



Georgia Department of Education

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

June 2018

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Caitlin McMunn Dooley, [cdooley@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:cdooley@doe.k12.ga.us)

### New Courses Added, Pathway Posted

CS4GA is moving forward! Three [new middle school computer science courses](#) were approved!

The International Business career pathway submitted by Troup County was approved for posting for public comment.

- [Submit Comments](#)

### Wraparound Services

The State Board of Education approved State School Superintendent Richard Woods' recommendation to provide \$1,040,000 for a regional Wraparound Coordinator in each RESA. This is a first-of-its-kind position that will help schools identified for comprehensive and targeted support under Georgia's ESSA plan create and coordinate their wraparound centers. The Department also provided funding for educational technology services, mathematics mentors, English language arts specialists, school climate specialists, subgroup project managers, supports for students with disabilities, and school effectiveness specialists.

### Troops to Teachers

The State Board of Education authorized State School Superintendent Richard Woods to accept a \$1,324,170 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to administer the Troops to Teachers grant program in partnership with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. The program assists transitioning service members with meeting the requirements necessary to become teachers, and help program participants find employment as a teacher when eligible.

## Curriculum and Instruction Update

"Change is the only constant in life."

As the Georgia Department of Education bid a hail and farewell to Pam Smith upon her retirement last month, the Curriculum and Instruction team welcomed [Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar](#) as interim Director for Curriculum and Instruction. You may know Dr. Aguilar already as our Director for Innovative Programs and Research. He will be doing double-duty as we search for a new Director.

The Curriculum and Instruction office is the heart of the Department's work, with a slim but nimble staff of about 20 specialists and program managers. The team provides statewide leadership for all academic content areas, fine arts, physical and health education, and supplemental programs such as International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP), STEM/STEAM school certifications, gifted programs, the remedial education program (REP) and the early intervention program (EIP).

As we move the Department forward, we are especially excited about the collaborations we have across all teams in the Department, the RESAs, districts, and communities. With service to children in our hearts and minds, we work together to keep our "eyes on the prize" of continuously improving ourselves and our work. If you are interested in joining this motivated, caring, hard-working, and smart team, please look for the [announcement for the Director position \(# 18-59\)](#) and apply quickly. **The posting expires June 29.**



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# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## SCIENCE

Amanda Buice, [abuice@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:abuice@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Welcome

Our science department is growing! Please welcome Keith Crandall as our new science program specialist. Keith joins us from Hall County where he taught various high school science courses, including Advanced Placement. He also served at the district level collecting and vetting resources, building websites for teachers, and providing professional learning. He has been recognized as Teacher of the Year by his school and the Northeast Georgia section of the American Chemical Society. Keith is a GaDOE Science Ambassador with a passion for science education. We are excited to have him at GaDOE

Keith may be reached at [kcrandall@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:kcrandall@doe.k12.ga.us).

### 7th Grade Life Science

The [curriculum map for 7th grade life science](#) has been added to the [Science GSE page](#) on

## POLICY

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

### Suicide Prevention Training

The Georgia Department of Education is sponsoring four suicide prevention training opportunities in August 2018. The training sessions are entitled Suicide Prevention Training: Prevention, Intervention and Postvention. In May 2015, Governor Nathan Deal signed House Bill 198, which requires that all certificated public-school personnel receive annual training in suicide awareness and prevention as part of existing in-service training and professional development programs.

Training includes how to identify appropriate mental health services, both within the school and within the larger community, and when and how to refer youth

and their families to those services. This training will provide resources and best practices in suicide prevention, intervening with someone in crisis and dealing with suicides and aftercare (postvention).

#### August 8

Augusta Technical College- ITC Auditorium  
3200 Augusta Tech Drive  
Augusta, GA 30906

- [Register](#)

#### August 9

Chattahoochee Technical College- North Metro Hall  
5198 Ross Road  
Acworth, GA 30102

- [Register](#)

#### August 16

West Central Technical College-Waco Campus  
176 Murphy Campus Boulevard  
Waco, GA 30182

- [Register](#)

#### August 23

Southern Regional Technical College-Conference  
Room A, B, C  
52 Tech Drive  
Tifton, GA 31794

- [Register](#)

Please register no later than Wednesday, July 25. Only 125 seats are available at each training location and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. If the event you are trying to register for is full, please select an alternate location/date. Lunch will be provided. If you have any special needs or dietary restrictions, please email [safeschoolsga@gmail.com](mailto:safeschoolsga@gmail.com) by July 25.

