Deputy Superintendent Update

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP RESULTS IN FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY IMPROVEMENTS IN GEORGIA

Kudos to YOU! Between 2018 and 2019, we saw a 5% increase in students scoring as “on or above grade level” in reading and “proficient or above” in English Language Arts and mathematics. In real numbers, more than 10,000 children now have developed skills that will shape their lifetime.

Adults are working together to make this happen. Yes, students have to do the work. But they require the love and energy of caring adults. Teachers, school leaders, family members, and community partners are moving this needle—creating the conditions that support children's learning.

Georgia’s strong educational professional organizations have rallied, providing leadership as well as fiscal support, and communicating the need for a focus on literacy and numeracy. They have supported the Department’s professional learning and helped amplify the amazing efforts of teachers and leaders who have proven successes. These organizations are the “glue” for our profession. They provide the strength, community, and knowledge that we all lean on as we grow our pedagogy, deepen our content knowledge, and strengthen student services.

Our communities are joining the call—City Councils, Mayors, Chambers of Commerce, faith-based community leaders, healthcare providers. We have so many advocates for children pulling together to say “here’s how I can help.” These folks are essential to the literacy and numeracy efforts because we know that poverty can create conditions that are counter-productive for learning. The Get Georgia Reading Campaign now has more than 100 participating communities in 94 counties.

State agencies and the RESAs are coordinating together—streamlining their efforts to serve children in ways that result in improved literacy and numeracy outcomes.

Dr. Allison Timberlake and I had the pleasure of sharing these related efforts with at the August State Board of Education meeting. To assist with this statewide effort, the Department has created formative assessments for early grades (GKIDS_2.0 and Keenville), provided professional learning both face-to-face and online, created resources, and distributed over $61.5M in grants to schools and communities through the L4GA initiative.

Contact: Caitlin McMunn Dooley

APPLIED DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING

Applied Digital Skills is a free curriculum designed for an in-school, self-paced blended learning environment where learners practice life skills while building creative projects using Google’s suite of apps.

FREE! Principals, technology coaches, and curriculum directors arrange for a FREE 40-teacher training session. Ten sessions are available for Georgia's teachers.

Contact: Erin O'Briant

Computer Science

COMPUTER SCIENCE CAPACITY GRANT DEADLINE

The deadline to apply for the CS4GA Computer Science Capacity Grant is September 15. The legislature designated $750,000 for training Computer Science teachers. The grant assists school systems with building the instructional capacity for computer science in schools. The maximum award is $25,000 per recipient.

- Access CS4GA Capacity Grant
- GaDOE Grant Information
State Board of Education Update

DETAILS ON STANDARDS REVIEW PROCESS

The Georgia Department of Education in conjunction with the Office of the Governor is pleased to announce the modified Standards Revision Process for Mathematics and English Language Arts. The process is expected to begin first with mathematics during the 2019-2020 school year and conclude with English Language Arts in 2022-2023.

This process follows a normal 5-year revision cycle within Curriculum and Instruction timelines that were established for the Georgia Standards of Excellence. The core features of this process remain as they were for our most recent revisions (Physical Education, Science, Computer Science, and Health) with notable additions being made to how the state solicits and incorporates feedback from Georgia's citizens.

Three distinct committees will be tasked with ensuring the standards are rigorous, relevant and accessible.

Three Distinct Committees:

1. (NEW) The Citizen Review Committee will be composed of 20 citizens from Georgia who are either parents, business/industry, taxpayers, etc., and begin work in the fall of 2019. The Governor and State School Superintendent will each appoint 10 members to serve on this committee. An independent facilitator from the Carl Vinson Institute will lead this committee.

2. The Teacher Review Committee will be composed of content-area teachers from each grade level and represent all regions of the state. Members will be equally appointed by the Governor, State School Superintendent, the Georgia Department of Education, and the State Board of Education. Their work will begin following the Citizen’s Review Committee initial review. Work from this committee is expected to be completed by the end of January 2020.

3. The Academic Review Committee will be composed of representatives from higher education, the State Board of Education, the Governor’s office, industry experts from the business community as well as key stakeholder groups appointed by the Governor and State School Superintendent. Work is expected to begin in February 2020.

