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

FAREWELL
After having served as the Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning for the past seven and a half years, I am moving on. I leave this role with bittersweet emotions because the team here at the Georgia Department of Education is a group of amazing individuals. Rest assured; you are in good hands! I am so very thankful to all of you—Superintendents, Principals, Directors, Teachers and other Educators—for your support in this work. Starting in January, I will be the Executive Director for the non-profit called Voices for Georgia’s Children, a research, policy, and advocacy organization.

I wish you all a happy New Year and know that I will continue to work on behalf of Georgia’s children in my new role.

ELA STANDARDS UPDATE
The English Language Arts Standards have gone through a period of public comment that closed at 5 p.m. on December 5, 2022. At this time, the team is compiling the feedback and organizing the comments. A working group will reconvene to review the feedback and determine what revisions need to be made.

Director Updates: Curriculum and Instruction
Contact: April Aldridge

END OF THE YEAR UPDATES
As we approach the end of a calendar year, it is a great time for us to professionally and personally reflect on the year that has passed, finding time to savor the successes, learn from the challenges, and set goals for the future. For many of us, the upcoming break is a time to catch our breath, catch up on areas that need a little more attention, and get organized for the second half of the 2022-2023 school year. I hope this newsletter is timely and that as you evaluate progress through your lens in your respective roles that the information provided by the Curriculum and Instruction team will support the work in which you are engaged. May the Spirit of the Season find you enjoying student productions, attending a calendar full of school level activities, embracing community events and above all may your Season be full of love, laughter and blessings!

- GaDOE Announces Grant Initiatives to Support Whole Child Education. Grants are due January 12, 2023.
- School Climate has transitioned to the Office of Whole Child Supports 10-15-22
- Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities (gadoe.org). Find scheduled, recorded webinars and by-request events in all content areas.
- Curriculum and Instruction homepage will provide you links to each content area where you can access the newest resources being released to support teaching and learning.

- Georgia Home Classroom. Georgia families and teachers can access K-12 resources produced by Georgia teachers that are aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence.
  - Learning Plans (400+ K-12 plans, all content areas)
  - Let's Learn GA! Video Lessons (50 K-5 lessons and classroom climate)
  - Getting Ready for School Parent Guides (K-6)
  - Classroom Conversations Podcast Series: Season 2 now live!
News from Innovative Programs and Research
Contact: Juan-Carlos Aguilar

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING (PAEMST)
We are in the middle of our 2023 cycle to receive nominations for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The PAEMST is the highest honor bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching. Anyone - principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public may nominate exceptional STEM teachers who are currently teaching grades 7-12 for the 2023 award year. Teachers may also apply directly at www.paemst.org. The nomination deadline is January 9, 2023, and the application deadline is February 6, 2023. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Dr. Lya Snell for mathematics or Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar for science.

Updates from the Office of Rural Education and Innovation
Contact: Amy Denty

PROMOTING LITERACY ACROSS GEORGIA
Did you know there are 115 rural counties in Georgia? School districts located within counties that have a population of 35,000 or fewer are designated as rural school districts. The Office of Rural Education and Innovation (REI) is here to serve rural districts. If you are not sure about your district, check out our map. REI is excited about our ongoing efforts to provide robust literacy professional learning for teachers in rural areas. Districts located in Southwest RESA, Chattahoochee-Flint RESA, First District RESA, and Pioneer RESA can choose to engage in LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling), Orton Gillingham, and/or Wilson Reading Systems training. More RESA areas are being added, so look for an opportunity coming your way soon.

REI is piloting several types of instructional technology that enable districts to partner together to offer rigorous, live-streamed courses. If you are in a rural district and have ever had the problem of not being able to offer a certain course because of low enrollment numbers, this may be a solution for you. Contact Amy Denty to learn more.

Updates from College Readiness and Talent Development
Contact: Mary Jean Banter

LET US INTRODUCE DR. LISA HACKNEY
The College Readiness and Talent Development team would like to introduce our newest member of our team, Dr. Lisa Hackney. Lisa is joining the team from the Dalton Public Schools where she provided leadership as the Director of School Support with her responsibilities including Coordinator of Gifted and Advanced Learners, Social Studies, Fine Arts, PE, Hospital Homebound, and Research Requests. In her new role as a College Readiness and Talent Development program specialist, Lisa is supporting gifted district/school gifted coordinators and gifted teachers with resources and assistance.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Dr. Lisa Hackney
GaDOE recently awarded its fourth round of CS4GA Computer Science Capacity Grants. Each district will receive up to $25,000 to build their teacher capacity for computer science. These funds are part of the 2019 Computer Science (CS) legislation that requires all middle and high schools to offer CS; middle schools by the 2022-2023 school year, and high schools by the 2024-2025 school year. To date, over 90 school systems in Georgia have been awarded the grant, and since 2018, the number of credentialed computer science teachers in the state of Georgia has increased from 615 to 867 teachers - this is tremendous progress, but we still have a lot of work to do. The grant is a one-time award. For more information, go to GaDOE Computer Science. Here is the list of 2022 CS4GA Computer Science Capacity Grant awardees.

