Welcome! New Curriculum Directors' Virtual Professional Learning Series

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School Safety and Climate

Georgia Department of Education



"Students, parents, and teachers measure the value of a school based on whether it is safe and secure with a climate that encourages positive social interactions."

National Federation of Schools and Centers



"The good news is the ample evidence and examples of how comprehensive school safety planning and positive school climates can make schools safe and secure while providing essential supports to students and school personnel."

National Alliance on Safety in Schools





MISSON STATEMENT

The Georgia Department of Education is committed to providing a **safe**, **secure**, **and productive** learning and working climate for all students and staff in all schools through the development and implementation of intervention and prevention programs, professional learning, and technical assistance.

This is accomplished in collaboration with other state agencies and stakeholders.



MISSION AREAS

- Prevention Actions and strategies to create conditions in schools that establish positive, safe, and secure school climates
- Protection Actions to reduce the vulnerabilities of schools and resources in order to deter, mitigate, or neutralize threats against school safety and school climate
- Response Actions that provide support for schools in response to any type of incident that significantly disrupts the school safety and/or operations and school climate
- Recovery Actions that assists schools in the recovery phase following an incident that jeopardized the security and safety of schools, its students and school personnel and compromised school climate



Goals and Objectives

- GOAL 1: Create and maintain a collaborative climate for safe, supportive, and healthy schools
- GOAL 2: Develop a comprehensive and collaborative approach to safety and security that focuses on support and technical assistance
- GOAL 3: Develop statewide emergency communications ability within the Georgia Department of Education
- GOAL 4: Provide professional safety and security training to local school personnel, central office personnel, and others
- **GOAL 5:** Provide guidance to assist local schools and school systems in the use of technology and the design, planning, building, and maintenance of school buildings to enhance school safety
- **GOAL 6:** Provide training and support to local schools and school systems to address risk factors and risk behaviors that impact student and school staff safety and well-being



Summary Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1: Create and maintain a collaborative climate for safe, supportive, and healthy schools

Collaborate with Georgia Emergency Management
 Agency/Homeland Security, Georgia Department of Public Health,
 Georgia Department of Agriculture, Georgia Department of
 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Georgia
 Department of Public Safety, Georgia Office of Insurance and
 Safety Fire Commissioner, GBI (Georgia Information Sharing
 Analysis Center), Department of Family and Children Services
 and others

Focus on improving school climate because of the link between school climate and school salety

improving school climate but also train School Climate Specialists to work with non-PBIS schools on other methods to improve school climate that benefit students and school personnel.



Summary Goals and Objectives

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GOAL 2: Develop a comprehensive and collaborative approach to safety and security that focuses on support and technical assistance

- Focus on development of a resource center for schools to house a wide-range of school safety-related resources such as the recently developed Safe School Plan template that was jointly developed by the GaDOE and GEMA, as well as many other resources and materials.
- Focus on school site safety assessments that the GaDOE and GEMA offer jointly— experienced GaDOE and GEMA staff members plus local EMA, law enforcement, and fire and rescue spend a day or longer visiting a school to identify strengths and to also point out possible vulnerabilities that could jeopardize the
- The Goal considers the potential threats that are not typically included in discussions about school safety, such as water quality, air quality, food storage, potential external threats such as nearby airports, railways, and others.

