Survey Posted for Media Art, Theatre Art, and Visual Art

At the May 4, 2017 State Board of Education (SBOE) meeting, the SBOE approved the posting of the draft Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Fine Arts in the areas of Media Art, Theatre Art, and Visual Art for public review and comment. The survey will be posted from May 4 until 5 p.m. ESDT on June 2, 2017.

- Access the Survey

Announcements

Attention New Curriculum Directors

Orientation for New Curriculum Directors will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Atlanta at the Georgia Department of Education in partnership with the Georgia Association of Curriculum and Instructional Supervisors (GACIS). Additional information and the link for registration will be available soon.

Fall Curriculum Directors’ Conference

Please save the following dates for the 2017 Fall Curriculum Directors’ Conference to be held at the Classic Center Conference Center in Athens, GA.

September 27: GaDOE Fall Curriculum Directors’ Conference

September 28-29: GACIS Fall Conference (GACIS - Georgia Association of Curriculum and Instructional Supervisors)

Conference and registration information will be available soon from the GAEL and GACIS websites. (GAEL – Georgia Association of Educational Leaders)
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

SCIENCE

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

School and District Leaders Workshop

Join us in Macon for the Evidence-Based Instructional Practices for Supporting the Science Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) Workshop. This one-day workshop is intended to support district and school administrators in the instructional practices that support the implementation of the new science GSE.

Monday, May 22 - FULL with a wait list
Tuesday, May 23 - Spaces Available!

To register, email Amanda Buice at abuice@doe.k12.ga.us.

3D Lesson Design for Science Ambassadors

On May 24, Science Ambassadors from around the state are coming together to continue the work on 3-Dimensional Science Lessons. This is the fifth training day specifically for our Science Ambassadors, who are developing resources to be shared with all Georgia educators. All Science Ambassadors should have received a special invitation. If not or if you have questions, contact Amanda Buice, abuice@doe.k12.ga.us. A special thanks to system administrators for supporting these dedicated Ambassadors and allowing them to attend.

Coming Soon

- Science frameworks for 5th Grade, 8th grade, High School Physical Science and High School Biology
- 3-Dimensional Lessons Created by Science Ambassadors

Please visit GeorgiaStandards.Org for updates this summer.

STEM/STEAM

Felicia Cullars, fculars@doe.k12.ga.us

Call for Proposals: 2017 4th Annual Georgia STEM/STEAM Forum

Proposals are now being accepted for sessions and workshops at the 2017 STEM/STEAM Forum, which will be held October 23-24, 2017 in Athens, GA.

- Call for Proposals
- Participant Registration
- Exhibitor Registration
- Conference Hotels

High Schools That Work Summer Staff Development

- July 12-15, 2017
  Nashville, Tennessee
  Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
  2800 Opryland Dr, Nashville, TN 37214

This is one of the most affordable and comprehensive conferences in the nation! The HSTW Staff Development Conference provides a platform for K-12 practitioners to share innovative and proven school improvement strategies. Hear how teams of teachers, counselors and leaders prepared academic and career and technical education students with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in college and the 21st-century workplace.

- More Information
More Videos Are Available – Get Your Popcorn Poppin’!

Marrying Social Studies and ELA – The Inquiry Method. In this video series, educators explore the benefits of integrating social studies content and literacy skills in the inquiry process. In addition to the overview video, teachers will see two middle-grades classrooms engaging in a variety of inquiry-based strategies that dynamically blend content instruction with reading and writing skills. You can access the PL video series at the bottom of the Social Studies GSE page or click directly to the page here. Don’t forget to like and share the YouTube page!

The Social Studies Leadership Webinar Series episode 5 entitled, “The Webinar that Shall Not Be Named” will be held Wednesday, May 17th. In this webinar, we will discuss amazing things (New Social Studies pages on GSO and insider information on summer teacher training) and wonderful things (introducing transition curriculum maps! and how to use the two new PL video series). You won’t want to miss it! We look forward to having you join us live on Wednesday, May 17 at 2 p.m.! Can’t join us? View the archived webinar in the Social Studies Leadership PLC on edWeb.net.

