

Deputy Superintendent Updates

Contact: [Caitlin McMunn Dooley](#)

RISING ABOVE OUR CHALLENGES AND CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

Way to go!!! [Georgia Home Classroom](#) demonstrates what we are all about—care, collaboration, and learning. Check out the television broadcast schedule for grade-level specific programs that will spark curiosity and learning.

In the words of Joan Ganz Cooney, the creator of Sesame Street—



EXTENDED SCHOOL CLOSURES TO STOP SPREAD OF COVID-19

Due to the impact of COVID-19, the state of Georgia, issued an executive order to extend school closures until April 24. At the Georgia Department of Education we are working to provide teachers, students, and families with educational resources needed to support learners during our digital days at home.

For support:

- Visit GaDOE.org/coronavirus
- Visit [CDC Caring for Children](https://CDC.org/CaringforChildren)

KEEPING STUDENTS SAFE, FED AND LEARNING DURING COVID-19 OUTBREAK

The Georgia Department of Education in partnership with districts, schools, organizations and providers is working to keep students safe, fed, and learning during the COVID-19 outbreak.

To help assist your school leaders visit:

- [School Meal Information](#) (check your local school district's website and social media accounts as well)
- [FoodFinder](#) (a safe, secure way to find food assistance near you)
- [Distance & Virtual Learning Resources](#)
- [GPB Resources & Schedule for Instructional TV Programming](#)
- [All Updates on COVID-19 & Georgia Public Schools](#)

Use these hashtags to help spread the word to students, parents, and families:

- **#KeepGAFed** to post about your work to provide student meals
- **#KeepGALearning** to post about your efforts to provide learning opportunities for students.

Chief of Staff Updates

Contact: [Matt Jones](#)



COVID-19 UPDATES

Recognizing that Georgia's educators and students are currently in the midst of an unprecedented disruption, no state tests — to include Georgia Milestones EOGs and EOCs, GKIDS, GAA 2.0 and CTAE EOPAs — will be administered for the 2019-2020 school year. Georgia applied for and received a one-year waiver from the federal government of assessment and accountability requirements.

- [Click here](#) for GaDOE's testing guidance sent to districts.
- [Click here](#) for more information and answers to frequently asked questions.

Director Updates

Contact: [Justin Hill](#)

GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM



Georgia Public Broadcasting and the Georgia Department of Education have partnered to provide digital education content for students, educators, and families during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Georgia Home Classroom initiative includes a library of digital learning resources along with an instructional broadcast schedule aligned with the state standards. Students in Pre-K through 12th grade can now access free, educational daytime programming designated for each grade level weekdays on GPB-TV and GPB's 24/7 PBS KIDS Channel. Additional programs are also available to stream on gpb.org or the free PBS Video App and PBS KIDS Apps.

Available Now! GPB and PBS programs:

- The [broadcast schedule](#) will include trusted, educational programming.
- Stream on [GPB](#) or the free [PBS Video App](#) and [PBS KIDS Apps](#)
- View GPB-TV Channel [Reflection Questions](#) for students in grades 4-12.
- [GPB](#) FREE at-home resources are available .

Learners will have access to content from GPB Education, PBS Learning Media, and Discovery Education.

State Board of Education Updates

GEORGIA STUDENT WAIVERS

On March 26, 2020 the Georgia State Board of Education adopted a [Resolution](#) for waivers from specific state laws, rules and regulations for all Georgia school districts, State Schools, Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Corrections for the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year Due to Impacts of COVID-19.

The [2019-2020 SBOE Waivers](#) include the following:

- Awarding Units of Credit and Acceptance of Transfer Credits/Grades
- Career Education-advisement schedules
- Categorical Allotment Requirements
- Certification
- Class Size and Reporting
- Competencies/Prescribed Courses
- Comprehensive Health/PE
- Direct Classroom Expenditures and Controls
- Educational Programs (Remedial Education, ELL, and Gifted services)
- GA Virtual School Funding and Tuition
- Graduation Requirements and Seat Time
- Organization of Schools/Middle School Programs/Scheduling
- Personnel Required
- Promotion and Retention
- Scheduling for Instruction
- School Day and School Year for Students and Employees
- Statewide Passing Score
- Student Assessment

DIGITAL RESOURCES

The Georgia Department of Education is advising school districts to develop a plan to continue student learning during school closures, if possible -- using resources such as study packets, cable access, virtual school/online classes, etc.

