GEORGIA HAS NEW AND IMPROVED STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICS

At the August State Board of Education meeting, Georgia approved new standards for mathematics. Some highlights:

- fewer overall standards and elements
- streamlined organizational format that shows the progression of concepts and practices
- examples that demonstrate the depth of knowledge expected
- focus on real-world application

GaDOE will carefully monitor circumstances this school year and adjust the implementation timeline accordingly. Adoption this year does not require implementation in 2022-2023. Together, we will support students' learning as they reach the next level of expectation and achievement.

NEW T&L TEAM MEMBER

Joining our Teaching and Learning team, Dr. Jennifer Lindstrom will work full-time to assist our state as we lift awareness of dyslexia and create stronger, evidence-based supports for students who are experiencing difficulties while learning to read and write. You can expect to see more professional learning about literacy development and literacy learning differences, including differences due to dyslexia. Dr. Lindstrom’s leadership and guidance will ensure that our students get the “best of the best” from our teachers and schools. Welcome, Dr. Lindstrom!

Finally, as you are making important decisions about resources and funding, please revisit the document called Evidence-based Strategies for Improving Learning and other learning resources provided by GaDOE for Teaching and Learning.
GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM UPDATES

Our Curriculum, Instruction, and School Climate team continues to add Georgia-grown content to the Georgia Home Classroom. We now have 300+ K-12 Remote Learning Plans across all content areas with new high school ELA plans just released!

Look for new Let’s Learn GA! videos in Fine Arts, Science, and Classroom Climate to support teachers and families. We’ve heard innovative ways (from all over the state!) in which teachers are using these resources. Please continue to send us feedback and ideas.

Are you a Georgia public middle school teacher with a great cross-curricular video lesson you would like to share? If so please visit: Create a Video Lesson for LLG! Participating teachers will receive a stipend for completed videos.

Thank you for all you do to support instruction and school climate during these trying times. Stay safe!

Innovative Programs and Research Updates

Contact: Juan-Carlos Aguilar

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING (PAEMST)

Each year, the President of the United States recognizes outstanding individuals who teach science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and computer science at either an elementary or secondary grade level and bestows upon them the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This year the program will accept applications from kindergarten through grade 6.

Anyone -principals, teachers, students, parents, members of the general public- may nominate exceptional teachers by going to the PAEMST website. Teachers can also self-nominate. The nomination deadline is January 7, 2022. Please try to nominate teachers as soon as possible to give them plenty of time to complete the application. The application deadline is February 6, 2022.

If you have questions please contact Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar (aguilar@doe.k12.ga.us) for science or Dr. Lya Snell (lsnell@doe.k12.ga.us) or Karla Cwetna (kcwetna@doe.k12.ga.us) for mathematics.

Resources to Improve Classroom Climate

Contact: Jason Byars

HOW TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO PROBLEM BEHAVIOR

GaDOE’s School Climate team in collaboration with Georgia Public Broadcasting has published a series of K-12 Digital Learning Plans to assist classroom teachers with building a positive climate. The lessons are packaged as "The First 12 Days of School" but can be implemented at any time during the school year. The goal of the lessons is to give students and teachers a firm foundation to begin the school year.

The lessons are divided into four grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Lesson topics include Attention Signals, Box Breathing, I Wish My Teacher Knew, and Dialogue Circles. Each lesson includes an "Engaging Families" section to assist with parent engagement. The lessons can be found on the GPB website at GPB.org under the Education heading and Georgia Home Classroom.

Please contact Jason Byars, School Climate Program Manager, at jbyars@doe.k12.ga.us with any questions or to submit topics for future learning plans.
Resources for Fine Arts Teachers
Contact: Jessica Booth

GADOE FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEAL APPLICATION IS NOW ONLINE

There is a NEW, online Fine Arts Diploma Seal application through which school districts can apply for their high school seniors to receive a Fine Arts Diploma Seal.

Georgia public high school students may complete a Fine Arts Pathway in Dance, Music, Theatre, or Visual Art by taking a series of 3 full credits in one fine arts subject area. Students who complete an additional fourth credit in the arts and complete 20 hours of arts-related community service and a capstone project are eligible for the Fine Arts Diploma Seal in school districts that have applied to award the seal.

The NEW, online Fine Arts Diploma Seal application deadline is rolling until February 15. Each month submitted applications will be reviewed for approval. Districts who had their applications accepted previously do not need to resubmit. Districts are responsible for submitting qualifying seniors to the Fine Arts Program Manager by April 15 annually.

Visit the Gadoe Fine Arts website for more information on the Fine Arts Diploma Seal as well as how to submit your online application!

