Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
“Making Education Work for All Georgians”

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) Monthly Update

April 7, 2014

To Join the CIA Webinar (Live Session): Use the Link Below

https://sas.elluminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.7EB4D004ECAE242467C89345769C44

To Access the Recording: Use the Link Below

https://sas.elluminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.7E92F426E81E02AF1A5B72B3D7E752&sid=2012003
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) Monthly Update
April 7, 2014

Contacts: Pam Smith, Director (pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us) or (404) 463-4141
Randy Lee, Program Specialist (rlee@doe.k12.ga.us) or (404) 656-0476

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Contact: Pam Smith (pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us)

State Board of Education Rule:

- On April 3, 2014, the State Board of Education approved the amendments to SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.20 LIST OF STATE-FUNDED K-8 SUBJECTS AND 9-12 COURSES FOR STUDENTS ENTERING NINTH GRADE IN 2008 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS. Rule amendments become effective 20 days after approval. In this case the effective date will be April 23, 2014. The updated Rule will be posted to the policy webpage for Rules at http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/State-Board-of-Education/Pages/PEABoardRules.aspx
- The Summary of Changes is attached to this newsletter and will be posted to the Standards and Curriculum webpage under Announcements at http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/default.aspx

State Board of Education Approves Rule to Implement New Teacher and Leader Evaluation Measures

Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) and Leader Keys Effectiveness System (LKES) use measures of student achievement and student growth

MEDIA CONTACT: Matt Cardoza, GaDOE Communications Office, (404) 651-7358, mcardoza@gadoe.org
Follow us on Twitter and Facebook
April 3, 2014 – The State Board of Education adopted a new rule at its April meeting, establishing that all school systems and charter schools will implement the Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) and Leader Keys Effectiveness System (LKES) by the 2014-2015 school year. State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1 .37 meets the requirements of House Bill 244, passed in 2013, which requires the Department of Education to establish a teacher and leader evaluation process that is fully implemented by 2014-15.

CTAE Pathway Courses:
- Additional Pathway courses for CTAE clusters were approved for posting. See the CTAE and Policy webpages for the survey link for your review and feedback.
CTAE Webpage:
http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/default.aspx
GAESP, GAMSP, and GaDOE Spring Conference: (See attached UPDATED flyer)

- Register for the May 1, 2014, one-day drive-in Spring Leadership Conference for Elementary and Middle School Principals and instructional leaders. Location: Anderson Conference Center in Macon
- Agenda items:
  - Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
  - GaDOE Assessment
  - CCRPI
  - Teacher Keys Effectiveness System and Leader Keys Effectiveness System
  - Curriculum and Instruction with Dr. Mike Buck, GaDOE Chief of Staff/Chief Academic Officer
  - Harvey “Smokey” Daniels: Nationally recognized professional learning facilitator will be providing an engaging professional learning session focused on reading and writing and the instructional leader.

Registration information is posted via the GAESP website. [http://www.gael.org/gael/calendar_and_conferences](http://www.gael.org/gael/calendar_and_conferences) or Contact Hal Beaver at hal@gael.org.

| GAESP/GAMSP/DOE One-Day Drive-In | May 1 | Macon, GA | REGISTER NOW |
Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS)

Contact: Pam Smith (pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us)

2014 Mathematics and ELA Summer Academies:
Please send your district point/s of contact for the 2014 Mathematics and ELA Summer Academies to Sandi Woodall for mathematics at swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us and Carolyn Waters for ELA at cwaters@doe.k12.ga.us.

Common Core Update:

2014 Review and Evaluation of Common Core Georgia Performance Standards

Governor Deal has asked the State Board of Education (SBOE) to oversee a review and evaluation of the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) in English/Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. This is an invitation and opportunity for superintendents, teachers, principals, curriculum directors, etc., to offer specific suggestions related to the revision of Georgia’s current standards. Because of your knowledge and expertise of Georgia’s standards, it is critical that we have your input in this process. Please provide us with your specific recommendations regarding the content, wording, and sequencing of the standards as well as your thoughts regarding what should remain unchanged.

A Steering Committee which will include Georgia ELA and Mathematics experts from K-12 and higher education will be formed to react to the suggested revisions and subsequently oversee the development of refined standards to be presented to the SBOE for approval.

We value your input as we work to ensure that Georgia’s standards for ELA and Mathematics represent an exemplary model for preparing students for college and career. Unlike a survey with limited response options, we are providing an open-ended opportunity for your candid comments. Please submit your input electronically to the Policy Division at the Georgia Department of Education by June 30, 2014. See the following link to the Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CG7NBQW

1) What are your general thoughts about Georgia’s current standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics?
2) Are there standards that would be more appropriate at a different grade level? If so, which standards need to be shifted to a different grade level? Please include a rationale for your recommendation/s.
3) Are there standards that need to be added? If so, which standards need to be added and at what grade level? Please include a rationale for your recommendation/s.
4) Are there standards that need to be deleted? If so, which standards need to be deleted? Please include a rationale for your recommendation/s.
5) Are there standards that need to be reworded for clarity and understanding? If so, which standards need to be reworded? Please include a rationale for your recommendation/s.
6) Comments:
Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)

Contact: CTAE Director, David Turner (dturner@doe.k12.ga.us)

CTAE Pathway Courses:
- Additional Pathway courses for CTAE clusters were approved for posting. See the CTAE and Policy webpages for the survey link for your review and feedback.

CTAE Webpage:
http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/default.asp
English Language Arts (ELA)
Contact: Carolyn Waters (cwaters@doe.k12.ga.us) or 404-463-1933
Laura Hooven (lhooven@doe.k12.ga.us) or 404-656-0675
Stephanie Sanders (ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us) or 404-657-9811

Welcome:
The new English Language Arts team in the division of Curriculum and Instruction has received a warm welcome to the DOE. We have met with other divisions at the DOE in order to establish strong relationships and help to “get the word out” to our teachers about the rich reservoir of resources that are available from the DOE to enrich their classroom instruction. Additionally, we are partnering with our RESA members and the ELA Advisory Committee to assess the needs of our teachers and to evaluate the resources we have in order to determine our “next steps.” Please urge your teachers to sign up for our List Serve (links appear below) so that they can get copies of The ELA Reporter and other important links to instructional strategies, professional research, updates, videos, and other valuable information. We also want to encourage you and your teachers to keep your eye on the vision of “Making Education Work for All Georgians” and to increase the rigor and relevance of instruction in every classroom.

Professional Learning (See Attached Flyer)
2014 ELA Summer Academies – “Teachers: Classroom Change Agents”
Please let your teachers know about the 2014 ELA Summer Academies 2014. Our theme for this year showcases “Teachers: Classroom Change Agents.” With the help and support from our state RESAs and Georgia teachers, we will be able to provide useful professional learning and instructional support for ELA teachers. The Summer Academies will be conducted in June and July at the following locations around the state:

- June 3-4 Kennesaw State University Continuing Ed Center, Kennesaw, GA
- June 11-12 Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah, GA
- June 16-17 Middle Georgia State College – Macon Campus, Macon, GA
- June 23 -24 Darton State College, Albany, GA
- July 14-15 UGA Conference Center, Athens, GA
- July 21-22 Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, GA

Young Georgia Authors
Contact: Kathleen McKenzie, President of Georgia Council of Teachers of English
The Georgia Council of Teachers of English (GCTE) will be facilitating the Young Georgia Authors’ contest again this year 2013-2014. Information appears on the GCTE Web site (linked below). The GaDOE will also include communication on the ELA Program Page. The state winners will be named from 3rd through 12th grade only, but districts may still include K-2 and name the students as district winners. It is important to include these early grade levels, for it affords an exciting opportunity to encourage these young students to love writing! Thank you for your part in celebrating the importance of the written word.
Available ELA Resources:


