September Friday Email Blast

Table of Contents

Friday, September 2, 2016 ................................................................. 2
Friday, September 9, 2016 ................................................................. 6
Friday, September 16, 2016 ............................................................. 10
Friday, September 23, 2016 ............................................................ 11
Friday, September 30, 2016 ............................................................ 13
Directors,

The school year is off to a busy start, and we are excited about the work. On Tuesday, September 6th, we will host a Student Success Leadership Launch Webinar for the Fifty Districts receiving Intensive Technical Assistance. During last school year, we provided quarterly webinars to support better communication and strengthen the work in these districts. The Student Success Process provides a supportive framework for all districts to engage district and school leaders in collaborative improvement for students. While the content is required and appropriate for the intensive supports in the fifty districts, other districts may choose to access the live session or recorded session. In general, we provide Student Success updates for all districts during Collaborative Communities and the Directors’ Webinars.

On September 13th at 10:00 am, we will host the first Directors’ Webinar and need your voice. Please use the link below to offer feedback to the short survey by next Friday. We will share the data during the webinar and discuss additional information on October 20th at the Directors’ Forum.

**Special Education Directors’ Survey**

In light of inclement weather conditions, stay safe and enjoy the holiday weekend.

*Partnering in Student Success, Zelphine Smith-Dixon*

**Changes in Verbiage Suggested in Last Week’s Email Blast for IEP Amendments:**

There is a correction to last week’s email blast. Although there are ten courses for which an end of course assessment is available, an individual high school student takes only eight EOCs, dependent upon the math courses in which he or she is enrolled, integrated or discrete.

Changes in the assessment requirements for Georgia’s students went into effect this spring when SB 364 was signed by Governor Nathan Deal. As a part of those changes, students in Grades 3 through 8 will take an end-of-grade assessment in English Language Arts and mathematics. However, students are assessed in science and social studies in Grades 5 and 8.

Students in Grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 will no longer take an end-of-grade assessment in science and social studies. High school students will take an end-of-course assessment for each of the courses designated by the State Board of Education. To assist with this process, you may opt to use similar verbiage, as shown below, to appropriately inform parents of the change and amend IEPs.

**SAMPLE VERBIAGE**

Your child ______________’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) contains science and social studies end-of-grade assessments that are no longer required. ______________’s IEP will need to be amended to remove these assessments as a requirement. If you would like a formal IEP Team meeting to discuss this amendment, please notify ______________ at +_________________. However, if you agree to the removal of the science and social studies end-of-grade assessments from your child’s IEP, please sign below and return this form to the school. You will receive a copy of the amended IEP no later than _________________.

________ I agree to the removal of the state science and social studies end-of-grade assessment from my child________________, IEP

Friday, September 2, 2016
**Student Success Leadership Launch for the Fifty Districts Receiving Intensive Technical Assistance:**

The first *Student Success Leadership Launch Webinar* will be **Tuesday, September 6, 2016 @ 1:00 pm**. The purpose of this webinar is to share important updates and support your district’s implementation of the Student Success Process. Access the *Student Success webpage* for ongoing updates and resources.

*Registration Link for September 6th:* [Student Success Leadership Launch](#)

**Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) Portal Application:**

Districts required to use 15% of the IDEA funds to provide CEIS during FY17 will input student-level data in the new portal application. The FY17 CEIS application is currently being tested and may not be available until later this fall. We apologize for the inconvenience but believe that you will benefit greatly from the enhancements.

**Budget Update:**

We have been experiencing technical difficulty with the IDEA Fiscal Monitoring Self-Assessment tab not saving responses in the Consolidated Application IDEA Flowthrough budget. IT has reported that this issue has been resolved. This self-assessment must be completed before budget submission. If you are still experiencing difficulty, please submit a Helpdesk ticket in the portal.

**Deaf-Blind Child Count Information:**

*State Deaf-Blind Projects* are federally required by OSEP to conduct an annual child count of children and youth who are deaf-blind on December 1st of each year. The Georgia Sensory Assistance Project (GSAP) will begin its Georgia Child Count update in November. At that time, Special Education Directors will receive an email asking them to confirm students identified in their district and select a designee to update the student record in the secure on-line database. Though GSAP conducts a December update, **students can be added to the child count at any time**. Please read the attached flyer to determine if there are students you need to add to the Georgia Child Count.

**Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunity:**

There is an upcoming professional learning opportunity (GA CEC) on October 28th. See the attached flyer.

**Announcement of Updated Accessibility Manual:**

NASDSE is pleased to share the following announcement from our colleagues at the National Center for Educational Outcomes (NCEO) and CCSSO’s ASES and ELL SCASSs.

The Accessibility Manual is now complete and ready for use! Very special thanks to Vitaliy Shyyan and his NCEO colleagues for shepherding us through this journey…and special thanks to each of you who provided feedback to various drafts of this valuable resource.

This new manual presents accessibility considerations for teams working with students with disabilities, English learners, and English learners with disabilities. You may access the manual at: [http://ccsso.org/Resources/Publications/CCSSO_Accessibility_Manual_How_To_Select_Administer_And_Evaluate_Use_Of_Accessibility_Supports_For_Instruction_And_Assessment_Of_All_Students.html](http://ccsso.org/Resources/Publications/CCSSO_Accessibility_Manual_How_To_Select_Administer_And_Evaluate_Use_Of_Accessibility_Supports_For_Instruction_And_Assessment_Of_All_Students.html)
For those of you not familiar with the format of the previous versions of the manual, by design, the final format is in Word. This enables state departments (and other users) to modify the document to include their relevant policies/guidelines/resources. All we ask, that attribution to the original version (linked to this email) is provided.

**GATTAP 2016-2017:**

Final days for teachers and therapists to register for regional GATTAP sessions!! See the attached flyer or go to the GATTAP webpage. Contact Debbie Reagin, if you are interested in hosting GATTAP sessions in YOUR district next year!

Debbie Reagin’s Contact (Email: Dreagin@doe.k12.ga.us  Phone: (678) 697-2163)

**Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) Webinars:**

As was shared during recent GAA Pre-Administration webinars, two new resources were developed for your test examiners/teachers who assess students through the GAA.

These resources, which will be available in the coming weeks, are entitled:

- **Georgia Alternate Assessment Sample Tasks Resource Guide**
- **Extended Content Standards – A Resource for the Georgia Alternate Assessment**

Both sets of resources will be published in separate elementary, middle school, and high school editions, and both will be posted to the GAA Resources webpage at the following link: [http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/GAA-Resources.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/GAA-Resources.aspx).

These new resources do **not** represent new requirements for the program or for the creation of student portfolios. Rather, they are designed to support educators in their implementation and understanding of the content standards and in the creation of high-quality assessment tasks. These new items are *supplemental* to existing, long-standing resources such as the GAA Examiner’s Manual, GAA Student Samples Resource Guide, GAA Blueprint & Standards documents, and the state content standards themselves.

We have scheduled webinar sessions to introduce you (and any others in your district you wish to invite) to these new resources. Please see the table below for details and the necessary pre-registration links. Please note that all sessions will be recorded, and the recording will be issued to all those who pre-register (even if they are unable to sign-in to the live sessions).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Webinar Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Sept 14, 2016</td>
<td>GAA Sample Tasks Resource Guide Overview</td>
<td>2:00 – 4:00 PM</td>
<td><a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1611354458540774915">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1611354458540774915</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Sept 15, 2016</td>
<td>GAA Sample Tasks Resource Guide Overview (Live repeat of 9/14)</td>
<td>2:00 – 4:00 PM</td>
<td><a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5847371438617620483">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5847371438617620483</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you have questions regarding the GAA program, you are welcome to contact Deborah Houston at (404) 657-0251; dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us.

Attachment title that was included with the September 2 Email Blast.

Deaf-Blind Child Count Information.docx (436 KB)  GATAP 2016-2017 c (2).docx (21 KB)  GA Workshop Flyer Registration Form.pdf (840 KB)
Directors,

We look forward to the first *Directors’ Webinar on Tuesday, September 13*th in which the registration link is below. In last Friday’s email blast, we shared a survey link for your feedback to inform critical next steps and decisions. To date, fifty-one districts have responded to the survey, but we need greater participation. The survey will remain open through Monday morning, and the data will be shared during Tuesday’s webinar along with budget updates and technical assistance on recent “Dear Colleague Letter” concerning behavior.