Registration

The Social Studies Summer Teacher Training registration is OPEN! If you were waiting to register a few extra teachers, now is your chance. We are practicing the economics concept of resource allocation using the first-come-first-served method. Claim your seats while there is still availability. Information and registration links are posted publicly.

Thousand of Free Books are at your Fingertips this Summer

Tony Vlachakis, tvlachak@doe.k12.ga.us

Georgia students can read anywhere, anytime, and virtually anything this summer, because Get Georgia Reading partner myON has delivered thousands of free books to your computer and mobile devices. That means every child, teacher, librarian, and parent in Georgia has unlimited access to myON’s enhanced digital books, 24 hours a day — every day — through August 31. These enhanced digital books, with flexible reading scaffolds, are the core content of myON’s award-winning personalized literacy environment with embedded tools and metrics to support and track student reading and growth.

Read anywhere - at home, in the library, or any community setting. Read online using any Internet-enabled device. Read offline using free mobile apps for Kindle Fire HD, Android Devices, iPads, and Google Chrome.

- Learn More
- Get Started
- Get Started (Spanish)
- Watch Short Video with Students

For more information or if you have additional questions, please contact Saralee Parker, Account Manager, at (678) 910-6661 or email Saralee.

Fine Arts Standards Revision Survey

The Draft Georgia Standards of Excellence for Theatre, Media, and Visual Arts are available for review and public comment. Use the following link to access the survey.

- Review Standards and Take Survey
How Did My Students Do on the Georgia Milestones?

A variety of reports are available to System and School Test Coordinators once scores become available in the eDIRECT platform. Those interested in receiving copies of these reports must look to the System and School Test Coordinators for guidance regarding policy and permissions for access to these reports.

The primary reports include: Individual Student Reports, Class Roster Reports, Remediation and Retest Roster Reports, and Content Area Summary Reports.

The Assessment Team at the GaDOE developed a brief video, Report Delivery in eDIRECT (3:42), to help stakeholders understand the reports available and where information may be accessed.

- Video Along with Other Informational Videos

Additional information regarding scoring and reporting on the Georgia Milestones assessment may be found in the score interpretation guide along with examples of the available reports. The Spring and Summer 2016 End-of-Grade Interpretive Guide along with an Individual Student Report Sample is located on the Assessment webpage under EOG Educator Resources. The End-of-Course Interpretive Guide for Score Reports (Winter 2016-Summer 2017) is located under EOC Educator Resources:

One of the first reports delivered in the eDIRECT platform is the Class Roster Report. The Class Roster Report provides demographic data and test results for each student listed on the roster. Teachers must look to their System and School Test Coordinators for guidance and policy for access to these reports.

Each of the parts of the Class Roster Report are indicated below.

1. **CONTENT AREA**: Shows the subject area tested.
2. **CLASS DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**: This includes Grade and Class name as reflected on the Session in eDIRECT.
3. **STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**
4. **SCALE SCORE**: Scale scores on the Georgia Milestones report assessment results that are comparable across all test forms and administrations for the same EOG assessment.

5. **ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL**: Achievement levels are established through a process known as standard setting to define points along the scale score range and to give additional meaning to student performance. These points that define different achievement levels are known as cut scores. Georgia educators and stakeholders from around the state participated in the standard setting process for the Georgia Milestones assessments from which the cut score recommendations were made.

6. **DOMAIN SCORES**: Standards for each grade level and content area have been grouped into domains, or clusters of standards with related content. Reporting information at the domain level helps identify relative strengths and weaknesses of the student with respect to each grade level and content area.

7. **LEXILE SCORE** (ELA only): The individual student Lexile measure indicates the level of text that a student can read with 75% comprehension. Students in grades 1-12 typically score in a range from Beginning Reader (BR) to 1600L.

8. **READING STATUS** (ELA only): For ELA, students receive a reading status – either Below Grade Level (-) or Grade Level or Above (+). This column may be used as a check for those students requiring remediation and retest due to Promotion, Placement, and Retention policies. Please check local board policies for additional information and/or State Board policy 160-4-2-.11.