Timeline | Mathematics

- 2019-2020: Review/revision of current mathematics standards begins
- 2020-2021: Professional learning/training and updated assessments for revised mathematics standards
- 2021-2022: Full implementation of revised mathematics standards

Timeline | English Language Arts

- 2020-2021: Review/revision of current English Language Arts (ELA) standards
- 2021-2022: Professional Learning/training and updated assessments for revised ELA standards
- 2022-2023: Full implementation of revised ELA standards

MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS SURVEY

In partnership with Governor Brian Kemp, State School Superintendent Richard Woods and the Georgia Department of Education are seeking feedback on the K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence for mathematics and for English Language Arts.

- Mathematics & ELA Survey

Contact: Justin Hill
Science
GET CONNECTED WITH GEORGIA SCIENCE LEADERS

FREE to join edWeb.net! Follow these steps:

1. Join edWeb, a free online community for educators by going to www.edweb.net
   USING YOUR SCHOOL > DISTRICT > RESA > DOE EMAIL ADDRESS

2. Once you are a member, use the “Find Communities” function to search GaDOE Science Administration Leadership PLC

3. Click Join the Community

4. You will have to request access and approval is provided for Administrators/Leaders

5. When requesting permission to join the PLC, include your name and school, district, RESA, and DOE email address in the section for a personal message and tell me your leadership role.

STAY IN THE KNOW: NEW SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Teachers, we are excited to share our first science newsletter designed for classroom educators! In this inaugural issue you will learn more about on-demand professional learning, new standards, 3D, GSEs, and assessment updates.

SCIENCE AMBASSADOR TRAINING: LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Do you have a GaDOE-trained Science Ambassador in your district? If not, this training is for you! Nominate two educators from your system to participate.

Our goal is to create knowledgeable leaders in your area who can help you implement the science GSE. The Science Ambassador Program will augment the leadership capacity of science educators across the State.

- Access Nomination Form

Contact: Amanda Buice

Fine Arts
FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEAL APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APPROACHING

The deadline for new district applications to be accepted for the 2020 graduating class to receive the GaDOE Fine Arts Diploma Seal is September 15. Districts who had their applications accepted in previous years do not need to resubmit.

- Learn More about Fine Arts

NEW GADOE FINE ARTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2019-2020 CATALOG

The Fine Arts Department is serving Georgia Arts teachers by providing subject-specific staff development as required by ESSA. These courses can be booked by districts and RESAs for this school year.

- View Fine Arts PD Catalog

START GRANT REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

The stART grant is now available to assist rural schools and districts in creating and developing arts education that significantly improves student access to the arts during the school day. This Request for Application (RFA) for one time, $10,000 grants is out from August 26 to September 30, 2019, at 5 p.m.

- Access the stART Grant

Contact: Jessica Booth
Mathematics
2019 PAEMST STATE-LEVEL FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

The state review committees for the 2019 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) announced the selection of the 2019 state finalists. The PAEMST award is the highest honor bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 mathematics and science (including computer science) teaching.

The state finalists for 7-12 mathematics are:

• Ms. Rebecca Martin, Lowndes County Schools
• Ms. Julie Pinto, Cobb County Schools
• Ms. Pamela Hytower, Carrollton City Schools

The state finalists for 7-12 science are:

• Ms. Julie Godfrey, Fulton County Schools
• Ms. Megan Heberle, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
• Ms. Angela Quarles, Pickens County Schools

Contact: Lya Snell

English Language Arts and Literacy
NEW DIGITAL RESOURCE

![e-READ KIDS](image)

Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS) is proud to launch eRead Kids, a new digital library available through all 407 public libraries in the state. The collection of almost 15,000 electronic and audio books is for children from pre-K through fourth grade. There's a mix of fiction and non-fiction ebooks that can be downloaded onto computers, tablets and smartphones.

Now, all Georgia families can freely check out electronic books for their devices, encouraging the early reading that is so important to educational success. You simply need your Georgia public library card and an Internet connection.

• Access eRead Kids
• For more information, contact Deborah Hakes

PROPOSED COLLEGE READINESS COMPOSITION GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The Georgia Department of Education welcomes your feedback and comments regarding this survey opportunity for review and revision of the proposed Georgia Standards of Excellence for College Readiness Composition.

The survey will be posted for thirty days beginning August 26 through 5 p.m. EDT September 25.

• Review Standards and Take Survey Schedule

Contact: Stephanie Sanders
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Georgia Virtual Learning
GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH SCHOOLS

Georgia Virtual School (GaVS) tuition is often a subject that generates questions about funding. GaVS partners with public and private schools as well as home-schooled students to meet educational needs.

