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

REVISED ELA STANDARDS
We continue to work toward revised standards in English Language Arts (ELA). The standards were reviewed and written by teachers across the state this spring and summer. In designing these standards, the teachers worked to pull reading and writing together as literacy – ensuring a seamless and purposeful connection between the two.

This month, the Academic Review and Citizens Review Committees each met to discuss the revisions proposed and ensure the standards were written in accessible ways and teach knowledge and skills that prepare students to meet their full potential in today’s society.

Next, State School Superintendent Richard Woods will recommend that the State Board of Education (SBOE) post the standards for public comment. The SBOE is scheduled to vote on posting the standards for public comment at its November 3, 2022 meeting.

Note that the standards are not scheduled to be implemented in classrooms until the 2024-25 school year. Until then, we will provide resources and professional learning to ready Georgia’s ELA teachers for the new standards.

Director Updates:
Curriculum and Instruction
Contact: April Aldridge

AN INTRODUCTION FROM DR. APRIL ALDRIDGE
It is with great excitement that I join the work of the Curriculum and Instruction team at the Georgia Department of Education. Engaging with educators in a collaborative fashion and learning from and with others is an essential component of remaining an effective and resilient educator. It is my honor to serve you, Georgia Educators, in this role. There is no other time in history when the development of quality and relevant curriculum along with the development of capable and passionate educators has been more essential in ensuring the future of our state, nation, and world.

WHAT’S MY STORY?
I believe in the power of relationships. Personal and professional connections help support us when we are making tough decisions, working through an opportunity, facilitating change, and when we celebrate success. During my professional journey, I have led curriculum initiatives including curriculum development, strategic planning, instructional technology, and job-embedded professional learning in the K-12 arena for both leaders and teachers.

April Aldridge
@georgiadeptofed
GaDOE.org

Professional Learning Events
Upcoming virtual webinars, in-person events, on-demand content, and by-request workshop opportunities are available at https://community.gadoe.org/events.

Classroom Conversations
If you haven’t checked out the latest Classroom Conversations podcasts, download and listen.

It is my belief that Georgia’s educators are ready and capable to meet the challenge with excellence, and together we can and will achieve more.
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.

News from the Office of Whole Child
Contact: Justin Hill

INTRODUCING OUR NEW ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
Justin Hill was named the Associate Superintendent for the Office of the Whole Child effective October 15, 2022. The Office of the Whole Child will begin integrating the work of Georgia’s Tiered System of Supports and School Climate with Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) effective immediately. The office will also incorporate the Project AWARE mental health grant into existing support activities within the Office of Whole Child to achieve similar integration. This aligning of projects will enable GaDOE to better support the needs of districts and schools to more effectively and efficiently provide tiered supports for students.

Updates from School Climate
Contact: Jeannie Morris

RED RIBBON WEEK
We now have Drug Safety Classroom Lesson Plans just in time for Red Ribbon Week. The lesson plans are designed for students in grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 and aligned to our K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Health Education. They are located on the Georgia Home Classroom website and can be found within the K-12 Digital Learning Plans section under Red Ribbon Week Learning Plans | Georgia Public Broadcasting (gpb.org). This year we have added eight plans placed under two headings: Prescription Drug Safety and See Something, Say Something.

The lesson plans, designed for students in grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 were written by Georgia educators and aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence and TKES by GaDOE staff.
Updates from College Readiness and Talent Development
Contact: Martha Smith

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEACHER TRAINING GRANT
To support ongoing efforts to improve the academic achievement of students, GaDOE has announced the Advanced Placement Teacher Training Grant opportunity for Georgia high schools. The purpose of this grant is to assist in training teachers at AP Summer Institutes. Consideration will be given to all high schools with emphasis on schools with the fewest number of AP courses.

School districts may apply for a grant to fund AP teacher training in up to two courses per school. Funding is to cover costs (or partial costs), of training expenses including registration, state rate per mile, and lodging, if required. Grants may be awarded from a minimum of $500 to a maximum of $1400 per school. Stipends may not be paid from GaDOE grant funds. Administrators may not be trained with GaDOE funds. However, GaDOE grant funds may be combined with local professional development funds and a grant award may be used to train more than one teacher.