9. **WRITING** (ELA only) for the writing and Language Domain, the number of points earned on the Extended Writing Task and narrative Writing Response are shown. Students who received 0 points on a writing task will have a condition code reported. The condition codes provide information about the reason why the student did not receive any points.

10. **NORM-REFERENCED SCORE**: The national percentile rank (and NP range) is estimated for each student. Please note that the norm-referenced score is based only on a subset of 20 items, and there is no direct correspondence between a student’s national percentile rank and his/her Georgia Milestones scale score.

Teachers may find these reports useful in designing appropriate instruction, establishing school improvement goals, and contributing valuable information toward understanding student achievement. No one piece of evidence tells the whole story of a child’s learning; however, when used in conjunction with other formative data, this report provides a high level look at possible areas of focus.
Delda Hagin, dhagin@doe.k12.ga.us

Unisys: A Leader in Cybersecurity

Unisys, a national leader for cybersecurity located in Augusta, welcomed Ms. Hagin to discuss what is needed for a starting position in cybersecurity. While communication and other soft skills are fundamental in every job, employment in cybersecurity has specific requirements. First and foremost, new hires must have a squeaky clean record. Security clearance for employees is very intense. Just the perception of questionable activity can prevent even the most skilled individual from being hired. Even a “private” picture on Facebook can prevent students from getting their dream job in cybersecurity.

In addition, industry credentials matter. A student who graduates high school with a clean record and a Security+ certificate can start out making $100,000 a year with no additional training! In a discussion about college degrees and industry credentials, Adam, a team manager, said, “Industry certifications are almost more powerful [than a college degree].” Bonnie, a technician, said, “If you want a job in IT, the most important things are the certifications.” Georgia’s CTAE Pathways lead to the opportunity to earn these industry credentials. Students should be encouraged to earn these certifications while they are still in high school. Their success in a lucrative career may depend on it.

Congratulations to JROTC Schools and Instructors

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

The Roswell High School JROTC Leadership Team recently qualified to compete in the 2017 JROTC Academic and Leadership Bowl (JLAB) Championship. JLAB is a nationally recognized academic competition created exclusively for JROTC students.

Roswell students earned top scores to propel them past 1,320 other teams competing from around the world. The team is one of only 24 Army JROTC Leadership Bowl teams in the nation advancing to the finals. The Roswell team will compete in person for the championship on the campus of the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., June 23-27, 2017.

LTC Travis Heard, Director, Army JROTC Leadership Education, was recently appointed to the national Board of Directors for the United States Army Cadet Command’s (USACC) JROTC Program Advisory Board (PAB).

Congratulations to the Sequoyah High School Cadets, who have performed over 4,000 hours of community service.

MOWR Changes and Updates

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

New as of April 12, 2017:

- Students who score at or above the Proficient Learner level on the Georgia Milestones ELA assessment can use that score in place of ACCUPLACER ELA score beginning Summer 2017.

- Health and PE classes will no longer be available for MOWR students at TCSG institutions after spring semester 2017.

- Beginning Fall 2017, USG institutions will only allow full-time MOWR students to enroll in PE classes. This does not apply to health courses at USG.

- MOWR funding is not available for MOWR students to retake MOWR college courses that they have already passed and earned credit for as a MOWR student.

- MOWR students cannot take MOWR college courses matched with high school courses they have already passed.
First Wave of Georgia Students Earn Georgia's New Seal of Biliteracy

Gone are the days of not knowing if a student can speak, read and write the language or not -- the Seal of Biliteracy ensures that they can! On May 3, 2016, HB 879 was signed into law, thereby establishing Georgia’s Seal of Biliteracy -- joining 25 other states across the nation. Seals of Biliteracy can be earned in many different languages, including Latin and American Sign Language.

At the completion of the first reporting cycle, over 750 Georgia students from 19 districts have met the above requirements and should receive the seal upon graduation. The primary method for students to earn the seal is through their world language AP exam results, and these scores are not received until mid-summer. Thus we expect that more seals will be awarded retroactively after the second reporting deadline of September 1, 2017.

