



Georgia Department of Education

Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

January 2017

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Pam Smith, pamsmith@doe.k12.ga.us

Proposed Personal Financial Literacy Course

The proposed Personal Financial Literacy course was approved by the State Board of Education on January 12, 2017, to post for 30 days of [public review and comment](#). Personal Financial Literacy was submitted by the Georgia Council of Economic Education (GCEE) as a half-credit high school elective course designed to expand the current Economics course standards in the domain of personal finance.

These draft standards include multiple reviewers from the GCEE staff, experts at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Social Studies and Economics classroom teachers, a post-secondary professor at the Department of Financial Planning, and the Georgia Consortium for Personal Financial Literacy.

The Personal Financial Literacy course survey will be posted for thirty days beginning January 12, 2017 through 5:00 PM EST on February 10, 2017.

We welcome your survey feedback and comments. For questions, please contact Joy Hatcher, Social Studies Program Manager at jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us.

- [Review Draft Standards and Take Survey](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES & SUPPORTS

Donna Ann Flaherty, dflaherty@doe.k12.ga.us

Seeking Presentation Proposals

- 2017 Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference
- June 6-9, 2017
- Epworth by the Sea
- St. Simons Island, GA

The Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Committee is seeking proposals that reflect best practices in education in a wide variety of topic areas. This conference is designed for special and general education teachers who work with students with disabilities. We encourage GREAT teachers to share their knowledge and expertise for best practices by submitting a proposal and attending the event. If you have practices that would benefit our teachers please consider submitting a proposal to the IDEAS committee. The proposal submission deadline is March 17, 2017. To submit your proposal, fill out the presentation proposal application. Please refer to the 2017 IDEAS Conference Homepage to locate the proposal submissions link.



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SOCIAL STUDIES

Joy Hatcher, jhatcher@doe.k12.ga.us

Social Studies in 2017 – On your mark, get set, GO!

We will broadcast the third episode of our Leadership Webinar Series in January. This session, “Preview of the New New” will be held on Monday, January 23 at 1:00 P.M. If you missed the first two sessions, view November’s “Meat and Taters AKA Content and Instruction,” and December’s “Assessment Changes and Changing Assessment” in the Leadership PLC webinar archive on edWeb.net to catch up. We know you will want to start this new year being in the know!

Join us live on Monday, January 23 at 1:00 P.M.

- [Registration](#)

We continue to “grow” our **Professional Learning Communities for every Social Studies grade level and course**. The PLCs are located on edWeb.net, and provide excellent resources and creative teaching ideas as well as a space for teachers to collaborate with others throughout the state. August through December webinars are archived and January live sessions are scheduled. Please share news of this valuable resource for every social studies teacher in Georgia, and please join the Social Studies Leadership PLC for relevant information and networking with #GAsocialstudiesleaders.

- [Join the Online Community and View Scheduled Monthly K-12 Webinars](#)

Summer Trainings for Teachers

See the memo sent on December 13, 2016, for details about Social Studies GSE Teacher Training being held in June of 2017. These two-day trainings are designed for those who prefer face-to-face training focused on changes to the Social Studies GSE and the inquiry model. These trainings will be held at five locations across Georgia and school system leaders may register their attendees via a link for the various sites. Note that there are limited spaces available for each system, so you will want to RSVP -ASAP.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Stephanie Sanders, ssanders@doe.k12.ga.us

Please Welcome Our New Staff Member

Patrick Wallace – World Language/Global Initiatives Program Specialist has joined our ELA Team. Patrick most recently served as a high school German teacher from Fayette County. He has served as the Foreign Language Department Chair, High School Teacher of the Year at both Griffin and Whitewater High Schools, and American Association of Teachers of German Teacher of the Year for the State of Georgia. Patrick is also a recipient of the Foreign Language Association of Georgia Fostering Partnerships in Education Award. He is a Georgia Virtual School content developer and founder of the Georgia Skills Initiative Roadshow and School to Work Initiative for the German Program.

Young Georgia Authors

The purpose of the Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics. This prestigious competition has been engaging Georgia students for more than two decades and is open to any student currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, grades K -12. The competition is sponsored by the Georgia Council of Teachers of English (GCTE) with support and cooperation from the Georgia Department of Education.

