Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia’s Future

October/November 2018

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Caitlin McMunn Dooley, cdooley@doe.k12.ga.us

School Climate Grant
The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to receive a grant from United States Department of Education in the amount of $3,749,980.00 in Federal Funds for transformation of school climate. School climate is correlated to academic outcomes. For example, the following data regarding the School Climate Rating and academic outcomes for 2018.

- 25+ point difference in CCRPI scores between a School Climate Rating of 1 and 5
- 22+ point difference in 3rd Grade ELA scores between a School Climate Rating of 1 and 5
- 28+ point difference in 8th Grade ELA scores between a School Climate Rating of 1 and 5
- 35+ point difference in 9th Grade Literature scores between a School Climate Rating of 1 and 5

If school leaders work toward improving climate, they will likely find academic learning improves as well.

Teaching and Learning Update

Time to celebrate...Getting a good education in Georgia has never been more possible. Our state has the highest numbers reflecting the best public education system we have ever had in the state’s history!

- 2017-18 Graduation rate = 81.6%
- 2017 National Assessment of Education Progress results for Georgia are better than ever!

- 2017-18 Milestones performance rates have improved (see information about the assessment system here)
- 2017-18 ACT saw increased outcomes
- 2017-18 SAT saw increased participation AND increased outcomes
- Dual-language Immersion programs (Map) = 53
- 2017-18 Dual-enrollment participation = 36,697
- 2017-18 Advanced Placement (AP) participation rate = 120,479 (Note: not all opt to take the AP test)
- 2017-18 AP passing rates (i.e., earn a 3 or higher on an AP Test) = 92,058
- May 2015 International Skills Diploma Seal established; International Skills Diploma Seals earned in 2015-2016 = <100
  2016-2017 = 540
  2017-18 = 922
- May 2016 Biliteracy Seal established; Biliteracy Seals earned in 2016-17 = 1,133
  2017-18 = 2,125
- 2017-18 Civics Diploma Seal established.

Teachers and school leaders are working hard to make Georgia’s system the best it has ever been. Are we where we want to be? Not yet. We are always going through a process of continuous improvement. These numbers show that we’re moving in the right direction!

facebook.com/georgiadedtowed @GaStandardsOrg @georgiadedtowed
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

STEM/STEAM

Meghan McFerrin, mmcferrin@doe.k12.ga.us

Steam Professional Learning Workshops

Join the Georgia Department of Education and arts organizations throughout the state to learn more about the power of the arts and community partnerships in interdisciplinary teaching and learning. Attend one of the dates below:

- December 4 - Springer Opera House; Columbus
- February 5 - Booth Museum of Western Art; Cartersville
- March 5 - Morris Museum of Art; Augusta

Each session will last from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost is $15 per participant and lunch will be provided. Additional trainings may be added in other areas of the state.

- Register and Learn More

Inaugural GaDOE STEM/STEAM Leadership Cohort

Are you responsible for STEM/STEAM in your district? Join the Georgia Department of Education's STEM/STEAM team for a series of trainings located at recently certified STEM and STEAM schools. Learn how to implement the essential STEM/STEAM criteria (i.e., project-based learning, daily interdisciplinary instruction, investigative research, business and community partnerships, and collaborative planning). During school visits, participants will hear from GaDOE staff, school administration and leadership, teacher leaders, and students.

Participants are required to attend all four dates. Limited funding for travel may be available on an as-needed basis.

- January 15 - Evoline C. West Elementary, Fulton County (Back-up date for this session is January 29 in the event of inclement weather)
- February 12 - New Mountain Hill Elementary, Harris County (Back up date for this session is February 19th in the event of inclement weather)
- March 12 - Thomson Middle School, Houston County
- March 26 - High School location TBD

Please email Meghan McFerrin if you are interested in participating no later than Friday, December 7. The cohort is limited to 30 participants.

Welcome New STEM/STEAM Members

Please join us in welcoming Allyson Morgan and Rontra Brown to the GaDOE STEM/STEAM team. These new staff members will help expand STEM and STEAM programming in South Georgia. Rontra Brown will be working with the Southwest Georgia RESA region and joins the GaDOE from Dougherty County School System in Albany. Allyson Morgan will be working with the First District RESA region and joins the GaDOE from Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools. We are excited to welcome them to the team.
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

WORLD LANGUAGES & GLOBAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

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

Dual Language Immersion Dashboard

A new online DLI Dashboard tool is available for stakeholders wishing to learn where Dual Language Immersion Programs are currently located in the state. Currently, more than 5,000 students are enrolled in 53 public-school Dual Language Immersion programs covering five different languages, with more schools and languages scheduled to open in the next school year.

