



January 19, 2024 Email Blast

# Office of Federal Programs - Division for Special Education

Directors.

Looks like 2024 is roaring in with an Artic blast! The forecast for tomorrow morning at our house is 12 degrees. Sounds like even colder air will arrive this weekend. We did not have snow this time but ice in the trees was a beautiful sight. Georgia can be warm and sunny on the coast and the mountains can be



Frozen mountain top in Pickens County

cold with snow. There is something for everyone. Cold weather, snow and school closures can be fun for students, but we must think about everyone being safe, warm and with plenty to eat. Pay it forward and help those in need during this extreme weather. Stay warm and enjoy the winter weather.

Roosevelt Warm Springs (RSW) is hosting a Transition Fair on March 6, 2024, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Start making plans now to attend the fair with your students. Learn about all the pathways offered at RSW and visit the dorms and Center for Therapeutic Recreation! Call to reserve your place at 650-399-1423. The registration deadline is February 21, 2023.

#### **Personnel Development Resources**

The IRIS Center has released a new module, Behavior Principles: The Basics of Understanding Student Behavior. The content in this module lays a conceptual foundation for one of IRIS' more popular modules: Functional Behavioral Assessment: Identifying the Reasons for Problem Behavior and Developing a Behavior Plan.

In addition, IRIS has made significant revisions to four of its existing modules:

- -Executive Functions (Part 1): Understanding Why Some Students Struggle
- -Executive Functions (Part 2): Strategies to Improve Students' Academic Performance
- -Progress Monitoring: Mathematics
- -Progress Monitoring: Reading



IRIS Center logo

These self-paced, online modules can be embedded in educator preparation courses and school or district professional development activities, and learners can earn a free Certificate of Completion for each one. Disproportionality data is populated in the dashboard for your review. Please contact Linda Castellanos with questions.

Just a reminder about the Federal Programs Conference scheduled for February 13-14, 2023 at the Georgia International Convention Center. Registration is still open. Conference information and registration is available. Join the offices of Federal Programs, School and District Improvement, Teaching and Learning, Whole Child Supports, Financial Review, Assessment & Accountability, and Rural Education and Innovation for two days of training and information sharing.

District and school leaders will receive information to assist with plans for coordinating federal funds in FY25 and supporting newly identified CSI and TSI schools. Local Educational Agencies (LEA) participants should include representatives working with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) grants, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grants, and selected instructional personnel. Principals at newly identified Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools, their direct supervisors, and the district point of contact for Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) schools are required to attend.

This conference will be an in-person event with a modified virtual option. LEA staff not able to join in-person can register for the free live-stream of the general

sessions only. All workshop recordings will be available in the GaDOE PL Events catalog after the conference. Registration will close on February 1, 2024, or when capacity is met. If space remains after February 1, we will reopen for general registration.

To ensure all LEAs have access to this conference, we are limiting registration by LEA as follows:

- -Small Districts (3,999 students and below) = 5 registrants
- -Medium Districts (4,000 19,999 students) = 8 registrants
- -Large Districts (20,000 75,000 students) = 10 registrants
- -Extra Large Districts (Above 75,000 students) = 14 registrants

Note: Principals at newly identified CSI, TSI schools and their supervisors are not included in the limits listed. To report an issue with the event link, please email the event contact, John Wight, at fpconferences@doe.k12.ga.us.



Snowman

I appreciate all you do each day for students with disabilities. I know your care and concern extends much beyond academics to address each student's needs. Many years from now when these students are grown, they will remember your kindness.

Keeping students first, Wina

### **Special Education Events & Due Dates**

Please review the information below and the Due Dates Calendar for deadlines and key dates.



Professional Learning Events

#### **Coming Up**

January 22 – 25 at 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Functional
Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention: SE Georgia

January 29 – February 1 at 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Functional Behavior
Assessment and Behavior Intervention: Coastal Area

January 31 at 2 p.m. SSIP FY24: Implementing PBIS in Secondary Settings

#### Reminders

**January 31** Deadline for Excess Cost Calculation Submission (Consolidated Application in GaDOE Portal)

Visit GaDOE Community for a complete listing of GaDOE Professional Learning Events.

