



Georgia Department of Education

Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

December 2016

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

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

SBOE Approves Three New Courses

On December 8, 2016, the State Board of Education approved the following three courses for inclusion in the list of State-funded courses.

- 1) Advanced Finite Mathematics
- 2) Technical College Readiness Mathematics
- 3) Technical College Readiness English

For more information regarding the courses listed above, please see Newsletter sections for Math and ELA.

- [State-Funded Courses](#)
- [Summary of Changes](#)

MATHEMATICS

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

SBOE Adopts Two HS Mathematics Courses

At the December State Board of Education meeting, the board approved the addition of two mathematics courses to the roster of state-funded courses. Please find the two courses listed on [pages 29-30](#) of the roster.

Course descriptions and standards for the two courses are linked below. A Frequently Asked Questions document to accompany the Technical College Readiness Mathematics course description/standards document is forthcoming.

- [27.07910 Advanced Finite Mathematics](#)
- [27.09000 Technical College Readiness Mathematics](#)

GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Sharon Synan, sharon.synan@gavirtualschool.org

Important Dates

Georgia Virtual School students have had an amazing fall semester and we look forward to serving even more students and providing greater opportunities through our partnerships with districts throughout Georgia.

Enrollment for Spring 2017 is now open.

Spring 2017

- January 9 - 18 week session begins
- January 11- Last day to start 18 week session (AP and non-AP)
- January 16- Martin Luther King Jr Holiday
- January 23- 16 week session begins
- January 25- Last day to start 16 week session (AP and non-AP)
- February 1- Last day to apply and pay for 14 week session (AP courses)
- February 6- 14 week session begins and last day to start AP courses
- February 8- Last day to start 14 week session (non--AP)
- February 15- Last day to apply and pay for 12 week session (non-AP)
- February 21- 12 week session begins
- April 3-7- Spring Break Holidays
- May 10-11 - Final exams
- May 12- All classes end
- May 18 - Final grades released



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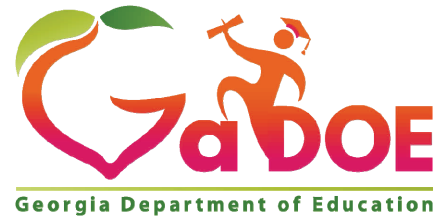


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SOCIAL STUDIES

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

New Year's Resolutions in Social Studies

As we move into January, it's a good time to look back to see where we have been this fall, and look forward to see what the future holds. We hope you'll resolve to:

Share and grow our K-12 Virtual Specialists' dynamic Professional Learning Communities for every Social Studies grade level and course. The PLCs are located on edWeb.net and provide excellent resources and creative teaching ideas in inquiry. They are also a great space for teachers to collaborate with others throughout the state. August through November webinars are archived and December live sessions scheduled.

- [Join Online Community](#)
- [View Scheduled Monthly K-12 Webinars](#)

Attend our Leadership Webinar Series launched in November with "Meat and Taters AKA Content and Instruction." That session as well as December's episode "Assessment Changes and Changing Assessment" have been archived and may be viewed in the Leadership PLC webinar archive on edWeb.net. The January leadership webinar topic is "Preview Debut of the New New" and will highlight some of the resources that will be available in May 2017.

Join us live on Monday, January 23 at 1:00 PM

- [Registration](#)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

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

Announcement

Please welcome a new addition to our ELA Team! Cheralyn M. Lee recently joined us from Atlanta Public Schools. Cheralyn brings her knowledge and expertise in K-5 curriculum and pedagogy as well as her experience as an Instructional Coach and Data Support Specialist.

Technical College Readiness

At the December State Board of Education (SBOE) meeting held December 8, 2016, the SBOE approved the addition of an English course to the list of state-funded courses: 23.05400 Technical College Readiness English.

Please find the course listed on page 18 of the list of the State-Funded K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses.

The course description and standards for the course is linked below. A Frequently Asked Questions document to accompany the Technical College Readiness English course description/standards document is forthcoming.