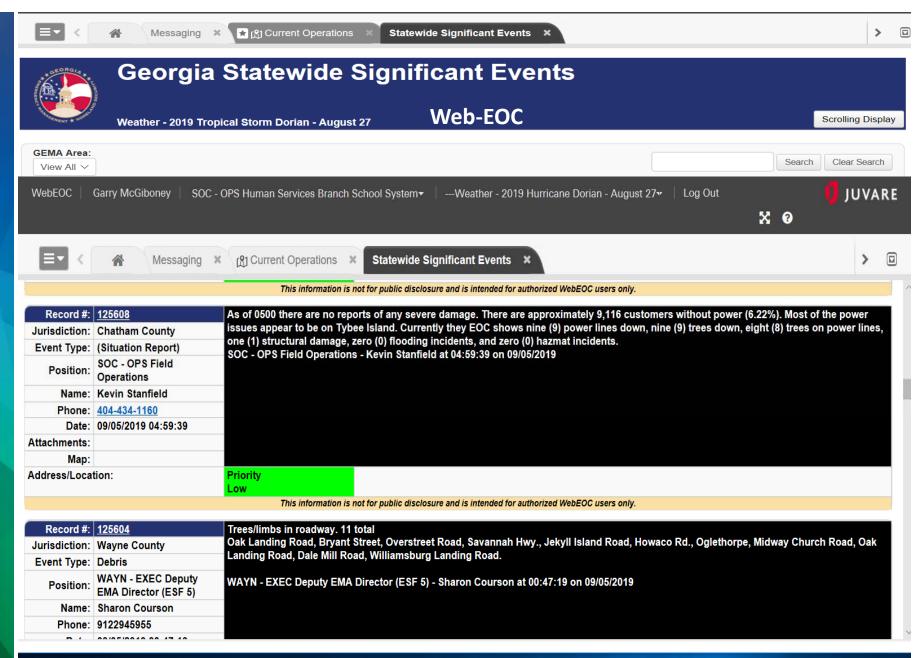


safety of the school.

GOAL 3: Develop statewide emergency communications ability within the Georgia Department of Education

- Focus on local, regional, and state communications capabilities and protocols, because communications is an essential component of safety.
- GaDOE is working with GEMA to become part of the emergency communication system that would allow the GaDOE to *contact* all superintendents in Georgia in the 181 school districts (including DJJ school system) plus 38 State Commission Charter Schools and 16 Regional Education Service Agencies with any type of emergency message, as determined by GEMA and/or the Governor.
- GaDOE will serve in a support role for GEMA's Communications (ESF) Emergency Support Function.
- GaDOE has been granted access by GEMA to the Web-EOC during emergencies.







GOAL 4: Provide professional safety and security training to local school personnel, central office personnel, and others

- Training, training we want to be in the position to provide training to school districts and schools through GaDOE, GEMA, and other state and local agencies that help schools plan, prepare, and respond to any type of situation that may compromise the safety of a school – whether its an active shooter, a fire or flood, an epidemic or pandemic, preventing or responding to a suicide, improving school climate, sheltering-inplace, etc.
- This Goal provides a specific focus on the development of safety and climate training offered by the GaDOE and GEMA. GEMA in collaboration with the GaDOE has developed and is continuing to develop training sessions in response to recent events, and work has begun on video training modules that can be provided to all schools.



- **GOAL 5:** Provide guidance to assist local schools and school systems in the use of technology and the design, planning, and maintenance of school buildings to enhance school safety
 - Focus on surveillance systems and other security technology, as well as concerns about cybersecurity.
 - Advise school districts on the purchase and use of safety equipment from our experts, GEMA's experts, and other experts in the field.
 - Building designs and maintenance.
 - ✓ At the GaDOE, our architects are playing a more active role in pointing out concerns related to safety in the design of new schools and remodeling of older schools, including the campuses; for example, our architects are planning to take CPTED training Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (National Institute of Crime Prevention).
 - ✓ GaDOE architects are looking for any school designs, for example, that may hinder a quick, mass evacuation of a school, or that may hinder clear sightlines, or that could otherwise compromise school safety.

GOAL 5: Provide guidance to assist local schools and vstems nce of in the use of technology and the design, plant school buildings to enhance school

\$30,000 per school available for safety and security upgrades (\$69 million). \$16 million available for school districts

for capital improvements related to safety oign of new schools g through CPTED training - Crime and security.

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GOAL 6: Provide training and support to local schools and school systems to address risk factors and risk behaviors that impact student safety and well-being

- Expand involvement of the Regional Education Service Agencies and School Climate Specialists in the delivery of student-centered services that can be central to efforts to meet the needs of students in order to interrupt and prevent situations that may escalate (e.g. such as reducing bullying that leads to retaliation violence).
- Importance of positive student mental health and delving into the other determinants of student behavior so we can be deeply involved in upstream prevention and timely intervention which are powerful deterrents to violence in schools.