### Practice Pointers – Individualized Education Program (IEP): Continuum of Alternative Placements



Supplementary services and supports can be provided in any setting to children whose IEP requires such supports. **Services Inside General Education** 

Arrows

**Classroom** include: 1) Supportive Service – Students with disabilities (SWD) may receive additional services from the following personnel other than a certified special education teacher; 2) Consultative – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD within the general education classroom as appropriate and the amount of time is determined by the IEP Team; 3) Collaborative – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student within the general education classroom for less than 100% of the segment; and 4) Co-Teaching – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student within the general education classroom for 100% of the segment each time the class meets. Services Outside General Education Classroom include: 1) Small Group – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student, in a special education classroom 100% of the time; 2) Separate Schools or Program - A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD in a special education classroom in a separate school or program; 3) Home-based Instruction – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student at the student's home; 4) Residential Services – A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student in a residential setting as determined by the IEP Team; and 5) Hospital/Homebound A special education teacher provides a direct service to identified SWD student diagnosed with a medical condition restricting them to a hospital or home.

For more information, please see our Special Education Rules Implementation Manual, our IEP Resources and Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) webpages, our Parent Information Fact Sheets, and the PROGRESS Center at American Institutes for Research / IEP Tip Sheet PLAAFPs.

Office of Teaching and Learning: January 11, 2024 Right Now Resources

A couple of important announcements and exciting news from this month's SBOE Meeting:

K-5 Numeracy Development Grants and Science Teacher Equipment and Community Grants have been awarded. We continue to be committed to supporting teaching and learning at the district and school level. Individual awardees will be receiving additional guidance and support next week.

It is with great excitement that we announce that Mrs. Felicia Purdy was approved at today's SBOE meeting to fill the role of Director of Curriculum and Instruction in the Teaching and Learning Division with the Department of Education. Mrs. Purdy is a results-oriented leader with a proven track record of elevating academic standards and the overall educational experience for students and educators. Mrs. Purdy is a strategic thinker and planner who is adept at fostering collaboration among team members. She has deep knowledge and experience in curriculum development, instructional design, and professional learning. Mrs. Purdy is currently serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning in Seminole County and has previously served other districts in various roles including curriculum director, building administrator, instructional coach, and teacher. She will begin her service with GaDOE on February 1, 2024, and is committed to fostering a climate of continuous improvement while maintaining our collective commitment of service and support.

Please review the January 11, 2024 Right Now Resources newsletter for Teaching and Learning Updates, or subscribe on the Curriculum and Instruction webpage to have them delivered straight to your inbox. You are in a place to purposefully impact teaching and learning in your districts, schools and classrooms.

As always, our teaching and learning team is here to serve and support.

Continue to reach out as needed and thank you for your continued commitment to Georgia students and educators.

### Parent to Parent January 2024 Trainings

Webinar: The Big Leap ...Moving from Elementary to Middle School

In this session you will learn the importance of preparing your child for the move to middle school,



Parent to Parent of Georgia logo

the keys to a successful transition and we will share some practical tips on what you as a parent can do to help your child adjust to this new milestone as smoothly as possible.

Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Time: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

## Important Budget Announcement: New and Expanding Charter Allocations

The State Board of Education has approved the new and expanding charter allocations. The allocations may be viewed below.

FY24 IDEA 611 Expanding or New Charter LEAs

FY24 IDEA 619 Expanding or New Charter LEAs

## Important Budget Announcement: High-Cost Fund for Special Educations Services Grant and Grant for Residential & Reintegration Services

The High-Cost Fund for Special Education Services Grant and Grant for Residential & Reintegration Services submission period opened January 1st. The updated resources for the Georgia High-Cost Fund Grant and Residential & Reintegration Services Grant can be accessed online at the GaDOE Competitive Grants webpage. The deadline for the submission of these grants is February 15th. Don't hesitate to contact your budget liaison if you have any additional questions.

## Important Budget Reminder: Excess Cost Calculation Submission

The Excess Cost Calculation Portal is now open for submissions. 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, 2024. 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.



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