JOIN GADOE COMMUNITY TODAY!

Looking for a way to connect with Fine Arts teachers and administrators from across the state of Georgia? Here’s 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. Join today! Watch a short introductory video and create an account on GaDOE Community.

Visit Fine Arts on GaDOE Community! We can’t wait to connect with you in the future.

FOLLOW GADOE FINE ARTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Do you follow GaDOE Fine Arts on social media? Stay up to date on all things happening with the Fine Arts in Georgia by following and using the tag #ArtsEdGa on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.

UPCOMING FALL 2021 FINE ARTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Fine Arts Department continues to offer professional development online for the Fall 2021 semester. Our goal is to provide content-specific staff development for Fine Arts educators, geared toward a whole-child education for students. Content-specific professional development opportunities include webinars, self-paced online courses for art and music teachers, and content-specific professional learning communities on GaDOE Community! Be sure to take a look at the GaDOE Fine Arts website for more information.
Resources for ESOL

ESOL LANGUAGE PROGRAM FAQS

Q: Who is eligible for ESOL classes?
A: All students who are learning English as an additional language in school because their primary or home language is not English, and who have met the English language proficiency (ELP) screener criteria to be identified as English learners (ELs).

Q: What is the purpose or goal of the ESOL language program?
A: To teach EL students the academic English language they need to become proficient in grade-level Georgia Standards of Excellence for each content area.

Q: What standards are taught in ESOL classes?
A: As a member of the WIDA Consortium, the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, 2020 edition resources guide the planning of ESOL classes focused on teaching the language goals, expectations, functions, and key language uses for content-driven language learning across disciplines.

Q: Where can I find a list of effective instructional strategies to support English learners in my content classrooms?
A: GaDOE has prepared a compilation of principles of high leverage practices for teaching English learners. Check out this resource and contact your school’s ESOL staff for more information, or email: ELPrograms@doe.k12.ga.us.

Q: Can I find information about ESOL on the GeorgiaStandards.Org?
A: Yes. Click on “Resources/Videos” / “Browse Resources” / “English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)”.

Contact: Margaret Baker

Resources for World Languages

WORLD LANGUAGES AND GLOBAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

The 8th Annual Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute took place virtually on August 28. This year we had the nation’s leading DLI researchers, Drs. Wayne and Virginia Collier, providing the keynote address. The conference featured sessions from presenters across the nation along with Georgia teachers and administrators.

Contact: Patrick Wallace
Georgia's Tiered System of Support for Students Updates  
Contact: Carole Carr

A new feature has been added to Georgia’s Online MTSS/SST (GO MTSS/SST) application. Georgia educators can now access a Tier II component of the application. GO MTSS/SST was designed to ensure alignment to the Student Support Teams (SST) State Board rule.

Benefits include:

- assists local education agencies (LEAs) in developing an educational plan designed to meet the unique needs of students
- allows users to enter student data, intervention details, and progress monitoring data
- allows users to record members of the SST
- permits users to schedule SST meetings
- records team decisions and next steps
- permits users to assign identified students to Tier II intervention and support groups
- supports users in making decisions based on students' responsiveness to Tier II intervention and supports
- allows users to select from their list of evidence-based interventions
- allows users to enter progress monitoring data for each student
- assists teams with creating a record of students identified as at risk for poor learning and behavioral outcomes

For more information, visit [www.gadoe.org/MTSS](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS) or contact [rpinckney@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:rpinckney@doe.k12.ga.us).

Resources for Health and Physical Education

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (HPE) VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Looking for a way to connect with HPE teachers and administrators from across the state of Georgia? On GaDOE Community, you will be able to join groups of like-minded educators and share valuable thoughts, resources, strategies, and encouragement as a way of professional learning. Join today! Visit HPE community on GaDOE Community. Can’t wait to connect with you in the future!

Contact: Therese McGuire

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site Resources

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK POSTCARD CONTEST

The education staff at the Jimmy Carter National Historical Park is excited to once again sponsor the Plains Peanut Festival Postcard Contest. This year’s theme is History in a Nutshell: Plains, Peanuts, & a President. In 2019 we had over 3,600 entries from students across Georgia. We would love to double or even triple that number!

The deadline for submitting entries is September 14, 2021. The Plains Peanut Festival will be held on Saturday, September 25.

- Visit our website [www.jimmycartereducation.org](http://www.jimmycartereducation.org)

Contact: Marle C. Usry
ACCELERATED SCIENCE LEARNING

Are you looking for resources to help accelerate student learning? Check out one of our newest resources, *Guide for Effective Science Instruction for All Students*. This guide contains information about three-dimensional science teaching, examples of formative assessment, student interest surveys, and core ide progressions for our GSE.

