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

**LEARNING (OPPORTUNITY) LOSS**

Can we talk about Learning Opportunity Loss instead of learning loss? Our children have not lost learning over the last few months. Many, however, have lost an opportunity to learn what we teach in school. Maybe their internet was spotty. Maybe they had a hard time focusing because they were feeling anxious. Maybe they were so busy playing that online school seemed like a shabby interruption to what was otherwise a joyful time. Maybe they were learning something that wasn’t explicitly being taught. As the pandemic numbers retreat, vaccines become available, and schools return to a new normal, our role as educators should not be asking students “what are you missing?” but rather “what have you learned?”

This asset-orientation toward viewing our students as creators, imagineers, inventors, and idea-makers will not only help us understand what knowledge and skills they have developed, but it will also reassure students that the world is an exciting and interesting place of wonder. I am reminded of a video in which students are asked “What are the wonders of the world?” Many of them answer with “the Grand Canyon, the great Wall of China, the Panama Canal, the Taj Mahal, the Empire State Building, the Great Pyramids of Egypt, and St. Peter’s Basilica.” One child sat silently. Slowly and quietly she read what she had written: “To feel; to Touch; To See; To Hear; To Taste; To Laugh; To Love.” The class sat stunned. The teacher looked at her and a tear fell. This little girl’s ability to wonder exceeded all expectations.

When we ask students what they know and listen carefully to their answers, we may just have a chance to see with new eyes.

We also have an evidence-base to lean on should we see “opportunity loss” as the primary issue. The evidence and policy statements related to “opportunity to learn” are vast (see this, this, this). Here are a few take-aways:

1. Ensure that all students have a certified and knowledgeable teacher
2. Ensure that all students have clean, welcoming, and safe facilities
3. Provide up-to-date materials and ensure that students can take these home as needed
4. Accelerate course work offerings; don’t over-focus on remediation
5. Examine learning data to ensure that all students have had a fair and equitable opportunity to access the curriculum

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

As this T&L newsletter edition is being published after Black History Month and during Women’s History Month, we first want to highlight the wonderful resources and information offered in February and March. We’d also like to emphasize that studying Black history and women’s history can be a yearlong endeavor.

**TWO NEW SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES**

**Civil Rights in the United States (45.01960), Course Description:** This elective course is an in-depth study of civil rights in the United States. Students will explore, through various disciplinary lenses, the challenges and achievements in the march towards economic, societal, and political justice by marginalized groups throughout United States history. And how these ideas connect to a modern global society. **Effective: July 1, 2021.**

**Holocaust and Genocide Studies (45.0197), Course Description:** This elective course is an in-depth study of the Holocaust and genocide. Students will explore the ramifications of antisemitism, prejudice and indifference, the potential for government-supported terror, and acts of resilience, resistance, and valor. **Effective: July 1, 2021.**

Please contact our Social Studies Program Manager Joy Hatcher for more information about these courses.

Courses Ready to Schedule for the 2021-2022 school year.

- Official State-funded K-8 subjects and 9-12 courses for students entering ninth grade in 2008 and subsequent years (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-20)
GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM UPDATES

Our Curriculum, Instruction, and Climate team continue to add Georgia grown content to the Georgia Home Classroom. We now have 200+ K-12 Remote Learning Plans across all content areas with new Science, Social Studies, Physical Health and Wellness plans just released!

Look for new Let’s Learn GA! videos in Mathematics and Classroom Climate in March and April 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 school teacher with a great 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.

Innovative Programs and Research Updates

Contact: Juan-Carlos Aguilar

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

Each year, the President of the United States recognizes outstanding individuals who teach science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at either an elementary or secondary grade level and bestows upon them the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). In 2020-2021, the PAEMST program will accept applications from 7th to 12th grade science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teachers.

There are two award categories: science and mathematics. The science category includes science and engineering. The mathematics category includes mathematics and computer science/technology. All nominated teachers will receive an email inviting them to begin the application process.

Application Deadline: April 2, 2021 at 4:59 a.m. (EST)

If you have any questions please contact Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar at (for Science) or Dr. Lya Snell (for Mathematics).

Resources to Improve Classroom Climate

Contact: Jason Byars

GaPBIS PUBLISHES THEIR FIRST “GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM” TEACHING VIDEO

PBIS schools across Georgia, the nation, and the world agree that teaching expectations serves as the basis for effective school wide and classroom management systems. “Developing and Teaching Classroom Expectations” applies to any school... PBIS or non-PBIS, virtual, in-person, or hybrid!