GOAL 6: Provide training and support to local schools and school systems to address risk factors and risk behaviors that impact student safety and well-being

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- awareness. and delving into the ention and timely intervention which are to violence in schools.



OFFICE OF SCHOOL SAFETY AND CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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- Food Safety and Security
- Federal Title Programs





















Georgia Department of Education

Safe School Plan Template for Georgia Public Schools

Georgia Department of Education Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security



Safe School Plan Template

- School Safety Plan Information
- Safe School Plan Development
- School Crisis Situation Checklist
- Safe School Plan Emergency ID Plan
- Emergency Kits
- Crisis Planning and Response Team
- Emergency Evacuation and Family Reunification
- Accident or Illness
- Bomb Threat/Suspicious Package
- Closing School/Shelter-in-Place
- Death of a Staff Member or Student or Suicide at School/Threat







Search this site...

Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent

Programs & Initiatives - Data & Reporting - Learning & Curriculum -

State Board & Policy - Finance & Operations -

Safety Matters.

CALL 1-877-SAY-STOP 24/7 SAFETY HOTLINE



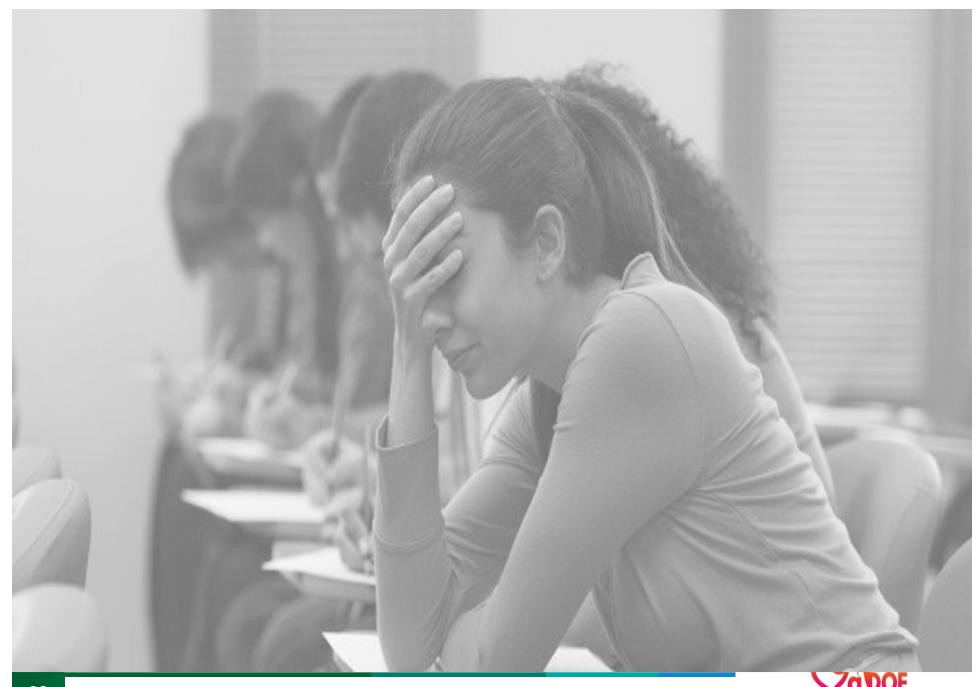
Georgia Information Sharing Analysis Center