Please contact Cheryl Benefield ([cbenefield@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:cbenefield@doe.k12.ga.us)) or Jeff Hodges ([jhodges@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jhodges@doe.k12.ga.us)) if you have questions.

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates

## WORLD LANGUAGES & GLOBAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

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

### Georgia's Annual Dual Language Immersion Institute Becoming Regional Event



This year Georgia will host the 5th annual Georgia Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Institute July 17-18 at Douglas County High School. This year's event features opening remarks from State School Superintendent Richard Woods, Douglas County Superintendent Trent North, and World Language state supervisors from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

The event will also feature the renewing of the SALC MOU (Southern Atlantic Language Collaborative), an agreement signed by the Superintendents of Virginia, NC, SC, and GA to facilitate regional collaboration in the area of world languages.

The event will feature sessions for DLI teachers, English partner teachers and DLI administrators at all levels.

Georgia continues its rapid expansion of DLI programs with the opening of 13 new programs, including new programs in Forsyth and Savannah-Chatham.

- [View This Year's Program](#)
- [Free Registration](#)

### Georgia's First Japanese-English Dual Language Program Celebrates Ribbon Cutting

On June 14, the International Charter Academy of Georgia celebrated a ribbon cutting to launch the first and only Japanese/English Dual Language Charter elementary school in Georgia, which will provide second language skills and cultural competency and guide students to develop greater cognitive flexibility, increased attention control, better memory, and superior problem-solving skills. Students joining ICA Georgia's program from kindergarten are immersed in Japanese for 80% of the day, with the remaining 20% in English. Grades 1 and 2 are 60/40 (Japanese/English), and Grades 3-5 are 50/50. English and Japanese teachers, including ESOL and JSOL teachers, use a team-teaching approach across departments.

- [More Information](#)



State School Superintendent Richard Woods and Mike Mason, Mayor of Peachtree Corners, plant a dogwood tree to celebrate the official opening of Georgia's first Japanese-English Dual Language Immersion School.

- [Read the June 15 GaDOE World Language Update for Additional News](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mike Tenoschok, [mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Fitnessgram Testing

A reminder regarding required FitnessGram Testing in Physical Education Classes:

#### 160-4-2-.12 COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM PLAN

Each local school system shall conduct an annual fitness assessment program. One time each school year for students in grades one through 12, to be conducted only during a physical education course that is taught by a certificated physical education teacher in which a student is enrolled. Each local school system shall report the individual results of the fitness assessment to the parent or guardian of each student assessed and the aggregate results of the fitness assessments by school to the State Board of Education annually.

### Physical Education Standards of Excellence

The State Board of Education approved the Georgia Physical Education Standards of Excellence on Thursday May 3. This was a significant milestone for the physical education community as it provides a definitive direction for planning, instruction and evaluation of physical education instruction for subsequent generations.

- [View the New PE Standards](#)

### Governor's Fitness Awards

Need Governor's Fitness Awards earlier in the school year in addition to the end of the year distribution? Students may qualify for the award by scoring in the Healthy Fitness Zone in 5 FitnessGram test items. We ship awards at the end of the school year. If you need awards earlier in the school year, please email Mike Tenoschok at [mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us) with the number of awards needed. We will ship them within 7-10 days.

## GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Margaret Thomas, [margaret.thomas@gavirtualschool.org](mailto:margaret.thomas@gavirtualschool.org)

### GaVS Provides Opportunities for Students

Georgia Virtual School is serving nearly 3,700 students in courses totaling 7,000 segments this summer. The majority of these students are taking courses to get ahead or to provide more flexibility in their schedule for the upcoming school year.

As scheduling for the 2018-2019 school year continues, consider Georgia Virtual School as an option for students who need flexibility in their schedule and as an opportunity for those who want to get ahead. Registration for Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 are open now.

- [Fall 2018 Course Offerings](#)
- [Spring 2019 Course Offerings](#)



## COLLEGE READINESS & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Joshua Todd, [jtodd@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jtodd@doe.k12.ga.us)

### 2018 Fall AP Workshops

Our GaDOE Advanced Placement Regional Workshops for teachers are planned for September through November. Dates will be released in early August, so stay tuned for more information.

Over the past 11 years, more than 9,800 teachers have attended these free trainings. With your help, we will add to this number in the fall!

Please follow us on Twitter [@GaDOECollegeRdy](#).



# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## TEACHER & LEADER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

Melinda Moe, [mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Teacher Observation Expert Training

The Teacher and Leader Support and Development team has developed a new training especially for teachers! The Teacher Observation Expert training is designed for teachers to deepen their understanding and perception of the Teacher Assessment on Performance Standards (TAPS) process. Teacher feedback from Terrell County Schools includes:

- The workshop was one of the best I have attended concerning TKES. The TKES IRR training was very informative; I gained a much better understanding of the observation process. Breaking down the videos and measuring observations against the TKES standards was most educational. I feel better prepared to explain the application of TKES standards to observations conducted in the classrooms. This knowledge will make me a better teacher in my room, a better mentor to new teachers in the school, and a better observer during leadership team walkthroughs.
- The IRR (TKES) was very informative. It helped me to better understand the expectation of the TKES standards and what is expected of me during the school year. I feel that the training allows me the opportunity to show my co-workers what to expect when having a walk-through or a formative. This training made me take a deeper look at myself, my teaching methods, and my lesson plans. I really feel that we need to revamp our lesson plan format. We need to include areas that TKES will focus on. Overall, this training made me do a self-assessment of myself. All teachers really need this training.

If you would like to schedule training in your district/school or need additional information, please contact Melinda Moe ([mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us)).

- [More Information](#)

### Middle Georgia P20 Teacher Induction

TLSD induction specialists facilitate induction conversations for districts, institutions of higher education (IHEs), and RESA partners. The purpose of these conversations is to ensure effective support for pre-service candidates, induction phase teachers and their mentors. Current regional practices are shared by P20 partners, local needs, and local resources are identified. A regional action plan is created to support next steps.

June's teacher induction conversation will support the Middle Georgia P20 partnerships. Middle Georgia, Heart of Georgia, and Oconee RESAs, their districts. Middle Georgia State University, Fort Valley University, Mercer University, and Georgia College and University will participate in an initial conversation. This technical assistance support is a follow-up from the spring P-20 Collaborative convening conversation. For more information or questions concerning this work please contact Dr. Kathy Reese (leader induction) [kreese@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:kreese@doe.k12.ga.us) and/or Dr. Karen Wyler (teacher induction) [kwylar@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:kwylar@doe.k12.ga.us).

### TLSD Summer Training Calendar/New Platform Training Dates

The TLSD team has planned several TKES and LKES professional learning trainings during the summer months. If your district needs TKES or LKES training, please review the calendar in the link below. The TLSD Electronic Platform will officially open July 1 in the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). Please note training dates for the platform in the link provided below. For additional information, contact Melinda Moe ([mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us)).

- [More Information](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## STEM/STEAM

Meghan McFerrin, [mmcferrin@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mmcferrin@doe.k12.ga.us)

### 2018 STEM/STEAM Forum: Call for Proposals and Registration

As the state's premier annual STEM/STEAM event, the Forum brings together leaders, innovators, and champions from across the state who are united by a passion to advance excellence in STEM/STEAM education for all students.

Last year broke a record with more than 1,300 elementary, middle, and high school teachers and administrators, along with business and industry partners, in attendance.

Teachers, building leaders, and community STEM/STEAM partners, here's how you can participate:

- [Submit a proposal](#) to showcase how your school integrates STEM/STEAM activities, lessons, and/or a problem for students to solve in the classroom. Deadline has been extended to July 15.
- Attend to see how other schools across Georgia bring STEM/STEAM activities into their classrooms, learn how to bring greater awareness to the hidden STEM/STEAM economy of our skilled trade jobs, and have the chance to win one of our 3 for \$300 Grants for CTAE, elementary, middle, and high school teachers. Teachers must attend the conference in order to apply for the classroom grants.
- [Attendee Registration](#)
- [Georgia STEM/STEAM Forum Housing Reservations Portal](#)

## GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

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

### Social Studies Civic Engagement Diploma Seal

It's official! Beginning 2018-2019, GaDOE will offer a Civic Engagement Diploma Seal to graduating seniors who meet the following criteria:

- Meet the social studies requirements to earn a high school diploma, and
- Pass the American Government Basic Skills Test, and
- Complete 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities related to the application of social studies knowledge and civic engagement, and
- Present a capstone portfolio presentation on the knowledge gained in social studies and/or civics/government related courses and activities listed above.

Districts can apply to participate. For more information visit the [GaDOE Social Studies Program Page](#).

### 3rd and 4th Grade History Refresher 101 Summer Workshops

Join grade level colleagues in this lively, hands-on crash course on topics in U.S. History. We will model use of engaging inquiry strategies and resources while reinforcing and extending the content knowledge needed to teach the new Social Studies GSE. The workshop is facilitated by GaDOE Social Studies Program Specialist JoAnn Wood. Please Note: The GaDOE is unable to reimburse for travel expenses. Note date change for the workshops held at Heart of Georgia RESA.

