



Teaching & Learning Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

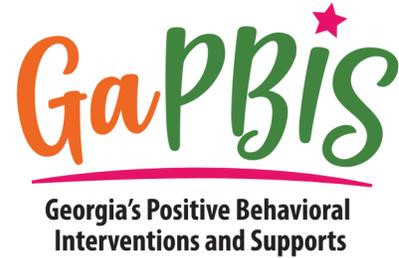
October 2020

Deputy Superintendent Updates

Contact: [Caitlin McMunn Dooley](#)

TEACHING & LEARNING SUPPORTS

The Teaching and Learning team is pleased to announce a few internal organizational changes. By integrating the School Climate team (including Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports [PBIS]), we now have Curriculum, Instruction, and Climate working as a coherent group, led by Mr. Justin Hill. We believe that this organizational shift brings together academic learning and behavioral learning in ways that will improve both outcomes because of a more coherent “systems” approach to child-centered support.



We also have added members to our Innovative Programs and Research team, led by Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar. This team will support the Department's capacity for internal evaluation and data analysis. Working across the Department and collaborating with other state agencies, we will provide informative data visualizations and research to better inform our vision.

The Teacher and Leader Support and Development team continues to support evaluation, performance, recruitment, and retention of the educator workforce. This team has also expanded efforts to collaborate across the Department to launch the 2020 Fall Professional Learning Catalog as well as continue to enhance the Professional Learning Opportunities (PLO) modules available on the SLDS.

We are excited to also add several multi-million-dollar grant-funded projects to the GaDOE portfolio: (a) The GRE4T! grant, led by Ms. Julie Noland, is a three-year project focused on promoting state-wide leadership and tools for student-centered personalized learning; and (b) Project AWARE is a five-year continuation grant, led by Mr. Jason Byars, that will support students through multi-tiered systems of supports that attend to well-being and connectedness among students and the adults with whom they work. While the focus of program evaluation and intervention will be on Bibb, Hall, and Houston counties, all tools and professional learning opportunities will be available statewide.

With these organizational changes, we hope that you will continue to see excellent service and supports from the Teaching and Learning team. I welcome feedback!

Visit a few of our New Teaching & Learning supports:



[Fall 2020 Professional Learning Catalog](#)



[Professional Learning Platform](#)



[Georgia Home Classroom](#)



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gadoe.org

State Board of Education Updates

The State Board of Education (SBOE) recently passed a resolution selecting the following four courses to continue to include end-of-course (EOC) assessments under Senate Bill 367: Algebra I/Coordinate Algebra, American Literature and Composition, Biology, and U.S. History. As a result of this resolution, an EOC assessment for Physical Science will no longer be administered to high school students enrolled in the course.

However, we understand that middle school students may also be enrolled in the high school Physical Science course, and that the standards for this course differ from the eighth-grade science standards. Therefore, we will continue to administer the Physical Science EOC assessment for middle school students enrolled in the high school course. This EOC assessment will be for middle school students only and will not be administered to high school students enrolled in Physical Science.

Associate Superintendent Updates

Contact: [Justin Hill](#)

SIGN-UP NOW! T&L NEWSLETTER

Don't miss the latest news and updates! Sign-up today to receive monthly editions of the Teaching & Learning Newsletter. Included in the newsletter you will find State Board of Education updates, resources for teachers and leaders, and conference information taking place throughout the state.

- Visit [T&L Newsletter Sign-Up](#)

We look forward to connecting with you.

Resources for Computer Science

THE TIME OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer science means different things to different people. For some, it means programming. For others, computer science is simply an exciting frontier, filled with fresh experiences and opportunities.

In Georgia, we've defined computer science as the study of computational thinking, computing devices and its impact on society.

What does this mean for our students?

Students now have unlimited possibilities as they travel along their career pathways. Today, there are more

LET'S LEARN GA! LAUNCHES IN THE GEORGIA HOME CLASSROOM



The Georgia Home Classroom has added Georgia teachers. Let's Learn GA! is a collection of short videos produced by GaDOE's Curriculum & Instruction and the Education division at Georgia Public Broadcasting.

- Visit [GPB Let's Learn GA!](#)

The first group of videos feature elementary education from all over the state as they teach 30-minute lessons. Students in grades K-5 will be able to hear teachers deliver interesting and innovative video lessons tied to the Georgia Standards of Excellence and enhanced by graphics and editing from the GPB team.

The videos are available to stream online anytime and will make their debut during the GPB broadcast (reaching 98% of homes in Georgia) in the near future.

- Visit GPB

Contact: [Meghan Welch](#)

YouTubers, scientists, and e-news professionals utilizing computer science to gather data and analyze information.

The pace at which computer science is changing our world isn't slowing due to recent social challenges like the pandemic and climate change. In fact, it's increasing. Computer science is stimulated by challenges that likely have a computational solution. It's time to lean into the evolution of computer science and prepare our students for the 21st Century.

