students the critical language and cultural competencies needed for the workforce of today and tomorrow? Whether you are a parent, student, colleague, or citizen, we invite you to fill out our online nomination form [here](#). Thank you in advance for nominating!

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Kelli Harris-Wright, kharris-wright@doe.k12.ga.us

GA FIP Online Learning and PLGs

Assessment As educators plan individual professional learning goals (PLGs) for 17-18, GA FIP (Formative Instructional Practices) Online Professional Learning is an effective resource for this purpose. Educators can access FIP enhanced courses, such as Creating and Using Clear Learning Targets or Reaching Students with Disabilities Using FIP, with a central office or school unique access code at [GaDOE's FIP website](#). Also, educators can access the original FIP online courses via the SLDS without an access code. Certificates for course completion hours can be downloaded.

- [More Information](#)

PBIS

Rebecca Blanton, rblanton@doe.k12.ga.us

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Youth Mental Health First Aid is the help offered to a young person experiencing a mental health challenge, mental disorder or a mental health crisis. This First Aid is given until appropriate help is received or until the crisis resolves. Half of all mental disorders begin by age 14. The median age of onset for anxiety disorders is 7 years. Untreated mental health issues impact academic performance, attendance and graduation rates. Project AWARE, funded by a five-year SAMHSA grant, offers 12 state instructors who provide Youth Mental Health First Aid training throughout Georgia to educators and community members. From January 2015 to March 2017 over 2,200 first aiders have been trained, resulting in over 10,000 students being assisted with mental health issues. Districts interested in scheduling Youth Mental Health First Aid may contact Emily Graybill at egraybill1@gsu.edu or Cheryl Benefield at cbenefield@doe.k12.ga.us.

MATHEMATICS

Sandi Woodall, swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us

2017-2018 Mathematics Resource Additions

We deeply appreciate the efforts of Georgia mathematics educators which resulted in the **What Do GSE Mathematics Standards Look Like in the Classroom?** video professional learning series for K-12 mathematics educators. The series consists of 53 videos that spotlight Georgia teachers and students engaged in effective instruction surrounding standards that were identified as challenging in the 2016-2017 mathematics teacher statewide survey. Please take a moment to peruse these additions to the [K-12 Mathematics Resource package at GeorgiaStandards.Org](#).

Technical College Readiness Mathematics resources developed and shared by our colleagues in the Hall County School District are now available in the Teacher Resource Link (TRL). Thank you, Hall County Schools, for your collegiality!

Additionally, we have recently published the [2017-2018 Mathematics Graduation Guidance](#) document on the GaDOE Mathematics webpage and hope you will share the guidance document with middle and high school administrators and counselors.

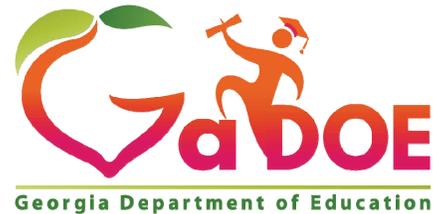
FINE ARTS

Jessica Booth, jbooth@doe.k12.ga.us

Fine Arts GSE

On June 15, 2017, the State Board of Education approved the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Fine Arts in the areas of Media Arts, Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts for implementation in the 2018-2019 school year. Communication and resource development activities are planned for the 2017-2018 school year

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



TEACHER & LEADER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

Melinda Moe, mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us

P-20 Partnerships

In The Teacher and Leader Support and Development Division (TLSD) supports the work of P-20 Collaboratives. The Georgia Department of Education, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, and the University System of Georgia joined together in 2014 to establish P-20 Collaboratives: Systems of support to provide a seamless transition for pre-service candidates as they seek to become professional educators, as well as to provide continued professional learning for practicing educators and leaders.

The state is divided into nine regions; each region is clustered around a group of institutions or agencies that prepares teachers. Each collaborative convenes twice during an academic year. Topics of interest include recruitment and training for future teachers, induction for in-service teachers, support for educational leaders, and professional learning for all. Each regional collaborative has a strategic planning team that plans the collaborative agendas based on needs of the region.