Applications with instructions were sent to Superintendents and District AP Coordinators. The deadline for application is Wednesday, December 7, 2022. All applications must be received by the Department no later than 4 p.m. on December 7, 2022. For questions, please email Martha Smith.

Updates from Computer Science
Contact: Bryan Cox

CS4GA APP AND DESIGN CHALLENGE
CS4GA, in collaboration with GaDOE, will host the first CS4GA App and Design Challenge for middle and high school students this school year. The CS4GA App and Design Challenge is a statewide computer programming competition for Georgia students. The goal of the challenge is to allow middle and high school students to gain recognition for their mastery and application of computer programming and design.

Awards and prizes will be given at the state level and students will have the opportunity to serve as GaDOE Computer Science Ambassadors. RSVP for an upcoming informational session to learn more information.

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK DECEMBER 5 – 9
Computer Science Education Week is an annual call to action to inspire K-12 students to learn computer science and celebrate the contributions of students, teachers, and partners to the field. GaDOE, TAG-Ed, CEISMC, Constellations, and industry partners will be hosting in-person and virtual events all week.

- Monday: Georgia Day of Code
- Tuesday: State of Computer Science in Georgia at Google Atlanta
- Wednesday: Constellations and Atlanta Public Schools Computer Science Carnival
- Thursday: Computer Science District Implementation Workshop
- Friday: Constellations and Atlanta Public Schools Computer Science Carnival

Visit GaDOE Computer Science to register for the events. If your school district is hosting an event for CS Ed week, email Lavita Williams or tag us on Twitter: @GaDOE_CS.
MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES ON GA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Thanks to Senate Bill 108, computer science education is being introduced in more schools. Starting Spring 2023, Georgia Virtual School will offer the half credit courses (assessments included) MS Foundations of Programming and MS Foundations of Secure Information Systems with instructors.

The shared versions (assessments not included) are now available on the shared website. Click on Middle School under the Subject header and then click on the course titles.

Updates from Digital Media and Literacy
Contact: Meghan Welch

CLASSROOM CONVERSATIONS: ELEVATING TEACHER VOICES
Classroom Conversations, Season 2 has released eleven engaging episodes all about positive classroom climate and instruction in GA’s K-12 schools. These episodes featuring GA teachers are a great way to start discussions, gain insights, and elevate teacher voices. Browse the topic list to download and listen today.

CONTINUE THE CLASSROOM CONVERSATIONS ON TEACHER CHAT
Teacher Chat on @GaDOE_DML are quick, recorded conversations with teachers from all over GA that offer their perspectives with great tips and positive energy for fellow professionals. Know someone who would be great on Teacher Chat? Nominate a teacher and follow @GaDOE_DML.

DIGITAL TOOLTIME
The Digital Media and Literacy team has partnered with Technology Services to offer Digital Tool Time. These short, monthly webinars focus on instructional technology and explore easy applications to use in K-12 classrooms. Join our Community group and register for our next Digital Tool Time.

Opportunities from English Language Arts Partners
Contact: Breanne Huston

Get access to professional learning about structured literacy FREE on Cox Campus! Join more than 200,000 educators who are ensuring that every child is on the path to reading. Cox Campus' comprehensive learning community features accredited courses for infant/toddler, preschool/Pre-K and K-3 teachers and leaders; live events; hybrid coaching and coaching groups; thousands of ready-to-use classroom resources and more. Cox Campus courses are rooted in the science of healthy brain development and developed in collaboration with the nation’s top subject matter experts.

Topics Include Print Awareness; Phonological Awareness and Alphabet Knowledge; Systematic and Explicit Phonics Instruction; Meaningful Read Aloud for Vocabulary and Oral Language Comprehension; Reading Fluency; Teaching Writing; Response to Intervention; and Assessing Our Students and Targeted Small Groups.