To give students the best chance of success behaviorally, we want to establish expected behaviors for the classroom and classroom activities, teach the behaviors to mastery, and utilize prompts and pre-corrects to be proactive and increase our positive feedback to corrective feedback ratio. These are true regardless of the classroom setting and whether or not a school has been formally trained in PBIS. The goal is to help any educator, at any level, at any school, and in any setting, improve the safety and climate of the classroom by “Developing and Teaching Classroom Expectations”.

Let’s Learn Georgia
Resources for Fine Arts Teachers
Contact: Jessica Booth

BIG MONTH FOR CELEBRATING THE FINE ARTS!

The National Dance Education Association, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education, recognizes "Dance In Your Schools Month" by celebrating the artistic and academic achievement of exceptional students through the National Honor Society for Dance Arts (NHSDA).

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) celebrates Music in Our Schools Month (MIOSM) to raise awareness about the importance of music education for all children. This year's theme is “Music: The Sound of My Heart.” For more information and resources, take a look at the NAfME website.

The Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), International Thespian Society, and American Alliance for Theatre Education sponsor Theatre in Our Schools Month to raise public awareness of the impact of theatre education. For more information and resources, take a look at the EdTA website.

The National Art Education Association is promoting Youth Art Month, which aims to recognize art education as a viable factor in the total education curriculum that develops citizens of a global society. This year’s theme is: “Art Connects Us.” For more information and resources about Youth Art Month, take a look at the CFAE website.

CONTINUED FINE ARTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Fine Arts Department is offering all professional development opportunities online for the Spring 2021 semester. Our goal is to provide content-specific staff development for Fine Arts educators across the state of Georgia geared toward a whole-child education for our students. There are several content-specific professional development opportunities that include webinars, self-paced online courses for art and music teachers, and an informative infographic on digital teaching and learning in the arts. Be sure to take a look at the Spring 2021 Professional Development Catalog and register here for our Spring 2021 GaDOE Fine Arts Professional Development webinars.
**Georgia's Tiered System of Support for Students Updates**

**THE GEORGIA ONLINE MTSS/SST 2021 APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE**

Georgia’s Online MTSS/SST Application (GO MTSS/SST) is designed to help districts and schools facilitate data-based decision making within a tiered system of supports for students.

School systems that would like to participate in the next GO MTSS/SST Cohort may now apply at [www.gadoe.org/MTSS](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS).

Benefits of using the application: (1) it is web-based and accessible to all Georgia districts; (2) it provides real-time data at no cost to districts; and (3) it allows transfer of student data if a student moves anywhere in Georgia.

Go MTSS/SST is fully integrated with the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS).

Users can request technical assistance and support by creating a ticket through the application’s support portal.

- Complete the Application
  
  **Contact: Carole Carr**

- Fall Course Offerings
  
  **Contact: Margaret Thomas**

**Resources for Health and Physical Education**

**GEORGIA HEALTH STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE SURVEY**

The first Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for K-12 health education have been posted for a 30-day public comment period (closing March 19 at 5 p.m.):

- Review the Standards
- Take Survey

**Contact: Therese McGuire**

**Resources for World Languages**

**2021 DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION GRANTS**

GaDOE World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives, in cooperation with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education, is pleased to once again offer limited grants to support public school Dual Language Immersion programs in Georgia. This year’s [2021 DLI Grant Application](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS) is online. In addition, to support and assist Georgia schools applying to receive this grant, a program self-evaluation tool is also [available for download on our website](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS).

The deadline for completing this application is Thursday, April 1, 2021.

**4TH ANNUAL WORLD LANGUAGE, ESOL AND DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION JOB FAIR GOES ONLINE!**

This year, in an effort to assist all Georgia public school systems in recruiting teacher talent in the areas of World Language, ESOL, and Dual Language Immersion, we are pleased to offer an [innovative online recruitment platform](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS).

This website hub will stay active throughout the recruiting season and will also feature live recruiting days the first Saturday of every month. To find out more [contact Mr. Patrick Wallace](http://www.gadoe.org/MTSS), Program Specialist for World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives.