Second Round of DLI Grants

The Georgia Department of Education World Languages in partnership with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education is once again pleased to provide a limited number of competitive grants available to Georgia Dual Language Immersion Programs.

International Skills Diploma Seal School Application Closing Soon

Participation in the International Skills Diploma Seal program has been growing since its inception in 2015 in response to the growing need to identify students who have acquired the interdisciplinary skills they need to be globally competent and competitive. Schools can download this year’s application via our webpage.

Courses Posted for Public Review and Comment


• Review GSE Courses and Take Survey

World Language Educator of the Month

Georgia’s World Language Educator of the Month for October is Ms. Maribel Gomez a teacher at Woodville Tompkins High School in Savannah. Excerpt from her nomination - “Ms. Gomez is an outstanding teacher in multiple aspects. She is the teacher I would want if I were in school. She works well beyond the school day. Her students are actively engaged in their own learning and they are learning through the innovative methods that she is pioneering in our system.”

Launch of Third Module PD Series

The Georgia Department of Education World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives, in cooperation with GaLeans, ACTFL and NCSSFL is launching the third and final course in our innovative online professional development series. It’s designed to introduce educators to the 2017 NCSSFL-ACTFL Can-Do Statement Framework at the novice level.

The three courses are free! Information on all three courses is available via our professional development webpage here.

• First course
• Second course
• Third course

Further projects are in the planning stages. Get your badge today!
Mathematics

Lya Snell, lsnell@doe.k12.ga.us

Online Mathematics PL Communities

The GaDOE Mathematics Team invites all Georgia mathematics educators to join our new online professional learning communities. To join, educators should visit edweb.net, set up a username and password, and join the K-5, 6-8, and/or HS Mathematics Professional Learning Communities.

- Join the K-5 Mathematics PL Community
- Join the 6-8 Mathematics PL Community
- Join the High School Mathematics PL Community

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics & Science Teaching Awardees

On October 16, Superintendent Woods recognized 12 outstanding educators for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Congratulations to:

2016 State Winner for K-6 Mathematics:
- Christy Sutton

2017 State finalists for 7-12 Mathematics:
- Melodie Carr
- Adam Crowley
- Greg Lewallen
- Billy Singletary
- Suzette Weinhardt

2018 State Finalists for K-6 Mathematics:
- Stacey Foster
- Tanasha Mahone
- Dr. Iona Strougo

2018 State Finalists for K-6 Science:
- Ashley Greenway
- Natalie Rachel
- Sharon Webb

These teachers are commended for their hard work, commitment, and dedication to exceptional teaching and learning.

Call for Nominations: Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The National Science Foundation is currently accepting nominations and applications for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) program.

Presidential Awardees receive:
- A citation signed by the President of the United States
- A trip to Washington, D.C. to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities
- A $10,000 award from the National Science Foundation

Principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public may nominate exceptional science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teachers by completing the PAEMST nomination form. Teachers can apply directly.

The nomination deadline is March 1, 2019 for secondary school teachers (grades 7-12), and the application deadline is May 1, 2019. Elementary school teachers (K–6) will be eligible to apply during a future cycle.

For further questions, please contact Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar, or Mr. Brooke Kline, PAEMST State Program Coordinators.
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

TEACHER & LEADER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

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

TLSD Updates

Dr. Karen Wyler (TLSD) recently presented Georgia’s P-20 Collaborative work at the University of Maryland. The November conference was hosted by Prince George’s County Public Schools, University of Maryland College of Education, and Johns Hopkins University School of Education to showcase powerful P-20 partnerships.

Georgia’s P-20 Collaborations are providing targeted conversations to identify regional equity needs. Middle Georgia P-20 recently kicked off the initial Equity Lab. For more information, contact kreese@doe.k12.ga.us

The TEM and LEM rosters are in the GaDOE portal. Superintendents can access the rosters by doing the following:

- Go to the GaDOE Portal
- Click on the TEM/LEM Rosters and SGP/MGP Reports tab on the left side of the screen.
- Select school year 2018 on the dropdown menu.

As a reminder the 2018 SGP/MGP rosters should be posted to Superintendent GaDOE Portal accounts in January. Individual teacher and school leader SGP/MGP ratings should be posted in the TLSD Platform at the same time.

SCIENCE

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

2018-19 National Geographic GeoChallenge: Tackling Plastic!

