



Georgia Department of Education

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

April 2017

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Pam Smith, [pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Coming Soon: Survey for Media Arts, Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts

In the Fall and Winter of 2016, a formal review and revision process was conducted for the K-12 Fine Arts Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) in the areas of Theatre and Visual Arts. Media Arts is a new Fine Arts content area. Review Committees were created to draft and review the K-12 GSE in the areas of Media Arts, Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts. These committees included stakeholders from across the state and represented K-12 Fine Arts teachers, postsecondary educators, Fine Arts coordinators, business and industry representatives, parents, and Fine Arts organizations.

At the May 4, 2017, State Board meeting, the State Board of Education will be asked to approve the posting of the draft K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Fine Arts in the areas of Media Arts, Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts for 30 days of public review and comment.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Bryan Cox, [bcox@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:bcox@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Computer Science PD Week

Spread the news about CSPdWeek!  
July 16 - 21, 2017

[CSPdWeek](#) is the nation's largest cross-curricular PD event! Thanks to the generous support of the [Infosys Foundation USA](#), the [NSE](#), and [NCWIT](#), all travel, housing, food and training is completely FREE for participating teachers. CSPdWeek is accepting applications for PD tracks in [AP Computer Science](#), [Bootstrap](#), [Counselors for Computing](#), and Exploring Computer Science - [apply today!](#)

### The Power of the Computer Science Pathway

The Computer Science CTAE pathway is one of the strongest sequences of courses a student in Georgia can take.

1. Pathway completers have a higher than 90% graduation rate
2. If students go the AP route they have the potential to get two college credits .
3. Since the last two courses now count for graduation credit, they can serve as CTAE pathway courses as well as the fourth science for graduation (or a fourth math).
4. A series of two computer science courses may also count for a foreign language requirement for admission to college.
5. These courses also count for a science credit for admission to the University System of Georgia (not as a math credit).
6. The computer science End-of-Pathway Assessment is an industry-recognized certification that could land them a potential high-paying job in a critical industry right out of high school. This is great for project-specific employment or a college job.

#### • [EOPA Options](#)

Added advantages: the engagement inherent in project-based, hands-on curriculum; of the benefit critical and computational thinking (the benefit of foundations of Computer Science education) have on other courses; and the reported high satisfaction students have in CS courses. What a great opportunity!



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# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## MATHEMATICS

Sandi Woodall, [swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us)

### College Readiness Mathematics Professional Learning

Preparations for the June 5 - 7, 2017, College Readiness Mathematics Summer Institute are underway. Approximately 100 participants registered on or before the March 31 deadline for the professional learning institute to be presented concurrently at the two sites identified below. However, if you have additional interested mathematics educators in your school district who will teach College Readiness Mathematics next year and did not participate in the 2016 summer training, please send their names and email addresses to Sandi Woodall at [swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us), and we will do our best to accommodate them.

- **Atlanta, GA Site**Floyd Building - Twin Towers West  
10th Floor Room A  
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
- **Douglas, GA Site**  
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College  
706 W. Baker Highway  
Douglas, GA 31533

### Middle School Mathematics Support Package

We are pleased to announce the posting of a [new middle school mathematics support package](#), alongside our latest high school and elementary videos. We are grateful to Kathleen Carpenter, Melissa Stewart, and a taskforce of exemplary middle school mathematics teachers from the Coastal Plains, Northwest, and Pioneer RESA service areas for classifying and tailoring tasks from our Foundations of Algebra resource repository to produce the grade level support materials for remediation.

### K-HS Mathematics Video Resource Package

You'll remember that we established a 24-member statewide mathematics taskforce in October 2016 to provide K-HS videos to support expressed mathematics teacher needs. Our industrious taskforce members are currently immersed in creating five exceptional instructional videos for each grade level, targeting challenging content standards and effective instructional strategies. Your state mathematics team is committed to making the video segments available to teachers and school/district support personnel by July 1, 2017.

## GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Sharon Synan, [sharon.synan@gavirtualschool.org](mailto:sharon.synan@gavirtualschool.org)

### Enroll Now for Summer, Fall, and Spring

Georgia Virtual School has exciting news! Students can enroll in summer classes as well as fall 2017 and spring 2018 right now!

On April 1, 2017, the entire GaVS staff had an opportunity to meet for a Professional Learning Symposium. What a great collaborative learning time. GaVS is fired up and ready to partner with you and your students to provide the personalized learning needed to see all students achieve and continuously improve!

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## SOCIAL STUDIES

Joy Hatcher, [jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Summer Trainings for Teachers

Throughout June of 2017, two-day trainings will be held in five locations throughout the state. The training will focus on the new Social Studies GSE, the inquiry model, and resources that have been developed to support these shifts. School district leaders may register their attendees via links for each site. There are limited spaces reserved for each district. After May 1, all open seats are up for grabs. For more information, see:

#### South GA Technical College Pope Center

Hosted by Chattahoochee-Flint RESA  
900 South GA Tech Parkway, Americus, GA 31709  
June 1-2, 2017  
[Registration](#) - Max 200

#### Woodville Tompkins HS (cafe)

Hosted by Savannah-Chatham Schools  
151 Coach Joe Turner Street, Savannah, GA 31408  
June 5-6, 2017  
[Registration](#) - Max 150

#### Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies, Russell Special Collections Building

Hosted by Northeast GA RESA  
300 Hull Street, Athens, GA 30602  
June 8-9, 2017  
[Registration](#) - Max 100

#### UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center

Hosted by Coastal Plains RESA  
15 R D C Rd, Tifton, GA 31794  
June 12-13, 2017  
[Registration](#) - Max 150

#### Douglas County High School

Hosted by Douglas County Schools  
8705 Campbellton Street  
Douglasville, Ga.30134  
June 20-21, 2017  
[Registration](#) - Max 120

### Videos Are Available

The Bruce Lesh videos on Thinking Like a Historian are segmented and support documents are provided for each video series.

- [Social Studies Labs with Bruce Lesh](#)

### New Resources Coming

New frameworks, teacher notes, teacher content and instructional activity screencasts, and social studies labs are coming in May. Look for more information in our next newsletter.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

Stephanie Sanders, [ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us)

### NCTE Affiliate Leadership Meeting

This summer, NCTE will host its 2017 Affiliate Leadership Meeting here in Atlanta, Georgia. Any NCTE member is welcome to attend. Additionally, Julie Rucker ([jrucker@tiftschools.com](mailto:jrucker@tiftschools.com)) GCTE President, may be able to answer any questions you have regarding the event.

- [Additional Information](#)

### Universal Design for Learning - Webinar Series

During the 2016 - 2017 school year, a series of free webinars are available that will focus on various aspects of the instructional framework of Universal Design for Learning. The UDL Center at OCALI, in collaboration with the State Support Teams (Ohio), PATINS (Indiana), and the Georgia Department of Education will be hosting these webinars. The schedule for these webinars along with descriptions and registration links can be found using the schedule link below. This information can also be found on the [OCALI website](#). The webinars presented by the Georgia Department of Education will be recorded and posted below.

- [Universal Design for Learning in Education Live](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sandy Greene, [sgreene@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:sgreene@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Assessment Supports Instruction

If the primary purpose of school is teaching and learning, then assessment and accountability takes the role of supporting those efforts. During this spring testing season, each school and district is preparing to confirm students' growth and progress as well as confirm of the great work by teachers and educators! Assessment and accountability play an important role in the work done by and for students.

Assessment takes form primarily in three categories: 1) Formative – which takes place during instruction to provide feedback related to teaching and learning; 2) Interim – which takes place after a sequence of instruction to evaluate student's knowledge and skills relative to a specific set of academic goals within a limited time-frame; and 3) Summative - which takes place at the end of instruction to certify mastery or assign grades.

The Georgia Milestones is mandated by federal (ESSA § 200.2) and state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281) requiring assessments designed to measure student achievement relative to the knowledge and skills set forth in the state-adopted content standards. These assessments in English language arts/reading, mathematics, science, and social studies must be administered annually to students in grades three through eight. Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281) mandates that the State Board of Education adopt end-of-course assessments for core courses to be determined by the Board.