**Contact: Patrick Wallace**
Resources for Jimmy Carter National Historic Site

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK CELEBRATES PRESIDENTS’ DAY

Jimmy Carter National Historical Park celebrated Presidents’ Day by sponsoring its very first Visual and Language Arts competition. Over 300 students from Kindergarten through 12th grade submitted art, essay, and poetry entries relating to the theme: A Journey of Excellence: The Extraordinary Life of President Jimmy Carter. Grand prize winners were honored during a virtual Presidents’ Day celebration. Please follow this link to view our winning students and their exceptional work.

Contact: Marle C. Usry

Resources for Science Teachers

A NEW SCIENCE RESOURCE

Are you looking to engage and support science learning at home? Check out our new choice boards aligned to the Science GSE for grades K-8, biology, chemistry, environmental science, physical science and physics. The choice boards are written in student friendly language to be sent home and can be completed without technology! These are in the SLDS – TRL – Essential Toolkit - “How do I Teach?” section.

PHENOMENAL SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Make plans to join an upcoming session:

- How to Effectively Integrate Social Studies in Science: Let us Explore Through an Integrated Lesson (Elementary), March 10 at 3 p.m. Register
- Reading & Writing in the Elementary Science Classroom, March 17 at 3:30 p.m. Register
- Designing Storylines & Anchoring Phenomena, March 18 at 4:30 p.m. Register
- Literacy & Science Series Lead by GA Educators (30 minutes) Elementary Panel, March 15 at 4 p.m. Register
- Middle School Panel, March 17 at 4 p.m. Register

Contact: Amanda Buice

Resources for Computer Science Teachers

CS4GA COMPUTER SCIENCE SUMMIT “BEYOND ACCESS: EQUITY IN CS” MARCH 25, 2021

GaDOE and partners from the CS4GA collective are preparing for the next Computer Science Summit. The theme is "Beyond Access: Equity in CS Education". The summit is designed to convene Georgia educators and leaders to explore going beyond access to ensure that all students have computing education experiences. There will be tracks for all educators including system coordinators and building administrators, teachers, counselors, and school system IT professionals.

- Register

COMPUTER SCIENCE STANDARDS PAGE

As we continue to nurture Computer Science as a K-12 discipline, we are developing supports and resources that teachers have come to expect, while adding innovative nuances to those resources. Computer Science now has a landing page on GeorgiaStandards.Org. While the computer science page on GaDOE.org will still collect big picture activities such as the recurring CS Capacity grant, the GSO page will be used to share instructional resources. The GSO CS page boasts a data dashboard that shows the growth of the discipline over the past few years and can be explored by school system, school, and course. There is a page on the dashboard that looks at which school systems are offering which high school CTAE pathways. All of this data is meant to inform a wide range of stakeholders on the growth of CS. The GSO site also has pages for specific grade bands (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) with resources to support instruction including the computer science standards, teaching tips, exemplar videos, and more. Please check back as we continue to build out this site as a resource.

- GeorgiaStandards.Org - Computer Science
- GaDOE.org/ComputerScience

Contact: Bryan Cox
Resources for Mathematics Teachers

REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND THE UPCOMING MATH CONFERENCES!

Teachers and leaders are invited to participate in a series of professional learning opportunities. GaDOE is hosting several pre-conferences and two summer mathematics conferences. The conferences will provide an opportunity for principals, assistant principals, instructional coaches, grade level chairs, and department chairs to review and discuss the Georgia mathematics standards, engage in purposeful work to plan for the implementation of the standards, and network with other school leaders from across the state.

Registration links are provided below:

- District Leaders Pre-Conference:
  April 28, 2021 - [Register](#)

- School Leaders Pre-Conference:
  May 7, 2021 - [Register](#)

- Georgia Mathematics Summit for Georgia Mathematics Supervisors, Coordinators, and Leaders Pre-Conference:
  May 12, 2021 - [Register](#)

- Summer Leaders Conference:
  June 8-9, 2021 - [Register](#)

- Summer Teachers Conference:
  July 19-22, 2021 - [Register](#)

Contact: Lya Snell

Resources for English Language Arts

In her 1993 Nobel Lecture, Toni Morrison said, “Language alone protects us from the scariness of things with no names. Language alone is meditation.” As we settle into this new year, our ELA team is contemplating the power of language and our role in offering support to those of you most connected to Georgia’s students.

We know you have not only been educators during this time of uncertainty but also advocates, troubleshooters, rethinkers, technicians, researchers, and encouragers—and we know you always have been.