- Requirements for the Seal of Biliteracy

Growth of International Skills Diploma Seal Program

Georgia’s innovative International Skills Diploma Seal program continues to grow! Since its inaugural year in 2016, the Seal program has delivered 30% more Seals this year to over 650 students at 80 participating high schools in over 28 districts. This growth confirms that this program continues to be well-received by students, teachers and school administrators. The International Skills Diploma Seal serves as a signal to employers that students have engaged in courses and extracurricular activities that foster global competencies.

- Requirements for Georgia’s International Skills Diploma Seal

PSAT/SAT/AP Updates

2017 AP Exam invoice and payment must be completed on or before June 15.

NEW AP EXAM DATES IN 2018

2018 AP exam dates begin May 7-11, 2018 and May 14-18, 2018.

Late testing dates for 2018 AP exams begin May 23-25, 2018.

2017 PSAT/NMSQT FUNDING

The State of Georgia is funding the 2017 PSAT/NMSQT for 10th graders.

Official SAT Practice with Khan Academy

Sign up. Link up. Get practicing.

LOOKING AHEAD

In December, schools will have the opportunity to select SAT School Day options for administrations of the SAT during a “regular” school day in the local school.

- SAT School Day
- Spring 18 SAT Administration Order Details

Visual Literacy Video Series for Advanced Placement Classrooms

The Georgia Department of Education, the High Museum of Art, and Georgia Public Broadcasting are excited to bring you a video series on Visual Literacy for the Advanced Placement Classroom. This eight-video series is designed to provide teachers with instructional strategies and effective classroom activities for teaching visual literacy in the AP Art, ELA, and Social Studies course areas. Please share this new resource with your AP teachers.

- View AP Visual Literacy Video Series
Following are the 2017 state winners for the Young Georgia Authors writing competition:

- **Kindergarten** - Cole Deems
  "Timmy the Tornado"
  Coffee County, Okefenokee

- **Grade 1** - Tyler Everett Boyce
  "Ninja Squirrels Strike Back"
  Bryan County, First District

- **Grade 2** - James Portwood
  "Nature is Lovely"
  Baldwin County, Oconee

- **Grade 3** - Madison Newman
  "Me and My Feet"
  Lowndes County, Coastal Plains

- **Grade 4** - Princess Graham
  "Shadow"
  Muscogee County, Chattahoochee-Flint

- **Grade 5** - Naomi Hopkins
  "No One Left to Find"
  Rabun County, Pioneer

- **Grade 6** - Adrianna Steffen
  "The Desires of Power"
  Long County, First District

- **Grade 7** - Juliana Claire M. Ponciono
  "Survivor"
  Ware County, Okefenokee

- **Grade 8** - Olivia Elgison
  "Shadow Children"
  Atlanta Public Schools, Metro

- **Grade 9** - Alicia Mazzurra
  "Do Not Tell Me Who to Be"
  Cherokee County, North Georgia

- **Grade 10** - Miyang Tamanji
  "Alias"
  Forsyth County, Metro

- **Grade 11** - Marissa Payne
  "Like He"
  Laurens County, Heart of Georgia

- **Grade 12** - Imani Johnson
  "America What Time is It?"
  Cherokee County, North Georgia

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**Teacher Night at the Museum**

The Georgia Department of Education’s English Language Arts (ELA) team has partnered with the High Museum’s Teacher and Schools Services team to invite ELA teachers and a guest to join our teams on Friday, May 19, 2017 from 6 to 10 p.m. for Jazz Night at the High Museum in celebration of language arts teachers in Georgia.

ELA educators will have an opportunity to talk with the teams in the Green Family Education Center from 7 to 9 p.m. and will receive a SWAG BAG full of goodies to support visual literacy instruction.