CCGPS ELA Resources and Professional Learning Opportunities at:  https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA.aspx2

Content Literacy Resources and Professional Learning Opportunities at:  https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/CCGPS_Literacy.aspx

Wikis:
High School Wiki:  http://elaccgps9-12.wikispaces.com/
Middle School Wiki:  http://georgiaelaccgps6-8.wikispaces.com/
Elementary School Wiki:  http://georgiaelaccgpsk-5.wikispaces.com/

Twitter:  @gadoeela

Subscribe to our newsletter at:
ELA K-5  Join-ela-k-5@list.doe.k12.ga.us
ELA 6-8  Join-ela-6-8@list.doe.k12.ga.us
ELA 9-12  Join-ela-9-12@list.doe.k12.ga.us
ELA District Support  Join-ela-districtsupport@list.doe.k12.ga.us
ELA Administrators  Join-ela-admin@list.doe.k12.ga.us

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

ELA Sample Unit Frameworks – The Unit One sample framework of instructional material from each grade level has been upgraded based on the feedback received from users and the parameters of the Tri-State Rubric for Common Core unit planning. Resources connected to the units have not changed. The revised units have been posted on the Wikis (see links above). These units are for exemplar purposes only. Implementation at the local level is entirely optional. The units that were created are made available in editable format so that texts and lessons may be replaced or substituted if desired. Revised and/or new original sample units of instruction are presently posted on the wikis.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Literacy Design Collaborative - The GaDOE trained over a hundred teachers on Literacy Design Collaborative (http://www.literacydesigncollaborative.org/) in Savannah, GA last spring, and sessions will again be offered to teachers at the Summer Academies. Contact your local RESA for additional training opportunities.
Webcasts - Our newest professional learning resources, the Common Core Tools Webcasts, are available for viewing on our GSO landing page (see link above). These webcasts feature Georgia educators from all grade levels discussing their instructional strategies and feature authentic student work along with all resources necessary to implement the lessons discussed. The webcasts can be watched at the viewer’s convenience and each features 5-8 short videos that can split into shorter sessions as desired.

https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA.aspx
ESOL/Title III
Contact: Cori Alston (calston@doe.k12.ga.us) or Carol Johnson (cjohnson@doe.k12.ga.us)
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)  
Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)  
Contact:  Laura Evans, Standards Coordinator (laura.evans@decal.ga.gov) or 404-656-4711

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) began an alignment study and revision of Georgia’s early learning standards for children birth to five years in 2010. The new standards, Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS), will replace the Georgia Early Learning Standards (birth through three) and Georgia’s Pre-K Content Standards in the fall of 2013. You can access the standards at www.gelds.decal.ga.gov. The revision process stemmed from a need for higher-quality standards for children birth to age 5 and a need for better alignment with the CCGPS for K-12. Top researchers in early childhood education conducted the alignment study that examined content, rigor, and age-appropriateness.

These new early learning standards reflect Georgia’s commitment to prepare young children for success in K-12 and beyond. They address all areas or domains of children’s learning and development and will provide linkages between age groups that will help children effectively transition to Kindergarten. The GELDS are a resource not only for Special Education Preschool teachers, but also all K-12 teachers. Roll out of the GELDS will occur in phases over the next two years. For more information, please visit www.gelds.decal.ga.gov. It will serve as a portal for resources and support surrounding the GELDS roll out and, eventually, will be linked to www.georgiastandards.org.
Calling All Innovative Educators!

Here is an opportunity to share and learn about the changing the landscape of education in Georgia. We invite you to Georgia Virtual Learning’s Summer Professional Learning Symposium at The Classic Center in Athens, Georgia, June 19th and 20th.


- Online and Blended Learning
- Data Analysis
- Web 2.0 Tools
- Best Practices for Online Teaching
- Leadership and Administration
- Instructional Technology
- Content Development

Georgia Virtual Learning invites anyone interested in online instruction and blended learning to submit a Proposal Submission by April 15th, 2014. Presenters receive free registration!

You are welcome to take a look at the preliminary Summer PLS 2014 Sessions.

For general registration information, please use the following link: Summer PLS Registration. Registration for this event will close Friday, May 30, 2014 or when all seats are taken.
Gifted Education

Contact: Gail Humble (ghumble@doe.k12.ga.us)
Health and Physical Education
Contacts: Therese McGuire, Program Specialist (tmcguire@doe.k12.ga.us)
Michael Tenoschok, Program Specialist (mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us)

CPR/AED for High School Students
SB 212 (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-149.1) as passed during the 2013 legislative session and will include the addition of CPR and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) instruction requirements to the existing high school health and physical education program in the 2013-2014 school year. Requirements include that each local board of education which operates a school with grades nine through 12 shall provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator to its students as a requirement within one of the required health or physical education courses, Health (17.011), Health and Personal Fitness (36.051), or Advanced Personal Fitness (36.061), to satisfy this requirement. Such instruction shall incorporate the psychomotor skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and to use an automated external defibrillator. Each local board of education shall report adherence to this requirement as determined by the Georgia Department of Education. The instructional program shall include either of the following: 1) An instructional program developed by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross, or 2) An instructional program which is nationally recognized and is based on the most current national evidence based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator. Each local board of education will report adherence to this requirement to the Georgia Department of Education.

CPR Information and Webinar for Teachers
Information available on the Health and Physical Education portion of the GA DOE website:

Power Up for 30
Power Up for 30 is an initiative to support 30 minutes of physical activity a day for Georgia’s elementary school students.
http://www.georgiashape.org/story/30-minutes-every-day-every-school

We are offering a full day training session with substitute reimbursement available. The training is for a team of three per school (1 school administrator, 1 classroom teacher, one PE teacher). Only those signed up and with a completed the survey can attend a training.

- We are working to organize this training opportunity for those schools
- The trainings can take place any time up to August 31st, 2014.
- We need to look at least 2-3 weeks out.
- Substitute teacher cost will be reimbursed and we are working on the PLU credit piece

Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
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2014 Governor's SHAPE Honor Roll Now Accepting Applications

For more information and how to apply:  http://georgiashape.org/story/2014-governors-shape-honor-roll

Why Apply? This award recognizes elementary, middle and high schools for their dedication to creating a healthy school environment and a culture of wellness for staff, students and community. On behalf of the Governor's Office, the Department of Education and the Department of Public Health, all applicants who meet the requirements of recognition and submit proper documentation will be rewarded for their outstanding efforts.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- March 2014 – Application period opens and criteria checklist released
- June 6th, 2014 – Application and documentation submission deadline
- July 7th, 2014 – Qualified schools notified of award status
- August 29th, 2014 – 2014 Honor Roll awardee list released and posted online

Contact for the SHAPE Honor Roll

Kelly Cornett, MS
Physical Activity Coordinator
Office of the Chief of Staff
Georgia Department of Public Health
Office:  404-232-1535
Email:  kamattran@dhr.state.ga.us

**To request an Expanded Resource Guide, please contact Kelly Mattran, the Physical Activity Coordinator for SHAPE, via email kamattran@dhr.state.ga.us or via phone 404-232-1535**

Fitness Assessment Webinars: Recordings (one hour per session)
A series of webinar sessions were led by two outstanding Georgia educators, Dr. Shannon Williams, Georgia State University and Dr. Brian Mosier, State University of West Georgia. These are available via webinar recordings. They can be accessed from the Georgia Department of Education Health and Physical Education website or by accessing the links below.

Please share this information with the physical education teachers in your school systems.

   Recorded Sessions
   1. Understanding your Fitnessgram Reports and Data
   2. Aerobic Capacity: What does it mean and how to provide instruction and activity for your students (including how to increase validity/reliability and MVPA).

