



Georgia Department of Education

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

May 2018

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

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

### SBOE Approval of Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE)

On May 3, the State Board of Education approved GSE for the following content areas and high school courses.

1. [Dramatic Writing](#) (Film, Television, and Theatre I)  
Note: This course satisfies a 4th English Language Arts core credit for high school graduation purposes. The University System of Georgia recognizes this course as a core ELA credit for admissions.
2. K-12 [Music](#) and [Dance](#)
3. [K-12 Physical Education](#)
4. [Journalism](#)

Additional information will be forthcoming from the various content areas.

Three middle school computer science courses are posted for 30 days of public review and comment.

- [Review Proposed Courses and Complete the Survey](#)

### List of State-Funded K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses Update

2018-2019 List of State Funded K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses (Reference: SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.20)

- [State-funded K-8 subjects and 9-12 courses for students entering ninth grade in 2008 and subsequent years](#)
- [Summary of Changes](#)

### Note from Pam

Dear Curriculum Leaders,

Congratulations for another school year of hard work focused on student success. I also want to let you know how much I have appreciated your partnership and support over the years. I am retiring as of May 31 and will miss my education family across the state. Best wishes for continued success for our many Georgia students and families.

Sincerely,  
**Pam Smith**

### Professional Learning Calendar

Wondering about all of the professional learning offered by the Georgia Department of Education and its partners this summer? Check out the [GaDOE public calendar](#).

### ESSA Waiver Update

To avoid double-testing, the Georgia Department of Education sought and was approved to receive an important waiver. Middle school students enrolled in advanced language arts, mathematics, or sciences courses associated with an end-of-course (EOC) assessment shall not have to take the end-of-grade (EOG) assessment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out your district's [assessment specialist](#), or your district's [accountability specialist](#).

### Evidence-based Practices

Evidence-based interventions (also called "evidence-based practices" or EBP) are those which have research evidence supporting their success. Be on the look-out for more information about EBP from GaDOE as they are essential to continuous improvement.

- [Learn More](#)



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# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

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

### Summer Reading Resources for Students

Send out this link to [FREE summer reading resources for students](#).

- [Visit GeorgiaSummer.org](http://VisitGeorgiaSummer.org)

Emergent Learners can research and read on their own all summer long with PebbleGo!

- [K-2 Research Database](#)

Upper elementary can continue building their research skills with PebbleGo Next!

- [3-5th Grade Research Database](#)

Emergent Readers to Middle Schoolers can read Capstone Interactive Library eBooks all summer to help build their literacy skills.

- [Capstone Interactive eBooks](#)

### 2018 Summer L4 Literacy Institutes

School and district teams are invited to upcoming Summer Literacy Institutes. Bring colleagues across all grade levels and collaborate with feeder schools. Teams will participate together in “anchor sessions” and in grade-band groups in “topic sessions.” By coming as a team, your group will have more support for implementation and sustainability.

- [Registration](#)

**Dates and locations of each institute (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.):**

**June 11 - 12**, James H. Rainwater Conference Center  
1 Meeting Place, Valdosta 31601

**June 14 - 15**, Coastal Georgia Center  
305 Fahm Street, Savannah 31401

**June 26-27**, Middle Georgia State University  
Conference Center  
100 University Parkway, Macon 31206

**July 12 - 13**, Clarence Brown Conference Center  
5450 Georgia Highway 20, Cartersville 30121

**July 16-17**, UGA Continuing Education Center  
1197 S. Lumpkin St., Athens, GA 30602

### Literacy Montag Lecture

Dr. Caitlin McMunn Dooley, Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, presented about the importance of social and emotional learning for literacy development at the 2018 Montag Lecture.

- [Watch the Lecture](#)

### Congratulations L4GA Grant Award Winners!

The Georgia Department of Education is pleased to announce the awarded Literacy for Learning, Living, and Leading in Georgia (L4GA) grants. Thirty-eight districts and their community partners were awarded funds for three-year projects that promise to systematically improve literacy outcomes across birth-grade 12.

- [Learn More](#)

### Community Partnership Grant Competition: Applications due June 30

[The Innovation Fund's Community Partnership Grants](#) provide between \$35,000 to \$75,000 over one to two years for eligible organizations—in partnership with schools, districts, and community, state, or national organizations—to implement programs with priority areas including Birth to Age 8 Language and Literacy Development and Positive Learning Climate. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; the first deadline is Saturday, June 30.

Community Partnership Grants are made possible by the [Innovation Fund Foundation](#) and are funded with donations from the [Qualified Education Donation Tax Credit](#) and administered by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement.

- [More Information](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates

## WORLD LANGUAGES & GLOBAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

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

### Awarding of Dual Language Immersion Competitive Grants



In partnership with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education, the Georgia Department of Education delivered big checks to schools to celebrate awarded competitive grants. The grants funded Dual Language Immersion (DLI) projects that benefit students and school communities. All of Georgia's current 40 DLI Program Schools were invited to participate in this initial round of competitive grants. Congratulations to Bolton Academy in Atlanta Public Schools, Beulah Elementary in Douglas County, and Norton Park Elementary in Cobb County.