VIRTUAL SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

GaDOE has launched an innovative platform to provide the opportunity for science teachers to collaborate, connect, and share thoughts and resources as well as encouragement. We are excited to be starting our second year of these wonderful communities. Who will be leading our groups? See more about our Virtual Specialists [here](#). The sessions from last year are available on our [playlist](#).

We look forward to connecting!

**Step 1:** To get started, visit the GaDOE community website via [this link](#), select “Create an Account“ and follow the prompts for setting up a new account on the platform.

**Step 2:** Once you have completed your account you will have to wait briefly for activation/approval. Once approved, you are ready to join a group! Navigate to the Groups section. For science teachers and leaders, there are several groups available to join: Select and join the groups you are most interested in. See our *community flyer* for more information.

CYBERSECURITY MONTH IS OCTOBER

GaDOE is pleased to recognize Cybersecurity Month in October 2021. Join us as we explore various topics related to K-12 cybersecurity. In conjunction with CISA-Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, we will launch activities, webinars, and courses throughout the month of October in support of Cybersecurity Month.

**What is Cybersecurity Month?**

Now in its 18th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month - previously known as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month - continues to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity across our Nation, ensuring that all Americans have the resources they need to be safer and more secure online.

**Cybersecurity Awareness Month Theme and Schedule**

CISA and the [National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA)](#) are proud to continue using the overarching theme: "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart."

This evergreen theme encourages individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyberspace, stressing personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity.

In 2021, CISA and NCSA will focus on the following areas in our promotions and outreach:

- Week of October 4 (Week 1): Be Cyber Smart.
- Week of October 11 (Week 2): Fight the Phish!
- Week of October 18 (Week 3): Explore. Experience. Share. - [Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week](#)
- Week of October 25 (Week 4): Cybersecurity First
NEW ELA & LITERACY COMMUNITY GROUP RESOURCES

Please join GaDOE’s English Language Arts team in the new ELA & Literacy Group in GaDOE Community. As this virtual community expands, it will serve as the hub for all things ELA, including new resources, upcoming professional learning opportunities, and up-to-date information about topics such as standards and assessments. As an ELA & Literacy Group member, you will receive emails as soon as new information and materials are posted, have access to subgroups targeted to topics such as dyslexia and English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and be part of a growing and dynamic network of ELA and literacy educators across Georgia.

GaDOE Community is a closed platform that is only available to Georgia educators. Joining is easy - just follow the steps on this flyer, check back in 24-48 hours to login, and then make sure to search for and join the ELA & Literacy Group.

VIRTUAL SUMMER LITERACY CONFERENCE

The first virtual summer literacy conference is in the books! A sincere thank you goes out to our dedicated presenters and talented participants; it was an honor to end the summer learning with you.

If you didn’t attend the live days of the conference, you can still access a wealth of conference content, including on-demand sessions, previews, leader lightning talks, and classroom resources. Access the conference materials through the ELA & Literacy Group in GaDOE Community.

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR STANDARDS REVIEW COMMITTEES

The English Language Arts team has extended the nomination deadline for standards review committee members to November 1st. Candidates must be nominated by a supervisor and nomination does not guarantee acceptance.

Supervisors, please use this letter and embedded form to nominate candidates: GaDOE ELA Standards Nomination Letter.pdf

If you would like to serve, contact your supervisor and discuss your potential nomination.

NEW TEAM MEMBERS: SARAH BALLEW WELCH, ED.S. AND ASHA JASSANI, M.ED.

Sarah Ballew Welch, Ed.S., is entering her 18th year as an educator and is delighted to serve as GaDOE’s Secondary English Language Arts & Literacy Program Specialist. Formerly Fannin County’s Instructional Services Coordinator and Director of Instructional Services & Policy, Sarah has experience leading literacy efforts and community engagement events for students of all ages. Prior to those positions, she was the district’s literacy coordinator, a secondary English teacher, and a mock trial coach. Sarah spent 13 years enthusiastically (perhaps too enthusiastically at times) delivering instruction to her students in courses ranging from 8th Grade Language Arts to AP Literature & Composition.

As the ELA ESOL Program Specialist, Asha Jassani, M.Ed. will advocate for English learners’ education. Asha has experience in K-12 and higher education with Special Education and English learners. Her M.Ed. in Education Policy and Management reflects a passion for service to language learners, their families, and their school communities.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT

The ELA team is gearing up to launch a number of exciting initiatives and resources, including high school digital learning plans, K-12 virtual specialists, updated teacher guidance, and an author series for students, teachers, and media specialists. Join the ELA & Literacy Group in GaDOE Community for the latest details.
L4GA will offer several new professional learning opportunities for grantee districts during September and October. Some of this sessions will be available to all GA school districts.

