State Board of Education Updates

DYSLEXIA AND COMPUTER SCIENCE BILLS

Following the 2019 legislative session, Governor Brian Kemp signed two bills into law that will directly influence classroom instruction: Senate Bills 48 and 108.

The dyslexia bill (SB 48) requires four components to support students with dyslexia:

- PSC-approved educator endorsement for dyslexia.
- Dyslexia Handbook for educators and parents on how to identify and serve students with dyslexia (published by GaDOE by December 2019).
- List of professional learning resources and opportunities for educators (produced by GaDOE by February 2020)
- Three-year pilot study of at least three districts that conduct assessments to identify students and effective strategies to serve students with dyslexia. The pilot study will provide important information about how Georgia can better support students with dyslexia. An informational survey is available here; please provide input by August 23. The request for applications to participate in the pilot study will be initiated in October 2019.

The computer science bill (SB 108) requires that school districts increase the availability of computer science (CS) courses across K-12 schools. The schedule for increasing availability across systems is as follows:

- 2022-23 at least one HS has a course; all middle schools have a course; all elementary schools have exploratory experiences and/or courses
- 2023-24 at least 50% of high schools have a course
- 2024-25 all high schools have a course

Georgia Virtual School (GaVS) is poised to assist in this process. Consider offering CS curriculum through the resources and courses offered by GaVS.
- View Georgia's CS Plan

Several districts have already successfully integrated K-12 computer science.
- Learn More

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERVISORS (GACIS) FALL CONFERENCE

The GACIS Fall Conference will be held in Athens at the Classic Center on September 25-27.

- GaDOE Curriculum Directors' Fall Conference Registration (Numeracy and the Whole Child)
- GACIS Fall Conference Registration (Teacher Clarity)

Contact: Justin Hill

Deputy Superintendent Update

SUMMER LEARNING

As students enjoy a summer of fun and family, you may want to send a reminder of the various summer learning opportunities and services available. Visit Get Georgia Reading to find a list compiled by the Georgia Department of Education and our sister state agencies.

SUMMER CHANGES EVERYTHING CONFERENCE

The Summer Changes Everything conference, hosted by a GaDOE partner, the National Summer Learning Association, will be in Atlanta October 21-23. Georgia educators get a discounted rate. Register with coupon code: ATL2019

SUMMER MEALS

If you know children in search of summer meals, text "Summer Meals" to 97779 to find summer meal sites. Many of Georgia’s public libraries have partnered to offer this service.

TAKE A BREAK!

Finally, enjoy summer. The school year will begin in just a few days, so take some time with family and friends to restore your energy. Enjoy!

Contact: Caitlin McMunn Dooley
MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS SURVEY

The Georgia Department of Education is launching a survey to seek feedback on the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Mathematics and English Language Arts.

Together with the Governor's Office, our goal is to lead an open, collaborative process with true feedback offered by all stakeholders – including classroom teachers and other educational leaders, parents, students, business and industry, and higher education. We ask that you answer the survey questions based on your experience with the K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence for Mathematics and ELA.

- Participate in the Math & ELA Survey

Science

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

On July 18, the State Board of Education approved the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for the following high school science courses:

Astronomy, Botany, Ecology, Entomology, Epidemiology, Forensic Science, Geology, Human Anatomy & Physiology, Meteorology, Microbiology, Oceanography, and Zoology.

The 2019-20 school year will be utilized to inform educators of the new standards. These Science GSE courses should be implemented during the 2020-21 school year.

Contact: Amanda Buice

Fine Arts

FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEAL APPLICATION WINDOW OPEN

The Fine Arts Diploma Seal prepares students for college and careers in fine arts-related industries.

Seal requirements:

- Fine Arts Pathway requires a minimum of three credits in one of the fine arts subject areas: dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts.
- Creative Industry Focus Course requires an additional full credit in the same or in a different art form or one of the CTAE courses on the list and two fine arts related extracurricular activities.
- Community Arts Partnership requires students to provide 20 hours of arts-related community service and present a capstone presentation on their experiences.

Application deadline: September 15

Districts who had their applications accepted in previous years do not need to resubmit. Acceptance carries over from school year to year. Districts are responsible for submitting qualifying seniors to the Fine Arts Program Manager by April 15 annually. Only districtwide applications will be accepted.

- Learn More about Fine Arts

2019 GA THEATRE EDUCATORS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The 2019 GA Theatre Educators Conference, hosted by the GaDOE, will be in Marietta August 23 and 24.

Workshops include the newly developed instructional resources available for Middle School Theatre grades 6, 7, and 8, Musical Theatre I, Technical Theatre I, Dramatic Writing I, Acting and Production for Film I, Advanced Drama I, Acting I, and Fundamentals of Theatre I.

By registering for the Georgia Theatre Educators Conference, you'll have access to valuable resources, a network of peers, and professional development.

Registration: May 30 – August 7

Registration fee of $175 per attendee

- Learn More
Mathematics

NEW 2019-2020 MATHEMATICS RESOURCES

New mathematics resources are available for teachers to use for the 2019-20 school year. These resources include 20 new instructional videos, newly revised Grade Level and Course Curriculum Overviews, updated units, and newly revised frameworks tasks for all grade levels to support teachers in their implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence.

- Visit the GSE Mathematics Page on GSO

NEW PODCAST, GEORGIA MATH TALKS

The GaDOE Mathematics Team has launched a new podcast called Georgia Math Talks! to empower Georgia educators to promote mathematical literacy and ensure equity in mathematics education for all Georgia students.