- [23.05400 Technical College Readiness English](#)

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CTAE

Gary Mealer , gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us

Reminder of Required Paperwork for MOWR

A reminder that all MOWR students who plan to participate spring term must complete two forms. The online MOWR application at GAfutures.org must be completed by the student and the MOWR Student Participation Form paper copy on the GADOE webpage must be completed before a student can participate. Both of these forms require the student, parent/guardian and counselor to complete parts of the form. Remember both of these forms must be completed before each term of student MOWR participation.

Congratulations to New Georgia STEM Certified Schools

Gilda Lyon, glyon@doe.k12.ga.us

Congratulations to the following schools that have recently earned Georgia STEM Certification:

- [Martin Technology Academy in Hall County](#)
- [Peachtree Ridge High School's SPIRE program in Gwinnett County](#)
- Cooper Middle School in Cobb County

There are currently 40 Georgia STEM Certified Schools/Programs.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

DeeDee Bunn, dbunn@doe.k12.ga.us

2016-17 UDL Webinar Series

This is a reminder to register for the 2nd in a series of 3 webinars hosted by the GaDOE regarding Universal Design for Learning in Education (UDL). Please join us for this exciting webinar to increase your knowledge of UDL in the classroom!

- [Additional Information Series of Webinars](#)

Applying UDL to Scaffold Texts for Struggling Readers K-12

How can we provide struggling readers with access to complex texts? What does a scaffolded text look like? These and other questions will be answered in this webinar as participants see what UDL looks like in a scaffolded text and learn how to use the UDL Guidelines to scaffold texts for their own students.

This webinar is presented by Cynde Snider, Cynde Snider Consulting.

Date and Time

Wed., Jan 11, 2017 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM EST

- [Registration](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For further information, contact DeeDee Bunn at dbunn@doe.k12.ga.us.

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FINE ARTS

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

Fine Arts Standards Revision Update

The Working Committee for Visual Art, Theatre, and Media Arts met in November 2016 to edit and develop new Georgia Standards of Excellence in these Fine Arts subject areas. The Working Committees' recommendations will move to the Advisory and Academic Committees in January 2017 with a projected public review period in the spring of 2017.

School & District Effectiveness

Joann Hooper, jhooper@doe.k12.ga.us

Professional Learning Webinars

We are excited to introduce a new quarterly Professional Learning webinar series. The topics will focus on Professional Learning strategies and skills which can be applied to all schools or districts. Prior to each webinar we send out an invitation and link to the webinar. If there are professional learning topics that you'd like for us to address or you would like your name added to the webinar notification list, please send your information to Christy Jones at chjones@doe.k12.ga.us. We hope you can join us!

How PBIS Increased Our Attendance And Decreased Discipline

Chad Crumley, [guest blogger for GPB Education](#)

Gainesville City Schools has dug deep into PBIS, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, for all students P - 12. During 2015-2016, groups of teachers and administrators from each school were trained to help with the PBIS mission. During this training, a clear, consistent message was conveyed as a need for all students, and the group developed the 4 Rs - Ready, Respectful, Responsible, and Role Model. The 4 Rs are used daily to remind students of the high expectations throughout the school and on the bus. These are also shared with parents as way to help reinforce the high expectations.

At Centennial Arts Academy, a K-5 elementary school, the PBIS program began as a grassroots effort. A team saw a need and started a plan to help. Centennial Arts Academy had positive incentives in place for excellent behavior. However, these efforts were not connected to specific expectations. Thus, the team worked on a plan to communicate the behavioral expectations and at the same time reward students displaying the expected behaviors. The team developed expectations centered on the 4 Rs for all areas of the school and bus. These are posted in each area of the school, classroom, and bus. At the end of the year last year, the team purchased low cost items called "Spirit Sticks" to help reward students. At the beginning of 2016-2017, the school started with a PBIS pep rally, explaining the high expectations and prizes to be earned. Throughout the year, teachers teach lessons regarding the desired behaviors, reinforcing as needed.

- [Read More](#)