**Directors’ Webinar**

Registration:  [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1496863412126637058](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1496863412126637058)

**Special Education Directors’ Survey**

*Partnering in Student Success, Zelphine Smith-Dixon*

**LEA Collaborative Meeting for GNETS:**

On the evening of August 31st, Mr. Matt Jones, Chief of Staff, emailed *local superintendents and special education directors* about the upcoming **LEA Collaborative Meeting** on Monday, September 12th from 10am-1pm in Macon. While GNETS Directors continue to receive ongoing technical assistance, they can attend the meeting with their local teams, as well.

The primary purpose of the meeting will be to discuss how LEAs can continue to enhance their supports of students receiving services through GNETS programs. Representatives from the AG’s office as well as GaDOE’s Special Education and GNETS divisions will be in attendance to answer questions, share the vision for GNETS, and discuss ways to work collaboratively to support students who are receiving services through GNETS. If you have any questions related to the logistics of this meeting, please contact Julie James, by email at jjames@doe.k12.ga.us or by phone at 404-463-0325.

*Registration Link:*  [Click here to register to attend the LEA Collaborative Meeting](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1496863412126637058)

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act:**

The beginning of the school year is a great time to revisit FERPA laws and expectations. As a gentle reminder, we should not use public email to transmit identifiable information about students-including emails with a student’s name, ID number, IEP, etc. Based on the nature of SWD student-level information, *GaDOE portal email* is the best standard protocol for written communication inclusive of identifiable information. We recognize that there are some challenges with the current infrastructure for portal email; however, updates are on the way.

There are instances in which families generate public emails with identifiable information and copy local school districts and state officials. As a good practice, you might consider crafting a new email to respond appropriately to the previous thread, which would support your local practices of protecting students' identifiable information.
Student Success Leadership Launch for the Fifty Districts receiving Intensive Technical Assistance:

Thank you for tuning in for the Student Success Leadership Launch Webinar on Tuesday, September 6th. You can access the recording by using the link below. As a gentle reminder, your local Student Success Coach will inform the progress and success of the work in your district. The presentation provides general tasks for district coaches and outlines ongoing expectations for training and supports. The local coaches will receive statewide technical assistance and training within the local regions. The Division has designated three Area Student Success Coaches to support fidelity of implementation across north, metro and south regions. You may access their names and assignments below.

Webinar Recording Link: Student Success Leadership Launch – September 6, 2016.mp4

DeShonda Stringer (Metro Area Student Success Coach)
Claire Smith (South Area Student Success Coach)
Renee Mixon (North Area Student Success Coach)

New Date for Dougherty ESSA Feedback Session:

We have rescheduled the ESSA Feedback Session in Dougherty County to Thursday, October 6th. It will still be 6-8 p.m. at the same location.

October 6, 2016

Dougherty County, Dougherty Comprehensive High School, 1800 Pearce Ave, Albany, GA 31705

Dear Colleague Letter on Virtual Schools (see attached letter from OSEP):

OSERS and OSEP issued a Dear Colleague letter clarifying certain critical requirements of the IDEA as they apply to virtual schools, including child find and the responsibility of SEAs and LEAs to monitor cyber schools' compliance with the IDEA. Additional technical assistance will be forthcoming.

Early Childhood Education and Preschool Aged Children:

Recently, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have released policy statements related to Early Childhood Education and Preschool aged children. The four statements discuss issues with Inclusion, Dual Language Learners, Family Engagement and Expulsion and Suspension in Early Childhood programs. From the Office of Early Learning September Newsletter 2016:

To further support quality early learning this fall, ED and HHS have created a series of policy statements on timely issues:

1. Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs encourages young children with disabilities access to inclusive high-quality early childhood programs, where they are provided with individualized and appropriate support in meeting high expectations.
2. Our statement supporting the development of children who are dual language learners (DLL) in early childhood programs discusses the importance of fostering children’s development of multiple languages.
3. Family Engagement Practices from the Early Years to the Early Grades highlights the importance of partnering with parents on their child’s education.
4. **Expulsion and Suspension Policies in Early Childhood Settings** can assist States and their public and private local early childhood programs in preventing expulsions and suspensions in early learning settings.