NEW CONTENT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MODULES

The New K-5 Content Professional Learning Modules are available to assist teachers with instructional support needed for the successful implementation of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Mathematics. The modules are located in the GaDOE Portal and can be accessed through the SLDS Professional Learning Library for Educators.

FREE GEORGIA NUMERACY PROJECT

The Georgia Numeracy Project is a free, instructional and intervention-based numeracy development resource provided by GaDOE. The Georgia Numeracy Project focuses on developing students' understanding of numbers, and their ability to use numbers to solve problems. Embedded within the project are grade level intervention resources to support students on their journey to develop a foundation in numeracy.

- Learn More About the Georgia Numeracy Project

NEW CONTENT INTEGRATION SPECIALIST

The Teaching and Learning team is excited to welcome Jenise Sexton, the new Mathematics Content Integration Specialist. Sexton joins us from Gwinnett County where she served as a Mathematics Instructional Specialist at the district office. She also has experience as a mathematics teacher and coach. Sexton adds value to the team with her innovative ideas and specialized knowledge on how to support students with disabilities in the area of mathematics.

Contact: Lya Snell
Georgia Virtual School  
**GAVS PARTNERS WITH SCHOOLS**

With more than 125 courses offered annually, Georgia Virtual School can serve as a partner to increase the course offerings at the local school. GaVS is available to meet the academic needs of students when a local teacher is not available, a course schedule is not feasible, and courses are not offered.

Four-session start dates are available both fall and spring semesters to accommodate the varying start dates of districts across Georgia.

Georgia Virtual School partners with over 550 schools annually. Review the fall and spring course offerings, and contact the program to learn how the students at your school can be served.

- [Fall Course Offerings](#)

  **Contact:** Margaret Thomas

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Health and Physical Education  
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE (GSE)**

On May 3, 2018, the State Board of Education approved the K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Physical Education.

- [Access GSE for Physical Education](#)

  **Contact:** Therese McGuire

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World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives  
**GEORGIA DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION INSTITUTE**

This year’s Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute will take place at Truett Cathy Professional Learning Center in Jonesboro on Saturday, August 24. The event will feature 32 sessions for dual language immersion teachers, English partner teachers and administrators.

- [Free Registration](#)

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STARTALK MULTI-STATE PATHWAYS TO TEACHING INSTITUTE

In collaboration with the Virginia Department of Education, North Carolina Department of Education and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Georgia teachers are taking part in an innovative program called STARTALK. This is a program supported by a grant from the National Security Agency and administrated by the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland. Nearly 50 teachers drawn from over 14 states are participating in the program, including 15 potential future teachers for Georgia.

- [Learn More](#)
  - [Watch Video](#)

SECOND CYCLE REPORTING FOR GEORGIA'S SEAL OF BILITERACY

Seniors who qualify for the retroactive award of the Georgia Seal of Biliteracy, the deadline to report AP and IB scores is September 2. The GaDOE form for reporting Georgia students who have earned Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy can be found here.

- [GaDOE Seal of Biliteracy Reporting Form](#)
  - [Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy Guidance at a Glance](#)

  **Contact:** Patrick Wallace
College Readiness and Talent Development

2019 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 is welcome to register. Each workshop session will be led by a highly successful Georgia AP teacher.

The workshop sites and dates are listed below, and the specific courses offered at each workshop site are listed on the online registration form.

- September 20, Atlanta Campus of the Savannah School of Art and Design (AP Art Courses only)
- October 11, East Coweta High School, Sharpsburg
- October 14, Woodstock High School, Woodstock
- October 15, Evans High School, Evans
- October 22, Tift County High School, Tifton

Final course offerings are dependent on minimum enrollment requirements.

FALL GIFTED REGIONAL MEETINGS

Fall Gifted Regional meetings are scheduled at the following locations. Specific information will be sent to District Gifted Coordinators this summer.

- August 20 - Coastal Plains RESA
- August 22 - Houston County
- September 4 - Carter Historic Site, Plains
- September 10 - Pioneer RESA
- September 12 - North Georgia RESA
- September 17 - Clayton County
- September 19 - Georgia Southern University
- September 24 - Oconee RESA

FALL NEW GIFTED COORDINATORS’ COHORT MEETINGS

If you are a gifted coordinator with five years (or less) of experience in this role, please choose to attend:

- October 28, Murray Educational Center, Douglasville
- October 30, Coastal Plains RESA, Lenox

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

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, the 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 education staff at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site would like to invite Georgia teachers and students to walk in the footsteps of a President as they explore the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site. Field trips are free for all students and teachers. Transportation funding is provided through our generous donors and there is no admission fee to the historic site.

Students will have the opportunity to visit Plains High School and tour the Boyhood Farm to learn about President Jimmy Carter’s life as a child of the depression in the 1930s. Along the way, they will have the opportunity to actively engage in grade-specific, standards-based activities.

- Schedule a Field Trip to the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site
- Learn About the Second Grade Boyhood Farm Field Trip

Contact: Marle C. Usry

Social Studies
GEO-INQUIRY AND THE ART OF STORYTELLING
Join GaDOE Staff and a NatGeo Explorer to integrate science, social studies and visual arts centered around real world issues and phenomena. Discover the integral role of images in storytelling. This workshop is free, hosted by Middle Georgia RESA.

- Registration

Contact: Joy Hatcher