GaDOE and Ga Department of Public Safety's Hotline is linked to GISAC





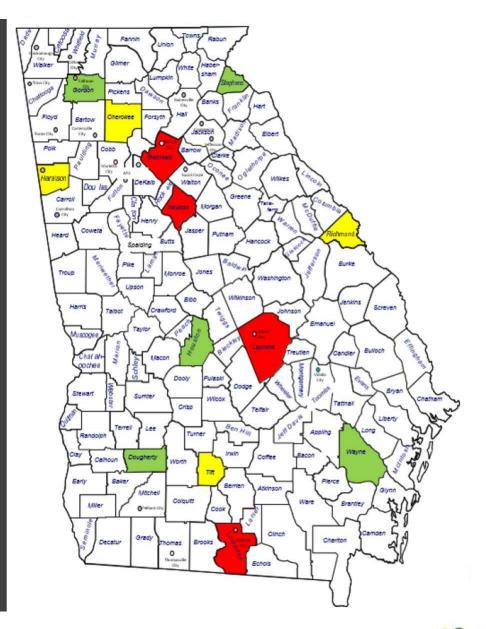




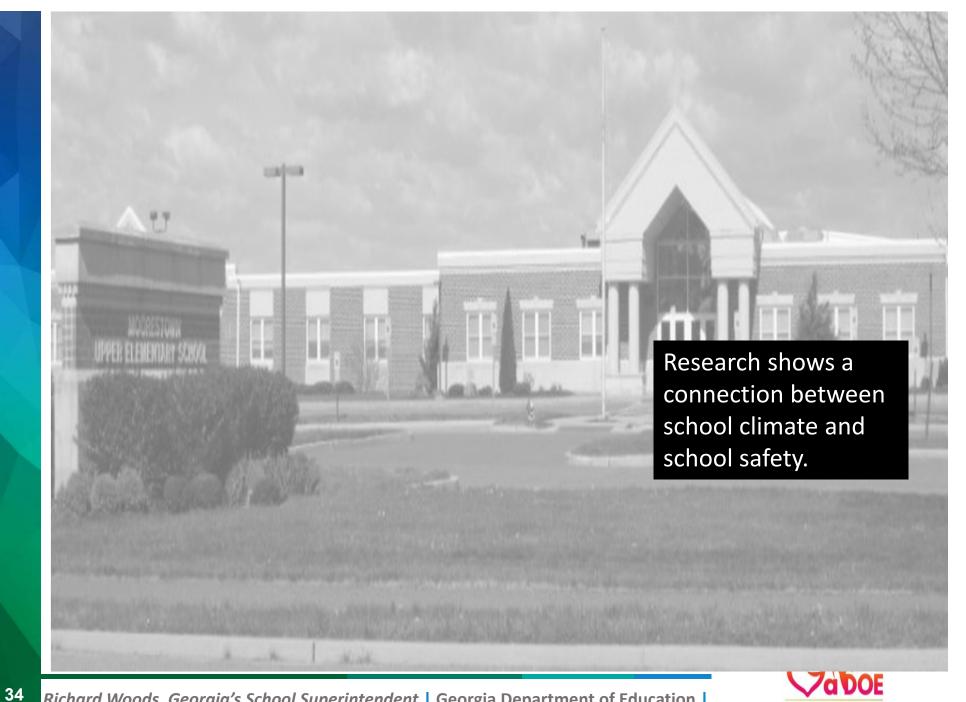
GaDOE Suicide Prevention Trainings

- Fall 2018
- Spring 2019
- Planning for Fall 2019

GaDOE has provided peer-topeer suicide prevention training to over 1,000 educators statewide.







School Climate is the experience of school life and reflects norms, goals, values, social interactions, access, engagement, connections, teaching and learning practices, building quality, safety, and organizational practices.













School Climate

The Get Georgia Reading Campaign developed five Early Learning Climate videos created for administrators, teachers, parents, policymakers—anyone with a stake in creating healthy classrooms in Georgia—that show how to apply positive learning climate practices in everyday, real-life classroom scenarios.

We encourage you to use the videos to increase awareness of the importance of positive learning climate practices.

"Georgia Education Leaders Release Videos to Demonstrate Safe, Secure, Positive Learning Environments for All Children"

PBIS in the Classroom Modules

PBIS in the Classroom Modules

These modules are designed to be used with the support of the school PBIS leadership team to integrate PBIS practices in the classroom.

PBIS Tier II Readiness

The purpose of the following documents is to provide guidance to district leadership teams/school leadership teams that are interested in considering implementation of Tier II PBIS.