**Please note recording starts of this at the 3:27 minute mark.**
3. **Muscular Strength and Endurance**: What does it mean and how to provide instruction and activity for your students (including how to increase validity/reliability and MVPA).

4. **Flexibility**: What does it mean and how to provide instruction and activity for your students (including how to increase validity/reliability).

5. **Body Composition**: What does it mean and how to provide instruction and activity for your students (including how to increase validity/reliability).
Home School
Contact: Patrick Blenke (ablenke@doe.k12.ga.us)

Home school parents/guardians are considered the school or Local Education Authority (LEA) official for most purposes. This means generally that they have the rights and responsibilities of a public local board of education, superintendent or principal when it comes to their children’s educational needs, including signing and providing any and all documents to the school should they decide to enroll their child back into public school.

If a student decides to return to your school, there is not a withdrawal form from the GaDOE. The indication that the home-schooled student wants to return to or enroll in your public school is the only notification you need to enroll them in your school/system.

Awarding credit and grade-level placement is a local school district decision. Each school district is required by State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.15 to have procedures regarding the enrollment of students transferring from a home school or non-accredited institution.

Home school curriculums are not accredited even if the accreditation agency is approved by the state board of education.

Rule: 160-5-1-.15 (b) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy for validating credit for courses taken at a non-accredited elementary or secondary school or home study program.

When a parent decides to enroll his/her child in home school, please direct them to the link below:

http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Pages/Home-Study-DOI.aspx
JROTC
Contact Gary Mealer (gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us)

- JROTC is a complete pathway under the Government and Public Administration cluster
- JROTC is to be included with local system Student Learning Objectives (SLO’s)
- New unit approvals for next year will not occur per national budget cuts
- Updated information on JROTC webpage
- Adjunct Teaching Process For JROTC and CTAE Career Clusters Webinar
  April 21, 2:00-3:00. Guest link is
  
  https://sas.elluminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.E1983FF5FC06AAA9EA8EEDBEB3D32E

  This webinar is for all CTAE Directors and Principals and they are asked to include any others at their local level they feel would benefit from the session. Georgia Professional Standards Commission will talk about the need, the approval process, salary, etc. for this type of certification to help systems address teachers for limited blocks or specialized courses.

- Operation: Military Kids, has designated April as the Month of the Military Child! They are offering some suggestions if you would like to participate this year. The following link will take you to their webpage where the information can be found.
  

  PURPLE UP! FOR MILITARY KIDS April 15, 2014. Wearing the color purple is a visible way to show support and thank military youth for their strength and sacrifices. Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is a combination of Army green, Marine red, and Coast Guard, Air Force, and Navy blue. You can select another PURPLE UP day in the month if it fits better in your school calendar.
  

  For additional ideas contact Gary Mealer at GADOE. (gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us)
Library/Media
Contact: Pam Smith (pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us)

STEM Resources in GALILEO

Several of databases in GALILEO include resources for students and educators focusing on STEM. Content includes articles from encyclopedias and magazines or journals, videos, images, and various learning tools. Many of the databases listed below also include curriculum correlation tools to help teachers and media specialists find resources to support a specific standard. Many also include Lexile scores for articles.

Britannica School Middle, High, Elementary include articles, multimedia, and tools to STEM. When you run a search for, say, cells, you will see a content list to the left of the results where you can choose to see images, videos, the encyclopedia article, and other content. In addition, depending on the topic, you may see interactive lessons and other content. Access Britannica at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zebs

SIRS Discoverer is geared to elementary and middle and includes articles on any topic, including STEM topics. They have recently added DK EyeWitness books that are downloadable. Click on the link to "Nonfiction Books" to see titles on animals, the environment, etc. There is also a "Science Fair Explorer" that helps students in lower grades find ideas for science activities and experiments. Access SIRS Discoverer at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zssd

For middle and high school students, the search box embedded into the GALILEO website searches an index of multiple databases that include articles on all topics. Depending on the topic, there may be a "research starter" at the top of the list of results, which is an overview of the topic. Access the GALILEO search box at http://www.galileo.usg.edu

Student Research Center (middle/high) and Kids Search (elementary/middle) include articles on STEM topics. They index many science-related magazines, such as Science News, Current Science, Science World, National Geographic magazines, Scholastic Math, and more. Access Student Research Center at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zbst Access Kids Search at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zbks

Professional Development Collection and ERIC are resources for educators that include hundreds of education journals and other content. While the ERIC website if freely available to everyone, we have an ERIC at EBSCOhost version that includes linked journal content that isn't available in the free version. Access Professional Development Collection at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zbpd Access ERIC at EBSCOhost at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zber

GALILEO staff are happy to answer questions and listen to your suggestions. Contact GALILEO at www.galileo.usg.edu/contact
The Georgia Library Media Association (GLMA) Summer Institute will be a major event for media specialists. Summer Institute is GLMA’s annual continuing education event and is a great opportunity for Georgia library media specialists to get together to work, learn, and network with colleagues throughout the state. The theme this year is “Community. Collaboration. Creation.” GLMA has upgraded the conference venue and program features to enhance your learning experience.

Summer Institute 2014 will be held June 9 and 10, 2014 at Dolce Atlanta in Peachtree City, Georgia featuring concurrent sessions, a mini-"edcamp," exhibitors, and special events. For more information and to register, visit http://www.glma-inc.org/summer-institute/
Mathematics
Contact: Sandi Woodall (swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us) or Brooke Kline (bkline@doe.k2.ga.us)

2014 Mathematics Summer Academy
Please ensure that your district has submitted the name of your Mathematics Summer Academy Program point of contact to Sandi Woodall at swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us as all notices and instructions for district team registration are sent to district contacts. The deadline for district team registration is April 15, 2014. After that date, we will open our registration to all other mathematics educators as space permits.

STEM Frameworks of Instruction
Eighteen model STEM integrated frameworks of instruction, which were collaboratively developed by Georgia teachers and designed to bring mathematics and science content knowledge into Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses and CTAE applications into mathematics and science instruction, are now available at: https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/STEM-Frameworks-of-Instruction.aspx. The STEM frameworks of instruction will serve as exemplars for middle school and high school teachers. We sincerely appreciate the expertise and dedicated efforts of the master Georgia teachers who participated in this initiative.

Additional Fourth Mathematics Course Option
Statistical Reasoning (27.08800) was recently approved as a fourth mathematics course option by our SBOE. The University System of Georgia has approved the course as a fourth course option beyond Mathematics III, GPS Advanced Algebra, or CCGPS Advanced Algebra for admission eligibility purposes for students who are not STEM majors. A course description and standards for the course are posted at the www.georgiastandards.org site.

The course specifically offers an alternative to AMDM, MIG, and AP Statistics for students who will matriculate to post-secondary institutions, but not in STEM-related majors. Additionally, this is a great elective course for STEM majors and could be an alternative for Mathematics of Finance for students who will move directly into the workplace or military.

A two-day professional learning opportunity for educators who will teach this course will be provided within the Mathematics Summer Academy Program at each of the seven sites this summer.

Online PLU Mathematics Courses
Teachers who are new to Georgia’s mathematics program will benefit from the introductory Mathematics CCGPS Online Course available at: http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/Resources/CommonCoreProfessionalDevelopment.aspx

The addition of an online professional learning course series Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources for Georgia mathematics teachers is underway. The self-paced courses offer a guide to grade-level appropriate digital resources. At this time, five of the courses in the series have been published at: http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/Resources/NavigatingCCGPSMathResources.aspx.