We also know you are using language in creative and powerful ways as you do this work for and with your students. The stories you share with us, the outreach you do, and the questions you ask are examples of your resolve and resiliency. More than that, they are examples of reimagination.

In her article this month, Dr. Dooley invites all of us to view students as creators, imagineers, inventors, and idea-makers. We hope to do our part by honoring teachers in this same way—as the creators of joy, the imagineers of learning spaces, and the idea-makers of opportunities for learners to revel in the power of language.

To that end, we have worked with the L4GA team and the Division of School and District Effectiveness to design a series of free virtual professional learning that we hope supports and affirms your work. Educators in all roles are invited to register for the sessions and series that matter most to them:

Engage with Cris Tovani, author of the new book Why Do I Have to Read This? Literacy Strategies to Engage Our Most Reluctant Learners.

Explore digital content-area writing in grades K-5 or 6-12.

Dive deep into dyslexia.

Learn asset-based features of social class-sensitive classrooms and curricula.

Dig into your own questions and interests through inquiry and multigenre projects.

Design professional learning experiences that build teacher agency.

Celebrate students’ reading and writing.

We hope you find something here that both excites and grounds you, and we wish you a successful March.

Contact: Breanne Huston
College Readiness and Talent Development

CALLING GIFTED TEACHERS

Calling gifted teachers to join our Gifted Virtual Specialists for our third sessions:

- Collaborative Service Delivery Model Session #3 Webinar Wednesday, March 24, 2021; 4:30-5:30 p.m. Microsoft Teams meeting
- Cultivating Creativity Session #3 Webinar Tuesday, March 30, 2021; 4:30-5:30 p.m. Microsoft Teams meeting
- Resource Room Service Delivery Model Session #3 Webinar Wednesday, March 31, 2021; 4:30-5:30 p.m. Microsoft Teams meeting

Contact: Mary Jean Banter

AP 101

College Readiness launched a new, prerecorded webinar series targeted to teachers in 7th-9th grade focused on how to increase students’ success in advanced courses. The first webinar features a roundtable discussion with experienced AP teachers who discussed the expectations in an advanced course, skills students need, and other pertinent topics. In addition, our AP teachers will provide three 20-minute webinars in English, math, science and social studies that focus on a skill or teaching strategy teachers can incorporate into their classroom. These webinars can be found on the GaDOE AP webpage.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT VIRTUAL ACADEMY

The fourth and final round of GaDOE’s AP Virtual Academy will take place the weeks of March 15 and 22. AP Virtual Academy is designed to offer professional development to support AP teachers in 16 subject areas: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science Principles, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Psychology, Research, Seminar, Spanish Language, Statistics, US Government, US History, and World History. The webinars, focusing on content and best practices/instructional strategies and activities, will be led by Georgia high school AP teachers. Class schedules will be shared with AP Coordinators and the AP teacher network in early March. These webinars can be found on the GaDOE AP webpage.

AP TEACHER NETWORK

The College Readiness and Talent Development team is compiling a current list of Advanced Placement teachers in the state. We will use this list to share information and updates from the state and the College Board with our AP teachers. Please note, GaDOE will share teacher contact information among AP teachers in Georgia to enhance collaboration and communication across the state. Advanced Placement teachers may join the AP Teacher Network.

Contact: Martha Smith
The US Department of Education has released two new resources that help teachers and school leaders meet the needs of their students by using thoughtful and creative digital learning experiences. Teachers and leaders may also use the guides to support parents and families as they navigate learning from home.

The Teacher Digital Learning Guide includes insights on ways to meet the individual needs of students by using educational technology, promoting personalized learning, and embracing professional development opportunities.

The School Leader Digital Learning Guide provides suggestions to school leaders on developing a vision for digital learning and to help consider, plan, fund, implement, maintain, and adapt learning programs designed to best serve and empower students of all abilities.

Resources for Social Studies Teachers

NEW STATEWIDE VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS!

GaDOE Social Studies is excited to announce seven new statewide virtual workshops to support #GAsocialstudies educators. All of these workshops will be recorded and added to our workshop playlist and can also be offered live for districts and RESA by request.

Here is a list of the workshop dates and titles. Click the link to see the description and register. Please share with your teachers. We hope to see you there!