- Georgia PBIS Tier II Agreement and Readiness Activities
- Georgia PBIS Tier II Readiness Webinar PowerPoint
- Georgia PBIS Tier II Readiness Webinar

"Positive relationships are the foundation of learning."

Bibb and Rockdale County School Districts are currently implementing Georgia's Early Learning Climate PBIS Aligned Model in 3-4 of their PBIS elementary schools. Cohort PBIS elementary schools receive training, coaching and support on developmentally appropriate practices and strategies for early learners.

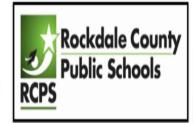


*Ingram-Pye Elementary School

*Southfield Elementary School

*Springdale Elementary Schools

* Northwoods Academy Early Learning Center



*Barksdale Elementary School

*Flat Shoals Elementary School

*Honey Creek Elementary School

*Pine Street Elementary School

*Rockdale Early Learning Center

Relationship Strategies for Teachers

Hugs, High Fives and Thumbs-up: Give individual praise through hugs, high fives and thumbs up for all students. Find what works best for the student.

Class Jobs: Give class jobs to students, rewarding them for practicing the expectations of the classroom and school.

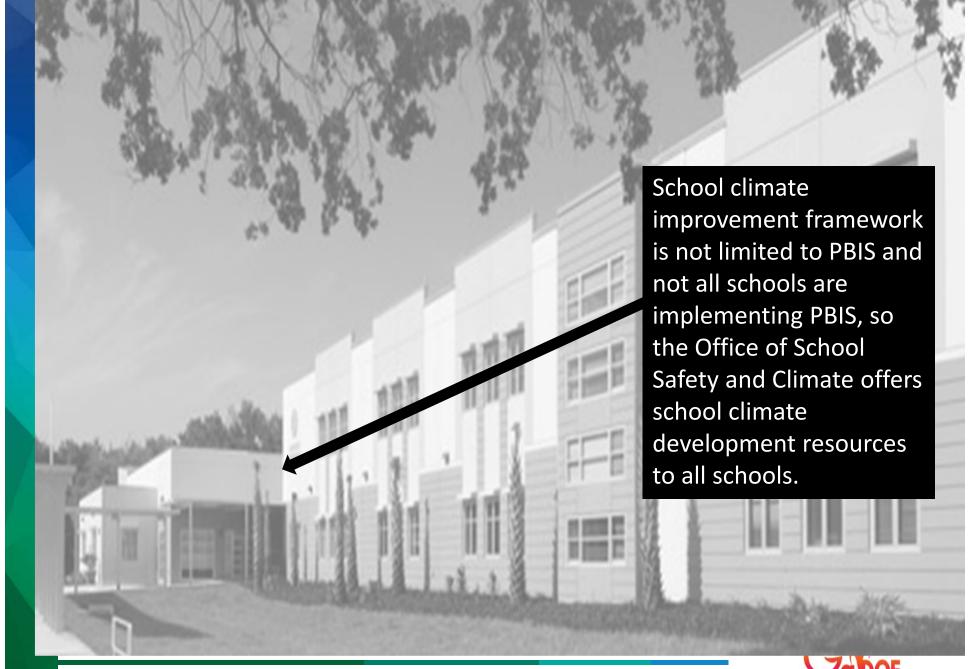
Positive Note Home: Send a positive note home to parents sharing how their child is doing with following the classroom expectations/rules. Be sure to include specific examples of what was observed.

Example: Carlos used the solution kit cards to resolve a peer conflict over a kite during recess. Carlos and his classmate decided to take turns flying the kite.

4:1 Deposits: A highly effective practice used to build positive relationships with students is maintaining a 4:1 ratio of positive to negative interactions or "deposits" to "withdrawals." Research supports that the ratio of positives to negative should be at least 4 positive interactions for every 1 negative interaction. When adults become more mindful of the need to increase the number of positive interactions, relationships with students become stronger and the classroom climate becomes more positive.

Example: "Kathleen, thank you for being responsible during lunch by waiting in line patiently to get your carton of milk."

