Visit www.coxcampus.org to create a free membership today.
ARTS DATA DASHBOARD IS NOW LIVE
Recently, the GaDOE Fine Arts program has partnered with the Arts Education Data Project to provide an in-depth look at access to Arts Education in the state of Georgia over the past several years. Through this partnership, important questions like the following have been asked:

- Which schools provide access to arts education and in what disciplines (Dance, Music, Theatre, Visual Arts, Media Arts)?
- How many students are actually participating?
- How many arts teachers are providing instruction?
- Who has access to arts instruction?
- Most importantly, who does not?
- How have the answers to these questions changed over time?

This initiative is accomplished by taking data gathered by school districts and GaDOE, standardizing the data, and then transforming it into a publicly available interactive dashboard, updated annually to reflect the true status of arts education in every school, at every grade level for every student. You can take a look at newly published [Arts Data Dashboard](#) today!

GADOE FINE ARTS IN-PERSON PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOPS FOR RESAS/SCHOOL DISTRICTS
GaDOE Fine Arts is pleased to present by-request Professional Learning workshops for RESAs and school districts. Our full day, in-person workshops are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the first session being a GaDOE Fine Arts Bootcamp. Participants will learn about Fine Arts initiatives, including the new instructional resources available to all Georgia fine arts teachers. Resources include curriculum maps, unit plans, example lesson plans, instructional videos, and assessments. For the second session, organizers will have the option to customize the workshop by choosing from a variety of content-specific workshops to meet the needs of their teachers. The workshops can only be booked by RESAs or school districts; we are unable to offer courses to individual schools. The workshops require a minimum number of 15 participants due to associated travel and materials costs. To request and book any of our professional learning workshops for your Music, Theatre, or Visual Art teachers, click on the following link(s) below:

- [Music Workshops for RESAs/School Districts](#)
- [Theatre Workshops for RESAs/School Districts](#)
- [Visual Art Workshops for RESAs/School Districts](#)

UNRAVELING DYSLEXIA: A CLOSER LOOK
The International Dyslexia Association Georgia, The Reading League Georgia, and GaDOE have partnered to bring you a live webinar on serving students with dyslexia. This event is FREE and OPEN to all.

The four-part GaDOE Dyslexia Video Series was developed through a partnership between GaDOE and the Mary Frances Early College of Education at the University of Georgia. In each webinar, Dr. Sayeski will "unravel" the content presented in each video. Dr. Sayeski and Dr. Lindstrom will then answer questions to clarify further the information presented and provide guidance on how best to support students with dyslexia in the school setting.

The series begins with Video 1: "What is Dyslexia?" This video provides an overview of commonly used definitions of dyslexia and delineates characteristics that may be present from early childhood through the upper elementary grades. In addition, dyslexia-related myths are dispelled along with a peek inside the reading brain.

Updates from Fine Arts
Contact: Jessica Booth

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Updates from Health and Physical Education
Contact: Therese McGuire

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CONVENTION
Join us for the 2022 Georgia State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (GAHPERD) Convention in Athens, November 13-15. Click here for registration and conference information.

FITNESS PLAYGROUND
Check out the Fitness Playground for instructional resources, and fitness assessment tips. This comprehensive online site offers great resources for Health and Fitness.

MONTHLY CALENDARS
Looking for a way to provide a daily healthy activity each month? Here is an activity calendar with daily suggestions. This is a great way to get your students moving at school or at home.
- Shape America Month Calendar - English
- Shape America Month Calendar - Spanish

JOIN A HPE COMMUNITY GROUP
Check out our District Health and Physical Education and the Health and Physical Education Teachers Group in GaDOE Community. To log in you will need your school email. Once you are a member of Community, you can join our Health and Physical Education Teachers Group.

Updates from Jimmy Carter National Historic Site Updates
Contact: Marle Usry

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACADEMIC (JCNHP) HISTORY BOWL
The education staff at the JCNHP is excited to announce the dates for the 2023 Academic History Bowl! The competitions will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, for Middle School and Thursday, March 2,2023 for High School.

The Georgia Social Studies Standards of Excellence for Middle School: 6th, 7th, and 8th grade and High School: U.S. History, U.S. Government-Civics, and World History will be used to formulate the questions.

For information about registering a team, please contact Marle Usry.

