

December Friday Email Blast

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Friday, December 1, 2017

Directors,

It was great seeing many of you at the G-CASE Conference in Savannah. Congratulations to Charlette Green, New G-CASE President, along with the entire G-CASE Board/Advisory Group on a successful conference. We celebrated several Everyday HEROES on their outstanding accomplishments to the field of special education.

Charlette Green Mikki Garcia Donna Ann Flaherty Becky Conner



Distinguished Service Awards:

Mikki Garcia (CEC President)

Donna Ann Flaherty (GaDOE Program Specialist)

Lillie Moncus Special Education Administrator of the Year Award:

Becky Conner (Catoosa County Public Schools)

Thank you for Service on the G-CASE Board:

Allison Oxford (North Central GLRS) and Tyrene Neil (Georgia Academy for the Blind)

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming LEA Collaborative to foster implementation of the new GNETS Rule. Please register and plan accordingly because your attendance is critical. Also, the next ***Directors' Webinar will be Tuesday, December 12th @ 1pm.*** Use the following link to register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7844777253199580162>



This week's "Extra" recognition goes to ***Becky Conner*** and ***Catoosa County Public Schools.*** During the G-CASE Conference, the Catoosa County Team presented on a personal journey of school improvement: Taking the "Oh NO!" Out of Dispro. The Catoosa team worked to evaluate and align interventions and existing resources available in the district. Their leadership and commitment to students proved that school improvement really is about all students. The leadership discussed how a compliance requirement that began with 50 students ultimately improved the infrastructure of over 11,000 lives. Way to go, Catoosa!

We celebrate with the Catoosa County Team (Becky Conner, Kim Nichols, Gina Haynes and Shalanda Mohan) and appreciate the partnership with the local

GLRS and DOE district liaison. Let's share these exemplary examples by using the following web link throughout the school year: [The "Extra" Award: Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things](#).

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Refueling for the Work Ahead,
Zelphine Smith-Dixon

EMAIL BLAST

New Items

[FY2018 Fall LEA Collaborative Meeting](#)

[FY17 Excess Cost Update](#)

[Data Collections](#)

[November 2017 Curriculum and Instruction Newsletter](#)

[Priming the Pipeline for Special Education Administrators](#)

Old/Updated Items

[Transition Webinars](#)

[Previously Recorded Transition Webinars](#)

FY 2018 Fall LEA Collaborative Meeting:

The FY 2018 LEA Collaborative Meeting will be held on *December 7, 2017* from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm.

Questions: If you have any questions related to the logistics of this meeting, please contact Vickie Cleveland by email at vcleveland@doe.k12.ga.us or by phone at (404) 232-7991.

Marriott Macon City Center (Centreplex Ballroom) 240 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217

LEA Collaborative Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/72845535029158>

FY17 Excess Cost Update:

The FY17 LEA Excess Cost Submission due date is January 31st. The updated FY17 handbook and recent LEA Excess Cost training is attached, and you may also find all of our Excess Cost Resources on the website [here](#). The updated optional template will be available in the next couple of weeks. Additionally, Financial Review has posted DE46 pivot tables for all LEAs to assist with expenditures needed for this submission. The Financial Review division will be sending updated information to all finance directors with specific information about that posting. We will provide details of this required submission in the December Director's Webinar. If you have questions, please contact your budget specialist.

Data Collections:

Transition Planning Survey: The Transition Planning Survey closes at the end of the day today, December 1, 2017. All districts for whom the Transition Planning Survey is applicable must upload the transition plans for the selected students. Remember that this impacts your compliance rating for Transition Planning and Timely/Accurate Submission of required data and reports.

SSIP Districts: The SSIP application is now open in the SE Application Dashboard in the GaDOE portal. This data submission is only applicable to the 50 SSIP districts. Please submit identifying information for a minimum of 50 students in each targeted school that is providing evidence based practices through Student Success during the FY18 school year. Instructions are available within the portal application. If you have questions please contact Wina Low (wlow@doe.k12.ga.us) or Kachelle White (kwhite@doe.k12.ga.us).

FY18 Group Size Map: Please note the attachment with the FY18 child count group sizes.