**2017 National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) (see attached listing):**

Schools that were selected for the 2017 NAEP testing have already been notified and are making plans for the assessment which will take place January 30, 2017 to March 10, 2017. School coordinators will receive the list of sampled students and the subject in which they will test in early December. At that time, the school coordinators will make inclusion decisions for any identified special education students based on the allowable NAEP accommodations. Schools should include as many of their special education students as possible. It is important that data are gathered about the performance for this population of student; however, neither student scores nor school scores are calculated. The performance data will only be calculated at the state level. Inclusion guidelines have been set by the National Center for Education Statistics, and each state’s participation percentage will be a part of the released results next fall. Feel free to contact Georgia’s NAEP State Coordinator, Bobbie Bable, at 404-657-6168 or babble@doe.k12.ga.us if there are any questions.


**Save the Date – Georgia Assistive Technology in Education (GATE):**

Are you looking for an assistive technology training opportunity for staff? Look no further! The fifth annual **GATE Assistive Technology Seminar** will be hosted by the Metro Atlanta Assistive Technology consortium in collaboration with Georgia Tools for Life in December! Please send the attached flyer, 2016 GATE Flyer, to school personnel in your district and encourage all interested staff to attend.

**When:** Friday, December 9, 2016

**Where:** Georgia Tech Student Center, Atlanta, GA

**Registration:** $10.00 *Registration Open Soon*

**Who:** The GATE Seminar is open to educators, therapists, parents and community members.

**Why:** To gather and learn about assistive technology to help students achieve access to the curriculum.

**What:** There will be a variety of sessions focusing on best practices, product demonstrations and classroom implementation strategies that will support students as they reach for their “accessible tomorrow”.

*For more information about attending GATE click here!*

**GATE Call for Papers**

Do you know someone who would like to submit a proposal to present at GATE? GATE Seminar planning committee encourages educators and therapists working with assistive technology to submit proposals. [Click here for the 2016 GATE Call for Papers.](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/NAEP.aspx).
**Budget Information:**
The FY17 Grant Award Notifications were mailed to district superintendents. In the notification, district superintendents were asked to share a copy of the letter with special education directors and appropriate finance personnel.

**Data Collections:**
The power point presentations from the FY17 Data Conference have now been posted on the Special Education Website. Navigate to Budgets, Grants, Data Collection and Reporting; click on Data Collection Conference. You will see the power points and also Documents, Templates and Tools. Here you will find tools to assist you as you collect data throughout the year. These are Excel spreadsheets. To use these tools, first enable editing and then save them on to your computer. They are password protected only to protect the formulas; you may access the passwords below. If you have any questions about these documents, please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us.

**Passwords:**
- timeline for the Tracking logs (initial and BCW)
- discipline for the Discipline template
- preschool for the Preschool outcome data template
- gnets for the GNETS data management tool

**GATTAP Sessions:**
Last call for registration for the September 15th and September 16th GATTAP sessions! There is still space available at the Augusta and Jonesboro locations! These sessions provide evidence-based practices and job-alike peer mentors to teachers and therapists who work with students with autism and significant cognitive disabilities. See the attached flyer.

**Georgia Vision Educators Statewide Training (GVEST):**
Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs), O&M Specialists, and VI Paraprofessionals in Georgia will have a wonderful opportunity for professional learning during GVEST. GVEST is planned through a cooperative effort among the Georgia Academy for the Blind, the Georgia Sensory Assistance Project, and the GA DOE. The focus for this year’s GVEST is on assessments and appropriate accommodations/assistive technology. GVEST will be held at Middle Georgia State University in Macon beginning Wednesday Oct. 12th through Friday Oct. 14th, 2016. Please share the attached flyer with your VI professionals. Registration is now open at www.GVEST.org. If you have questions, please contact Elaine Thagard: ethagard@doe.k12.ga.us

**GCEL Conference – February 6th – 8th:**
The GCEL, Inc. President advises to please reserve your room for the GCEL conference NOW before they are all gone. Go to the GCEL, Inc website at www.gcel.org and go to the hotel tab to open up the hotel reservation link to get a room at the conference rate. The dates for the conference are February 6th – 8th.