This celebration is free of charge through our collaboration with Georgia Public Broadcasting, Metro RESA, and The High Museum.*

- **Registration**

*This is a free event; however, on-site parking at the High Museum is $15.00. You can also prepay for guaranteed parking ($20.00, including service fee) or take MARTA to the Arts Center Station.

- **Prepay Parking**

**Young Georgia Author Winners 2017**

The Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition encourages students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics.

This prestigious competition has been engaging Georgia students for more than two decades and is open to any student currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, grades K-12. The competition is sponsored by the Georgia Council of Teachers of English (GCTE) with support and cooperation from the Georgia Department of Education.
Georgia-grown products in meals, providing excellent customer service in the cafeteria, educating students on nutrition, and engaging students through a Student Chef Competition.

GaDOE First Annual Student Chef Competition

On April 26, 2017, the Georgia Department of Education School Nutrition Program held the inaugural Farm to School Student Chef Competition in Macon at the W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy. Six teams from all over Georgia competed for the top spots in two recipe categories; Chicken Entrée and Vegetable Salad.

Recipes met the National School Lunch Program meal pattern and current nutrient standards for fat, calories and sodium, and included two Georgia-grown products. Students learned about school meal guidelines and considered ingredients commonly available to school nutrition programs while developing their recipes. School Nutrition and Culinary Arts Programs partnered to help students participate in the competition.

The teams placed as follows:

**Vegetable Salad**
- 1st Place: Columbia County – Vegetable Penne
- 2nd Place: Fannin County – Pretty n’ Peaches Salad

**Chicken Entrée**
- 1st Place: Columbia County – Chicken Fajitas
- 2nd Place: Pickens County – Warm Ranch Chicken Wrap
- 3rd Place: Youth Villages-Inner Harbour School Curry Chicken
- 4th Place: Fannin County – Sizzling Stir Fry

The 2nd Annual Student Chef Competition will be held at an earlier date so the winning team will have the opportunity to compete in a USDA Southeast Regional Jr. Chef Competition in Kentucky in 2018.
ESOL & TITLE III UNIT

Dr. Jacqueline C. Ellis, jellis@doe.k12.ga.us

Spring 2017 Star English Learners and Star ESOL Teachers

The GaDOE ESOL & Title III Unit announces the 2017 Spring Star English Learners and Star ESOL Teachers.

The six Star English Learners (ELs) are seniors who were nominated from across the state because of their outstanding academic achievement. They in turn nominated the five Star ESOL teachers who were most influential in their academic careers. These outstanding ELs and ESOL educators will be honored at State Superintendent Richard Woods’ annual “Excellence in Achievement” reception on Wednesday, May 10, 2017.

We congratulate the 2017 spring recipients and their ESOL/Title III Directors for their outstanding efforts:

Star English Learners

- Amina Mohammad, Stone Mountain High
- Sergio Franco Velazquez, Johnson High
- YuYu "Evelyn" Lu, Brookwood High School
- Tufail Khan, Newton High School
- Shrey Patel, Bowdon High
- Pathanay Roll, Madison County High

Star ESOL Teachers

- Jenevee Spence, DeKalb County Schools
- Kristina Poff, Hall County Schools
- Ernest Cantrell, Gwinnett County Public Schools
- Maria Howell, Newton County Public Schools
- Carla Annette Ingram, Carroll County Public Schools
- Sabrina Bennett, Madison County Public Schools

District ESOL/Title III Coordinators

- Dr. Sandra I. Nunez, DeKalb County Schools
- Dr. Anna Sargent, Hall County Schools
- Elizabeth Webb, Gwinnett County Public Schools

- Maria Howell, Newton County Public Schools
- Dr. Karen Strickland, Carroll County Public Schools
- Brittan Ayers, Madison County Public Schools

Additional eligibility guidelines and qualifications are posted on our GaDOE website.

New ESOL Exit Criteria

Cori Alston, calston@doe.k12.ga.us

As we prepare to receive ACCESS 2.0 scores from the Spring 2017 administration, we’d like to remind districts about the ESOL exit criteria changes that were announced on April 7 of this year.