The 2016-17 Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition guidelines are now available! For additional information about the contest, contact Kathleen McKenzie krmckenz@hotmail.com.

Poet Laureate’s Prize - Call for Entries

Georgia high school students can now submit original poems to the [third annual Poet Laureate’s Prize](#).

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MATHEMATICS

Sandi Woodall, swoodall@doe.k12.ga.us

Superintendent Memo - Foundations of Algebra Course

Please find below a January 10, 2017, reminder to superintendents from Deputy Superintendent Caitlin McMunn Dooley outlining the ongoing analysis of the efficacy of the Foundations of Algebra course.

Dear Superintendents,

The purpose of this memo is to give you a reminder regarding the Foundations of Algebra high school course. This course continues to be an option for ninth and tenth grade students who need significant math support.

Having completed the initial year of implementation of the course, the State Board of Education and Governor's Office of Student Achievement continues to recommend that the course only be offered to students who meet the following criteria:

- Score at the Beginning Learner level on the 7th grade math Milestones EOG assessment, or
- Score at the Beginning Learner level on the 8th grade Milestones EOG assessment, or
- Failed Algebra I or Coordinate Algebra and scored at the Beginning Level on the EOC assessment at the end of the course.

To allow for students who need significant math support but who do not meet the above criteria, schools have the option to enroll up to an additional 3% of first-time 9th graders who did not take a high school math course in middle school. These spaces should be reserved for students, with or without prior Milestones scores, who have significant math deficiencies as identified by a district diagnostic assessment.

Students who qualify according to the above criteria may be offered the opportunity to take Foundations of Algebra as one of the four required mathematics units of credit for high school graduation. However, qualifying students should not be required to take the Foundations course and should carefully consider teacher recommendations, planned postsecondary enrollments, and all other factors in making the decision to take Foundations of Algebra.

The Governor's Office of Student Achievement will conduct an analysis of the efficacy of the Foundations of Algebra course to ensure that students who take the course are later successful in higher level courses. GOSA will analyze data from 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 school years to monitor the fidelity of implementation to the eligibility criteria above and the effectiveness of the course.

Sincerely,
Caitlin

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CTAE

Gary Mealer, gmealer@doe.k12.ga.us

Georgia JROTC's Second Annual Cross-Service Meet

- **When:** Saturday, March 25, 2017
- **Where:** Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, GA
- **Registration deadline** February 24, 2017.
- Email with details and links sent to JROTC instructors. Please support participation!

MOWR EOC Testing Update

1. EOC testing changes became effective beginning with the Winter 2016 EOC administration that opened Monday, November 28, 2016.
2. MOWR students who earn credit for a course associated with an EOC, are exempt from the requirement to take certain EOCs.
3. To ensure high schools are not negatively impacted, the post-secondary course grade will be used in the accountability system (CCRPI).
4. EOC required by all students- Ninth Grade Literature & Composition, Coordinate Algebra or Algebra I, Analytic Geometry or Geometry, and Biology.
5. EOC allowed exemption by MOWR- American Literature & Composition, Physical Science, US History, and Economics.

For questions, please contact Melissa Fincher at (404) 651-9405; mfincher@doe.k12.ga.us.

SCHOOL COUNSELING

Myrel Seigler, mseigler@doe.k12.ga.us

Summer Externships for Counselors

In the next few weeks, some information will be sent out to school counselors announcing the opportunity to complete a three day summer externship in Business/Industry to learn more about career opportunities for our students. There will be an application process, and assistance will be provided to help in determining placement in an externship based on the area of Georgia the counselor is living or working. There will be a stipend provided once the obligations have been fulfilled. The number of externships will be limited to 25, so make sure you apply early when the applications are sent out.