The published self-paced courses, including self-checks and course surveys include:

- Grade 3 Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources
- Grade 5 Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources
- Grade 8 Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources
- CCGPS Coordinate Algebra Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources
- CCGPS Analytic Geometry Navigating CCGPS Mathematics Resources
Please visit the **Mathematics Program Webpage** at: [http://public.doc.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Mathematics.aspx](http://public.doc.k12.ga.us/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Mathematics.aspx)

**CCGPS Mathematics Resources and archived Professional Learning Sessions** are posted at: [https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/Math.aspx](https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/Math.aspx).
Math Science Partnership
Contact: Amanda Buice (abuice@doe.k12.ga.us) and/or Telephone: (404) 657-8319 or Fax: (404) 656-5744
Migrant Education and Refugee Programs

Contact: John Wight (jwight@doe.k12.ga.us) 404-463-1857

Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX)
Is there a way to get quick access to the academic records of migrant students? Yes! The Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX) is the technology that allows States to share educational and health information on migrant children who travel from State to State and who, as a result, have student records in multiple States' information systems. MSIX works in concert with the existing migrant student information systems that States currently use to manage their migrant data to fulfill its mission to ensure the appropriate enrollment, placement, and accrual of credits for migrant children nationwide.

Who should have access to MSIX? Staff working with new student placement and records review.

In order to obtain an MSIX User Account, you must complete the online training and an application. Please go to the Title I, Part C – Migrant Education Program website at the link below and follow the directions for securing a Secondary User Account.

Link: [http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/GaMEP-MSIX.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/GaMEP-MSIX.aspx)

Follow the Migrant Education Program (MEP) on Twitter: @georgiamep

For information on the Migrant Education Program, please visit our website: [http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/Migrant-Education-Program.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/Migrant-Education-Program.aspx)

Refugee Youth and Children

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children’s Services (BRYCS) provides national technical assistance to organizations serving refugees and immigrants so that all newcomer children and youth can reach their potential. Please visit this website for a variety of resources to support these children and youth.

Science
Contact: Juan-Carlos Aguilar (jaguilar@doe.k12.ga.us)

Science Georgia Performance Standards:

- A timeline for the review and revision of the current science GPS has not yet been established.
- The state will continue to provide on-going professional learning and supporting resources for the current standards.
- Science GPS and STEM initiatives continue to be a critical priority at the state and local levels.

2014 U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl
Team registrations are now open for the 2014 U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl. For more information, go to http://science.energy.gov/wdts/nsb/ or by contacting Mr. Dirk Fillpot at (202) 287-6990.

Race to the Top: Professional Development Courses
The Georgia Department of Education in partnership with the Georgia Tech Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CEISMC) is now offering FREE self-paced online STEM courses for middle and high school teachers in Georgia. The courses focus on STEM best practices (using academic language, technology integration, problem-based inquiry learning), robotics, statistics, calculus and new 21st century STEM areas, such as genetics/biotechnology, climate science, and nanochemistry. For more information, please visit www.ceismc.gatech.edu/freeplucourses.

Self-paced courses: The self-paced STEM online courses for teachers include interactive strategies designed to help increase content knowledge and application of best practices in unit plan development and classroom instructional delivery. For more information, please visit www.ceismc.gatech.edu/freeplucourses.
- Introduction to Human Cell Biology
- Applied Genetics
- Middle School Algebra
- Mathematics in Industry & Government I

Facilitated courses: Facilitated online courses are being offered through the NASA Electronic Professional Development Network. Each course lasts 4-6 weeks. Participants will receive Continuing Education or Professional Learning Units from Georgia Tech for successfully completing each course. The courses will be offered in a cohort model, in which a group of teachers or STEM coordinators will move through all classes and phases together. For Pre-enrollment application and course information, please visit: http://nasaepdn.gatech.edu/rt3/
- Project Based Inquiry Learning
- Robotics

The Stone Mountain Memorial Association
The Stone Mountain Memorial Association offers free science and geology programs for all grades, as well as science kits that can be checked out and outreach programs. The outreach programs are only for DeKalb and Gwinnett County due to travel. For more information visit http://www.stonemountainpark.org/programs-main-page.html
The NEA Foundation Grants
The NEA Foundation provides grants to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools. The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter; and should improve students’ habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. The maximum award is $5,000. Practicing U.S. public school teachers, public school education support professionals, or faculty or staff at public higher education institutions are eligible to apply. Application deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 15. For more information, go to http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/nea-student-achievement-grants.

Georgia Plant Science Scholars (GAPSS) Program
The Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Georgia is offering some programs that the teachers and principals may find great additions to their current curriculum. They are also very excited that the Georgia Plant Science Scholars (GAPSS) program is back for the summer of 2014. GAPSS is a weeklong residential immersion into the world of plant and agricultural science scheduled for June 22-27, 2014. More information and a link to the application can be found at http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/plantpath/k12/gpss.html. Additional information regarding our other outreach programs can be found at http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/plantpath/k12/index.html or by contacting Kisha L. Shelton at 706-542-1426 or kshelton@uga.edu.

EcoTech Grants
Captain Planet Foundation is happy to announce new EcoTech grants, in partnership with the Ray C Anderson Foundation. They will accept proposals on until May 31 or until the funds are exhausted. Grants will be for $2500. For more information, please contact Karan Wood at 404-827-4191.

Workshop for Physics and Physical Science Teachers
The University of Wisconsin - River Falls, in conjunction with the American Association of Physics Teachers' PTRA program will offer a two weeks workshop for Physics and Physical Science teachers to help acquire a deeper understanding of the core disciplinary idea of force and interactions. Emphasis will be on Physics content knowledge, active learning techniques, and engineering design applications specific to the ideas described in the K-12 Framework for Science Education. The course is jointly taught by university faculty and AAPT's Physics Teaching Resource Agents (PTRAs). Participant teachers will receive three graduate credits. For more information, and to register, please go to www.uwrf.edu/PHYS/Summer.cfm or contact Lowell McCann Lowell.McCann@uwrf.edu
STEM
Contact: Gilda Lyon (glyon@doe.k12.ga.us) or (404) 463-1977

The Georgia Department of Education Presents

THE GEORGIA STEM FORUM

“Fate rarely calls upon us at a moment of our choosing”- Optimus Prime

STEM Workshops, Activities, Keynote Speakers, Panelists

OCTOBER 20-21, 2014

ATHENS, GEORGIA CLASSIC CENTER

Designed to support K-12 efforts to include STEM education in the school curriculum.

For additional information go to:

http://goo.gl/pSO1yx
The STEM Georgia Teacher’s Academy

July 7-10, 2014
Perry, Ga

Designed to develop the tools K-12 teachers need to engage students in a STEM curriculum.

For additional information and to register:

http://goo.gl/uxJXNH
Social Studies
Contact: Shaun Owen (sowen@doe.k12.ga.us)
3rd Annual IDEAS Conference - June 3-6, 2014

Pre-Conference Sessions - June 2-3, 2014
Monday, June 2, 12:45 - Tuesday, June 3, 11:45

Opening Conference Keynote Speaker - Dave Edyburn
Closing Conference Keynote Speakers - Cinda Johnson and Linea Johnson

Georgia Department of Education’s Division for Special Education Services and Supports proudly offers the IDEAS 2014 Conference in partnership with Georgia Tools for Life and Georgia CEC. The IDEAS Conference will offer a wide range of session topics and presentations that address UDL and technical and functional perspectives for all educators who teach students with disabilities.