View these resources from GaDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning.

- [Digital Resources](#)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

- Visit [2020 Summer GAEL](#)
- Visit [2020 GACIS Fall Conference](#)

Resources for English Language Arts and Literacy Teachers**DIGITAL LEARNING DAYS**

Are you looking for ELA resources for your district's digital learning days? We have tons of resources to help your students at home.

- Visit [ELA Resources](#)

Contact: [Anisha Donald](#)

Resources for Literacy and Striving Readers Grant**PROVIDING LITERACY SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS**

The Georgia Literacy Task Force's definition of literacy is the ability to speak, listen, read, and write, as well as to view print and non-print text in order to effectively communicate with others. As a part of the federal Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy planning grant, the Georgia Department of Education is developing a state literacy plan.

- To learn more visit [Literacy Reading Resources](#)

Contact: [Julie Morrill](#)

GET GEORGIA READING OFFERS THOUSANDS OF ONLINE BOOKS FOR STUDENTS- COMMUNIQUE

- [Get Georgia Reading Resources](#)

**DIVISION OF STATE SCHOOLS****DISCOVER LEARNING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS TAKING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

Let's help all of our Georgia students make a successful transition to digital learning days. Here are a few helpful resources for students who may be Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (DHH).

- [AASD Videos](#)
- [American Sign Language \(ASL\) Sign 1 News](#)
- [ASL eBooks and Resources for Deaf Kids](#)
- [Atlanta Area School for the Deaf \(AASD\)](#)
- [CSD Learns](#)
- [Described and Captioned Media Program \(DCMP\)](#)
- [Hearing First](#)
- For more resources visit [GaDOE State Schools](#)

Contact: [Vanessa Robisch](#)

Resources for Fine Arts Teachers

FINE ARTS DIPLOMA SEAL DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 4



Arts education includes the study of dance, media arts, music, theatre/film, and visual arts. High school students have an opportunity to achieve a Fine Arts Diploma Seal and complete a Career Pathway in dance, music, theatre/film, and visual art. Here are some resources to help your students learn more at home:

- Visit [Fine Arts Resources](#)

Contact: [Jessica Booth](#)

Resources for Gifted Program

TEACHER TIPS

The State of Georgia funds GaDOE's Gifted Program. In Georgia, a gifted education student is defined as one who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual and/or creative ability. exhibits an exceptionally high degree of motivation, and/or excels in specific academic fields, and who needs special instruction and/or special ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his or her ability.

- Visit [Gifted Education Resources](#)

Resources for Health and Physical Education Teachers

KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY

Digital Days can be fun! Here are a few resources to keep your kids healthy and active at home.

- [SHAPE AMERICA Activity Calendar](#)
- [OPEN Physical Education](#)
- [Choose My Plate Nutrition](#)

Resources for Science Teachers

GEORGIA SCIENCE TEACHERS WORK TOGETHER

The Georgia Department of Education is advising school districts to develop a plan to continue student learning during school closures, if possible -- using resources such as study packets, cable access, virtual school/online classes, etc.

View these resources from GaDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning are available to support schools' efforts:

- [Digital Resources](#)

Resources for Mathematics Teachers

DIGITAL RESOURCES

The Georgia Mathematics standards are designed to help learners achieve a balance among concepts, skills, and problem solving. If you are looking to support your learners at home,

- Visit [Georgia Mathematics Resources](#)

Contact: [Lya Snell](#)

Resources for Social Studies Teachers

TIPS, TRICKS, AND RESOURCES FOR DIGITAL LEARNING

Join the GaDOE Social Studies Team for weekly webinars on Tips, Tricks, and Resources for Digital Learning. Webinars will include:



IDEAS READY TO USE: Tune in for your weekly social studies webinar topics.

Join the GaDOE Social Studies Team for weekly webinars on *Tips, Tricks, and Resources for Digital Learning*.