School climate sets the tone for all the learning and teaching done in the school environment and, as research proves, it is predictive of students' ability to learn and develop in healthy ways and behave appropriately and productively.





Why focus on school climate?

"A positive school climate is foundational to student success."





Research shows that a **positive school climate** directly impacts important indicators of success such as:

- -increased teacher retention
- -lower dropout rates
- -decreased incidences of violence
- -fewer out-of-school suspension
- -reductions in referrals to juvenile court
- -higher rates of student achievement





College and Career Ready Performance Index (0-100) by School Climate Rating 2018 (1-5)



Percent of 3rd Grade ELA Proficient or Distinguished by School Climate Rating 2018



Percent of 8th Grade ELA Proficient or Distinguished by School Climate Rating 2018



Percent of 9th Grade ELA Proficient or Distinguished by School Climate Rating 2018



"Trusting relationships and a positive school climate are the most effective means of ensuring school safety and improving student outcomes, much more so than metal detectors."

-National Association of Secondary School Principals





Standards Survey Results

Where are we in the process?

- Post Public Feedback Survey completed
 - July 16-Sept 6, 2019
- Share Survey Results completed
 - September 26, 2019
- Convene Citizens Review Committee
 - October 2019

Full standards review process document at:

GaDOE.org/standards



Representation

- Great coverage from across the state
- Great coverage across grade spans (larger numbers in early grades)
- Largest number of responders: Teachers (##-##%) and parents (##-##%)

Responses

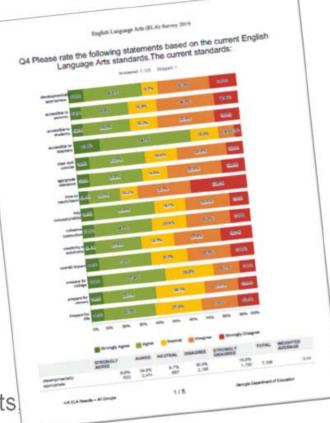
- 25,000+ total (up from 17,000+ at the August update)
 - 11,000+ ELA
 - 14,000+ Mathematics



· Results Breakdown

- Overall
 - K-12
 - All groups
- By Grade Span
 - K-5
 - 6-8
 - 9-12 (broken out for each course)
- By Group
 - Teachers
 - Parents
- By Question

For downloadable PDFs of the results go to: **GaDOE.org/standards**





Thumber of sesponses for ELA Math: Though a larger than had similar trends

Survey Results Overview

Key Trends and Findings

- Emphasizing College over Careers and Life. In general, parents and teachers feel the standards do a better job preparing students for college than for careers and life.
- Accessible to Teachers over Parents and Students. More than two thirds of teachers agree the wording of the standards is accessible to teachers. However, most teachers feel the wording of the standards is not accessible to students, and many teachers think the wording of the standards is not accessible to parents.



Key Trends and Findings (cont.)

- Limiting Time and Creativity. The top K-12 concerns expressed by teachers and parents are the number of standards vs. time available to teach them and the current standards not fostering creativity and autonomy in the classroom.
- Concern for Early Grades, comfort for High School. Regarding level of rigor and age/developmental appropriateness, there was a higher degree of concern for the early grades, specifically K-5, compared to high school courses.



Key Trends and Findings (cont.)

- Disenfranchised Parents. In general, K-8 parents expressed a greater rate of concern than teachers across all categories of the survey (with the exception of whether the language/terminology of the standards is accessible to teachers – most parents believe it is).
- Sequencing and Cohesion. Though a higher level of approval of the standards, 6-8 and high school teachers expressed concerns regarding the sequencing and cohesion of the standards, but larger numbers thought the standards were more relevant.





For more information about the Georgia Standards Review Process for Math and ELA please visit:

WWW.GADOE.ORG/STANDARDS

Offering a holistic education to each and every child in our state.

Next Webinar: 10 a.m., NOV 5
Topic: Whole Child, Ashley Harris, Director
Whole Child Supports and Strategic
Partnerships

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