- [Dates/Locations and Registration](#)

TLSD Contacts for P-20s: Dr. Kathy Reese kreese@doe.k12.ga.us and Dr. Karen Wyler kwylr@doe.k12.ga.us

Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Measures

The 2016-2017 Teacher Effectiveness Measure (TEM) Rosters and 2016-2017 Leader Effectiveness Measure (LEM) Component Rosters was forwarded to superintendents through the GaDOE Portal by August 31, 2017. In addition, superintendents received a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document and a TEM and LEM Timeline flyer. As a reminder, the 2016-2017 TEMs are unofficial. Each superintendent has discretion as to how/if rosters will be disseminated.

The 2017 TEM results will not be submitted to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). Only TAPS and LAPS Summative results are currently requested by GaPSC.

TLSD Contact for TEM/LEM Data: Keisla Tisdel

ktisdel@doe.k12.ga.us

As an alternative to the TKES online Required Review, the TLSD team is offering a “brand new” face-to-face training. This training is designed to help administrators utilize TKES to help improve instruction in schools and address challenges. Beginning in August and continuing through September, this training is offered at each RESA location and in school districts upon request. The training is divided into three sections: TKES process review, Deeper Dive into TAPS 4, 5, 6, and 8, and IRR preview. The participants will receive a “Credentialed with Distinction” certificate upon completion of the one-day training. Please contact Melinda Moe for additional information on dates, locations, and assistance with any scheduling needs.

TLSD Contact for TKES/TAPS training: Melinda Moe

mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us

Coming Soon! The TLSD team will release five professional development modules to support the effectiveness of teachers and leaders.

For Teachers:

- Understanding inter-rater reliability (IRR) for teachers (2 modules)
- Professional Learning Communities (PLs)
- Developing a Professional Learning Plan (PLP)

For Contributing Professionals:

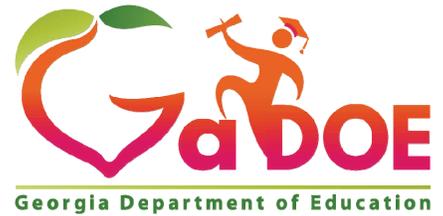
- Developing Professional Learning Goals (PLGs) and PLPs

For Leaders:

- PLGs for Leaders

TLSD Contact for online training information: Shauntice Wheeler swheeler@doe.k12.ga.us

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



SCHOOL NUTRITION

Kelley Toon, ktoon@doe.k12.ga.us

Nutrition Connections

Schools are in a unique position to provide students with opportunities to learn about and practice healthful eating behaviors. Healthy eating has been linked in studies to improved learning outcomes and helping ensure that students are able to reach their potential. Healthy eating learning opportunities include nutrition education and other activities that give children knowledge and skills to help choose and consume healthful foods and beverages. These opportunities can be present in the cafeteria, classroom, and school gardens.

Nutrition education can be integrated throughout the school curriculum and align with Georgia standards. For example, math skills can be reinforced through real-life food activities such as graphing food preferences or calculating nutrient values of foods. School gardens and farm-to-school activities also provide opportunities for hands-on learning about food, nutrition, and healthy eating.

We look forward to providing resources to create nutrition learning lab opportunities throughout the school environment as a critical piece to focusing on the whole child.

To share ideas or for more information, please contact Kelley Toon, ktoon@doe.k12.ga.us.

TLSD - TITLE II, PART A

Carly Ambler, cambler@doe.k12.ga.us

Title II, Part A Updates

Title II, Part A has undergone some changes transitioning from NCLB to ESSA. Before submitting your FY18 budget (due Oct. 1), coordinators should join our virtual training session (Sept. 8) or plan to watch a recording. The budget session runs 9-12 and the new coordinator session runs 1-3. Updated FY18 budget documents are now available on the Title II, Part A webpage of the GaDOE website.

Also, be on the lookout for information on cross-functional monitoring. Our season is now October-May, which means that Title II, Part A training will be in September. Federal Programs has posted a recording of a webinar introducing the FY18 CFM indicators. Title II, Part A specialists will offer a deeper dive into Title II, Part A indicators for Title II, Part A coordinators from 9-12 and into Equity/ PQ/ GaPSC PL Rule Indicators for PQ Contacts from 1-3 on Sept. 25 (Virtual) and Sept. 26 (regional). The FY18 CFM Monitoring document is now available on the Federal Programs Monitoring webpage. There are plans to distribute corresponding labels.