**Attachment titles that were included with the September 9 Email Blast.**
Directors,

It was great seeing many of you this week at the LEA Collaborative GNETS Meeting, SELDA Meeting, and Parent Mentor Partnership Conference. It has been a busy week; however, we are excited about so many opportunities to foster collaboration among schools, districts, families, and communities. Mrs. Nakeba Rahming, GNETS Director, has shared the LEA Collaborative presentation, which is attached to the blast. Thank you for your participation in the Directors’ Webinar and survey. You may access the recording by using the following link. Have a great weekend. **Directors’ Webinar 9/13/2016.mp4.**

Partnering in Student Success, Zelphine Smith-Dixon

**Data Collections:**

We received many questions regarding a district’s obligation for evaluating and serving students who are parentally placed in private school. Please see the attached chart, which describes your obligation for students attending private schools *located within your district.* Please note on the chart the distinction between your obligation for students who reside in your district and students who reside in another district yet attend a private school in your district. If you have any questions regarding this chart please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us.

**Teleservice for Service Delivery of Speech Therapy Services:**

Please remember to contact Camilla Moss, cmoss@doe.k12.ga.us, if you are currently using teleservice for service delivery of Speech Therapy services. As a reminder, districts have the ultimate responsibility to ensure FAPE is provided. If you are utilizing teletherapy, students must have 1 hour of direct services per month from a certified SLP, in addition to the teletherapy. Districts must provide a trained communication paraprofessional to facilitate sessions and are required to document their efforts with prior approval from the GaDOE. The use of teleservice does not impact maximum caseload size. For more information, see [http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Documents/Sp%20Ed%20Implementation%20Manual%20Part%201_8-12.pdf#page194](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Documents/Sp%20Ed%20Implementation%20Manual%20Part%201_8-12.pdf#page194)

**Attachment titles that were included with the September 16 Email Blast.**

- Child Find - Private School Flowchart.pdf (103 KB)
- LEA Collaborative Final Powerpoint.pptx (801 KB)
- Directors’ Webinar_Scember 12, 2016.ppt (7 MB)
Directors:

Did you know that September is Attendance Awareness Month? Through the implementation of the Student Success work, we have learned how attendance increases engagement and ultimately impacts school completion. If available, join the Department for a twitter chat on Monday @ 10:00 am to learn more about these effective practices. Have a great weekend.

Zelphine Smith-Dixon, Partnering in Student Success

ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH TWITTER CHAT
#AttendanceChatGA

Join us as we discuss the importance of attendance & ways to prevent chronic absence.

Monday, September 26
10 a.m. EST
FOLLOW @GeorgiaDeptoEd FOR UPDATES
#AttendanceChatGA

IDEAS 2017:

We are very excited to share a save the date for IDEAS 2017. This teacher and leader targeted meeting is a combination of presentations by local, state, and national educators focusing on research-based and best practices for teaching students. This home grown conference is an excellent venue for staff development and a place to develop new ideas that can help prepare teachers to foster successful students. Please distribute the attached “Save the Date” announcement to all your local schools and district staff.

Assistive Technology Training Opportunity:

Georgia Assistive Technology in Education (GATE) Seminar:
Update: Registration is now open! See registration link below!

Are you looking for an assistive technology training opportunity for staff? Look no further! The fifth annual GATE Assistive Technology in Education Seminar will be hosted by the Metro
Atlanta Assistive Technology consortium in collaboration with Georgia Tools for Life in December!

**When:** Friday, December 9, 2016  
**Where:** Georgia Tech Student Center, Atlanta, GA  
**Registration:** $10.00 [Click here to register for the GATE Seminar](#)  
**Who:** The GATE Seminar is open to educators, therapists, parents and community members.  
**Why:** To gather and learn about assistive technology to help students achieve access to the curriculum.  
**What:** There will be a variety of sessions focusing on best practices, product demonstrations and classroom implementation strategies that will support students as they reach for their “accessible tomorrow”.

Be sure and register early to guarantee your seat!

**Budget Reminders:**

All initial budget submissions are due October 1st. In addition to the initial budgets, FY15 Maintenance of Effort reconciliation is due by October 1st. If you have already submitted your MOE reconciliation for approval and are still in the process of clearing, you have met the submission deadline. If there are questions, contact Amber McCollum (404) 463-0535 or amccollum@doe.k12.ga.us.