Webinars will include:

- Separate webinars for each grade/course in social studies
- Each episode 10 minutes or less
- Lively and practical tips
- Aligned resource highlights
- Webinars begin the week of March 23
- Visit [Social Studies Resources](#)

Contact: [Joy Hatcher](#)

Resources for Science Teachers

GEORGIA SCIENCE TEACHERS WORK TOGETHER

The Georgia Science Teachers Association is coordinating the development of a collection of online resources for science teachers. If you have resources you would like to share, please

- Email: presidentelect@georgiascienceteacher.org.
- Visit the collection of resources [Georgia Science Teacher](#)

NEW RESOURCES IN TRL

There are three new supports for students in science located in the Teacher Resource Link (TRL) accessible through SLDS or choose this [public link](#) to access the resources in the Essential Toolkit:

- Instructional Segments
- [Self-Reflection Checklists](#)
- [Equity Instructional Planning Look-For](#)

Instructional Segments: You'll find instructional segments in the Essential Toolkit within the "How Do I Teach" bucket.

Contact: [Amanda Buice](#)

Resources for World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives Teachers

SUPPORT YOUR DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS AT HOME

The Georgia Department of Education World Languages want to ensure that your students receive value resources to support your learners at home.

- Visit [GaDOE World Language and Workforce Initiatives newsletter](#)

Contact: [Patrick Wallace](#)

Resources for Nutrition Teachers

FUELING GEORGIA'S FUTURE



We know food insecurity for students who rely on school meals is a major concern during school closures. Please contact your local district for information about meal availability in your area. Also, FoodFinder is a valuable resource that can assist families who may face issues of food insecurity throughout the year.

- You can access [FoodFinder](#) or download the app "FoodFinder – Fighting Hunger".

Contact: [Kelley Toon](#)

Teacher and Leader Support and Development

TLSD Updates

Superintendent Richard Woods has suspended Teacher and Leader evaluation (TKES/LKES) requirements and reporting until further notice.

Due to the suspension, the TKES/LKES platform has been placed in close out mode and all evaluation plans have been set to read-only. At this time, Evaluators and cannot make any changes to any plans; however, the administrative functions such as **My Staff** and **Administration** will not be read-only and will remain fully functional. Also, a banner is displayed to all users who login to the platform.

Thanks for your support and understanding. We are seeking the maximum flexibility to allow school districts to focus on their students' safety and wellbeing during this time.

Contact: [Melinda Moe](#)

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

TAKING THE STRESS OUT OF FINDING SUPPORT

Are you feeling overwhelmed? At the GaDOE we recognize that with the unexpected school closures many educators may experience unwanted stress. We want to provide you with some resources for relief.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention have outlined steps for identifying, managing, and coping with stress.

According to the CDC you may recognize stress as fear, worry, or having chronic health problems. To reduce stress, you could take breaks from your daily routine, take deep breaths and stretch, or talk to a friend about your concerns.

To discover more resources to help cope with anxiety and stress during COVID-19,

- Visit [CDC](#) Stress and Coping

Here are a few resources to help take the stress out of finding support during these times:

- [CDC provides a Self-Check website](#) if you're not feeling well and want to check your symptoms.

- [My GCAL app](#) (Available for Apple and Android) and [Crisis Text Line](#)
- [Mental Health America of Georgia](#)
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness Helpline](#)
- Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities *Crisis and Access Line*: **1-800-715-4225**
- [Talking to Kids about COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\): A Parent Resource](#)

Contact: [Leslie A. Waldon](#)

Georgia Virtual School

SPRING 2020 ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN!



New courses available now!

Do your teachers need an introduction to online instruction? Just in Time for Teachers is a micro-course that will help teachers prepare for digital learning instruction. Registration is open now.

Are you looking to support learners with Special Needs? Open Enrollment starts March 25. The Online Support for Special Needs is an introductory course for all teachers to successfully accommodate special needs students online.

Learn what courses are being offered this summer:

- Visit [Georgia Virtual Course Catalog](#)

Contact: [Margaret Thomas](#)