World Languages and International Education
Contact: Greg Barfield (gbarfield@doe.k12.ga.us) 404-651-5363

Dual Language Immersion Programs (2013-2014)

Douglas County
Beulah Elementary School-Spanish

Clayton County
Unidos Charter School-Spanish

Hall County
World Languages Academy Charter School-Spanish
McEver Arts Academy Charter School-Spanish

Atlanta Public Schools
Perkerson Elementary-Spanish
D.H. Stanton Elementary-Spanish

DeKalb County
Ashford Park Elementary-German
Evansdale Elementary-French
Globe Academy Charter School-Chinese, French, Spanish
Rockbridge Elementary-French

Henry County
Dutchtown Elementary-Chinese

Scheduled to Begin Programs in 2014-2015

Gwinnett County
Annistown Elementary-Spanish
Bethesda Elementary-Spanish
Trip Elementary-French
Alternative Education
Contact: Linda Marie Massenburg (lmassenb@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 656-4150- office

Announcements

- The Special Education, Alternative Education, and the Law power point is now posted to the Alternative Education Website along with additional information.


Save the Date

- GaDOE along with the Transition Committee will present The Best Practice Framework for Alternative Education. The transition framework is designed to guide alternative education programs and schools to meet and exceed the requirements for the GaDOE Alternative Education Standards 3.1 & 3.2 and Learning Support standard 5.1. Both standards are related to student transitions which require alternative education programs and schools to provide appropriate services in a fair and equitable manner to assist students during transition, from pre-entry through post-exit.
  - *Dates for Summer Summit- June 24th and July 9th (Priority and Focus Schools)*
Assessment
Contact: Tony Eitel (aeitel@doe.k12.ga.us)

The following state-mandated assessment windows are on the State Testing Calendar for the months of April and May 2014:
- Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) (March 31 – May 2)
- Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests - Modified (CRCT-M) (March 31 – May 2)
- End of Course Tests Spring Administration (EOCT) (April 28 – June 6)
- Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS) (Closes May 9)
- CRCT & CRCT-M Retest Administration (May 12 – July 25)

The following ordering windows are open in April/May 2014:
- Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT) and Georgia High School Writing Test (GHSWT) for Summer 2014 (April 14 – 25)

The following reports will begin to arrive in local systems as noted below in late April and throughout May 2014:
- Grade 5 Writing Assessment (April 28 – May 2)
- Grade 3 Writing Assessment (May 5 – 9)
- Georgia High School Graduation Test (May 5 – 9)
- ACCESS for ELLs (May 5 – 9)
- CRCT & CRCT-M Electronic PL1 Reports & Class/School Rosters (After representative sample is reached and dependent upon local system testing windows)
- EOCT (Dependent upon local system testing window)
- GKIDS (Available after May 9 closing of testing window)

Presentations from our recent spring/summer Mid and Pre-Administration webinars are posted to the GaDOE website as noted below:

- CRCT:  http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/CRCT.aspx
- CRCT-M:  http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/CRCT-M.aspx
- GAA:  http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/GAA-Presentations.aspx
- GHSGT:  http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/GHSGT-Resources.aspx
- GKIDS:  http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/GKIDS-Resources.aspx

A recording of the recent Assessment Update webinar presented by Melissa Fincher is available at: https://sas.elluminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.E998E892053C3146D6B606C81063B8&sid=2012003.

- This session provides important information about the future of Georgia’s state assessment program beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. GaDOE Assessment encourages all to view this important webinar recording.
Formative Assessment Toolbox Update

The Georgia Formative Assessment Toolbox consists of the Formative Item Bank, Formative Benchmark Assessments and Georgia’s Formative Instructional Practices online professional learning (Georgia FIP). In concert, these tools provide educators a high quality and accurate system for assessing what students know and are able to do for the purpose of improving teaching and learning. Current information about each resource in the toolbox is provided below:

The Georgia Formative Item Bank (FIB)
Contact: Dawn Souter, Ph.D. (dsouter@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-6667

Hosted in the Online Assessment System is a bank of over 1600 formative assessment items that are aligned to the rigor of Georgia’s state-mandated content standards in grades 3 – high school Math, including Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry and Advanced Algebra and grades 3 – high school English/Language Arts (ELA) including 9th and 10th Grade Literature and American Literature. The purpose of the item bank is to provide teachers with items and tasks that they can use to assess students’ knowledge while they are learning the state standards. The bank includes items of varying formats with a predominance of constructed response items, which are extremely helpful to teachers to measure the full expectations of the standards. Well-implemented formative assessment using these items can provide teachers what they need to know in order to differentiate, remediate, re-teach and/or enrich their teaching in order to meet the varying needs of their students.

The Georgia Formative Assessment Benchmarks (G-FAB)
Contact: Jan Reyes, Ed.D. (jreyes@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-6665

The department is pleased to announce that the first phase of the Georgia Formative Assessment Benchmarks is now complete and 12 benchmark assessments are now available for all systems in Georgia via the Online Assessment System (OAS). As of February 1, school systems/state schools have the ability to use the benchmarks as a part of their balanced assessment plan that should include both formative items and benchmark assessments to inform teaching and learning. While teachers have access to the formative item bank in the OAS, only system-level test coordinators have access to the G-FABs. The benchmarks can be administered by the systems as they see fit—perhaps as a diagnostic administered in the early stages of a school year; a mid-year assessment to guide instruction and intervention for the remainder of the school year; or as a precursor to the administration of state assessments to guide last minute remediation and support.

The formative benchmark assessments that are now available include:

- English/Language Arts (ELA): Grades 1, 2, 3, 6, 7,8 and 10
- Mathematics: Grades 1, 2, 3 and Coordinate Algebra
- U.S. History

The phase II formative benchmarks which are scheduled for availability for FY2015 are:

- English/Language Arts (ELA): Grades 4, 5, 9 and 11
Georgia Department of Education

- Mathematics: Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Analytic Geometry and Advanced Algebra
- Biology

There will also be additional benchmark items for grades 1 – high school ELA and mathematics as well as grades 3 – 8 science and social studies available in the fall of FY15 for systems to use to their discretion.

The benchmark assessments are yet another tool in the formative assessment toolbox to support teaching and learning in Georgia.

Georgia FIP Professional Learning Opportunity - [www.gadoe.org/GeorgiaFIP](http://www.gadoe.org/GeorgiaFIP)
Contact: Kelli Harris-Wright (Kharris-wright@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-5047

The GaDOE continues to encourage Administrative, Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Professional Learning Directors to collaborate and share with principals the transformative and blended learning model of professional development; *Georgia’s Formative Instructional Practices (Georgia FIP)*.

The course content of Georgia FIP is based on the research of Rick Stiggins and Jan Chappius that indicates use of FIP processes increase achievement and is particularly helpful for struggling learners. Participation in Georgia FIP online learning is at no cost to a district or school. There are a total of seven role-based online learning modules for FIP practices that are targeted for teachers, coaches and leadership personnel. The online learning content of FIP supports the 10 standards and associated performance rubrics for TKES and LKES. The term “formative” is a key concept because it means that FIP strategies are used during the teaching and learning process rather than at the end of instruction. Learning about FIP strategies enables leaders, teachers and students to make more appropriate decisions about how well students are learning content standards so that next steps for teaching and learning can be planned based on evidence of learning.

To login to FIP, educators need an access code. District office and school-specific access codes to the Georgia FIP online learning system are in the GaDOE Portal Account of the district’s Test Director. There are two types of access codes: (1) administrative codes to take FIP courses and also monitor the online learning progress of staff, and, (2) learner codes for staff to take courses. A certificate for earned professional learning hours can be printed when each online learning module has been completed.
ACCEL
Contact: Pat Blenke (ablenke@doe.k12.ga.us) 404-463-1765
College and Career Ready Performance Index and ESEA Waiver
Contact: Cowen Harter (charter@doe.k12.ga.us)

In February, the State Board of Education asked that the 2012 CCRPI reports be recalculated by applying the indicators and business rules used to produce the 2013 CCRPI reports. Before the end of the month, the 2013 and the re-calculated 2012 CCRPI reports will be released to the public. Comparisons between 2012 and 2013 results will only be valid using the recalculated results. Any comparison to the “study year” will not compare “apples to apples” and will be invalid.