**Attachment titles that were included with the September 23 Email Blast.**

- [Save the Date 2017.pdf (533 KB)](#)  
- [2016 GATE Flyer.pdf (207 KB)](#)
Directors,

Governor Nathan Deal has declared October 2016 as **Dyslexia Awareness Month** in Georgia to provide an opportunity to share information about dyslexia with the public, parents, teachers and other community members. The proclamation confirms the International Dyslexia Association – Georgia Branch (IDA-GA) concern that “only a limited percentage of society and the academic community are aware of how to access and implement treatment options for dyslexia” and “research shows that a child who finishes second grade without being able to read has only a one in four chance to read at grade level by the end of elementary school.” Please note the Dyslexia Awareness 2016 Press Release for additional information.

In addition to **Dyslexia Awareness Month**, October represents **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**. The 2016 theme is “#InclusionWorks.” Please use the hyperlink to access additional information about this awareness.

**Tuesday, October 11**th, we will host the **Directors’ Webinar @ 1:00 pm**; use the following link to register for the webinar. Registration Link: [Directors’ Webinar for October](#)

On **October 20**th, we will host the first **Directors’ Forum** in Forsyth at the Monroe County BOE. Additional details will be shared during the webinar.

**Partnersing in Student Success, Zelphine Smith-Dixon**

**Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Feedback Session:**

The Department continues to host ESSA feedback sessions throughout the state. Please note the October feedback sessions. Before attending the meeting, we encourage you to review this [one-page overview of ESSA topics](#). For those unable to attend an in-person meeting, a survey opportunity will soon be announced and posted on this website. Feedback can also be emailed to [essa@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:essa@doe.k12.ga.us).

- **October 6:** Dougherty County, Dougherty Comprehensive High School, 1800 Pearce Ave, Albany, GA 31705
- **October 12:** Laurens County, Old West Laurens (OWL) Training Center, 338 West Laurens School Road, Dublin, GA 31021
- **October 13:** Chatham County, Hesse K8 School, 9116 Whitfield Avenue, Savannah, GA 31406
- **October 17:** Gordon County, Gordon County College & Career Academy, 305 Beamer Road, Calhoun, GA 30701

**Budget Update:**

We have uploaded a new version of the FY17 MOE Eligibility worksheet to our website. If you have submitted the previous version already, you do not need to change anything. The information in the worksheet is the same, but we have entered formulas into the calculation worksheet, which is on the 2nd tab. We did this based on LEA feedback and should be easier for finance personnel to calculate. Use the following link to locate, and it is also attached.

[http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Budget-and-Grant-Applications.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Budget-and-Grant-Applications.aspx)

IDEA grant amounts in the Consolidated Application are correct. However, we have noticed that some Grant Award Notifications that were sent on August 30th had two incorrect data fields = program codes and award amounts. The terms and conditions are accurate in all letters. We
have issued new grant award notifications to all LEAs. If you do not notice a change in your
Grant Award Notification, then your grant award notification was correct, and you do not need to
do anything. The grant award notifications sent today should replace the previous grant award
notification issued on August 30th.

Please contact Amber McCollum if you have any questions at (404) 463-0535 or
amccollum@doe.k12.ga.us.

**SSTAGE 10th Annual Promising Practices Conference (January 19, 2017):**

Each year, SSTAGE welcomes applications from schools and districts to present a 75-minute
workshop session on their RTI/MTSS practices. If you are having success that you attribute to
your RTI/MTSS or pyramid of intervention practices, please consider sharing your story and data
at this conference. We are not looking for perfection, nor do we expect all components and
processes to be fully implemented. We are looking for positive changes in student outcomes that
can be replicated by other schools and districts in Georgia. Schools and districts who present at
the conference have an opportunity to become a SSTAGE STAR Award winner. School and
district teams accepted for this event receive free registration to the conference. To learn more,
visit www.sstage.org.

Call for Presentation Proposals in Partnership with the Georgia Department of Education
The Classic Center, Athens, Georgia

*Is your school or system ready to present at the 2017 Promising Practices Conference?*

**Download the 2017 Promising Practices Application (for Teams) HERE**

Attachment titles that were included with the September 30 Email Blast.

- FY17 MCE Eligibility Worksheet.xlsx (29 KB)
- Dyslexia Awareness 2016 Press Release.docx (176 KB)