Updates from Mathematics
Contact: Lya Snell

MATHEMATICS VIRTUAL SPECIALIST PROGRAM (2022-2023)
GaDOE is excited to announce the kickoff of the 2022-2023 Virtual Mathematics Specialist Program in partnership with GaDOE Computer Science team! There are sessions available for all grade levels. Visit the catalog of sessions and join us!
Updates from Science
Contact: Keith Crandall

NEAREST SCIENCE RESOURCES: TEACHER NOTES AND LITERACY PLANS
Science Teacher Notes are packed with background information for the disciplinary core ideas, application of the science and engineering practices, potential ideas that students enter the classroom with, and basic phenomena ideas. You can find the notes here:

- Kindergarten
- 1st Grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade

SCIENCE LITERACY PLANS
These literacy-based science tasks are three-dimensional science lessons that leverage literacy skills to deepen student understanding of science through reading and writing. All student sheets and teacher materials are included!

You can find the plans directly here:

- Kindergarten: Day and Night
- 1st Grade: Light
- 2nd Grade: Shadows
- 3rd Grade: Fossils
- 4th Grade: Ecosystems
- 5th Grade: Erosion
- 6th Grade: Tornadoes
- 7th Grade: Cells
- 8th Grade: Mixtures

Updates from Social Studies
Contact: Joy Hatcher

SUPPORT FOR PERSONAL FINANCE AND ECONOMICS
The updated Teacher Notes and curriculum map are available NOW.

- Teacher Notes
- Curriculum Map

VIRTUAL SPECIALISTS ARE BACK!
NEW 10- to 12-minute instructional activity videos, formerly virtual specialist videos, are being uploaded to each grade kindergarten through fifth grade on our new curriculum platform GaInspires. GaInspires only includes grades K-5, but 6-12 is on the way! Click here for links to instructional activity videos for each grade and course.

ARE YOU A SOCIAL STUDIES LEADER?
Check out this short playlist of videos for Social Studies leaders. Topics include: Social Studies Graduation Rule and Course Descriptions, Interpreting the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Social Studies, and Getting Connected with Social Studies.

Do you have ideas for a topic? Email Joy Hatcher.

LOOKING FOR A RECORDED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING VIDEO?
Have you seen GaDOE Social Studies professional learning videos in GaDOE Community? Visit GaDOE Community’s Professional Learning Events for a list of Social Studies recorded webinars. Recorded webinar topics include: Bright Ideas for Non-Text Sources K-5, Bright Ideas for Non-Text Sources 6-12, Social Studies that Matters K-12, MORE Bright Ideas for Non-Text Sources K-5, and Challenging All Students in Social Studies 6-12.
Updates from State ESOL Language Program
Contact: Meg Baker

GEORGIA STUDENT GROWTH MODEL FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
We are pleased to announce a new data tool for teachers and leaders on Georgia’s State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) platform which can inform instructional decision-making processes regarding English learners’ (ELs) academic English language development.

The Georgia Student Growth Model for English Language Proficiency (GSGM for ELP) provides all schools and school systems with a visual display of students’ ELP Growth as measured by two years of ACCESS for ELLs score results. You can navigate to one school, one grade level (historical 2022 data), and one course (teacher view) to see students’ ACCESS Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) visualized as small green growth bubbles on a grid. EL students in Georgia who received a 2021 and 2022 ACCESS for ELLs Overall Composite Proficiency Level (CPL) score now have an ACCESS SGP 2022 Individual Student Report in their SLDS Profile Page under Downloadable Reports.

Need additional resources?
- Check out our new webpage.
- For EL data literacy support, contact ELPrograms@doe.k12.ga.us.
- For technical SLDS support, contact your system’s Data Coordinator.

Updates from Teacher and Leader Support & Development
Contact: Shauntice Wheeler

TLSD PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
In the Fall 2021 CPI report, 73.63% of teachers who left the profession did so by resignation. The Teacher Burnout Report stated that one of the top three factors for teachers contributing to attrition is the lack of teacher participation in educational decision-making. Listening to teacher voice is not just beneficial for teacher retention; it is also essential for:

- Building or leveraging staff ability to increase student learning and achievement
- Strengthening the teaching profession and increasing teacher retention
- Serving as a catalyst for change in schools and building a culture of trust
- Supporting the growth of colleagues by sharing expertise and promoting collaboration

Preparation begins with a systematic approach. TLSD offers two Georgia Learns courses on Encouraging and Supporting Teacher Leadership- A module for Central Office Staff. Completing these courses can be part of your efforts to increase teacher voice.