On April 3, 2014, the State Board of Education approved the 2014 CCRPI indicators. There will be only one change for the upcoming 2014 CCRPI reports. The middle school Exceeding the Bar indicator: Percent of students in grade 8 scoring proficient/advanced on the 21st Century Skills Technology Assessment will be removed as there is no funding for this assessment.

Additionally, many resources have been posted on Accountability’s web page. If you have questions regarding the CCRPI calculations, please view the posted webinars. We recommend that you click on the link below and book mark the page.

http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Accountability/Pages/default.aspx

The Accountability Specialist list is posted on the web page as well. For questions related to the CCRPI, please contact the Accountability Specialist assigned to work with your district.
College Readiness Unit
Contacts for College Readiness Programs: ACT, AP, PSAT, SAT

Becky Chambers, rchambers@doe.k12.ga.us, Telephone (404-463-5098)
Bonnie Marshall, bmarshall@doe.k12.ga.us, Telephone (404-656-6854)
Georgia Haygood McSwain, gmcswain@doe.k12.ga.us, Telephone (404-657-9799)

- Be sure to contact your RESA if your district has not had a team trained in LDC or MDC resources and tools! Registration for training is underway in all 16 RESAs!
- The College Readiness Unit offers the following school-based workshops:
  - Improving Student Achievement and the College and Career Ready Performance Index Score
  - Sustaining and Building a Quality Advanced Placement Program
  - Enhancing Academic Rigor in Your Instructional Program

Contact Georgia McSwain for more details
Dual Enrollment & Move On When Ready (MOWR)

Contact: Gary Mealer (gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us)

- Dual enrollment information must be distributed to all 9-11 students no later than April 1.
- New dual enrollment lists will be posted as soon as possible after new course approvals and reviews.
- Counselor and local FTE coordinators communication is critical to ensure accurate dual credit coding and proper funding.
- Updated dual enrollment documents for 2014-14 are on the Transition Career Partnership web page. Link is below.

http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/Transition-Career-Partnerships.aspx
Early Intervention Program (EIP)
Contacts: Pam Smith (pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us)

The 2014-2015 Early Intervention Program (EIP) Guidance and Rubrics are posted from the Curriculum and Instruction Home page via the EIP link under “Other Programs”.

See below for the link to the EIP Guidance and Rubrics.

Changes for 2014-2015:
- Since the Pre-K standards (Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards) were recently updated, the Kindergarten EIP Entrance Rubrics for both Reading and Math were updated for the 2014-2015 school year. All other rubrics remained the same. The word “Pilot” was removed from the documents.
- Only minor tweaks were made to the Guidance document which included front cover dates and notes and updates on the page for the table of contents.
Jimmy Carter NHS Education Program
Contact: Annette Wise (awise@doe.k12.ga.us or plainsed@jimmycarter.info) (229) 824-5843

Schools have the opportunity to participate in several upcoming events in Plains during February. If you are interested in bringing a group of students for a field trip for one of these events, you will need to book your group as soon as possible. Seating is limited for all events and will be booked as requests are received.

Field trips to the historic sites in Plains are free! Three historic sites are available for students – 1976 Presidential Campaign Headquarters (the Depot), the Jimmy Carter Boyhood Farm and Plains High School Museum. Interactive experiences have been designed to engage students in the historic resources as they learn about lifestyles on the 1920s farm, scavenger hunts at all 3 sites are available, guided walking tours and bus tours. This is a curriculum based experience that encourages active learning. Field can be booked online at www.jimmycarter.info
Learning Resources/Textbooks

Contact: Randall N. Lee (rlee@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 656-0476

Textbook Webpage Link for Updates:
http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Learning-Resources.aspx
Response to Intervention (RTI)

Contact: To Be Determined

RTI

GaDOE-GPB Video Series on Georgia’s Promising Practices in RTI
This video series is a partnership between the Georgia Department of Education and the Student Support Team Association for Georgia Educators (SSTAGE). Georgia’s Promising Practices in RTI is a five part series which includes Georgia’s RTI Leaders’ Panel Discussion and four teams representing the 2012 SSTAGE STAR Award winning system, elementary, middle and high school. This series highlights Georgia educators who have successfully implemented practices that identify students' academic and behavioral needs and which systematically address those learning needs through multiple tiers of RTI supports. The desired outcome is improved academics and behavior for all Georgia students to successfully achieve the standards of the new Common Core. You may access the videos from either the GaDOE RTI webpage or the GPB Education website:

GaDOE RTI Webpage:

GPB Education- Common Core Hub series
http://www.gpb.org/education/common-core

Student Support Team (SST)
Contact: To Be Determined

School Psychologists
Contact: To Be Determined
Georgia Student Health Survey II for Elementary Schools

Most of you are familiar with the Georgia Student Health Survey II (GSHS II) which measures student perception of school climate for grades 6-12. The GSHS II is an anonymous, statewide survey instrument that identifies school climate issues that impact student achievement. Data from the GSHS II along with other sources will be used in the calculation of School Climate Star Ratings on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). Previously, student survey data was not available for elementary schools. The lack of student survey data puts elementary schools at a disadvantage when calculating their School Climate Star Rating. To address this problem, the Georgia Department of Education worked with Georgia State University to develop a survey that is appropriate for 4th and 5th grade students.

A student survey for 4th and 5th grade students is now available. The survey includes 12 questions that are linked to school climate, and should take no more than 10-15 minutes for students to complete. The reading level of the elementary survey is grade 2.7, so it should not be a problem for most 4th and 5th grade students to read. If a student has problems with any of the wording or comprehension, please inform teachers that it is acceptable to give the student assistance. It is critical for all 4th and 5th grade students to participate in the GSHS II. At least 75% of 4th and 5th grade students should participate in the survey for elementary school to be eligible for the School Climate Star Rating.

To gain access to the survey, there is a general web address for each elementary school. As soon as the school administrator enters the web address into the web browser, a drop-down menu will appear and the school administrator will use the drop-down menu to select their school district and their school. If there are new schools that wish to participate in the survey that are not included in the drop-down menu, please contact us using the contact information at the end of this e-mail and we will add the school to the list. Also, if you have any problems locating a school with the new drop-down menu procedure, please contact us. The GSHS II for elementary students (grades 4-5) will open on Monday, February 24, 2014 and will remain open through Friday, May 30, 2014.

Please do not post the web address for the student survey on your website.

Elementary URL address: http://admin.doe.k12.ga.us/gadoe/sla/gshse.nsf/SurveyES.xsp

You may check the survey participation rates by grade level for each of your schools using the GSHS II school system participation website at http://admin.doe.k12.ga.us/gadoe/sla/gshs.nsf/SystemParticipation.xsp. Enter your 3-digit school system ID number and it will provide you with student participation numbers for each or your schools by grade level. The school system participation website is current through the previous school day. Federal law requires that the survey questions be made available for review by all interested parties; therefore, copies may be reproduced and made available to parents or other parties upon request. Please contact us for a copy of the survey questions.
Thank you for participating in the GSHS II and for your efforts to provide a safe and secure learning environment for your students. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Watson and/or Jeff Hodges. Marilyn may be reached by email at mawatson@doe.k12.ga.us or by phone at (404) 651-7179 and Jeff may be reached by email at jhodges@doe.k12.ga.us or by phone at (404) 463-7891.

Save the Date!

Safety in Our Schools Conference
July 8-10, 2014
Hosted by the UGA Hotel and Conference Center, Athens GA

Presented by:
Georgia Emergency Management Agency
Georgia Department of Education
U.S. Attorney General’s Office, Middle District of Georgia

Registration available soon!

