



## January Friday Email Blast

### Table of Contents

Friday, January 10, 2020.....	2
Friday, January 17, 2020.....	6
Friday, January 24, 2020.....	7
Friday, January 31, 2020.....	10

Friday, January 10, 2020

Directors,

The email blast attachments can be accessed using the following link: [January 10 Attachments](#).

The next **Directors' Webinar** will be **Tuesday, January 14 @ 1 pm**. If needed, you may use the following registration link: [Directors' Webinar](#).

The GO-IEP team is planning **student records (SR) support sessions**. Training locations and information are attached. An additional location may be available at GaDOE. Details will be provided at a later time. Please save the date that is most convenient for you!

The application for participation in the **Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership (GaPMP) for FY21** is available (see attachment) and due back to the GaDOE by **March 1, 2020**. Both returning districts and districts who will be new to the partnership are required to return a signed application for participation. Scan the signed FY21 GaPMP Application and reference your district name in the file name, then upload using the link below.

Both the application and link for submission can be found on the GaDOE Special Education Services and Supports webpage: [Webpage](#). If you have questions, please contact Anne Ladd [aladd@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:aladd@doe.k12.ga.us) or Sharon Jones [sjones@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:sjones@doe.k12.ga.us).

LINK for uploading application for submission: <https://form.jotform.com/80285631129153>

#### **GAA Updates:**

The Assessment Division will partner with Nextera to host webinars on **January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am until 12 pm**, or you may attend the live repeat webinar on **January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm until 3 pm**. The GAA 2.0 Pre-Administration webinars will be held on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am until 12 pm, or you may attend the live repeat webinar on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm until 4pm.

Use the link below and go to page seven of the, For Educators Newsletter - Assessment Updates, scroll down to GAA 2.0 and register for a webinar. Link: [Educators Newsletter](#) Please note, for all GoTo Webinar meeting links, if the meeting date has passed, the meeting link will take you to the recording. Meeting links are embedded within the title.

Please review the National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) resource tool for LEAs to utilize when addressing your alternate assessment 1% justifications. This resource will assist LEAs to engage in thoughtful conversations, tailored to unique contexts, about participation in the GAA 2.0. It encourages critical discussions that can help to identify ways in which to examine a variety of data sources, analysis methods, and other information to gather, all toward the goal of ensuring that appropriate decisions are made about participation in the GAA 2.0.

Here is the link to the document:

<https://nceo.umn.edu/docs/OnlinePubs/Tool4DialogueGuide.pdf>

For more information contact Crystal Callaway at [ccallaway@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ccallaway@doe.k12.ga.us) or (404) 764-7321.

#### **IDEA Parent Survey:**

The IDEA Parent Survey will be open from **January 15, 2020 – May 31, 2020**. The IDEA Parent Survey helps the state to determine parents' perception of the success of parent engagement between the local school and themselves. The information is gathered as a component of the State Performance Plan, **Indicator 8**: Percent of parents with a student receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving results for children with disabilities. The data collected is reported in the Annual Performance Report and on the system profile about each system. Each state is

required to conduct a parent survey collection process to measure parent/family needs and perceptions.

Georgia's parent survey is available to all families of students with disabilities. The survey will be administered through an online link and can be found on the websites listed below.

Direct link to the parent survey: <https://gshs.gadoe.org/Pages/Parent.aspx>

Websites: GaDOE [http://www.gadoe.org/ci\\_exceptional.aspx](http://www.gadoe.org/ci_exceptional.aspx) or

Ga Parent Mentor Partnership [www.parentmentors.org](http://www.parentmentors.org) or

Parent to Parent of Georgia [www.p2pga.org](http://www.p2pga.org)

Technical Assistance:

- Problems with the online survey: Submit a [dticket@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dticket@doe.k12.ga.us) or call 800-869-1011.
- Questions about the Parent Survey: Contact Anne Ladd at [aladd@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:aladd@doe.k12.ga.us) or Sharon Jones at [sjones@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:sjones@doe.k12.ga.us).
- Families want to answer the survey by phone: Contact the Special Education Help Desk at 404-657-9968.
- Questions about Parent Survey Dashboard data: Contact Linda Castellanos at [lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us).

