Deputy Superintendent Updates: Teaching and Learning
Contact: Caitlin McMunn Dooley

As we come into the final lap of the 2021-22 school year, I am sure you have been working to ensure that students have every chance for success. I hope you will also consider how to ensure that teachers and principals can be successful. Many of our educators, like our students, have dealt with grief, loss, stress, and overwhelming responsibilities during the pandemic. Our teaching and learning team has too. When planning for extra time with students, take a moment to ensure that educators alike have some extras—extra grace, extra planning time, extra time to read and respond to student work, extra time for their own learning, and extra teachers in one classroom. Consider reducing class sizes and continuing “compassion over compliance” for a while longer.

Join us on GaDOE Community
https://community.gadoe.org/
- Building professional networks by connecting with other users.
- Joining groups to comment in the feed and provide value-added replies in the discussion forum.
- Sharing resources by posting pictures and documents.
- Completing or hosting microlearning courses.
- Sharing upcoming PL events with Community users.

Associate Superintendent Updates: Curriculum, Instruction, and School Climate
Contact: Justin Hill

SECONDARY MATHEMATICS PATHWAYS FOR GEORGIA’S NEW K-12 MATHEMATICS STANDARDS RELEASED FOR 2023-2024

Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards, adopted in August 2021, provide school districts the opportunity to offer a variety of mathematics courses that support students on their individual paths toward achieving post-secondary success.

For the specific grade-level and course expectations adopted by the State Board of Education, local districts can determine how the specific expectations are organized within and between courses (i.e., support courses, enhanced courses, accelerated courses, advanced placement courses and courses that blend multiple content areas, such as STEM/STEAM Interdisciplinary teaching and learning). Find more information here.

Check for updates by Content Area:
- Climate
- College Readiness and Talent Development
- Computer Science
- Digital Media and Literacy
- English Language Arts
- ESOL
- Fine Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Whole Child Supports

UPDATES: GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM

Season one of the Classroom Conversations podcast is a wrap! This NEW podcast is the place for teachers to share and learn. Presented by the Georgia Department of Education and Georgia Public Broadcasting, each episode features Georgia educators who are teaching and reaching students in innovative and impactful ways.

Season two will launch at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year. We are excited to hear more insights and practical classroom strategies from our amazing Georgia teachers.
The first season of Classroom Conversations continues to be a great success. Episodes have been downloaded over 16K times (that number of downloads puts Classroom Conversations in the top 10% of all podcasts) and we received feedback about when you listened and what topics you’d like to hear.

Listen to episodes from season one of Classroom Conversations here

Let’s Learn GA! is adding middle school lessons. If you’d like to record a 6th, 7th, or 8th grade lesson, please submit your idea here. Let’s Learn GA! Video lessons are 20-30 minutes each, are available in every content area, and can be used as homework, for substitute plans, or for instructional coaching. Watch Let’s Learn GA! Episodes here.

Resources for Climate

Contact: Jason W. Byars

SEEKING SUBMISSIONS FOR LET’S LEARN GA! AND CLASSROOM CONVERSATIONS PODCAST

The GaDOE School Climate Team is seeking recommendations for outstanding teachers in your district for our upcoming Let’s Learn GA videos and our Classroom Conversations podcast. Our goal is to have one video of a Georgia teacher for each learning plan to showcase on the Georgia Home Classroom website. This is a great opportunity to showcase our Georgia teachers and allow them to share their expertise with other teachers. Currently we are looking for teacher videos at the elementary and secondary level to accompany the following Digital Learning Plans:

1. Active Supervision
2. Behavior Specific Praise
3. Opportunities to Respond
4. Prompts and Pre-corrections
5. Ask 3 Before Me

If you know of a teacher in your district who exceptionally demonstrates one of the above engagement strategies, please recommend that they submit a 1-2 minute video by May 1, 2022. The teacher should begin the video with an introduction of their name, school, district, and grade level/subject area. The teacher should then talk about the engagement strategy, its purpose, and how it engages the students. The final part of the video should be a demonstration of the engagement strategy in action. The video can be created on a cell phone, tablet, etc.