Your students will be joining teams of middle school students across the country as they investigate plastic pollution in the world’s waterways and create solutions to these problems. In the process, your team(s) will practice skills such as videography, innovative design, teamwork, critical thinking and cartography. Teams that excel will be invited to present at regional and national-level competitions. The deadline to register for the GeoChallenge and to submit a project is January 15, 2019.

- Review the GeoChallenge Competition Rules and FAQs

EngineerGirl Writing Contest

The EngineerGirl writing contest is, for the first time, asking students in grades 3-12 to submit works of creative fiction that celebrate engineering design and problem-solving. We want stories about women and girls saving the day with their wits, skill, and whatever resources they can find to solve the problem. Maybe they are working alone, maybe they are part of an elite team. Maybe they just find themselves in an unusual situation that requires some innovative thinking. We want stories that inspire EngineerGirl readers to think, “I want to be able to do that” or “I can do that.”

Submissions are due Feb. 1, 2019.

- Contest Website
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
Marle C. Usry, Marle.Usry@doe.k12.ga.us

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site Education Program

The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site is ready to host your class field trip. Pre-K to 12th-grade students who visit the historic site will participate in grade-specific, standards-based, activities as they learn about the life and legacy of Georgia’s own; President Jimmy Carter. Information about field trips, curriculum resources, and videos, can be found on our website.

The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site will host its 22nd Annual History Bowl competition for middle and high school students on February 26 and 27. For information on entering a team, please contact Marle Usry.

GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL
Margaret Thomas, margaret.thomas@gavirtualschool.org

Fall 2018 Partnerships

Georgia Virtual School serves as a partner with schools to provide opportunities for students to take courses not offered at the local school and to offer options when scheduling conflicts may arise. For the Fall 2018 semester, GaVS is partnering with:

- numerous districts to serve hospital homebound students
- a Fulton County high school to offer an AP course when a teacher went on medical leave
- Gwinnett’s GIVE Center to increase course offerings to its students
- Effingham County to offer Personal Fitness and Health to STEM Academy students
- Southwest Georgia districts affected by Hurricane Michael

Contact GaVS to learn how we can partner with your school!

ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sandy Greene, sgreene@doe.k12.ga.us

The System Test Coordinators (STCs) will need to review the Assessment Update Volume I November, 2018 for focused information regarding Georgia's assessment programs. Recent editions are available at the link below. Topics for this month include new resources for ACCESS for ELLs 2.0, a webinar on the spring 2019 GAA 2.0 administration, additional information regarding new technology-enhanced items for the Georgia Milestones assessments, and upcoming tasks related to NAEP assessments

- Assessment Update Archives
- View TestPad Overview Recorded Webinar (11/14/2018)
FINE ARTS

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

New Fine Arts Specialist for GaDOE

The Fine Arts program of the Georgia Department of Education would like to introduce our newest Education Program Specialist, Paul McClain. Paul joined the GaDOE on November 1st. He is a Georgia native, an actor, and performing arts educator. His experience in theatre and film will help us bring a world class arts education to Georgia students. The new specialist position will provide additional support to arts teachers in the implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence in Fine Arts. He will be providing direct technical and implementation support to local school systems for the integration of fine arts with other curricular and instructional programs as well as supporting the creation of instructional resources for all fine arts subject areas. Paul will assist in the planning and development of statewide professional learning programs for teachers and administrators.

Visual Art GSE Instructional Frameworks at GAEA Conference 2018

Visual Arts Educators introduced the GaDOE Visual Art Instructional Resources at the Georgia Art Education Association (GAEA) Conference 2018. This new Instructional Frameworks for the GSE in Visual Art provide curriculum support for new and experienced visual arts teachers. Teachers from across the state shared lesson plans, PowerPoints, assessments, handouts, information on navigating and used these standards-based resources and instructional videos. Additional resources continue to be developed and finalized for teacher use.

- Learn More

GaDOE Fine Arts Specialist Receives Distinguished Service Award

Georgia Department of Education Fine Arts Specialist Jessica Booth received the Georgia Art Education Association’s Rosalind Ragans Distinguished Service Within the Profession Award. This award recognizes an outstanding GAEA member for exemplary contributions, service and achievement at the state level.

She was selected for the honor for major advancement in art education in Georgia including the development of a state STEAM certification that enhances the existing STEM certification as well as the institution of the Fine Arts Diploma Seal.