To learn more about our programs

- Visit [GaDOE Computer Science New Updates](#)

Contact: [Bryan Cox](#)

Resources for English Language Arts

FALL VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Don't miss your opportunity to take part in our Fall Professional Learning. All of our sessions are free of charge for all Georgia Educators.

- [Register today!](#)

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



The *What's Your Story?* Podcast features English Language Arts and Literacy leaders from the national, state and local education communities. Through this podcast series, the Georgia Department of Education English Language Arts program will share helpful information, tips and strategies for Georgia's educators to aid in promoting literacy in their communities as well as provide actionable next steps.

Listen in on ELA's Season I Podcast:

- Season 1- [Episode 1: African American Read In](#)
- Season 1-Episode 2: [Georgia Writing Project](#)
- Season 2-Episode 3: [Literacy in Laurens](#)

Contact: [Breanne Huston](#)

Resources for Fine Arts

CONTINUED GADOE FINE ARTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Fine Arts Department is continuing to provide free, online professional development for Georgia teachers. Head over to [GaDOE Fine Arts](#) to gather more information about Fine Arts in Georgia!

Here's a preview of what you find:

- Upcoming and previously recorded webinars
- Updated instructional resources for each of the Fine Arts content areas
- Smart infographic on [Digital Teaching and Learning in the Arts](#)

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING VIRTUAL FINE ARTS CONFERENCES!

The registration window is now open for Fall 2020 Virtual Professional Learning Opportunities. Exciting News! The conferences are now virtual.

- [The Georgia Theatre Conference](#)
- [Georgia Thespian Conference](#)
- [Georgia Art Education Association Conference](#)

Contact: [Jessica Booth](#)

Resources for Health & Physical Education

THE SHAPE AMERICA ONLINE PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Take advantage of these free, self-paced, effective professional development webinars on your timetable. Two opportunities now available at no cost. Best Practices for Delivering Online and Hybrid Learning and Creating Online Learning in Health and Physical Education. Health and physical education webinars can be accessed at:

- Visit [Shape America](#)

Contact: [Therese McGuire](#)

Resources for Mathematics Teachers

2020 GEORGIA MATHEMATICS EQUITY SUMMIT

Date: **November 10**



The Mathematics Team is pleased to announce the date for the 2020 Georgia Mathematics Equity Summit. This year's equity summit will be held Tuesday, November 10, 2020, and will offer a virtual experience for participants. District and school leaders, teacher leaders and K - 12 mathematics teachers will engage in exciting work that will support equitable instructional practices for all students in mathematics.

- View registration details on [GaDOE Mathematics](#)

NEW RESOURCES FOR SPANISH SPEAKING PARENTS

Parent Letters that explain the mathematics standards and introduce each unit of study have long been available in English and in Spanish for parents of K-2 students.

The Mathematics team is excited to announce that the Parent Letters are now available in Spanish for each unit in grades K-5. The release of these letters will help all K-5 teachers communicate more effectively to parents about the mathematics their students are learning. This communication will also help parents as they provide support to their children at home.

WELCOME DR. KARLA CWETNA

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Karla Cwetna as our new Secondary Mathematics Program Specialist.



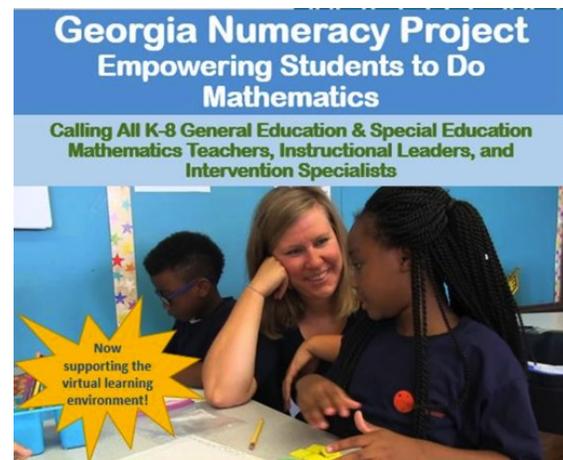
Dr. Karla Cwetna

Dr. Cwetna brings years of educational experience to the GaDOE Mathematics team. She has worked with students face-to-face and in virtual environments. Dr. Cwetna comes to us from Fulton County Virtual School.

At Fulton County Public Schools she served as a teacher, district leader, and mathematics coach, mastering mathematics at high levels. We're so excited to have Dr. Cwetna on our team!

VIRTUAL GEORGIA NUMERACY PROJECT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Date: **October 7 & 8**



The Georgia Numeracy Project has gone virtual! We are hosting training sessions on October 7 and 8. These two training dates offer new tools and strategies that help teachers implement the Georgia Numeracy Project in a virtual learning environment.

- [Register here for these engaging sessions.](#)

We hope to see you there!