CLASSROOM CONVERSATIONS PODCAST

We are putting together our lineup for our 2022-23 Classroom Conversations podcast and we need your help. Next year we will be expanding the podcast series and we will focus at least six sessions on improving school climate. The goal is to record these podcasts over the summer while teachers are off-contract and pay them a stipend to cover their travel expenses. We are looking for teachers who are experts in creating classroom environments that make students feel welcome, safe, and promote engagement. Please send any recommendations to Beth Gath and Wanda McPherson before May 1, 2022.

Resources for College and Career Readiness

Contact: Mary Jean Banter

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Have you implemented talent development lessons in your schools? Many of our districts are adding talent development sessions to their primary grades to build a layer of support for potential gifted referrals. If you have not thought about adding talent development activities to your school day/week, please check out our resources on our gifted education webpage and register for our upcoming May Talent Development Model Lessons in our PL Catalog.
Resources for Computer Science
Contact: Lavita Williams

CYBER AWARENESS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

As Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies continue to expand, educating students about AI has become a priority. If you are looking to add Artificial Intelligence coursework to your high school, check out the new Artificial Intelligence Pathway Courses. If you are interested in offering AI for your Middle School, contact Bryan Cox or Lavita Williams for the Al4GA year two cohort.

Along with the growth of AI, the need to increase awareness of cyber education is growing in our state. CyberStart America is a nationwide initiative to enable all students to discover their talent in cybersecurity. According to the CyberStart leaderboard, Georgia students are currently in the lead! If you are interested in learning more information about CyberStart America it can be found at www.CyberStartAmerica.org.

UPCOMING: COMPUTER SCIENCE SUMMER IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP

Each semester, GaDOE offers the Computer Science Implementation Workshop. The workshop is designed for LEA teams to take a day to develop a comprehensive computer science implementation plan. We discuss topics like building teacher capacity, developing meaningful partnerships, and choosing the right equipment and curriculum for your students. LEAs walk away with an actionable plan and a plethora of connections and insights they can use to implement this new discipline. A team usually consists of the computer science point person for the district, a school-level administrator, and a computer science teacher, as well as other stakeholders (counselors, tech support, and JROTC Commanders). If you are interested in joining us for the June workshop, fill out the RSVP found HERE.

COMPUTER SCIENCE VIRTUAL SPECIALIST WEEKLY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SESSIONS

The GaDOE Computer Science team would like to invite you to join the weekly Computer Science virtual professional learning series. Each session is led by a computer science virtual specialist and addresses topics like computer science standards, courses, and GA’s Computer Science Teacher Association. These sessions started on April 12 and if you missed any of them, they are pre-recorded to be viewed at your convenience. You can find information on the GaDOE Community, Computer Science Group.

Resources for Digital Media and Literacy
Contact: Meghan Welch

The Curriculum, Instruction, and Climate team is pleased to offer a new program of support around digital media and literacy integration. The new team, headed by Meghan Welch, Ph.D., works with Curriculum, Instruction, and Climate content teams and special projects across GaDOE to reach teachers, students, and families in the digital and virtual space. The collaborative team also works across state agencies and has been instrumental in coordinating resources with Georgia Public Broadcasting in the Georgia Home Classroom. Meghan Welch comes with GaDOE experience working with the L4GA grant. She is joined by new GaDOE team members Oluremi Wright (Elementary - DeKalb County Schools) and Dana Munson (Secondary - Fulton County Schools). The new team is thrilled to engage in this important work serving our Georgia teachers, students, and families.
Resources for English Language Arts
Contact: Breanne Huston

ELA STANDARDS REVIEW
The review of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for the English Language Arts will move into the working committee phase in the coming months. These committees will be composed of educators from around the state with a range of teaching experiences. Their work will be informed by a number of sources, including feedback from the Citizens Review Committee and the over 10,000 respondents to GaDOE’s 2019 call for public review. You may access information about the standards review process here, including a summary of the results of the public review.

UPCOMING ELA PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Our ELA Virtual Learning Communities, led by Georgia educators, are now active in the GaDOE Community platform! These groups will focus on evidence-based practices and high-leverage practices.