PQ Coordinators should be reminded that Parent Right to Know notifications should go out in the first 30 days of school from each school/LEA. LEAs/ schools must notify parents after 20 business days if a student is being taught by a teacher who doesn't meet the State or LEA definition for professional qualifications (PQ). Sample notifications and guidance are available on the PQ webpage and translated samples are now available as well. If you haven't received or can't find the email with training registration links, please contact your Title II, Part A specialist.

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



CTAE

Kyle Hood, kyhood@doe.k12.ga.us

Updates

To prepare students with career-readiness, technical skills, and future employability, CTAE represents a Connection To All Educators through a cross-disciplinary approach to applied sciences and technical arts. Throughout the calendar year, GaDOE's CTAE team offers opportunities for system administrators, school directors, and teachers to connect and talk about how to ensure that students graduate well-prepared. Register for one of our six Regional Economic Development Meetings being held in these communities:

- September 6, Newton County
- September 13, Fayette County
- September 19, Glynn County
- October 12, Dougherty County
- October 26, Bartow County
- October 30, Richmond County
- [More Information and Registration Links](#)

In addition to these community events, the **New CTAE Teacher Conference (September 26 and 27, 2017)** is offered to support educators with fewer than four years of experience. During these two-day sessions, educators learn about career clusters and pathways, classroom management, working with a counselor, and working within their community and school to develop an effective Advisory Council.

Get students out of the classroom and provide valuable on-the-job training experiences! Later this school year, the **2017 WBL/YAP Conference at Lanier Islands on November 1, 2, & 3, 2017** gathers professionals who support work-based learning and youth apprenticeships. The conference provides up-to-date best practices and legislative changes that can affect industry partnerships.

CTAE Advisory Council Training

The GaDOE CTAE Division and the CTAE Resource Network, in conjunction with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, will conduct six CTAE Advisory Council training sessions for teams of CTAE directors and CTAE teachers. CTAE advisory councils play a critical role in supporting career, technical, and agricultural education programs around the state through advice, support, resources, and business engagement. The CTAE Advisory Council training program provides CTAE teachers and leaders with skills and knowledge necessary to establish, manage, sustain, and utilize program advisory committees to support educational programs, students, and the local workforce. This hands-on training offers resources, templates, and tools for advisory committee success. The training program was developed based on focus groups and interviews with teachers, administrators, and business partners from across Georgia. The dates and locations for this training are listed below:

- September 18, 2017, KSU Center – Kennesaw, GA
- October 16, 2017, Middle Georgia State University – Macon, GA
- November 28, 2017, UGA Tifton Conference Center – Tifton, GA
- January 18, 2018, TBD
- February 8, 2018, Middle Georgia State University – Macon, GA
- March 5, 2018, Lower Woodville Tompkins Campus – Savannah, GA

SCHOOL COUNSELING

Myrel Seigler, mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us

Dual Enrollment

Move On When Ready (MOWR) is a program that allows students to earn college credit while in high school. Recently, Governor Nathan Deal issued a statement explaining that the state is changing the program name from "Move On When Ready" to "Dual Enrollment." The change is intended to make clear to parents and students the opportunities this program affords, and will benefit the state in helping to further increase participation in the program moving forward. For questions, contact Dr. John Pritchett at jpritchett@doe.k12.ga.us or Dr. Myrel Seigler at mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us or Pam Smith at pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us.