Let’s Learn GA! Computer Science

Let’s Learn GA! is a series of video lessons for grades K-12 taught by Georgia teachers. The videos in this collection are aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence for computer science. Let’s Learn GA! is a collaboration between GPB and GaDOE to support both in-person and remote learning plans.

Let’s Learn GA! Computer Science currently has six lessons available (more in Let’s Learn GA! Instructional Support videos) and more will be added soon.
Classroom Conversations: 23 Episodes Available
Classroom Conversations episodes are available any time on GPB.org or wherever you listen to podcasts. GaDOE and GPB Education have collaborated on this podcast to produce 23 episodes featuring classroom teachers from all over Georgia. The episodes have been downloaded close to 35,000 times. Topics vary across all K-12 content areas and include positive classroom climate tips. Classroom Conversations has more in store for the new year! Season 3 will kick off in 2023.

Using the Georgia Home Classroom for Professional Development
New resources are continuously added to the Georgia Home Classroom. In addition to brand-new digital learning plans (ELA, for example), there are some contents/topics that have multiple supports across resources. Teachers can listen to a Classroom Conversations episode about positive classroom climate, use a digital learning plan to foster positive classroom climate, and/or watch a short video highlighting positive classroom climate practices. The Georgia Home Classroom works to support educators wherever they need it. Have a great idea for the Georgia Home Classroom? Reach out! Contact a member of the DML team: Meghan Welch, Dana Munson, or Oluremi Wright for more information.

Updates from English Language Arts
Contact: Breanne Huston
School Board of Education Meeting Updates on ELA Standards
The revised Georgia Standards for English Language Arts were posted for public comment from November 4 through December 5. As of November 23, approximately 2,770 responses had been submitted from 135 counties, representing 95 percent of the state. 75 percent of these responses were submitted by ELA teachers. At the completion of the analysis of the public comment feedback, a report will be generated and working committees will convene to apply the public feedback and further strengthen the standards. At that time, an updated draft will be submitted to the State Board of Education for approval and for another 30-day posting for public comment. Please follow @GaDOEELA on Twitter and join the GaDOE ELA & Literacy Community Group to stay up to date on the progress of the ELA standards revision. We need your input to ensure that the revised ELA standards are rigorous and clear, skills-based and forward-thinking, student-centered and bold in order to serve the needs of all students and communities across the state.
Updates from Fine Arts
Contact: Jessica Booth

COMING SOON: FINE ARTS CONSUMABLES AND EQUIPMENT (FACE) GRANT APPLICATION
GaDOE has allocated ARP funds for the FY23 Fine Arts Consumables and Equipment (FACE) Grant. This is a GaDOE-administered, non-renewable, non-transferrable grant for up to $3,000 used to create and support Fine Arts initiatives that support quality Fine Arts education courses during the school day. A maximum of $500,000 will be awarded in Fine Arts Consumables and Equipment (FACE) Grants for the 2022-2023 (FY23) school year in the amount of up to $3,000. Eligible applicants must be fine arts teachers in a K-12 Georgia public school. Awarded funds are specifically for fine arts-related instruction which occurs during the school day within state-approved fine arts education course numbers starting with the prefixes 50.-54. If you are interested in applying for a FACE Grant for the 2022-2023 school year, be on the lookout on our GaDOE Fine Arts Website for more information soon.

NEW FINE ARTS INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE SOON
In an effort to increase the depth and breadth of Fine Arts Instructional Resources available for Arts Teachers across the state, we have recently developed additional Instructional Resources for 45 Fine Arts Courses in Dance, Theatre, Music, and Visual Art. These instructional resources include examples of year-long scope and sequence maps, unit plans, lesson plans, PowerPoint presentations, instructional videos, and diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments for Fine Arts Teachers to use in their own classrooms. Be on the lookout on our GaDOE Fine Arts Webpage and social media accounts for these new resources as they will be published soon.

Updates from Health and Physical Education
Contact: Theres McGuire

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY (VIRTUAL): SKILL-BASED HEALTH EDUCATION
In this two-part training series, teachers will have an opportunity to explore Health Education Standards to better understand the role that health skills play in health education. Teachers will then learn how to supplement current unit and lesson plans with explicit health skill instruction. Teachers will leave the training with a foundational knowledge of skills-based Health Education.