**PreK-DATA DIGS for PALS and PPVT with Dr. Marilyn Lee**
Participants in this virtual training will have a better understanding of how to interpret PALS and PPVT data and how to use the data to drive instruction.

**Aligning Writing Instruction (Birth-12th grade) presented by Kevin Racynski and Associates (KRA)**
This series of interactive, 2-hour sessions will help educators align their writing instruction, grading, and feedback practices to the expectations specified in the writing standards.

**TOOL4READING presented by Mary Dahlgren-Sound Walls (4 classes)**
- Science of Sound Walls
- Phonetics
- The Phoneme-Grapheme Connection
- Sound Wall Implementation

For more information, please visit the [L4GA webpage](#) or connect with us on Facebook.

**Contact:** Julie Morrill

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**College Readiness and Talent Development Resources**
**Contact:** Mary Jean Banter

**FALL GIFTED REGIONAL VIRTUAL MEETINGS**
Talent Calling District Gifted Coordinators: if you did not attend one of our earlier Gifted Fall Regional Meetings, please join us at 8:30 a.m. on one of the following dates:
1. **NE GA RESA** - September 13
2. **NW GA RESA** - September 14
3. **Oconee RESA** - September 15
4. **Okefenokee RESA** - September 16
5. **Pioneer RESA** - September 21
6. **SW GA RESA** - September 22
7. **West GA RESA** - September 28

**GeorgiaStandards.Org Website**
**WEBSITE ANALYTICS**
The following are cumulative metrics gathered from GSO from September 2008 to September 2021:

- **Sessions:** 27,646,256
- **Pageviews:** 118,759,847
- **Average Pages per Session:** 4.30
- **Average Session Duration:** 3 Minutes 34 Seconds

(Source: Google Analytics)

**Contact:** Tony Vlachakis
MATHEMATICS SUPPORT RESOURCES FOR LEARNER VARIABILITY

GaDOE Mathematics is excited to announce the release of three toolkits to provide mathematics support resources for learner variability. These toolkits include evidence-based practices and helpful instructional strategies to address learner variability in grades K-5, 6-8, and high school. These toolkits are located at georgiastandards.org on the mathematics page.

MATHEMATICAL MEANING-MAKING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The Mathematical Meaning-Making eWorkshop explores the importance of engagement in mathematical conversations for multilingual learners. This FREE professional learning opportunity is designed for elementary and secondary mathematics educators and language specialists of English learners (ELs).

- Two-Day Elementary Cohort: September 27 and October 4 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.
- Two-Day Secondary Cohort: September 29 and October 6 from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m.

For more details, please contact Mr. Isa Sanchez.

MATHCON 2021

GaDOE hosted MathCON 2021, a summer mathematics conference for leaders and teachers. All conference materials and resources can be found on the conference webpage. We encourage all teachers and leaders to review the materials and engage in the enriching professional learning sessions to support their understanding of Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards.

A follow-up MathCON mini-conference will be hosted November 9-10. More details and registration information can be found at mathcon.gadoe.org.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM, ISA SANCHEZ, MATHEMATICS ESOL PROGRAM SPECIALIST

GaDOE Curriculum & Instruction welcomes Mr. Isa Sánchez to the team! Mr. Sanchez brings 8+ years of experience as a professional educator. He has served as a high school mathematics teacher and teacher leader in DeKalb County Schools. He has served on multiple district and state-level curriculum writing committees and as a dedicated member of the state Mathematics Standards Review Teacher Working Committee. His passion lies in his indefatigable drive to provide the necessary supports for English learners (ELs). He is a former English learner himself, and he is committed to serving and promoting excellence and high academic achievement for Georgia’s EL student population.
Resources for Social Studies Teachers
Contact: Joy Hatcher

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MAKEOVER
Since 2016, we have had virtual communities led by master teachers (virtual specialists) for each social studies grade and course K-12. Starting this year, we’ve given our monthly videos and the edWeb platform a makeover. Each month virtual specialists will provide several shorter and more targeted videos. Click here to access direct links to your edWeb community.