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



CTAE

Kyle Hood, kyhood@doe.k12.ga.us

FY18 New CTAE Directors' Academy

New CTAE directors are often overwhelmed with responsibilities required to perform their jobs well. New directors are expected to implement their system's CTAE Perkins IV Local Plan, oversee CTAE career clusters, pathways and end of pathway assessments, supervise CTAE staff, implement effective CTAE advisory committees, develop strategies for improving Perkins core indicators, manage CTAE federal and state grant budgets through the Consolidated Application as well as maintaining the required match of local funds. The New CTAE Directors' Academy is a year-long experience designed to help the first-year director acquire basic and effective leadership skills, see how CTAE connects to economic development within their community as well as across the state, understand the basic concepts of the QBE law, FTE funding, CPI reporting, and learn how to "stay out of legal hot water" all while still having time to enjoy your family and having fun! This year approximately 43 new CTAE directors are participating in the Academy. The dates and locations of the Academy are listed below:

- **Session 1:**
Sunday, July 9, 2017 (Orientation)
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel
Atlanta, GA
- **Session 2:**
September 19-20, 2017
Savannah, GA
- **Session 3:**
November 14-15, 2017
Stone Mountain, GA
- **Session 4:**
January 23-24, 2018
Peachtree City, GA
- **Session 5:**
March 26-27, 2018
St. Simons, GA

SCIENCE

Amanda Buice, abuice@doe.k12.ga.us

Science GSE on GSO

The curriculum maps developed by educators for 5th grade, 8th grade, Biology and Physical Science have [posted to GeorgiaStandards.Org](http://GeorgiaStandards.Org). Other resources for these grades are on the way! Additionally, educators have begun to develop resources for the other grades and courses. These will be added to TRL shortly.

Adapting Curriculum

When effectively adapting existing curriculum materials and instruction to better align with GSE, begin with a phenomenon. A phenomenon is a puzzling event that sparks questions about how and why something happened. According to Brian Reiser from Northwestern University, some guiding questions that are particularly helpful when adapting science instruction:

1. **Questions** – Does the question come from phenomena? Does the question ask how and why and not just about facts?
2. **Phenomena** – Can you get the students to buy into the question using this phenomenon? Is there something that needs to be explained?
3. **Scientific practices** – What practices are in the GSE? What practices are they being asked to use to investigate and explain the phenomenon? Will this lead to figuring out a piece of the disciplinary core idea?
4. **What we figured out** – What part of the disciplinary core idea will students be able to figure out? What questions come out of the activity to motivate the next step?

When looking at your lessons, ask yourself, "Are my students learning about or figuring out?" If you are aligned to the GSE, they will be figuring out!

The Georgia Science Teachers Association is building a bank of phenomena aligned to each standard.

- [Learn More](#)

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



SCHOOL NUTRITION

Kelley Toon, ktoon@doe.k12.ga.us

Nutrition Connections

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We look forward to providing resources to create nutrition learning lab opportunities throughout the school environment as a critical piece to focusing on the whole child.

To share ideas or for more information, please contact Kelley Toon, ktoon@doe.k12.ga.us.

NEA Foundation Invites Applications for Learning and Leadership Grants

Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to support the professional development of public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education.

To be eligible, applicants must be a public school educator in grades pre-K–12; a public school education support professional; or a faculty or staff member at a public institution of higher education. The foundation encourages education support professionals to apply. Preference will be given to members of the National Education Association.

Deadline: October 15, 2017

- [More Information](#)

2017 Innovation in Teaching Conference

The College of Education at the University of Georgia is now accepting proposals for the 2017 Innovation in Teaching Conference. Submissions should be no longer than 150 words, and the deadline for submissions is September 18, 2017 at 11:59 p.m., EST. Additional guidelines and the proposal submission form can be found on the [Innovation in Teaching Conference webpage](#).

Date: Friday, October 20, 2017

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: UGA Hotel and Conference Center

Registration deadline: October 11, 2017

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



COLLEGE READINESS & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Gail Humble, ghumble@doe.k12.ga.us

AP and MOWR/Dual Enrollment

College Board has approved AP courses taught via MOWR/Dual Enrollment using the AP syllabus. AP courses were recently loaded in GATRACS for MOWR credit. Please check with your MOWR/Dual Enrollment coordinator for additional details.

College Readiness Updates - PSAT, AP, AP Teacher Workshops

PSAT/NMSQT administration date is October 11 or October 25.

State funds are available for one AP STEM exam for students (regardless of income) enrolled in AP STEM courses.