Find the registration request form and full training description here:
- Register for Part 1
- Register for Part 2
JCNHP Receives National Park Foundation Grant
The Jimmy Carter National Historical Park was the recipient of the National Park Foundation’s Open Outdoors for Kids grant. Thanks to this grant, students will learn about Rosalynn Carter’s role in mental health advocacy during her tenure as First Lady of Georgia and First Lady of the United States. Students will receive in-person or virtual classroom instruction from park personnel followed by a visit to the gardens at Jimmy Carter’s Boyhood Farm to learn about the physical and mental health benefits of gardening and being outdoors. Click here to find out more about the grant, or to register.

NEW MATHEMATICS COURSE NUMBERS
Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards will be implemented across Georgia beginning in Fall 2023. New course numbers have been provided to support the transition to the new standards and courses. Schools and local school districts should be working to update their student information systems to include the new course numbers. The specific course codes can be found within the GaDOE SuitCASE here.

SCIENCE PHENOMENON FOR GRADE 3-5
The science team is excited to share our newest resource: Science Phenomenon Tasks for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades! These instructional tasks are phenomenon-driven plans that utilize the science and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts. The plans are not tied to existing instructional segments and can be implemented regardless of pacing! Find this resource and more new things here.

JOIN A SCIENCE MAILING LIST
Want to stay informed about resources and opportunities from GaDOE science? Please sign up for our email lists and make sure your colleagues are too! Send a blank email to the addressed below to be automatically signed up.

- Science K-5: join-science-k-5@list.doe.k12.ga.us
- Science 6-8: join-science-6-8@list.doe.k12.ga.us
- Science 9-12: join-science-9-12@list.doe.k12.ga.us
SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES IN GA INSPIRE
We are so thankful for all you do! GaDOE Social Studies is hard at work preparing a wonderful new platform for you. Take a tour of GaDOE Inspire, future home of the GaDOE content standards and supports. K-5 is available now!

SOCIAL STUDIES AND CTAE EMBEDDED PATHWAY COURSES?
Are you interested in the GaDOE Social Studies and CTAE Embedded Pathway Courses? We have a NEW group just for Y-O-U! There is a group for the new Social Studies/Public Management and Administration Embedded Pathway on GaDOE Community and now on Facebook. We would LOVE to see you there!

LATEST INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY VIDEOS FROM SOCIAL STUDIES
Have you checked out GaDOE Social Studies’ latest instructional activity videos, formerly virtual specialist videos? Each video is 10 - 12 minutes in length. Click here for links to instructional activity videos for each grade and course and take a look at our newest additions here.

Updates from State ESOL Language Program
Contact: Meg Baker

DID YOU KNOW THAT NOVEMBER 8 WAS NATIONAL STEM DAY?
A report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) found that U.S. school systems can do more to grant English learners (ELs) access to quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. ED’s Office for English Language Acquisition (OELA) recently posted information about ELs’ access and representation in STEM courses, featuring data from the Civil Rights Data Collection and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The ELs in STEM infographic provides recommendations from NASEM and the National Research and Development Center to Improve Education for Secondary English Learners on how educators can design effective STEM instruction for ELs.

LITERACY FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS (ELS)
The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), in collaboration with the Regional Educational Laboratory Southeast, released a prerecorded webinar for educators on evidence-based recommendations to help students improve their literacy skills. This webinar is available now on the WWC website along with the Institute for Educational Sciences ELA for ELs’ handout.

In this webinar, educators and literacy experts discuss resources and recommendations from the following six WWC practice guides:

- Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade
- Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade
- Providing Reading Interventions for Students in Grades 4–9
- Teaching Secondary Students to Write Effectively
- Teaching Academic Content and Literacy to English Learners in Elementary and Middle School
- Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Responses to Intervention and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades
Updates from Teacher and Leader Support & Development  
Contact: Shauntice Wheeler

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TKES/LKES PLATFORM SPECIALIST
Dr. Dan McGuire joined TLSD as the TKES/LKES platform specialist. Dr. McGuire brings with him experience as an educational leader of Georgia’s schools. Most recently, he served as principal of Whit Davis Elementary School in the Clarke County School District. Prior to that role, Dr. McGuire served as principal in three additional elementary schools in both Marietta City and Cobb County Schools and has served in leadership roles for the past 20 years. Dr. McGuire was recognized by Clarke County Schools as the Principal of the Month in 2020. Additionally, the schools he has led have earned numerous performance awards. He brings with him a plethora of experiences in a variety of educational initiatives. Welcome aboard, Dan!

Updates from Technology Services  
Contact: Angela Ingram

GACONNECTS UPDATES
Inspire is a NEW and exciting application with ready-to-teach lessons. The content includes curriculum maps, course resources, sample lesson plans and activities, course standards, and assessments. K-5 content is currently available (see table below). 6-12 content is coming soon.

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