MENTORS OF INDUCTION LEVEL LEADERS
Georgia Learns includes a series of training modules designed to support Mentors of Induction Level Leaders. There are five modules in this training series, which was designed to help equip Leader Mentors with skills and strategies with which to approach the mentoring process. Module topics include the Role of the Mentor, Active Listening, a coaching and reflection model, Strategic Questioning, and Special Situations. Each research-based module includes references to the GaDOE Leader Induction Guidance and scenarios that will help participants understand the unique relationship between Leader Mentors and Induction Level Leaders. These modules can also be used with Leaders in support of LAPS Standard 5: Human Resources Management.

SOCIAL STUDIES ON INSTAGRAM AND TIKTOK
GaDOE Social Studies Instagram Teacher Takeover is LIVE! Check out our account for great ideas that you can use in your classroom.

Check out our one- to three-minute instructional activity and resource videos. Here are the latest additions:
- Say Mean Matter
- History in the Flesh with GPB’s Georgia Traveler

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Social Studies on Instagram and TikTok
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SCHOOL CLIMATE WELLNESS SESSIONS
The retention of effective teachers and leaders is an ongoing focus of our state. As indicated in the Georgia Teacher Burnout Report, climate and wellness concerns may have a negative impact on retention in the education profession. The Teacher and Leader Support and Development Division is providing a session on supporting school climate wellness for district and school leaders. The two-and-a-half-hour interactive session will be conducted in 11 locations across the state. This session will address educator retention and burnout concerns. In addition, each session will provide resources and strategies to better address the workplace climate. Registration information can be found in this School Climate Wellness Flyer.pdf.

Updates from Technology Services
Contact: Angela Ingram
GACONNECTS – DIGITAL LEARNING ECOSYSTEM
Technology Services launched GaConnects during the GACIS conference in September. The recently developed K-12 Digital Learning Platform features innovative educational tools to improve teaching and learning. GaConnects is a 21st century initiative led by State School Superintendent Woods to expand the use of technology throughout the state. Providing the needed technological tools, infrastructure, and resources to educators and students is a core foundational support for delivering a 21st century education for students.

GaConnects provides educators with access to GaDOE learning resources, standards, student data, and professional learning to aid instruction. GaConnects Preview is available through SLDS. Upon entering GaConnects, teachers can launch NEW and innovative learning applications, including Inspire and SuitCASE.

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. Teachers can quickly retrieve assessment resources as well. Content for K-5 is currently available. 6-12 content is coming soon.

Updates from World Language
Contact: Patrick Wallace
RELEASE OF NEW WORLD LANGUAGE RESOURCES
GaDOE World Languages is proud to announce the release of new resources for Spanish, French, German and ASL teachers in Georgia as well as Spanish Dual Language Immersion resources in Science. The recently released resources include exemplar Unit and Lesson plans for Spanish Levels 1-AP, French Levels 1-Ap, ASL levels 1 and 2 and German levels 1 and 2. Additionally, K-5 Science learning plans have been released in Spanish for Dual Language Immersion programs as well as for general use. You can currently find all of these resources available on the GaDOE World Language website.
INNOVATIVE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS PROGRAM IN SEMINOLE COUNTY
A unique program -- the first of its kind in the United States -- has launched as Seminole County Schools' Agricultural Education program partners with the Fachoberschule Schönbrünn, an agricultural education school, located in Landshut Bavaria. The two schools have been working on projects in the field virtually for over a year and recently, a team from Seminole visited their partner school in Germany. This innovative program seeks to expand the Georgia-Germany relationship in the educational sector in an area of strength for both regions, namely in the field of agriculture, with the goal of expanding cooperation and understanding between the two states and enhancing the economic ties between our regions. Supported by GaDOE and the Georgia Department of Economic Development, this program seeks to provide rural agricultural education students a unique educational experience and highlights the global nature of the agricultural industry and related sectors.