November 2017 Curriculum & Instruction Newsletter:

The November Curriculum and Instruction Newsletter has been posted to [gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org) and can be accessed from the link below: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Documents/CI-Newsletters/Curriculum-and-Instruction-November-2017-Newsletter.pdf>. It can also be found by scrolling towards the bottom of the Curriculum and Instruction page at the link below: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/default.aspx>

Priming the Pipeline for Special Education Administrators:

Webinar: Tuesday, December 12, 2-17
1-2pm EST

Webinar Registration Link: <http://cedar.education.ufl.edu/webinar-registration/>

Please join the CEEDAR Center for a webinar on the topic of special education administrators. Dr. Tom Bellamy (University of Washington, Bothell) will provide background on the need in this area and discuss approaches to addressing shortage and pipeline issues for local special education administrators. He will be joined by Dr. Luann Purcell (CEC Council for Administrators of Special Education) and Dr. Bill East (National Association of State Directors of Special Education) to provide insights on behalf of each of their respective constituents.

Transition Webinar Series:

The Georgia Department of Education’s Division for Special Education Services and Supports will host a webinar series for transition during the 2017-2018 school year. All webinars will be scheduled from 3:00-4:00 pm. Registrants will receive a link to a recording, if unable to participate during the scheduled session.

The webinar series aligns with FY18 priority: **IEP Development and Implementation.**

The topics and registration links are listed below.

January 23, 2018	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Assistive Technology: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8896753697115509507
February 27, 2018	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Inclusive Post-Secondary: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6983816770041115139
March 27, 2017	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Dropout Prevention: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6422102667689469187

April 24, 2017	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Self-Advocacy: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7919085549883264771
May 22, 2017	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6349938421023712259

Links to recordings of previous webinars in the Transition Webinar Series:

Self-Determination and the Self-Determined Learning Module of Instruction:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7737622150680659971>

Effective Transition Plans:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/3763266948971785730>

Career Technical Instruction:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/3619588267655288577>

Please contact Elise James at ejames@doe.k12.ga.us, Laurie Ponsell at lponsell@doe.k12.ga.us or Wina Low at wlow@doe.k12.ga.us with questions.

Attachment titles that were included with the December 1 Email Blast.

 FY18 CHILD COUNT GROUP SIZES.PDF (342 KB)

 IDEA Excess Cost Handbook.pdf (2 MB)

 LEA Excess Cost Calculation.pdf (911 KB)

 FY 18 LEA Collaborative Meeting .pdf (704 KB)

 Friday, December 1st Email Blast.pdf (586 KB)

Friday, December 8, 2017

Directors,

We trust that you had a safe, restful weekend despite the inclement weather in many areas of the state. The LEA Collaborative was a success, and we are appreciative for your time, voice and commitment to supporting Georgia's students. The registrants will receive a brief survey to support the Department's continuous improvement efforts and shape next steps per your feedback. The presentation is attached to the email blast.

Also, the next **[Directors' Webinar](#) will be Tuesday, December 12th @ 1pm**. We have a lot of content to share with you and look forward to your active participation. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (USED) released a Q&A on *U. S. Supreme Court Case Decision Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District Re-1*. A copy of the Q&A is attached to the email blast.

This week's "Extra" recognition goes to Charlette Green and Cherokee County School District for their local work with school completion. The Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC) featured the school district in a press release to celebrate the CHOICE Program developed to improve school completion for students with disabilities: <http://www.ajc.com/news/local/making-the-grade-program-helps-special-needs-seniors-graduate/39JyXW0woMftP0bWnwehsN/>. The National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) featured the CHOICE Program in Cherokee School District, as well. Join me in celebrating the district's efforts around school completion. Let's share these exemplary examples by using the following web link throughout the school year: [The "Extra" Award: Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things](#).

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Refueling for the Work Ahead,
Zelphine Smith-Dixon

EMAIL BLAST

[Excess Cost Live Webinar for Finance Directors](#)

[Important Budget Information](#)

[Data Collections](#)

Excess Cost Live Webinar for Finance Directors:

On **December 11th at 1:00 pm**, the Georgia Department of Education's Financial Review Office and the Division for Special Education will collaborate on a live webinar for IDEA Excess Cost. This webinar will discuss the January submission and updates to FY18 submission. Finance Directors have been notified by the Financial Review Division. The webinar will be recorded and shared via other online resources.

Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6329661229394859777>

Important Budget Information:

The following LEAs or Fiscal Agents have not signed off on completion reports for one or more federal grants: Jenkins County, Chattahoochee Flint RESA, Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation, International Charter School of Atlanta, Dubois Integrity Academy, Ivy Preparatory Academy, Ivy

Preparatory Academy at Gwinnett, Liberty Tech Charter Academy, State Schools, Metro RESA, Jeff Davis County, and Muscogee County.

The completion reports were due **October 30th**. The Georgia Department of Education Grants Accounting office needs this completed immediately for the end of year closeout and to reallocate carryover funds.

Data Collections:

Annual Event Graduation Rate (Attachment): A document with the 2017 SWD Annual Event Graduation Rate for each school district is attached to this week's email blast. The Annual Event Graduation Rate calculation is below. This rate is different from the published 4-year cohort rate. The data are available in the GaDOE Portal, as well. If you have questions, please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us.

SWD exiting with a Gen. Ed. Diploma

All SWD who exit to include Gen. Ed. Diplomas, Sped Diplomas, Certificates, and Dropouts

FY18 Group Size Table (Attachment): Please see the revised FY18 Group Size document attached. If you have questions please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us

Attachment titles that were included with the December 8 Email Blast.

 FY17 ANNUAL EVENT GRADUATION RATE.PDF (480 KB)

 FY18 CHILD COUNT GROUP SIZES.PDF (384 KB)

 qa-endrewcase-12-07-2017.pdf (455 KB)

 Friday, December 8th Email Blast.pdf (477 KB)

 FY18 Winter LEA Collaborative ppt 12-8-2017.pptx (2 MB)

Friday, December 15, 2017

Directors,

Thank you for tuning in to the [Directors' Webinar](#) on Tuesday. We shared lots of great content and look forward to additional opportunities of collaboration. The next Directors' Forum will be January 18th at the Monroe County Board of Education; a representative from each GLRS region should plan to attend the meeting.

Attached to the email blast, you will note the FY18 LEA Collaborative presentation and supporting resources. We look forward to continuing the supports for this work in Collaborative Communities and other professional learning opportunities.

The **Student Success notification** to the fifty districts receiving intensive technical assistance was sent on yesterday evening. Please follow up with us if there are additional questions. The [Student Success Leadership Launch](#) archived recording is available by using the hyperlink.



The **Disproportionality Determinations** will be made available by Close of Business on **Monday, December 18th**. We appreciate your patience as we work diligently across multiple priorities. As we embark upon the holiday season, let's pay careful attention to others who may be in need of additional assistance. You will find the most recent edition of the **Project AWARE newsletter**; this newsletter is a great resource. Hats off to Dr. Caitlin Dooly for her passion and interest in the area of Social Emotional Learning.

We will mail reminders and instructions for annual **APH registration** (including your APH calendar) next week. Directors first, then teachers, will be emailed an electronic copy with hyperlinks to change shipping locations and/or contact information. Registration will begin 1/2/18.

This week's "Extra" recognition goes to the Heart of Georgia Transition Alliance for the commitment to excellence in transition practices for students. The Alliance held the 2nd Annual Christmas Gala on December 9th at the Pulaski County Board of Education. The Gala showcased outstanding talents of local students and honored students who were successful in obtaining, maintaining, and excelling in employment. In addition to this recognition, they honored several educators who embodied the principle that every student with a disability needs a champion! Let's share these exemplary examples by using the following web link throughout the school year: [The "Extra" Award: Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things](#).

As a special note, the Department forwarded a **memo** to the GLRS fiscal agents this past Wednesday. We appreciate your patience and support and have attached a copy of the correspondence to the blast. We will resume the email blast in the new year. Have a safe holiday break and a refuel for the year ahead.

Attachment titles that were included with the December 15 Email Blast.

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| GNETS Services Flow Chart.pdf (542 KB) | GNETS Request for Consultation.pdf (465 KB) |
| Guidance for GNETS Placements.pdf (1 MB) | GNETS Request for Consultation.docx (41 KB) |
| DOE District GLRS Group Picture with Names.jpg (137 KB) | GDAP-Fall17-final-web.pdf (2 MB) |
| December Directors' Webinar.pptx (19 MB) | Fiscal Agent Notice - GLRS .pdf (576 KB) |
| FY18 Winter LEA Collaborative ppt 12-8-2017.pptx (2 MB) | Friday, December 15th Email Blast.pdf (124 KB) |