Assessment in Georgia is intended to support teaching and learning through several key critical elements for students, schools, and parents including:

- Measuring student achievement of the state-adopted content standards;
- Informing efforts to improve teaching and learning;
- Identifying students failing to achieve mastery of content to provide teachers with feedback about instructional practice;
- Assisting school districts in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs; and
- Ensuring that students have the opportunity to learn and excel.

Focus continues to be placed on ensuring that the administration and results of the Georgia Milestones Assessment provide useful information related to student achievement. Results should inform educators and stakeholders and strengthen school and district improvement efforts. Each child is important. Having conversations together with students, parents, and educators helps to bring understanding and meaning to our assessments as well as supporting the goal of teaching and learning in our classrooms.

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## Georgia Education Leadership Institute

Matt Cardoza, [mcardoza@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mcardoza@doe.k12.ga.us)

Mark your calendars and start making plans for [GELI 2017](#). We have some great plans for the upcoming [2017 Georgia Education Leadership Institute](#) at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in downtown Atlanta on September 17-19, 2017. GELI 2017 will feature timely information on the topics that matter most to Georgia Education Leaders. Mark your calendars, book your hotel room, and [register now!](#)

### Calling all Presenters!

The Georgia Education Leadership Institute is soliciting proposals for presentations promoting best practices and current research to best support Georgia Leaders. If selected to be a presenter, your institute registration fee is waived! This year's Conference Strands are Culture of Success, Educating Georgia's Future Workforce, School Climate & Safety, Teacher & Leader Development and Business & Operational Management.

- [Call for Presenters](#)

The institute will begin on Sunday, September 17 with three highly informative Pre-Institute Sessions (included with price of registration) addressing important issues/topics facing Georgia leaders – Assessment & Accountability, Consolidating Funding and how CCRPI is impacted by Social, Emotional and Mental Health. We were excited to secure Mr. Ken Williams as the Keynote Luncheon Speaker. He is motivational and provides substantive information to support and challenge all districts! Finally, as in the past, Governor Nathan Deal has been invited to deliver remarks to the full group.

You may notice that we have moved [GELI 2017](#) to a new location – [Sheraton Atlanta Hotel](#). This will better accommodate our growth and provide better support by having all sessions in the same area.

We would like to thank Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia (BCBSGa) for continuing its support of GELI as a Gold Sponsor! For many years, this community-minded health insurer has supported school-based programming through grants to organizations such as HealthMPowers and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta/Strong4Life, which focus on promoting healthy, active lifestyles for children. In addition, BCBSGa continues to support Camp Kudzu, which helps children with Type 1 diabetes learn to manage their condition while having fun at a Georgia "sleep away" camp, and the American Heart Association and its Hands Only CPR program. This initiative has reached more than 8,600 people in Georgia and has provided CPR in School kits to high schools throughout the state. Please visit the [conference website](#) and click on the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia logo to learn more about how this great organization can better support you and your district.

Also, the room block is open at the [Sheraton Atlanta Hotel](#). The room block tends to fill quickly, so please reserve a room if you're planning to attend the institute and will need one! You can click here or follow the link in the "Accommodations" section on the institute webpage ([GELI 2017](#)) to the hotel's reservation system for the institute room block – a special low rate of just \$140 per night. This is a great opportunity to network with your colleagues from across the state!

### We hope to see many of you in September!

Matt Cardoza  
Chief Communications Officer  
Georgia Department of Education  
[mcardoza@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mcardoza@doe.k12.ga.us)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## CTAE

Gary Mealer, [gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Health and PE Changes Regarding MOWR

The University System of Georgia (USG) is limiting MOWR Physical Education (P.E.) classes beginning Fall 2017. MOWR P.E. courses will only be offered to full time MOWR students, part time students will not be allowed to take them. MOWR P.E. courses are a postsecondary course aligned to a high school course beginning with a “36” to the left of the decimal in the course number in the online MOWR course directory. This change does not apply to Health Education courses with are identified with a “17” to the left of the decimal.