The changes that have been put in place are due to both new requirements under ESSA as well as new scaling performed by WIDA for ACCESS 2.0. Please ensure that all of your district’s schools and teachers are aware of this change so that they can properly implement ESOL exit processing.

1. The grades 1-12 exit criteria will no longer include the Literacy sub-score. Exit will be based solely on achievement of a 5.0 Composite Proficiency Level (CPL). Kindergarten exit criteria will not change this year.

2. Language Assessment Conferences (LAC) to determine exit will no longer be permitted. An EL must attain the designated exit score (5.0 CPL) to be exited from ESOL. As always, a student who attains that designated score must be exited from ESOL.

Why these changes? The State ESOL Advisory group learned from staff from the Office of Accountability that use of the Literacy sub-score for exit purposes on ACCESS 2.0 does not contribute any more value than use of the Overall CPL alone, hence our lifting of that requirement. Under ESSA, statewide uniform exit and entry criteria must be established; the LAC does not fulfill that requirement.

Due to the significantly higher language demands of our college- and career-ready standards (to which ACCESS 2.0 is correlated), you will likely find that fewer of your ELs will attain the 5.0 exit score this year. Please plan accordingly. This coming fall, with two years of ACCESS 2.0 data on hand, the Office of Accountability will assist us in determining what progress and proficiency look like on the new ACCESS 2.0 scale and this may affect exit criteria for 2017-18. Stay tuned for updates in the fall!

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Dr. Jacqueline Ellis or Cori Alston.

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As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Dr. Jacqueline Ellis or Cori Alston.
Teacher and Leader Development and Support

Teacher and Leader Support and Development (formerly Teacher and Leader Effectiveness) recently joined the Office of Teaching and Learning. The TLSD Division impacts student achievement by providing programs and resources to enhance teacher and leader success, that include the following: Title II, Part A grant awards; teacher and leader effectiveness systems; and professional learning. The Atlanta office includes:

- Cindy Saxon, Associate Superintendent, csaxon@doe.k12.ga.us
- Carly Ambler, Program Manager, Title II, Part A, cambler@doe.k12.ga.us
- Melinda Moe, Program Manager, Leader Effectiveness and TLE Platform, mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us
- Michele Purvis, Program Manager, Teacher Effectiveness and Professional Learning, rpurvis@doe.k12.ga.us
- Keisla Tisdel, Program Manager, Evaluation, Data, and Documentation, ktisdel@doe.k12.ga.us
- Chris Leonard, Education Program Specialist, Title II, Part A, cleonard@doe.k12.ga.us
- Carrie Underwood, Research and Evaluation Specialist, cunderwood@doe.k12.ga.us
- Haiyeng Wang, Educational Data Analyst, hwang@doe.k12.ga.us
- Katherine Gerbis, Training and Development Specialist, TLE Platform, kgerbis@doe.k12.ga.us
- Shauntice Wheeler, Professional Development Specialist, swheeler@doe.k12.ga.us

Title II, Part A Program Moves to Teaching and Learning

The Title II, Part A Program has recently moved under the Office of Teaching and Learning. This reorganization is designed to further unify and enhance support to schools and districts. The Title II, Part A Program staff will continue its efforts to ensure a quality education for each and every child in our state. The Title II, Part A Program Specialists will host regional trainings from May 12 through June 2. Program updates, ESSA requirements, and more will be shared. There will be opportunities for hands-on support. Registration links have been shared with the local Title II, Part A coordinators. Title II, Part A Program Specialists will host a webinar on Private School Equitable Participation on May 3. The training is open to both LEAs and private school officials. The registration link has been shared by the state ombudsman and specialists. The Federal Programs Summer Conference will be held June 19 to 22. Registration links are found on the Federal Programs webpage.

Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement Framework

The Georgia Department of Education’s strategic plan emphasizes transforming the agency into one that provides meaningful support to schools and districts. The agency has developed a common, continuous improvement framework to ensure that these efforts are aligned across all agency divisions, departments, and programs. The Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement framework focuses on the systems and structures (the “what”) that must be in place for sustained improvement in student outcomes.