Auburn University Anti-Bullying Summit
June 26-27, 2014 | Peachtree City, Georgia

The 4th Annual Anti-Bullying Summit, hosted by Auburn University, will be held June 26-27, 2014 in Peachtree City, Georgia at the Wyndham Peachtree Hotel and Conference Center. In previous years, this meaningful conference has attracted teachers, administrators, counselors, law enforcement, community leaders, parents and students from 20 states, as well as Canada and Hong Kong. We encourage you to attend this year’s program and gain valuable resources on how to prevent bullying in your schools and communities. This Summit has been approved for Georgia PLU credits.

Registrations to attend the conference, proposals to present at this year’s program, and Hero Award nominations are now being accepted. Information on how to register or to submit a presentation proposal/award nomination can be found on the conference website: www.auburn.edu/antibullying.

Important dates to remember:
- Presentation proposals are due by March 31, 2014.
- Hero Award nominations are due by April 15, 2014.
- Early Registration Fee of $275.00 expires on May 27, 2014 (Registration fee includes 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches.) There are also 1-day and student registration options available – see website for details.
School Counselors
Contact: Dr. Myrel Seigler (mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us)

SAVE THE DATE:

**June 2-6, 2014**—Annual Regional Counselor Meetings 9:00-3:00   Lunch Provided

June 2—Kennesaw State University, Marietta, GA
June 3—Statesboro High School, Statesboro, GA
June 4—UGA Conference Center, Tifton, GA
June 5—Central High School, Macon, GA
June 6—Clarke Central High School, Athens, GA

July 13-16—67th Annual GACTE Leadership Conference, Cobb Galleria   School Counselors will be able to register for the conference at the member rate by using the following code when registering: CCD2014. While counselors are encouraged to join GACTE, the organization promotes school counseling and career development. Please plan on attending and more information can be found at the following site: http://www.gacte.org/

Special Opportunity:
Endevvr works for students who are looking to counselors to direct them to prestigious programs that will advance their futures as entrepreneurs. We know how influential counselors can be in finding summer programs and helping students to advance themselves personally and professionally, and Endevvr wants the counselors in Georgia to know of this opportunity for student entrepreneurs. We will provide the top-tier business professionals, professors and entrepreneurs as mentors and trainers if your schools can help provide the students ready to work collaboratively on developing their business instincts into startup companies.

On behalf of these entrepreneurs, we are looking to find a publication through which we can distribute our press release to bring students to their potential. The first step is to spread the information of this opportunity, and any avenue through which we can distribute the attached release will be instrumental in our mutual goal of giving students the best opportunities that we can. Please take a look at our release to see how Endevvr can help advance the careers of Georgia's students.

As a program specialist for guidance counselors and counselors for Georgia's Department of Education, we hope that you can help us to find a place online or in counselor and teacher publications to tell of this student opportunity. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Kimberly Yates
Manager of Public Relations, Endevvr
kimberly@endevvr.com
336.337.5214

REMINDER: By April 1st, all students in grades 8 through 11 should be provided information regarding Dual Enrollment/Credit opportunities. Please check your school’s procedure for ensuring compliance with this legislation.
Dual Enrollment Update:
The links below will connect you to a page that has the new spring, 2014 Dual Enrollment Course Credit Directory. This should be used for advising students for the upcoming semester for Dual Enrollment opportunities in Technical Colleges and Schools of Georgia. The new courses that have been added since this current fall that will be used for the spring, 2014 are highlighted in yellow.

http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/Transition-Career-Partnerships.aspx

or

http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/counselor/Pages/High.aspx

If you have questions about Dual Enrollment, please contact Gary Mealer at gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us

REMINDER: HOPE requirement changes take effect for students graduating on or after May 1, 2015. Visit the following site for more information: http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/pdf/2012/Rigor_Explanation.pdf

FREE OPPORTUNITY: Camp MAGIK and Camp Erin – 2014 Spring Announcement

--A Special Camp for Kids Age 7-17 Who Have Lost a Parent, Sibling or Other Close Loved One—

www.campmagik.org

**April 25 - 27 Cartersville, Georgia  Deadline to apply April 18, 2014

**May 16 - 18 Hampton, Georgia  Deadline to apply May 09, 2014

Camp MAGIK is pleased to announce its 2014 spring schedule of healing camps for children and teens. Camp MAGIK (Mainly About Grief In Kids) serves children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or other close family member within the past three years. Camp MAGIK will provide an opportunity for children and teens to meet, talk, and process their grief with professional grief counselors. Time will also be spent on play and fun as a way to help the children heal from the experience of death in the family. Activities may include archery, canoeing, a ropes course, nature hikes, treasure hunts, hay rides, campfires, story-telling, and a talent show. Each camp will be divided into two groups, one for ages 7 - 11, and one for ages 12 - 17. There will be two camp sessions held this spring at dates as noted above. Please pick the one session best suited to you and note this on your application form in the space provided. Application forms are available at www.campmagik.org under the “join us” tab.

Camp MAGIK/Camp Erin sessions are FREE OF CHARGE for attending children. Our Cartersville camp is sponsored by generous support from Heyman Hospice Care at Floyd and private and corporate donations. Camp Erin, our session in Hampton, is sponsored by The Moyer Foundation.
Applications need to be postmarked and sent to Camp MAGIK, 3377 Ridgewood Road, Atlanta, GA 30327 or faxed to the office at 404.355.6631 by the deadline dates. Due to the high demand for this camp, we cannot accept repeat campers.

Parents and guardians – There are three (3) options for parents/guardians:

- We are offering a special Retreat for parents/guardians, which will be held at the same time as the children’s camp (April 25-27; May 16-18). The retreat will be facilitated by licensed counselors and will provide an opportunity for adults to process their own grief and be with others who have also had a significant loss through death. Parents/guardians will stay on the same campus, but separate from their children. Activities will include opportunities to relax, talk, provide and receive support, and learn more about grief and loss in a beautiful and peaceful setting. Cost for the adult retreat (children are free) is $25.00 which includes room, meals and all activities. Space for this option is limited. Scholarships available.
- For parents/guardians with more limited time, a special workshop will be held on Sunday April 27 and Sunday May 18 from 9:00am to 2:30pm. This program will help you understand more about your child’s grief and will suggest healthy ways for your whole family to manage and cope with your loss. Activities will include a classroom lecture, a cook-out, and small group discussion. This option is free of charge. All events except the cook-out are adults only.
- Parents/guardians who do not have the time to participate in any of the two options above can still have their children attend camp. Drop your children off at the designated drop-off time on Friday and pick up at the designated pick-up time on Sunday.

Camp Locations:

- The YCMA High Harbour camp is located in Cartersville, Georgia, approximately 40 minutes north of Atlanta. Free transportation to this camp is provided from Dalton, GA and Rome, GA, and Atlanta, GA.
- The Calvin Center camp is located in Hampton, Georgia, approximately 30 minutes south of downtown Atlanta. Free transportation provided from Atlanta, GA.

Specific Camp MAGIK/Camp Erin details (directions, what to bring, etc.) will be mailed to all camp participants upon acceptance to camp. For questions, please call Rene Searles McClatchey at 404.790.0140 or email campmagik@gmail.com. We hope to see you at Camp MAGIK/Erin!

Irene Searles McClatchey, PhD, LCSW
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Camp MAGIK
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Work and Human Services
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404.790.0140
School Counselors Online Professional Learning Opportunities

School Counselor Professional Learning Online Modules are being offered through the University System of Georgia’s College Access Challenge Grant. The modules are designed specifically for certified middle grade and high school counselors to improve effectiveness in preparing students for college and careers. Complete registration information may be found online: [http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/collegeaccess.html](http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/collegeaccess.html)

Each of the four (4) modules is designed as eight one-week sessions that require an average of five (5) hours per week to complete. Participants who complete a module will earn four (4) PLUs.