TCSG colleges will no longer offer Health Education or P.E. MOWR classes beginning this summer. After this current spring 2017 term, Health Education and P.E. courses will not be available for MOWR students.

### JROTC Has Second Annual State Cross Service Drill Meet

The Second Annual State JROTC Cross Service Drill Meet was held at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, on Saturday, March 25. The State JROTC Advisory Committee sponsored the event. GMC hosted the event on their main campus. Congratulations to all our winners and thanks to all schools who participated this year.

The top overall finishers were:

- 1st Place Luella HS Navy JROTC
- 2nd Place North Forsyth HS Marine JROTC
- 3rd Place Stockbridge HS Navy JROTC
- 4th Place Lee HS Navy JROTC
- 5th Place East Coweta Marine JROTC

## SCHOOL COUNSELING

Myrel Seigler, [mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Upcoming Events

Summer Counselor Workshops - Register through the CTAE Resource Network

- May 30 - Savannah
- May 31 - Perry
- June 1 - Kennesaw
- June 2 - Bogart (near Athens)

Summer Externship Opportunities - School Counselors have an opportunity to experience business and industry first hand through a three day externship during the summer of 2017. Information was sent out via email through the CTAE Resource Network.

If you have questions about any of these events, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Myrel Seigler at [mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us) or Maria Grovner at [mgrovner@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mgrovner@doe.k12.ga.us).

## SCIENCE

Juan-Carlos Aguilar, [jaguilar@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jaguilar@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Georgia Tech Summer Science PD

Project Microbe provides middle school and high school teachers relevant training in an innovative, microbial-focused curriculum. The curriculum materials include six core lessons. In these lessons, students engage in a series of inquiry-based activities to learn about microbes from the three domains of life (Eukaryotes, Bacteria, and Archaea).

- **Date:** June 21 - 23, 2017
- **Time:** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Location:** Georgia Tech’s Engineered Biosystems Building
- [Website](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## WORLD LANGUAGES

Patrick Wallace, [pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us)

### World Language Professional Development Page

The World Language Program is proud to announce the launching of a new [Professional Development page](#) at the Georgia Department of Education.

This webpage serves several functions:

- It serves as a repository for Professional Development webinars related to various world language programs and aspects.
- It serves as an online nexus to connect to other open source Professional Development opportunities with regard to World Language and cultural education.
- It serves to inform World Language teaching professionals in Georgia about our upcoming Professional Development opportunities.
- It serves to highlight the capabilities in-state language and cultural partners can provide to support language and cultural programs statewide.
- It serves to link to websites and research related to world language education in Georgia.

This site features information on several professional development opportunities for World Language teachers including our upcoming Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute from July 11-13th, our upcoming webinars, the launch of a Dual Language Immersion Webinar series for teachers and administrators, a teacher to teacher webinar series, and more.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES & SUPPORTS

Donna Ann Flaherty, [dflaherty@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dflaherty@doe.k12.ga.us)

### 2017 Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference

It's time to register for the 2017 Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference taking place on June 6-9, 2017 at Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA.

- [2017 IDEAS Registration](#)

## SCHOOL NUTRITION

Laura Tanase, [ltanase@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ltanase@doe.k12.ga.us)

### School Garden Curriculum Resource

Farm to school programs, bringing locally grown foods into school cafeterias and educating students about nutrition and agriculture, are growing in Georgia. Using a school garden or even a few containers in a classroom is a fun and engaging way to teach students a variety of subjects, from Math, Science, Social Studies, English/Language Arts, Nutrition and more. Learning comes alive in a school garden setting!

The University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences has a collection of garden-based lessons that are aligned to the Georgia educational standards. [Lessons are available for grades K-8](#) and listed by subject area.

Garden-based education offers the opportunity for experiential activities and can teach students about healthy eating, where their food comes from, and inspire an appreciation of agriculture. Consider checking with your School Nutrition Director to see if there is a farm to school program operating in your local district; there may be an opportunity to collaborate.