For our early learning and elementary teachers, our partnership will continue with the Cox Center of Language & Literacy. The ELA Team will continue its facilitation of Science of Reading courses before each live discussion with the Cox Campus team. To register or learn more information, please click on the respective event flyer or visit GaDOE Community’s Professional Learning page.

Resources for ESOL
Contact: Dr. Meg Baker

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) INSTRUCTION: WIDA SELF-PACED EWORKSHOPS
Did you know that GaDOE provides all educators in Georgia online, self-paced eWorkshops from WIDA at no cost to LEAs? These workshops are a wonderful way for teachers to build their capacity to support English learners in their schools and classrooms! There is also an eWorkshop to empower educators to collaborate in an EL-focused Professional Learning Community (PLC), complete with resources and study guides.

Interested? You will need a WIDA Secure Portal account with permission settings for Professional Learning. Contact your school system’s ESOL Director or System Testing Coordinator for more information if you do not have a WIDA account. Once in the WIDA Secure Portal, choose Professional Learning to get started! Self-paced courses are 2-4 hours long and include downloadable resources. Please contact ELPrograms@gadoe.12.ga.us with any questions.

IMPORTANT: Participants who begin courses will want to finish them and download materials by August 31, 2022.
Resources for Fine Arts
Contact: Jessica Booth

GADOE FINE ARTS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
In an effort to meet our goal to support Georgia’s Fine Arts educators with the best content-specific professional development possible, we’d like to hear from YOU! Please take a moment to fill out this brief survey and let us know what kind of professional development topics and instructional resources you would like to see in the future. Your feedback is highly valuable and greatly appreciated! Click here for the link to the survey.

NEW FINE ARTS-SPECIFIC PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CONTENT ON GADOE COMMUNITY
Looking for a way to connect with Fine Arts teachers and administrators from across the state of Georgia? The Fine Arts Team at GaDOE wants to offer Fine Arts teachers and administrators across the state an opportunity to collaborate and connect on a new, virtual platform. On GaDOE Community, you will be able to join groups of like-minded Fine Arts educators and share valuable thoughts, resources, strategies, and encouragement as a way of professional learning. To join watch this short introductory video and create an account on GaDOE Community using your school district email address. We currently have 13 Fine Arts-specific community groups on the platform and a host of “NEW” PLC Webinars and Discussions on various, content-specific, educational topics that are being created and posted in their respective community groups: To find your content-specific Fine Arts PLC group, start by visiting the main Fine Arts PLC Group and click on the Subgroups tab to find your specific Fine Arts content area and discipline.

FINE ARTS CONSUMABLES AND EQUIPMENT (FACE) GRANT AWARDEES ANNOUNCED
GaDOE is awarding $899,420 in Opportunity Grants to help school districts expand options and opportunities for their students, State School Superintendent Richard Woods announced on March 24. The funds will support opportunities in world languages, Fine Arts, physical education, summer learning, Advanced Placement and accelerated learning. “These grants allow schools and districts to continue to expand opportunities and ensure an excellent education for students across the state,” Superintendent Woods said. “Education is more than just the core content areas, and this funding will ensure students have access to opportunities that prepare them for life and keep them engaged in school.” Out of the $899,420 in Opportunity Grants, 185 Fine Arts Consumables and Equipment (FACE) grants (in total, $300,000) were awarded directly to Fine Arts educators across the state. These grants will allow them to implement sustainable Fine Arts education instruction initiatives to increase access to quality Fine Arts education. The list of awardees is available here.
Resources for Mathematics

Contact: Lya Snell

NEW K-12 LEARNING PROGRESSIONS FOR GEORGIA’S K-12 MATHEMATICS STANDARDS (IMPLEMENTATION - FALL 2023)
This new resource provides a visual progression of K-12 mathematics expectations within Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards across all grade levels for students, parents, and educators to make connections between key concepts as students move from grade level to grade level. Click here for the new standards webpage.