2018 AP exam dates begin May 7-11, 2018 and May 14-18, 2018. Late AP testing dates: May 23-25.

Did you know that 19,802 Georgia high school graduates who completed AP courses did not send their AP score report to post-secondary schools in 2016? Many of those exams earned scores of 3, 4, or 5. Please encourage students to send their score reports!

Did You Know?

LEAs can use Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE) funds to pay all or part of the costs for low-income students' AP/IB exams. The federal guidance states that "an LEA may use funds for efforts to raise student academic achievement through accelerated learning programs, including by: reimbursing low-income students to cover all or part of the costs of AP, IB, or other accelerated learning program examinations;

and increasing the availability of, and enrollment in, AP or IB programs, dual or concurrent enrollment programs, early college high schools, and other accelerated learning options."

Guidance documents provided by The College Board:

- [AP Exams Low Income](#)
- [ESSA Title I AP Exams](#)

If you have questions about Title IV, Part A, please contact Joshua Todd at jtodd@doe.k12.ga.us or 770-584-3474.

AP Workshop Dates

Advanced Placement workshops for teachers are planned for September 22 through November 7, 2017. For information about specific dates and subject areas, please refer to the [Georgia Department of Education website](#).

The GaDOE division of College Readiness is now on Twitter! Please follow us [@GaDOECollegeRdy](#).

Gifted and Talent Development Updates

Gifted Fall Regional Workshops

- September 20th Pioneer RESA at 12:30 pm, 1342 Highway 254, Cleveland, Host Martha Cantrell
- September 21st Okefenokee RESA at 12:30 pm, 1430 N. Augusta Ave., Waycross, Host Cindy Hitt
- September 26th Oconee RESA 12:30 pm, 2065 Main Street, Tennille, Host Cathy Mayberry

Curriculum & Instruction Updates



FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Jason Clay, jclay@doe.k12.ga.us

Transition Resources

Bright The Family-School Partnership Program provides helpful literature and videos for families and students going through the transition to kindergarten, middle school, and high school.

- [View Resources](#)

Georgia Tech Professors Awarded for Mixing Music and K-12 Computer Science

The Georgia Department of Education congratulates Dr. Jason Freeman, Dr. Brian Magerko, and Mr. Doug Edwards, from the Georgia Institute of Technology, for being awarded the 2017 Engagement Excellence Award from the National Center for Women & Information Technology.

“K-12 computer science education is essential knowledge for all of our students in today’s (and tomorrow’s) world,” says Dr. Caitlin McMunn Dooley, Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning.

Georgia Tech’s EarSketch project helps students learn computer science by making music. Georgia’s students, and students around the nation and globe, have found EarSketch to be an inviting, fun way to learn computer science in K-12 schools.

“EarSketch accomplishes the amazing things it set out to do: it conveys core CS skills while capturing the attention of all students. It’s my favorite method to introduce computer science,” says Georgia teacher Mike Reilly.

“Computers are all around us, and it’s important for students to learn how they work and how to connect computer science education with their lives.”

EarSketch is free to use.

- [Learn More About EarSketch](#)

Let’s Work Together to Get Georgia’s Children Ready for Kindergarten!

Your child’s first years in school can set the tone for the rest of their academic career, so it is important to make sure they are prepared socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically to enter kindergarten. In Georgia, the GKIDS Readiness Check has been developed as an approach to thoughtfully measure the entry-level readiness skills of kindergarteners.

Families can use this site to:

- Learn more about the GKIDS Readiness Check and how it will impact your child
- Access information and videos about the 20 skills on which your child will be assessed
- Find activity ideas to help support your child’s learning and development at home
- [Learn More](#)

Words2Reading Website

Governor Nathan Deal, in conjunction with the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement (GOSA), launched the Words2Reading website, a web tool with curated resources for families, caregivers and teachers to help develop and sharpen early childhood language and literacy skills.

“Strong language and reading skills lay the foundation for a student’s long-term academic success,” said Deal.

“Words2Reading promotes increased engagement in childhood education by putting effective learning resources in the hands of families and early educators anywhere in the state. By making these resources readily available for families, caregivers and educators, we are further investing in Georgia’s greatest resource, the minds of our youngest learners, for generations to come.”

- [Read More](#)