Webinars for Winter/Spring, 2017

- [Access Upcoming Webinars for School Counselors](#)

Upcoming Workshops

Summer Counselor Workshops and Industry Tours (registration will be open in mid to late February)

- May 30 - Savannah
- May 31 - Houston County - Perry
- June 1 - Kennesaw
- June 2 - Athens area (TBD)
- July 9-12 - GACTE - Cobb Galleria (talk to your CTAE Director for more information in attending this conference)

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STEM/STEAM

Gilda Lyon, glyon@doe.k12.ga.us

Newly STEM Certified Schools

Congratulations to the following schools that earned STEM Certification last semester:

- Martin Technology Academy - Hall County
- Peachtree Ridge High School - Gwinnett County
- Cooper Middle School - Cobb County
- Newton College and Career Academy - Newton County

STEAM

My name is Felicia Cullars and I joined the GaDOE STEM/STEAM team on January 3, 2017. In my previous position in Columbia County, I led the county's STEM efforts. I have also been a former middle and high school math teacher with 15 years experience in the classroom. You can email me at fcullars@doe.k12.ga.us.

Important Information for Schools Seeking STEM or STEAM Certification

- Be sure you are using the new [STEM/STEAM Continuum](#) for the certification criteria;
- Be sure you are using the new [STEM/STEAM Continuum application](#) to document your certification evidence;
- You must have a pre-visit from a district STEM/STEAM person or from a GaDOE STEM/STEAM person prior to applying. If your school is ready for a STEM/STEAM team visit, you will be invited to apply.

Contact [Gilda Lyon](#) or [Jessica Booth](#) (STEAM) or [Felicia Cullars](#).

STEM/STEAM Opportunities for Teachers and Students

- Georgia Science Teachers Association State Conference: Professional Learning to Support Student Learning - February 2-4, 2017, Atlanta Evergreen Marriott Conference Center, Stone Mountain
- STEM Teaching and Learning Conference - March 2-4, 2017, Coastal Georgia Center Savannah, GA 31401
- 5th Annual Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance Conference and Research Symposium. This event will be held at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center Buford, GA - March 3-5, 2017.

GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Sharon Synan, sharon.synan@gavirtualschool.org

Partners Making Sure Every Student Succeeds in Georgia

Georgia Virtual wants to partner with you—whether you go to public or private school or are homeschooling. We can help. Georgia Virtual offers more than courses!

[Check out our website](#) or call our support desk to see how we help you offer more and fill the gaps in your strategic planning. Together we will see Every Student Succeed in Georgia.

- Georgia Virtual School is currently enrolling students for the Spring 2017 semester.
- Summer 2017 Registration will open for all students March 1st.
- [Important Dates](#)

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HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Therese McGuire, tmcguire@doe.k12.ga.us

Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse Summit: Addressing the Issue

Date: March 1, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location: Georgia Department of Education
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334

Who should attend:

District and school administrators, counselors, social workers, school resource officers, school nurses and drug education teachers; Family and community members are also welcome.

Topics to include: Overview, The Problem, Legal Issues, and What Schools Can Do

- [Registration](#) (Registration is limited)

For additional information contact Jeff Hodges at (404) 463-7891.

CPR/AED for High School Students

This is a reminder that schools with grades 9 -12 shall provide CPR instruction. As stated in Rule in [160-4-2-.12 COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM PLAN](#) each local board of education which operates a school with grades nine through 12 shall provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator to its students as a requirement within one of the required health or physical education courses (Health (17.011), Health and Personal Fitness (36.051), or Advanced Personal Fitness (36.061)) to satisfy this requirement. For more information please access one of the following:

- [CPR Power Point](#) - Overview of the requirement and how to implement instruction
- [CPR Sample Learning Objectives](#) - Acknowledgement and appreciation to the American Heart Association for providing this sample for Georgia's teachers
- [CPR Webinar](#) - Overview of the requirement and how to implement the instruction

For questions contact [Therese McGuire](#) or [Mike Tenoschok](#).

WORLD LANGUAGES

Patrick Wallace, pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us

Introduction from World Languages

My name is Patrick Wallace, and I have recently been hired as the Program Specialist for World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives at the Georgia Department of Education. I'm very excited to join the team and about the great things happening with World Language Education in Georgia.

Seal of Biliteracy

This year is the inaugural year of Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy. Information about the Seal can be found by visiting the [World Language webpage](#).

Information on the reporting of those students who qualify for this seal is also available on the website.

Please submit reports by May 1st.