**Topics covered include:**
Module 1: Building a College-Going Culture for All Students; Module 2: College, Career, and Academic Planning; Module 3: Financial Aid and College Applications; and the **NEW Spring 2013** Module 4: College and Career Counseling in the Middle Grades.

NOTE: An investment of $100/module is refundable upon completion of the module. Contact Ava Baker at [CCTI@usg.edu](mailto:CCTI@usg.edu).
Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)
Contact: Hubert Bennett (hbennett@doe.k12.ga.us)
April 1, 2014

Recently, there have been some changes to many resources in TRL. Approximately 800 resources in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies have been revaluated for quality. In addition, resources are being added each day for PE/Health, Fine Arts and World Languages.

Be on the look-out for the new Curriculum Tools Tab! In the coming weeks, TRL will launch a Curriculum Tools Tab right next to Teacher Tools, this tab will host Curriculum guidance documents, units, webinars and many more resources created at GaDOE.

Teacher Access:
TRL Learning Tutorials
TRL User Guide

School and District User Access
How to access TRL

Additional Support
For more information
SLDS and TRL training
STRIVING READERS GRANT: LITERACY
Contact: Julie Morrill, Program Manager Striving Reader Literacy Grant jmorrill@doe.k12.ga.us  (404) 425-2975 or (706) 473-3159

Beverly L. Cox, Program Specialist, Birth-Grade 5
Striving Reader Literacy Grant  bcox@doe.k12.ga.us  (404) 823-4512

Joshua A. Todd, Program Specialist, Grades 6-12
Striving Reader Literacy Grant  jtodd@doe.k12.ga.us  (404) 823-4901

BIRTH TO FIVE GRANT COMPETITION
School districts who are participating in the second competitive round of funding for Birth to Five Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grants, please submit applications in Fluid Review by 5:00 p.m. on April 14, 2014.

SRCL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MODULES
New professional learning modules have been posted to the Comprehensive Reading Solutions website: www.comprehensivereadingsolutions.com. We encourage you to review the modules and provide feedback to one member of the school leadership team in regards to the professional learning modules. Your feedback will assist in developing new modules.
The survey link is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H7GZVSY

New Professional Learning Modules

Birth to Pre-K
Pre-K Assessment and Grouping
Analyzing and Interpreting Your PALS Pre-K Data
Introduction to Assessment Instruments

Grades K-5
Georgia Reading Association Presentation-March 2014
Linking Professional Development and Observation
Building Sight Word Knowledge
Academic Language
Creating Classroom Libraries

Grades 6-12
Module Introduction
Linking Professional Development and Observation
Academic Language
SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2014

We will host a Summer Leadership Institute during the summer of 2014. As soon as we finalize our plans, we will send the information to our districts.
Announcements

TEST-OUT OPTION and the NCAA FINANCIAL AID

Under NCAA legislation, units of credit earned through demonstration of subject area competency via testing out of courses using the End of Course Tests will not count as a core course credit for athletic aid for any student seeking NCAA Division I or II athletic scholarships. However, only 16 core units of credit are required for graduation based on NCAA Division I requirements. Division II schools will have the same 16 core course requirements beginning August 1, 2013. Therefore, since NCAA requirements of 16 core credits are less than the 23 units currently required for graduation from a Georgia public high school, Georgia’s high school student athletes will be able to participate in the opportunities earning units of credit through the “test out” option. Also, note that current Georgia code only allows each student to earn up to three units of credit through demonstration of subject area competency via testing out of courses.

Formative Assessment Toolbox Update

The Georgia Formative Assessment Toolbox consists of the Formative Item Bank, Formative Benchmark Assessments and Georgia’s Formative Instructional Practices online professional learning (Georgia FIP). In concert, these tools provide educators a high quality and accurate system for assessing what students know and are able to do for the purpose of improving teaching and learning. Current information about each resource in the toolbox is provided below:

The Georgia Formative Item Bank (FIB)
Contact: Dawn Souter, Ph.D. (dsouter@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-6667

Hosted in the Online Assessment System is a bank of over 1600 formative assessment items that are aligned to the rigor of Georgia’s state-mandated content standards in grades 3 – high school Math, including Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry and Advanced Algebra and grades 3 – high school English/Language Arts (ELA) including 9th and 10th Grade Literature and American Literature. The purpose of the item bank is to provide teachers with items and tasks that they can use to assess students’ knowledge while they are learning the state standards. The bank includes items of varying formats with a predominance of constructed response items, which are extremely helpful to teachers to measure the full expectations of the standards. Well-implemented formative assessment using these items can provide teachers what they need to know in order to differentiate, remediate, re-teach and/or enrich their teaching in order to meet the varying needs of their students.
The Georgia Formative Assessment Benchmarks (G-FAB)
Contact:  Jan Reyes, Ed.D.  (jreyes@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-6665

The department is pleased to announce that the first phase of the Georgia Formative Assessment Benchmarks is now complete and 12 benchmark assessments are now available for all systems in Georgia via the Online Assessment System (OAS). As of February 1, school systems/state schools have the ability to use the benchmarks as a part of their balanced assessment plan that should include both formative items and benchmark assessments to inform teaching and learning. While teachers have access to the formative item bank in the OAS, only system-level test coordinators have access to the G-FABs. The benchmarks can be administered by the systems as they see fit—perhaps as a diagnostic administered in the early stages of a school year; a mid-year assessment to guide instruction and intervention for the remainder of the school year; or as a precursor to the administration of state assessments to guide last minute remediation and support.

The formative benchmark assessments that are now available include:

- English/Language Arts (ELA): Grades 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 and 10
- Mathematics: Grades 1, 2, 3 and Coordinate Algebra
- U.S. History

The phase II formative benchmarks which are scheduled for availability for FY2015 are:

- English/Language Arts (ELA): Grades 4, 5, 9 and 11
- Mathematics: Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Analytic Geometry and Advanced Algebra
- Biology

There will also be additional benchmark items for grades 1 – high school ELA and mathematics as well as grades 3 – 8 science and social studies available in the fall of FY15 for systems to use to their discretion.

The benchmark assessments are yet another tool in the formative assessment toolbox to support teaching and learning in Georgia.

Georgia FIP Professional Learning Opportunity - www.gadoe.org/GeorgiaFIP
Contact: Kelli Harris-Wright (Kharris-wright@doe.k12.ga.us) (404) 463-5047

The GaDOE continues to encourage Administrative, Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Professional Learning Directors to collaborate and share with principals the transformative and blended learning model of professional development; Georgia’s Formative Instructional Practices (Georgia FIP).

The course content of Georgia FIP is based on the research of Rick Stiggins and Jan Chappius that indicates use of FIP processes increase achievement and is particularly helpful for struggling learners. Participation in Georgia FIP online learning is at no cost to a district or school. There are a total of seven role-based online learning modules for FIP practices that are targeted for teachers, coaches and leadership personnel. The online learning content of FIP supports the 10 standards and associated performance rubrics for TKES and LKES. The
term “formative” is a key concept because it means that FIP strategies are used during the teaching and learning process rather than at the end of instruction. Learning about FIP strategies enables leaders, teachers and students to make more appropriate decisions about how well students are learning content standards so that next steps for teaching and learning can be planned based on evidence of learning.

To login to FIP, educators need an access code. District office and school-specific access codes to the Georgia FIP online learning system are in the GaDOE Portal Account of the district’s Test Director. There are two types of access codes: (1) administrative codes to take FIP courses and also monitor the online learning progress of staff, and, (2) learner codes for staff to take courses. A certificate for earned professional learning hours can be printed when each online learning module has been completed.

NEXT CIA Monthly Update Webinar is Tentatively Scheduled For:

May 12, 2014