NEW EXPLANATION OF CHANGES RESOURCE (COMPARISON OF GSE TO GEORGIA’S K-12 MATHEMATICS STANDARDS FOR 2023)
This new resource contains an explanation of Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards including a comparison with the current Mathematics GSE. The standards are organized into big ideas, grade level/course competencies/standards, and learning objectives. The grade level/course key competencies represent the standard expectation of learning for students in each grade level/course. The competencies/standards are each followed by more detailed learning objectives that further explain the expectations for learning in the specific grade level/course. Click here for the document that can be found on the new standards webpage.

MATHCON 2022
MathCon 2022 is just around the corner, July 19, 2022. The Georgia Department of Education invites all mathematics teachers, teacher leaders, administrators, counselors, and district leaders to participate in this year’s summer mathematics conference. The registration link and more details can be found on the conference webpage: www.gadoe.org/mathcon.

NEW MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM MAPS - FALL 2023
The Georgia Department of Education is excited to announce the release of new curriculum maps aligned to Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards. The mathematics curriculum maps provide an overview of the interactive unit topics, suggested pacing, instructional supports, and clustering of interconnected concepts. These documents, as well as other resources to support the implementation of Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards, adopted in August 2021, can be found on the GaDOE Mathematics webpage: Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards (gadoe.org).

As outlined in the new standards implementation plan, during next school year, 2022-2023 SY, there will be a full year of professional learning on the new standards for teachers, teacher leaders, administrators, counselors, parents, and community stakeholders. The implementation of the newly adopted standards in the classroom with students is scheduled to occur in Fall 2023.

Please let us know how we can support you as you prepare for implementation of the newly adopted standards during the 2023-2024 school year.
EXPLORING THE CONFLICT BETWEEN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

Have you seen GaDOE's newest lessons for 5th grade, middle, and high school? Conflict Between Ukraine and Russia in 2022 has been posted to support educators with instruction regarding the war between Ukraine and Russia. This lesson has been vetted by professionals in the field of intelligence and is designed to allow students to explore the historical background of the conflict between Ukraine and Russia and the potential U.S. impact. It is written with connections to U.S. History, World History, and World Geography and is adaptable to each course. The lesson has also been adapted for grades 5 and 6-8. A direct link to the lessons are posted on our distance learning lessons page.

WELCOME TO SOCIAL STUDIES’ NEWEST MEMBER

GaDOE Social Studies is excited to officially welcome Ashley Melville as our new Social Studies Program Specialist! Ashley comes to us from Cobb County Schools and is a wonderful addition to our team. Ashley’s experiences as a social studies teacher and district professional learning specialist nourished her fascination with disciplinary tools and thinking. She dreams of a better world filled with inquiring, informed, and engaged community members. You may reach Ashley at Ashley_Melville@doe.k12.ga.us.

PICTURING HISTORY RETREAT

Summer plans? We would LOVE to meet you in the Georgia mountains for the Picturing History Retreat, a literacy-infused read alouds retreat for Social Studies educators K-12 June 16-17, 2022. We are so excited about the talented individuals who will be sharing their work and ideas with us and think the setting will be ideal to dive into the work we love. The retreat features wonderful keynotes, breakout session options, and opportunities to share ideas with other retreat friends, old and new. Click here to register. Worried about funding your attendance? Check into literacy funds that may be available in your district since this is a literature-saturated experience.

Resources for Whole Child Supports

Contact: Carole Carr

HEALTH BARRIERS TO LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT

The Office of Whole Child Supports is excited to announce the launch of a new and improved Health Barriers to Learning & Development Toolkit as well as promotional videos. Health barriers to learning and development (HBLDs) include prevalent and persistent conditions that, when left unrecognized or unaddressed, can interfere with a child’s ability to learn and inhibit their development. These barriers include uncorrected vision and hearing problems, uncontrolled asthma, dental pain, persistent hunger, lead exposure, and developmental language and communication difficulties. This toolkit was designed to build awareness and provide solutions in the form of resources, tools, and suggested partners to support students who may be experiencing HBLDs. The intention is that school staff and community partners can use these resources through a coordinated approach to bridge these fundamental health gaps that impact education outcomes for students. Find out more at https://www.gadoe.org/wholechild/Pages/Health-and-Wellness.aspx.