### Georgia Autism and Behavior Support Initiative (GABSI):

GABSI provides **FREE** professional learning for teachers and therapists who work with students with autism. Winter GABSI topics include:

Day 1 – Academic Access (all levels) and Functional Skills; and

Day 2 – Sensory Integration.

Locations:

February 6-7 in Dalton (full), McDonough, Perry, and Waycross

February 27- February 28 in Albany

**REGISTRATION CLOSES JANUARY 24 – TWO WEEKS!!** See attached flyer for more information. Registration link: <https://georgiaautism.net/conference-registration/>

### Parent to Parent of Georgia (P2P) Trainings:

Date	Title	Locations
Monday, January 13, 2020	Peace, Love and Harmony	Bulloch, Candler, Evans
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	Georgia Medicaid Basics and Overview of HCBS	Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Paulding
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	Georgia Medicaid and NOW/COMP Waivers	Clayton, Fayette, Henry
Thursday, January 16, 2020	Georgia Medicaid Basics and CMO's	Glynn, Camden, Brantley

Thursday, January 30, 2020	Peace, Love and Harmony	Oconee, Clark, Oglethorpe
Tuesday, February 4, 2020	Georgia Medicaid NOW/COMP Waivers	Floyd, Polk, Bartow
Wednesday, February 12, 2020	Crossing the Medicaid Bridge- Transition to Adult Healthcare	Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb

### Assistive Technology Webinar - January 14, 2020:

We will host an **Assistive Technology Webinar** on **January 14** from **3:00 – 3:30 pm**.

Topic: Speech to Text: Using dictation to support students that struggle with writing

Registration URL: [Webinar Registration Link](#)

### Recording Links to the ASPIRE<sup>Plus</sup> Follow-Up Webinars:

Below are the links to the recorded sessions held this week for the ASPIRE<sup>Plus</sup> research groups. If you have questions, please contact Elise James at [ejames@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ejames@doe.k12.ga.us) or call 404-326-0421. The PowerPoints for the sessions are attached.

- **ASPIRE only:** ([2019-12-091500ASPIREPlusFollow-Up ASPIREONLY.mp4](#))
- **ASPIRE with SDLMI:** ([2019-12-101459ASPIREPlusFollow-Up SDLMIONLY.mp4](#))
- **ASPIRE with SDLMI:** ([2019-12-111459ASPIREPlusFollow-Up ASPIREwithSDLMI.mp4](#))

### ELA Winter Institutes:

The GaDOE ELA/Literacy team in partnership with the Georgia Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals (GAESP and GAMSP) is pleased to announce the 2020 Winter Literacy Institutes. These one-day institutes are aimed at increasing the expertise of school-based literacy teams in our state. Schools will have the opportunity to send members of their literacy teams to a winter institute as a follow-up to the 2019 Summer Literacy Conference. The 2020 Winter Literacy Institutes will provide school teams the opportunity to engage in evidence-based practices for literacy. It is anticipated that literacy teams will implement these strategies and processes within their respective schools upon their return. Check with your school administrator to find out if your school's literacy team is planning to attend. Institute dates, locations and registration links are below.