“When I came to the Department, I was deeply concerned by the lack of focus on arts education at the state level,” State School Superintendent Richard Woods said. “Creating a Fine Arts Specialist position at the GaDOE was a top priority for my administration, and we could not have found a better person to fill that role than Jessica Booth. She is a passionate arts educator who has greatly expanded the opportunities available to Georgia’s students. I am proud to see her recognized by our state’s arts educators.”
FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Dawn Scott, dscott@doe.k12.ga.us

November is Family Engagement Month in the State of Georgia

This is the time to celebrate the valuable contributions parents and family members make in their children’s education. The Georgia Department of Education’s Family-School Partnership Program webpage houses a wealth of resources to celebrate this special month. Resources on this page include State School Superintendent Woods’ Thank you Letter to Families, our 2018 Proclamation signed by Governor Nathan Deal, a themed Empowered Parent and Family Member Hero Guide to share with families, and a suggested Planning Ideas Document to assist schools and districts in offering creative family engagement events and activities.

• Access the Family Engagement Month (FEM) webpage

How are you celebrating this month? Share all of your FEM happenings with us on social media by tagging us @GaDOEPartners or by sending items, via email, to dscott@doe.k12.ga.us. Also, be sure to use the following hashtags on Twitter: #GaFamilyEngagementMonth and #NationalParentalInvolvementDay.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Bryan Cox, bcox@doe.k12.ga.us

Computer Science (CS) Education Week

December 3-9 will highlight the work of CS pioneers to introduce as many students as possible to the world of computer science.

Started in 2009, CS Education Week began with a birthday celebration of CS pioneer professional Admiral Grace Hopper. Hopper ignited the idea of machine-independent programming languages which led to the creation of COBOL.

Advocates around the globe will use this week to amplify the importance of CS education. Several of our Georgia partners will hold events (visit the TagEd online website and CS4GA.org for more information). CS4GA will hold a statewide call to discuss CS Education in elementary schools and will Live Tweet K-12 events during and after the call.

Across the state of Georgia, more than 500 schools will be participating in the Hour of Code event hosted by Code.org. Code.org has created hundreds of one-hour courses that require no formal training and will allow students to learn a bit about the fun and excitement associated with computer science. Visit CSEdWeek.org or Code.org to sign up your class/school for an Hour of Code!

Additional CS related announcements will become available in the coming month(s). Join our mailing list, visit the CS4GA.org Events page, or follow @CS4GA on Twitter or Facebook to stay up to date!
Dr. Bailey also led team exercises that support implementation of EBPs and HLPs across the tiers of prevention within a tiered system of supports. All the tools shared by Dr. Bailey are listed as “Resources” on the Tiered System of Supports webpage. Resources include the Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity and the National Center on Intensive Intervention’s Tools Chart, as well as professional learning modules for implementing Georgia’s Tiered System of Supports for Students. Georgia’s Tiered System of Supports for Students is hosting another in-service in January that will focus on Progress Monitoring. Registration details will be announced on our webpage in December.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Carson Cochran, ccochran@doe.k12.ga.us

**IDEAS 2019 Conference**

The annual Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) will be held June 3-7, 2019 at Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, GA. Be sure to save the date for this exciting event. Information about the conference is located on the IDEAS web page.
SOCIAL STUDIES

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

Picturing History Retreat Registration is now OPEN

Thursday, June 20 – Friday, June 21, 2019

Picturing History: Using Great Children’s Literature to Spark Inquiry in Social Studies K-12

This read alouds retreat will connect educators with professional authors and illustrators. Held at Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, nestled in the beautiful mountains of North Georgia, we expect this retreat to fill quickly. There is limited space available; hotel and registration information coming soon.

- Learn More

Register for Upcoming Workshops

Inquiry: the Antidote for Feeling MEH in Social Studies Classrooms

In this interactive session, work with Joy Hatcher, GaDOE Social Studies Program Manager, to meet your daily dose of inquiry and keep students on their mental toes. Ideas and resources for infusing inquiry and banishing apathy in grades 6-12 will be shared; bring your own and take home some new ones.

3rd and 4th Grade History Refresher 101 Workshops

Join grade-level colleagues in this lively, hands-on crash course on topics in U.S. History. We will model use of engaging inquiry strategies and resources while reinforcing and extending the content knowledge needed to teach the new Social Studies GSE. The workshop is facilitated by GaDOE Social Studies Program Specialist JoAnn Wood.