Contact: [Lya Snell](#)

Resources for Social Studies Teachers

VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The registration window is now open for Fall 2020 Virtual Professional Learning Opportunities.

- Visit [GaDOE Social Studies](#) to register for upcoming events.

Here's a preview:

They Aren't Getting It: Methods to Engage, Excite, & Empower Struggling Learner

Date: **October 29**

Time: **3:30 p.m.**



Joins us for the hands-on workshop that provides methods for adapting instruction that will make learning attainable for all learners. We will share resources and model inquiry-based strategies that are different for all learners. This is a K-12 workshop.

Let's Get Visual! Inquiry Based Instructional Activities that SWIRL: Part 1 Introducing Your Visual Journal

Date: **November 5** Time: **3:30 p.m.**



Explicitly teaching visual literacy in social studies increases engagement and allows students to make connections between their lives and history. This workshop will teach you how to build visual literacy with visual journals, enhance your inquiry lessons, and incorporate the art standards with your existing lessons to create personal meaning for students.

You do not have to be good at to attend this workshop!

Contact: [Joy Hatcher](#)

Resources for Science Teachers

SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES FOR EDUCATORS UPDATES



GaDOE has launched a new innovative platform to provide the opportunity for science teachers and GaDOE staff to collaborate, connect and share thoughts and resources as well as encouragement for the 2020-2021 school year! Leaders can join too.

The instructions below will help guide you in the creation of your account and navigating to the virtual professional learning communities that you are interested in.

Step 1: To get started, visit the GaDOE community website via this link. Select Create an Account and follow the prompts for setting up a new account on the platform.

Step 2: Once you have completed your account you are now ready to join a group! Navigate to the Groups section. For science teachers and leaders, there are several groups available to join: Select and join the groups you are most interested in.

- Visit [GaDOE Community](#)

We look forward to connecting!

Contact: [Amanda Buice](#)

Resources College Readiness and Talent Development

PSAT/NMSQT

Dates: **October 14 and 29**

For the Fall 2020 school year, The Georgia Department of Education will continue to fund the PSAT/NMSQT test for all Georgia public high school sophomores. The PSAT/NMSQT will be offered on Wednesday, October 14 and Thursday, October 29.

- Please see this [helpful guide for details](#).

Contact: [Martha Smith](#)

Resources for Teacher and Leader Support and Development

SIX NEW COURSES ADDED TO SUPPORT TEACHER LEADERSHIP

TLSD is excited to announce the release of six new courses on Teacher Leadership in the Professional Learning Opportunities (PLO) platform. The course titles are:

- Cultivating and Optimizing
Teacher Leadership- A Guide for Teachers Module 1
- Cultivating and Optimizing
Teacher Leadership- A Guide for Teachers Module 1
- Growing and sustaining
Teacher Leaders- Module 1 for Principals
- Growing and sustaining
Teacher Leaders- Module 2 for Principals
- Encouraging and Supporting
Teacher Leadership-Module 1 for Central Office
- Encouraging and Supporting
Teacher Leadership- Module 2 for Central Office

In addition, we have updated two of the TAPS courses with relevant information and video examples. The two updated courses are:

- Teacher Keys Effectiveness System Standard 2:
Instructional Planning (Version 2)
- Teacher Keys Effectiveness System Standard 8:
Academically Challenging Environment (Version 2)

Resources for Talent Development

SUPPORT FROM THE START SCHOOL LEADER'S GUIDE TO SUPPORTING INDUCTION PHASE TEACHERS

The school year is full of possibilities and excitement. Whether teaching online, face to face and/or blended, a time will come when the challenges new teachers face start to take a toll on their energy and enthusiasm. That's when the survival mode kicks in...it is difficult trying to manage all the assigned responsibilities with the time and resources available.

When teachers begin to feel disillusioned about teaching, or question why they chose this profession, let them know their concerns are completely normal. How can leaders and mentors best support induction phase teachers to ensure they thrive not just survive?

Leader Induction Support Contact: [Kathy Reese](#)

Teacher Induction Support Contact: [Karen Wyler](#)

Resources for Georgia Virtual School

GEORGIA VIRTUAL LEARNING ENROLLMENTS SOAR



The Fall 2020 semester brought record enrollments across Georgia Virtual Learning programs.

Here are just a few ways collaborating with Georgia school districts has helped support students:

- Georgia Virtual School is privileged to educate students in more than 18,000 course enrollments this semester.
- Georgia Virtual Professional Learning has equipped over 15,000 educators with the tools to adapt to virtual instruction.
- Georgia Credit Recovery continues enrolling students in courses where a student was previously unsuccessful.

GaVS is currently registering for the Spring 2021 semester. Enrollment in Georgia Virtual Professional Learning and Georgia Credit Recovery will continue throughout the school year.

- Visit [Georgia Virtual Learning](#)

Please let us know how GaVS can assist in serving the teachers and students in your district.

Contact: [Margaret Thomas](#)