Date	Location	Registration Link
February 5, 2020	Cartersville, GA – Clarence Brown Conference Center 5450 GA-20 Cartersville, GA 30121	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
February 19, 2020	Dublin, GA – Oconee Fall-Line Technical College, Dubose Porter Center 560 Pinehill Rd Dublin, GA 31021	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>

March 4, 2020	Tifton, GA – UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center 15 R D C Rd, Tifton, GA 31794	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
---------------	--	-----------------------------------

**Regional Follow-Up for Technical Assistance:**

The purpose of these trainings is to follow-up with districts who have requested additional support to implement select initiatives in their transition programs for students with disabilities. Participants will be provided with hands on actions to address their district's needs specific to the following topics:

- Evaluation of Transition Programming (Quality Indicators of Exemplary Transition Programs)
- Transition Interagency Councils: Collaboration and Partnerships
- Career Technical and Agriculture Education (CTAE) Career Technical Instruction (CTI) and Dual Enrollment

Special education directors, transition specialists and personnel, teachers, counselors and GLRS directors are encouraged to participate (preferably as teams). Training dates, locations and registration links are listed below. Choose only one date. Please note the date change below. If you have any questions, contact Elise James ([ejames@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ejames@doe.k12.ga.us)).

**Registration:** <https://form.jotform.com/93226158976166>

Date	Time	Location
Friday, January 24, 2020	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Department of Exceptional Education East DeKalb Campus 5839 Memorial Dr Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083
Tuesday, January 28, 2020 (date change)	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	South Georgia GLRS 245 North Robinson Street Lenox, Georgia 31637
Friday, January 31, 2020	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Georgia Department of Education Twin Towers West 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**Attachment titles that were included with the January 10 Email Blast.**

 January 10 Email Blast

Friday, January 17, 2020

**There wasn't a January 17 Email Blast.**

Friday, January 24, 2020

Directors,

Thank you for your support during the Georgia Teacher Pipeline Summit. It was a great opportunity to collaborate and strengthen Georgia's capacity to attract, prepare, develop, retain, and support teachers. [Teacher Summit Resources](#)

The GaDOE recently received an Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amendment approval from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to include an Alternate Diploma for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Rule 160-4-2-.48 must be amended to include the Alternate Diploma in order to comply with USED's amendment approval.

During the January State Board of Education meeting, it was recommended that the State Board of Education authorize the State School Superintendent to **initiate rulemaking procedures** in accordance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act so as to amend State Board of Education Rule 160-4-2-.48 High School Graduation Requirements for Students Enrolling in the Ninth Grade for the First time in the 2008-09 School Year and Subsequent Years. You may review the supporting documents below.

[SBOE Approval](#)

[Redlined Version](#)

[Non-redlined Version](#)

[Rule Synopsis](#)

#### **Email Blast Items**

[Important Budget Reminder](#)

[Georgia Autism and Behavior Support Initiative](#)

[Student Record Training](#)

[Low Vision Clinic](#)

[Georgia AER Opportunity for Vision Educators](#)

[2020 Winter Literacy Institutes](#)

[Teachers Tools](#)

[Tiered Connection](#)

#### **Important Budget Reminder:**

The Special Education Excess Cost Calculation, which is part of the local district determination's Timely and Accurate Data Submission Report, is due by January 31<sup>st</sup>. This submission must be entered into the Consolidated Application and has a two part sign-off for the results and base calculations. Please plan accordingly as both parts must be submitted by the due date. Resources for the calculation can be found on our budget page [here](#). Please contact your budget liaison for further information or technical assistance.

#### **Georgia Autism and Behavior Support Initiative:**

We are only **several** weeks away from the beginning sessions of Winter Georgia Autism and Behavior Supports Initiative trainings in Dalton, McDonough, Perry and Waycross, and **6 weeks** out for our Albany location!

These FREE, hands-on, high quality professional learning opportunities are provided by regional experts in the field of autism. Teachers and therapists LOVE these targeted trainings and the opportunities they provide to learn and grow alongside their job-alike peers.

**Day 1** will focus on supporting functional and academic skills for students with autism and low incidence populations at ALL levels.

**Day 2** will focus on indicators of poor sensory integration such as:

1. Over- or under- sensitivity to touch, movement, sights, smells, tastes and sounds
2. Activity level that is unusually high... or low
3. Poor organization of behavior in new situations
4. Poor fine and gross motor skills
5. Delays in speech, language, motor skills, and academic achievement

Participants will be asked to examine what student behaviors are trying to tell them, rather than looking at behavior as being negative or bad. Participants can sign up for one or both days of GABSI, as needed.