Public schools claim all students enrolled in their building, even those taking a GaVS course. If a student takes a GaVS course as part of his/her school day, the local school would pay a flat tuition rate of $250 per half unit of credit out of the state funding earned for that student. If a GaVS course is taken outside of the regular school day, the student and parent are responsible for tuition to GaVS.

Private and home-schooled students are eligible for an allotment of state funds issued annually by Georgia legislators, and it is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. After the allotment is exhausted, all private and home-schooled students must pay tuition for GaVS enrollments. If GaVS funding questions arise, please contact Margaret Thomas.

World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION EXPANDS IN WORLD LANGUAGE

GaDOE World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives continues to expand partnerships with Georgia’s international consulates and cultural organizations to bring more opportunities to Georgia students and schools. This year, we are partnering with the German Consulate of Atlanta to launch Greenopoly, a competition to create a sustainability-themed board game with cash prizes awarded to winning schools!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

GaDOE World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation and Furlow Charter School, is pleased to bring to Americus the 2019 Jubilee International Symposium on Wednesday, October 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration is free.

Contact: Patrick Wallace
Jimmy Carter National Historic Site

Houston County High School receives 1st Place trophy from President Jimmy Carter

ACADEMIC HISTORY BOWL

Teachers, it's time to gather your history scholars and start prepping your teams for the 24th Annual Jimmy Carter National Historic Site Academic History Bowl. For the past 23 years, history scholars from middle and high schools across Georgia have gathered to showcase their knowledge during this 2-day competition. We hosted a record number of teams at the 2019 competition and are looking forward to an even stronger 2020 Academic Bowl. Competitions will be held on February 25 and 26.

- [Learn More](#)
- [Contact: Marle C. Usry](#)

STEM | STEAM

Join us for the 2019 STEM | STEAM Forum!
**Location:** The Classic Center, Athens, GA  
**Dates:** October 20-22, 2019

Why STEM | STEAM?

STEM and STEAM are about more than just an acronym. STEM and STEAM bring out the best in education: community partnerships, hands-on learning, and real-world experiences designed to help students master standards and prepare for our evolving workforce.

As the state's premier annual STEM | STEAM event, the Forum brings together educators, leaders, and innovators from across the state who are united by a passion to advance excellence in STEM | STEAM education. The cost to attend the forum is $150 (for both days including lunch).

- [Learn More About the Conference](#)
- [Contact: Meghan McFerrin](#)
College Readiness and Talent Development

FALL AP REGIONAL ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS

Each fall, the College Readiness and Talent Development Team at the Georgia Department of Education offers professional development for new Advanced Placement teachers. Each workshop is designed to support teachers who have 0-3 years of AP teaching experience; however, any AP teacher who feels a need for additional support and resources is welcome to register.

- Registration

Contact: Martha Smith

GIFTED TEACHER ENDORSEMENT INITIATIVE

The Gifted Endorsement Teacher Training Initiative supports the needs of gifted and talented students throughout the state of Georgia. The endorsement will fund the tuition for a limited number of teachers to earn their gifted endorsement and will focus on providing teachers opportunities to earn their full gifted endorsement.

All online courses begin November 4 and must be completed by September 2020. The initiative may only be used to train classroom teachers, not administrators.

The Endorsement Application opens on September 4 and closes on September 19. Applicants will be notified by email by October 4. For more information, contact Alison Coker.

FALL GIFTED REGIONAL MEETINGS

The College Readiness and Talent Development team will be hosting their annual fall Gifted Regional meetings at the following locations:

- September 10th - Pioneer RESA
- September 12th - North Georgia RESA
- September 17th - Clayton County
- September 19th - Georgia Southern University
- September 24th - Oconee RESA

For more information, contact Mary Jean Banter.

NEW FALL GIFTED COORDINATORS’ COHORT MEETINGS

If you are a gifted coordinator with five years (or less) of experience in this role, please choose to attend one of two meetings this fall.

- October 28, 2019 Murray Educational Center, 4841 Bill Arp Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
- October 30, 2019 Coastal Plains RESA, 245 North Robinson Street, Lenox, GA 31637

If you are a new gifted coordinator and have not contacted our team regarding your new role, please notify Mary Jean Banter.