- March 9
  [May the Force Be with You and also with Gaming 6-12](#)

- March 11
  [Game On! Beat the Blahs While Upping Your Social Studies Game K-5](#)

- March 25
  [Bright Ideas for Non-Text Sources: Strengthening Literacy Across Social Studies 6-12](#)

- March 30
  [Read Alouds from Soup to Nuts: Children's Literature Face to Face and at a Distance for Social Studies K-12](#) (this is a 90min session; live attendees will receive books to use in the classroom)

- April 20
  [May the Force Be with You and also with Comics & Cartoons K-12](#)

- May 25
  [Social Studies GSE: The Room Where It Happened and the (Class) Room Where They Come to Life K-12](#)

Contact: Joy Hatcher
Resources for STEM/STEAM

SOUTH GA VIRTUAL STEM/STEAM CAREER EVENTS

First District RESA Career Discovery Days, March 18 and 19th.

Register today for this FREE, virtual, two-day event focused on region-specific careers and post-secondary opportunities. This event is open to students 8th-12th grade! To learn more information and register your school, class, or as individuals.

Southwest Georgia Virtual STEM Conference

The GaDOE STEM/STEAM Department has partnered with Albany State University (ASU)’s NASA MAA Office for its upcoming Virtual STEM Conference to provide an interactive opportunity for 6-12th grade students from Southwest Georgia school districts to learn about different STEM career paths from real-life STEM professionals! Register Today!

STEM/STEAM Upcoming Dates:

March 2021 Live Sessions: Register now to attend an upcoming STEM/STEAM training. Don’t miss the opportunity to connect with educators around Georgia, ask questions, and discover new ideas. All sessions are hosted virtually and are FREE to attend.

STEM/STEAM Journaling in Kindergarten:
March 10th, 3:30 p.m.

Kindergarten teachers from Pine Ridge Elementary detail how they get their students started in STEAM journals. They will share their tips and tricks and outline how journals have become a meaningful part of their daily classroom culture.

- Register

Fannin County’s STEM/STEAM Journey:
March 11th, 3:30 p.m.

This session will explore how a rural school district transformed an elementary school to become GaDOE STEM Certified. Lucas Roof, Fannin County CTAE Director, and other presenters will describe their experiences through the certification process, obstacles in a rural setting, and future endeavors for the school district.

- Register

Elementary Collaboration with CTAE:
March 23rd, 4:00 p.m.

Join us for a session with students from Harris County High School’s FFA program. They will detail how STEM/STEAM education plays a major role in their education and how they are working to inspire the younger students to continue with their STEM/STEAM education.

- Register

STEAM & the Maker Movement:
March 30th, 4:30 p.m.

What is a Makerspace? Why is it important for education? Why should your school have one? What equipment and supplies do you need to have for a Makerspace? Come learn about Drew Charter School’s Makerspace and maker community and how it supports STEAM and PBL.

- Register
Resources for Teacher and Leader Support and Development

Contact: Karen J. Wyler

GEORGIA INDUCTION VIRTUAL SUMMIT 2021 REGISTRATION

Registration ($30) is now open for the Georgia Induction Virtual Summit 2021. May 6 and May 7, 2021 (9-12), will provide a statewide venue for quality professional learning and network opportunities to support induction educators.

Intended Audience: P12 District induction leaders, teacher mentors, building level leaders; IHE faculty members; SEAs and RESAs.

• Register

For additional information: Dr. Kathy Reese, Leader Induction and Dr. Karen J. Wyler, Teacher Induction.

PROMOTING TEACHER RETENTION THROUGH EQUITY AND INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

We invite you to join us for our virtual statewide leadership summit, “Promoting Teacher Retention through Equity and Inclusive Leadership.” As a response to the persisting teacher shortage in our state, this event is intended to share strategies, programs, and issues that are central to addressing the teacher pipeline through recruitment, preparation and retention. We will showcase innovations used in P-12 and IHE settings, and within the USG to promote teacher preparation. We want to highlight the interrelated role of stakeholders at each level with the intention of promoting scale up efforts leading to teacher retention. In this event, we will focus on:

• Inclusive Leadership
• Strategic partnerships
• Advancing a School Culture that promotes Equity

This summit will be held virtually on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• Register

We look forward to seeing you there!

GeorgiaStandards.Org Website

WEBSITE ANALYTICS

Sessions: 26,850,503

Pageviews: 116,395,818

Average Pages per Session: 4.33

Average Session Duration: 3 Minutes 36 Seconds

(Source: Google Analytics September 2008 to March 1, 2021)

Contact: Tony Vlachakis