Current GABSI locations are strategically located in Dalton, McDonough, Perry, Albany and Waycross so that teachers can more easily access these sessions. If you are interested in hosting a GABSI session in your district or at your GLRS please contact me. We can work together to identify some knowledgeable local facilitators. GABSI provides an excellent way to grow leaders and increase collaboration in your district!

Registration closes on January 24. The Dalton location is now FULL, and others will likely close as we get closer to showtime. Don't delay in providing this outstanding opportunity to your teachers and therapists. For questions, please contact Debbie Reagin at [dreagin@doe.12.ga.us](mailto:dreagin@doe.12.ga.us).

**REGISTRATION LINK:** <https://georgiaautism.net/conference-registration/>

### **Student Record Training:**

The GO-IEP team is planning student records (SR) support sessions. Training locations and information are attached. Please save the date that is most convenient for you! Registration links will be provided as they are set up. The updated attachment has registration links.

### **Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students is Accepting Cohort 3 Applications:**

The third cohort of districts will be selected from across Georgia. A panel will review the applications to identify and determine readiness of districts.

The purpose of the application process is to identify school districts that will participate in Georgia's MTSS professional learning. Georgia's regional MTSS coaches will provide training, technical assistance, and professional development toward implementing a sustainable tiered system of supports for students.

Interested school districts should submit their applications no later than **February 28, 2020**. Georgia's MTSS Team will notify selected districts in March. Visit [Cohort 3 application](#) to apply.

### **Low Vision Clinic:**

Toni Prah and Zel Murray of the Smokey Powell Center along with Dr. Jon Forche', Low Vision Optometrist, would like to thank Lowndes County for hosting our Low Vision Clinic. Mindell

Downing, Special Education Director, and Melissa Johnson, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, were wonderful hosts.

We had a full clinic and as always, at no cost to the local districts. In addition, all of the low vision prescribed devices were issued at no cost to either the family or district. We had a productive and fun clinic.

### [Georgia AER Opportunity for Vision Educators:](#)

Georgia AER welcomes you to its information-packed two-day conference on March 16th and March 17th in Canton, GA. The theme will be on technology specifically as it relates to individuals with vision loss. It's very reasonably priced and offers a fantastic networking opportunity with other blindness professionals across the state. Please pass along to anyone else who may find this conference of value. Early registration rates end January 17th. For more information, and to register, visit: <https://www.gaaer.org/gaaer-conference-information/spring-2020-gaaer-conference-technology>

### [The 2020 Winter Literacy Institutes:](#)

The GaDOE ELA/Literacy team in partnership with the Georgia Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals (GAESP and GAMSP) is pleased to announce the 2020 Winter Literacy Institutes. These one-day institutes are aimed at increasing the expertise of school-based literacy teams in our state. Schools will have the opportunity to send members of their literacy teams to a winter institute as a follow-up to the 2019 Summer Literacy Conference. The 2020 Winter Literacy Institutes will provide school teams the opportunity to engage in evidence-based practices for literacy. It is anticipated that literacy teams will implement these strategies and processes within their respective schools upon their return. Check with your school administrator to find out if your school's literacy team is planning to attend.

<http://bit.ly/winterliteracy>

### [January 2020 Newsletter: Teacher Tools:](#)

[Keeping Teachers and Leaders First!](#) In January's special edition of Teacher Tools, we provide technical assistance on matters that affect teachers and the provision of school-based services by School Psychologists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, and Speech-Language Pathologists as we seek to serve the needs of the whole child while improving student outcomes. Read more here: [Teacher Tools](#).

### [January 2020 Newsletter: Georgia's Tiered Connection:](#)

In this month's Georgia's Tiered Connection, we're recognizing [Houston County Board of Education](#) for breaking MTSS implementation barriers, plus [Paulding County School](#) leaders discuss the benefits of Georgia's Online MTSS/SST Application, and Cohort 3 application details! Click the link for details: [Georgia's Tiered Connection](#).