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## STEM/STEAM

Felicia Cullars, [fcullars@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:fcullars@doe.k12.ga.us)

### GaDOE STEM/STEAM Teacher Academy

This academy is designed to expose teachers to a wealth of ideas to implement in K-12 classrooms that will increase rigor and relevance in the STE(A)M environment. There is no cost to attend and lunch is provided. Space is limited to 130 participants per location. This year we will have two locations:

- University of North Georgia - Gainesville Campus, June 9th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [Register](#)
- Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, June 23rd from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [Register](#)

### Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day

This is a half-day event for elementary and middle school girls who are interested in engineering hosted by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia. Saturday, April 29, 2017 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History.

- [Register](#)

### Rivers to Reefs Educator's Workshop 2017

This fully-funded weeklong teacher workshop led by Georgia Aquarium, Gordon State College and Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and Foundation will educate you in new and exciting ways. You will wade into the watery world for a six-day, jam-packed field experience full of real-world learning moments and concrete takeaways for your classroom.

Dates: June 11 - 16, 2017

Maximum Participants: 16 participants.

Please note: this workshop is only available to Georgia teachers with a current teaching placement.

- [More Information](#)

## POLICY

Jeff Hodges, [jhodges@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jhodges@doe.k12.ga.us)

### 2017 Safety In Our Schools Conference

Please mark your calendars to attend the 8th Annual Safety in Our Schools conference on June 28-30, 2017 at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center in Tifton, GA. The conference is presented by the Georgia Department of Education, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Georgia.

Some of the topics at this year's conference include the following but more topics will be added to the agenda.

- Gangs and Exploitation of Minors
- School Bus Safety
- Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events
- Weapons and School Safety
- How Childhood Trauma Affects Brain Development
- Child Sex Trafficking and Internet Safety for Students and Parents
- Dealing with the Media
- School Climate

The registration fee is \$100 which includes parking and lunch for the first two days of the conference.

- [Registration](#)



# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Therese McGuire, [Ghumble@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:Ghumble@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Shape Grants and SHAPE Honor Roll Applications

The 2017-18 Shape Grant application and the Governor's Honor Roll Award criteria and application are now both open. Please feel free to forward the below information to your contacts who may be interested in either opportunity.

Georgia Shape is the Governor's statewide, multi-agency and multidimensional initiative that brings together individuals from government, philanthropies, academics, and business communities to address childhood obesity in Georgia.

### Shape School Physical Activity and Nutrition Grants Program Application

The Georgia Shape School Physical Activity and Nutrition Grants Program helps to create healthy school environments to impact student and staff health. Funding and technical assistance for the 2017-18 school year will be provided to public elementary, middle, and high schools to implement programs, policies, and environmental changes related to physical activity and nutrition.

#### Grant funds available:

- \$3,000: Implement two nutrition strategies
- \$5,000: Implement two nutrition strategies and one physical activity strategy
- [Application](#)

For more information contact Katie Smith, [Katie.smith@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Katie.smith@dph.ga.gov).

### Apply for the Governor's Shape Honor Roll

The Governor's Shape Honor Roll recognizes elementary, middle and high schools for their dedication to creating a healthy school environment and a culture of wellness for staff, students and community. Georgia's K-12 public schools are invited to submit an application to be recognized by the Governor's Office, the Georgia Department of Education and the Georgia Department of Public Health for their exceptional participation in the annual fitness assessment data collection process as well as their commitment to efforts that improve student wellness. All applicants who meet the requirements of recognition and submit proper documentation will be rewarded for their outstanding efforts. This year, schools will be recognized by four tiers of criteria: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum.

- [Application](#)

For more information contact Bradley Chester at [Bradley.Chester@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Bradley.Chester@dph.ga.gov).

## FINE ARTS

Jessica Booth, [jbooth@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jbooth@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Input Survey for GSE in Theatre, Visual, and Media Arts

The proposed Draft of the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) in Theatre, Visual, and Media Arts will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval to post for public comment on May 4, 2017. If approved to post, teachers, parents, community members, administrators, and all other stakeholders are encouraged to review the proposed standards and provide input. Follow GaDOE social media sites for the links and dates of the survey period.