Let’s Get Visual! Inquiry Based Instructional Activities that SWIRL

Explicitly teaching Visual Literacy in social studies increases engagement and allows students to make connections between their lives and history. This workshop will teach you how to: build visual literacy with visual journals, enhance your inquiry lessons, and incorporate the art standards with your existing lessons to create personal meaning for students. You do not have to be “good” at art to attend this workshop! The workshop, facilitated by GaDOE Social Studies - Joy Hatcher, JoAnn Wood & GaDOE Fine Arts - Jessica Booth, is appropriate for teachers and school, district and RESA leaders or any combination of those. Activities will be shared and modeled for K-12.

- Available Dates and Registration Information
Curriculum & Instruction Updates

CTAE

Trudy Smith, trsmith@doe.k12.ga.us

CTAE Directors, Educators and Students Upcoming Events

During the months of November and December each of the program area specialists will be following up with teachers who attended workshops and conferences to assist with completing the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year. However, if there are additional questions or information needed, please contact your program specialist at the GaDOE.

Additionally, student organizations will be hosting a variety of student leadership and competitive events during November and December. Throughout the events students compete in different events in their region of Georgia. The Georgia CTSO website can be utilized for more information on upcoming events and competitions. Upcoming Events:

Microsoft Imagine Academy Overview & Updates

- Columbus - November 29
- Athens - November 30

Let’s Finish the Year Strong

- New Teachers’ Follow Up (Fort Valley) - December 4
- Counselors’ Follow Up (Macon) - December 4

DECA Region Testing

- November 8 – December 11

FBLA Region Skills & Online Testing

- November 29 – December 5

For Your Information

College Board Opportunity Scholarships

To support families and students entering college, the College Board introduced the College Board Opportunity Scholarships, a first-of-its-kind national scholarship program. Students can sign up at CB.org/Opportunity. The program officially launches in December. However, students can start today by going to the Operation Inspiration program.

National Center for Civil and Human Rights - Operation Inspiration Program

The Center for Civil and Human Rights wants to ensure that Georgia’s students can experience inspirational exhibits, regardless of ability to pay. Through a partnership with corporate and foundation partners, the Center provides admission and/or transportation to qualifying schools. Operation Inspiration provides FREE admission to students currently attending Title I schools in the State of Georgia. (The school must furnish proof of its Title I standing.)

- More Information

For questions regarding the Operation Inspiration program, contact Lisle Dorsey, Group Sales Manager.

FoodFinder Poster for Schools

Would you like to help your students get food outside of school if they don’t have enough at home?

To ensure that students on free/reduced lunch continue to have food over the upcoming holiday breaks, please consider utilizing the FoodFinder platform, which was founded by a Georgia public-school student.

- Learn More
- FoodFinder Printable Poster
- FoodFinder Printable Poster - Spanish Version
**College Readiness & Talent Development**

**The Advanced Placement Teacher Training Grant**

The College Readiness division is now accepting applications for the Advanced Placement (AP) Teacher Training Grant. As part of GaDOE’s commitment to offering college-level courses to students across the state, the AP Teacher Training Grant will provide financial support for teachers to receive training in specified AP courses during the summer of 2019. Local school districts may apply for a grant to fund AP teacher training in up to three courses per school. Funding is to cover costs, or to partially cover costs, of training expenses including registration, travel (based on current state rate per mile), meals and lodging, if necessary. The grant award may not be used for supplies, classroom resources, or stipends. The grant may only be used to train classroom teachers, not administrators. Applications were sent to district leaders; for more information contact Alison Coker acoker@doe.k12.ga.us.

**College Board Changes in 2019**

The College Board is launching some new features for the AP Program beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Changes include a new electronic platform and resources for students and teachers, and a new ordering process and deadline schedule for exams.

- **More Information**

**ESOL**

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

**Identifying Gifted ELs**

The National Center for Research on Gifted Education (NCRGE) offers 15 Tips for Identifying Gifted ELs. The [entire document](#) is available on their website. Also available from NCRGE is an [exploratory study on identifying English learners for Gifted and Talented](#).

**Upcoming Conferences**

- **18th KSU Annual ESOL Conference**
  February 5-7, 2019
  KSU Center, Kennesaw
  [Conference Website](#)

- **Impacting Student Learning Conference**
  March 2, 2019
  Summerville Campus at Augusta University, Augusta
  [Conference Website](#)

- **Georgia Middle School Association 41st Annual Conference**
  March 3-5, 2019
  Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville
  [Conference Website](#)

- **TESOL International Convention and Language Expo**
  March 12-15, 2019
  Atlanta, GA
  [Conference Website](#)