### **Attachment titles that were included with the January 24 Email Blast.**



Email Blast  
January 24.pdf



FY20 GABSI  
FLYER.docx



SR training email  
blast attach...

Friday, January 31, 2020

Directors,

Georgia has engaged in a multi-state collaborative to participate in the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Advancing Inclusive Principal Leadership. Inclusive Principal Leadership is critical to ensure that Georgia keeps students first!

As defined by [CCSSO](#), inclusive principals create strong school cultures and distribute leadership across staff to serve all learners well and ensure all students feel safe, supported, and valued in school. In promoting equity for “all,” inclusive principals must respond effectively to the potential and needs of **each** student. Inclusive principals ensure high expectations and appropriate supports so that each student—across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, family background, and/or family income—can excel in school. **Investing in inclusive principal leadership** is a powerful, cost-effective strategy to **elevate teaching and learning**.

With statewide teaching shortages, we recognize the need to elevate teaching and learning to ensure that education is a career of first choice. We will continue to develop tools and resources to support your work in this area.

The Institute Designed for Educating All Students Conference, formally IDEAS Conference, will be Tuesday, June 2 – Friday, June 5, 2020. Conference Proposals will be accepted from January 31 - March 15, 2020. Please encourage your district’s staff to submit a proposal to share high quality classroom practices that engage all students. This year, there are a limited number of open concurrent session slots. You may visit the conference website using this link: [www.GaDOE.org/ALLStudentsConference](http://www.GaDOE.org/ALLStudentsConference).

Submission Link: [Proposal Link](#)

Please note the save the date for the Emory Autism Center’s Monarch Conference.

#### **Email Blast**

[Student Record Training](#)

[SWD Delivery Model Update](#)

[Reporting a Student as SWD](#)

[Content Integration Specialists](#)

[Georgia Medicaid and Home and Community-Based Waivers](#)

#### **Student Record Training:**

The GO-IEP team is planning student records (SR) support sessions. Training locations and information are attached. Please save the date that is most convenient for you! Registration links are attached.

#### **SWD Delivery Model Update:**

Data Collections has updated FY2020 Delivery Models document. The update addresses a concern reported by several LEAs in the Fall reporting period. SWD Delivery Model 7- is used when a student has services in Specialized Placement (outside General Education)/ Individual or Small Group from both a general education content certified teacher and an appropriately certified special education teacher. This is not inclusion because there are not general ed peers in this class. Report the content certified teacher in the COURSE TEACHER CODE field and the Special Education Teacher in the ADDITIONAL COURSE TEACHER CODE field. No inclusion code. Revised document attached.

**Reporting a Student as a SWD:**

A student is reported as a SWD when the student starts receiving special education services (Event 6). Do not report as an S Type with a Primary Area until the date the special education services (Event 6) takes place (services start date in an Initial GA IEP).

**Content Integration Specialist Updates:**

The Content Integration and Special Education Specialist for Science, English/Language Arts, Math and Social Studies have created a recorded PowerPoint to give an overview and update on the initiatives of the collaboration within the Curriculum Department. Attached is the PowerPoint embedded with links as well as the link to the recorded PowerPoint is provided below. [Content Integration Specialist Updates](#)

**Georgia Medicaid and Home and Community-Based Waivers:**

Date	Title	Locations
Tuesday, February 18, 2020	Georgia Medicaid and Home and Community-Based Waivers (NOW/COMP)	Catoosa, Dade, Whitfield

**Attachment titles that were included with the January 31 Email Blast.**

-  Content Integration Specialist Updates video edition
-  Emory Autism Ctr. Monarch Conf.
-  Feb 18 - DB- Ft Olgethorpe - GA Medicaid NOW-COMP Waivers
-  FY2020 Student Class Delivery Model (002) revised
-  January 31 Email Blast
-  SR training email blast attachment revised 2020