- [Available Dates and Registration Information](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS

Carole Carr, [ccarr@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ccarr@doe.k12.ga.us)

### GaDOE Launches Multi-Tiered System of Supports

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) has initiated the development of an integrated framework that will support the holistic needs of students. Georgia's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) represents a cross-divisional effort among Teaching and Learning, School and District Effectiveness, Federal Programs, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, and Special Education.

Through a competitive application process, the GaDOE selected ten school districts to participate in Cohort One. These districts are committed to using MTSS's evidence and research-based practices to empower their students to learn, live, and lead by graduation.

The MTSS district partners include:

- Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools,
- Clarke County School District
- City Schools of Decatur
- DeKalb County School District
- Dodge County School District
- Glynn County School District
- Houston County Schools
- Marietta City Schools
- Muscogee County School District
- Paulding County School District

Each school will receive support in measurement and evaluation, professional learning and technical assistance, including coaching, necessary to support implementation.

A newly created MTSS GaDOE team will provide multi-phase training and ongoing supports for refinement and sustainability purposes to districts to implement the integrated academic, behavior and social framework.

"MTSS could revolutionize Georgia's educational system," said Program Manager, Karen Suddeth. "MTSS is a partnership between Georgia families and schools that will give educators access to academic and behavioral focused data, which will allow them to respond and adjust instructional practices and meet students' needs more quickly," said Suddeth.

Georgia's MTSS is expected to become one of the primary guiding frameworks for a continuous, data-based, school improvement process supporting children's well-being, academic development, the connectedness of all students to prepare them to be successful high school graduates.

- [Learn More](#)

## SAVE THE DATES

Randall Lee, [rlee@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:rlee@doe.k12.ga.us)

### New Curriculum Leaders' August Orientation and Fall GACIS Conference

#### Orientation for NEW Curriculum Directors:

Tuesday, August 7

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Georgia Department of Education, Atlanta, GA (10th Floor of the West Tower – Rooms A-D)

Registration is Free

- [Register NOW](#)

#### Fall GaDOE Curriculum Directors' Conference:

Wednesday, September 26

The Classic Center, Athens, GA

- [Register NOW](#)

#### Fall GACIS Conference:

Thursday, September 27 to Friday, September 28

Location: The Classic Center, Athens, GA

- [Register NOW](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## COMPUTER SCIENCE (CS)

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

### End of Pathway Assessments for Teachers

The CTAE end-of-pathway assessments for Computer Science (CS) need not be a mystery. A challenge we've heard from many of our teachers is the difficulty preparing students for the End of Pathway Assessments (EOPAs) that cap our CS/IT pathways. EOPAs are industry-level assessments. As such, teachers are not prohibited from taking these assessments themselves. Teachers who teach a CS pathway can go to an authorized testing center (not their school) and sit for the test themselves to understand industry requirements for these pathways.

### GACE Testing

Teachers currently teaching a computer science course in Georgia have two routes to achieving a teacher credential for CS.

One is a course of study leading to a Computer Science Endorsement. This course of study currently is offered at Columbus State University and the Oconee RESA. It will soon also be offered at Georgia State University and Augusta University.

The other route taking the CS GACE exam for an add-on certification. This exam is offered by the ETS in collaboration with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). The current test is being replaced in October 2018 by an updated version that is more reflective of the breadth of CS offerings we have in Georgia. It is in the best interest of any teacher interested in teaching CS in Georgia to take this new exam as soon as it is released. A [study guide that outlines the domains](#) covered is available from the GaPSC and GACE testing organization.

### Middle School Computer Science

As computer science education in Georgia grows, the academic structure grows with it. A set of new middle school computer science courses were approved by the State Board of Education this month. These courses will provide a foundation for the existing high school pathways. Each course provides basic content knowledge and experiences that may later be explored in greater depth in an associated high school pathway. The courses are designed to be independent yet complementary of each other, each providing an introduction to the content involved. The courses will be available for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year.

- [11.01100 Foundations of Secure Information Systems](#)
- [11.01200 Foundations of Computer Programming](#)
- [11.01300 Foundations of Interactive Design](#)



[Computer Science For Georgia \(CS4GA\)](#) is a collective impact effort by diverse stakeholders to bring quality CS education to all children in K-12 systems throughout Georgia's 182 school districts.