VIRTUAL STATEWIDE WORKSHOPS
GaDOE Social Studies is offering FREE, LIVE virtual workshops throughout the year. Check out this year’s schedule, which will be updated monthly to add new workshop dates, on our program page linked here. Don’t worry if you cannot make it, recordings will be added to our 2021-2022 workshop video playlist after each session. Our first four sessions have already been added to the playlist. They include:

- New Beginnings: A Process for Knowing Where to Start Every Year (K-12)
- Scheduling Hacks: Finding Time for Elementary Social Studies (K-5)
- What’s in a Name?: Your History/Your Story (grades K-5)
- Be the Storm: Challenging All Students in Your Social Studies Classroom (grades 6-12)

NEW RESOURCES
We’ve been busy editing distance learning lessons for each grade and course and have added several this summer. They are linked to each grade/course page with Instructional Resources and soon every grade and course will have three full lessons. We also heard from several of you that it would be helpful to see them all on one page—your wish is our command - all distance learning lessons are included on this new page.

You also asked for grade-specific resources to be located in one place, so we have included our virtual communities, Facebook group, and virtual specialist videos on each grade/course page.

OTHER NEWS YOU CAN USE
GaDOE Social Studies and L4GA have partnered with the Georgia Council for the Social Studies to provide keynote speakers related to literacy for the virtual conference this year on Saturday, November 6. We are excited to hear from Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Dr. Karen Korematsu, Christy Hale and Duncan Tonatiuh. Want to learn more or register? Visit the GCSS website linked here.

SOCIAL STUDIES CORRECTIONS
To maintain the accuracy of the GSE for Social Studies, GaDOE made the following corrections to the standards.

1. NAFTA is changed to United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) in 6th grade, high school economics and personal financial literacy, and world geography. This reflects the end of NAFTA and the beginning of the USMCA on July 1, 2020.

2. Turkey’s form of government is changed to a presidential democracy in 6th grade, to reflect a shift from the previous parliamentary democracy to its current form of government in 2017.

3. The Southern Ocean is added to the list of oceans in 1st grade, after official U.S. and international recognition on June 8, 2021.


These changes are reflected in standards documents K-12. We are still working on updating resources and teacher notes. If you have questions, email jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us.

Resources for Teacher and Leader Support and Development
Contact: Karen J. Wyler

GA INDUCTION VIRTUAL SUMMIT 2021 PRESENTATIONS
The Georgia Induction Summit 2021 soared to new heights by providing educators a virtual learning experience May 6 and 7. Keynote presentations as well as 25 breakout session presentations and recordings can be accessed on the summit landing link here. Questions or comments: Dr. Karen J. Wyler
MICRO CREDENTIALS FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE
GaDOE, in partnership with Georgia State University and the International Society of Technology Education, was awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation to explore micro credentials as a way to encourage and grow computer science teacher capacity. Three one-credit hour courses were developed at Georgia State which correspond to the first three-credit hour course of the GSU CS endorsement. These courses were ingested by GaDOE, are hosted on the Georgia Virtual Professional Learning platform, and are publicly available. Practitioners who wish to learn how to integrate computational thinking in their existing practice may take the courses via the GaDOE platform for free. Participants who wish to receive credit on a national scale from ISTE for completing the coursework may present their artifacts to ISTE and, upon successful verification of coursework, receive a badge for each course and for the complete series. Finally, if a participant is seeking endorsement to teach CS in Georgia, they may submit the badges as proof of completion to Georgia State and receive in-kind college credit toward the Georgia CS endorsement, reducing the cost of that endorsement. They may then enroll at Georgia State to complete the rest of the endorsement coursework.

CS4GA CAPACITY GRANT FY '22
The Computer Science Capacity Grant is open for FY 22! This is a one-time, competitive grant for school systems to help them build their computer science teacher capacity. 85% of the funds must be spent on teacher professional learning, including credential and endorsement programs, computer science content training, conferences, and other CS-related learning opportunities. The deadline to apply is September 17. To apply, visit the Computer Science page on GaDOE.org.

DO YOU HAVE A COMPUTER SCIENCE COORDINATOR?
With Computer Science growing across the state, many school systems are exploring creative ways to implement a CS program. Which district personnel are responsible for K-12 computer science varies from system to system. In Douglas County, Casey Bethel has been named the first district-level Computer Science Coordinator for the state of Georgia! This is exciting news as the title leaves no ambiguity to who is the point person for K-12 CS in Douglas, and reflects a serious intent to incorporate computer science for all students. Congratulations, Casey!

FALL COMPUTER SCIENCE IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP
The deadline to offer a computer science course in all middle and high schools is approaching (2022 school year for middle schools and 2024 school year for high schools). For the last several years, GaDOE has hosted a Computer Science Implementation Workshop for school systems interested in developing a comprehensive plan to add K-12 CS instruction. The next full day workshop will take place on October 20. System teams will explore how to build computer science teaching capacity, connect with industry and community partners, and select appropriate curriculum and equipment for their CS programs. There is limited capacity so sign up as soon as possible. We hope to see you there!