## World Language Educator of the Month



The World Language Educator of the Month for April 2018, Ms. Xiaojuan Guo, teaches Mandarin to all students at Mercer Middle School in Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools. Ms. Guo combines language with culture and with other subjects like math, arts, life skills, and sports. She collaborates with other teachers to improve the school and assists with ELA class. Ms. Guo is the first world language teacher at the school. She gives students chances to show achievements and motivates students to keep on learning.

## New Dual Language Immersion Videos

Administrators, parents, teachers, and students make the International Charter School of Atlanta (ICSA) -- one of Georgia's 40 current DLI programs -- a special place. Students at ICSA have the option of learning core competencies in one of four language tracks: German, French, Mandarin or Spanish. Parents shared their thoughts and perspectives on this [innovative immersive educational model in our latest video](#). Students also [shared their experiences with us](#).

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## SCIENCE

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

### Summer Science Sessions

**Southwest GA RESA Science Conference (K-12)** – June 5-6, 2018

SW GA RESA Training Center, 570 Martin Luther King, Jr Road, Camilla, GA 31730

*State of the State and Obtain, Evaluate, Communicate* -

Why does every science GSE start with, “Obtain, Evaluate and Communicate?” What does that practice look like in a classroom? Explore strategies to integrate reading, writing and science in an active science classroom where students are not just “learning about” but are “figuring out.”

- [Apply](#)

**2018 Federal Programs Conference** – June 13-14, 2018

GA International Convention Center – Atlanta Airport Marriott Gateway

*Building Professional Capacity with Phenomenal Science* – Best practices for professional learning and instruction along with tools for evaluating quality resources will be shared.

- [More Information](#)

**Three-Dimensional (3D) Learning in the Classroom (K-12)** – June 15, 2018

Heart of GA RESA, 717 Smith St, Dublin, GA 31021

Participants will learn to effectively adapt existing materials and instruction to better align to GSE. Participants will also identify assessment components that focus on individual practices, core ideas, or crosscutting concepts, and understand how, taken together, the components can support inferences about students’ 3D science learning.

- [Apply](#)

**3-D Science in the Schoolyard (K-12)** – June & July

Georgia science teachers can attend one of three regional/repeat sessions offered by Captain Planet in collaboration with the Department of Education. Teachers will receive ecoSTEM kits and training to teach the new science standards by engaging students in “3-Dimensional” (3D) Science. 3D Science uses nature as a context for phenomenon-based learning. After observing and trying to explain a phenomenon in nature, participants conduct investigations that integrate core ideas and crosscutting concepts with science and engineering practices, and implement projects to solve real-world environmental problems. Educators trained will receive STEM kits and be certified to train other teachers. An additional training day will take place in the 2018-19 school year. Lodging assistance and some meals will be provided to participants by Captain Planet.

- June 18-20, 2018 Metro Atlanta, GA - TBD
- July 10-12, 2018 GA Forestry Commission, 5645 Riggins Mill Road, Dry Branch, GA
- July 24-26, 2018 Jekyll Island Foundation, Jekyll Island, GA
- [More Information](#)

**Phenomenal Science: GA Science is a 3-D Experience** – July 23, 2018

NWGA RESA, 3167 Cedartown Hwy SE, Rome, GA 30161

This training is geared for new teachers eager to learn about science standards in Georgia. Why does every standard begin with Obtain, Evaluate and Communicate? What does that look like in the science classroom?

- [Apply](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## TEACHER & LEADER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

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

### TLSD Electronic Platform Pilot

Douglas, Bulloch, and Whitfield County Schools will participate in the TLSD Electronic Platform pilot during May. Each school district will select one elementary, one middle, and one high school. Ten percent of the staff from each school will participate in the pilot. Pilot participants will be able to log on to the new platform and access all the features. Feedback will be collected and utilized to make improvements before the official roll out on July 1, 2018.

### TLSD Summer Training Calendar

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 (see link below). For additional information, contact Melinda Moe ([mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us)).

- [Review 2018 Summer Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

### Title II Updates

Title II staff will conduct optional regional training opportunities for PQ and In-Field across the state and virtually the last two weeks in July. Registration will soon be available. Sessions offered throughout each training day will be targeted to specific groups:

- School Level Personnel: Principals, Assistant Principals, Schedulers
- Central Office Personnel: Federal Programs, Human Resources, Finance
- LEA Data Collections Personnel: CPI and Student Class Coordinators

Don't forget to register for the Federal Programs Conference: Creating Equitable Pathways – June 12-14.

- June 12 – New Directors' Workshop – New Title II, Part A Coordinators will not want to miss this opportunity.
- June 13-14 – Main Conference – Vital program information for all participants

### TKES/LKES Component Rating Information

TKES and LKES Component Rating containers are open for the 2017-2018 school year. The TKES/LKES plans will be available until June 15.

In the LKES Component Rating container, one visible component is the "Combination of Additional Data." This component will be OPTIONAL for the 2017-2018 school year. We will share examples of how data can be combined if districts choose to rate this component for the 2017-2018 school year. If districts choose not to rate the "Combination of Additional Data," leaders will not receive a Leader Effectiveness Measure (LEM) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Please contact Keisla Tisdell ([ktisdell@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ktisdell@doe.k12.ga.us)) for any additional information.

## JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Marle C. Usry, [Marle.Usry@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:Marle.Usry@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Jimmy Carter National Historic Site (JCNHS) Education Website

The JCNHS Education Program is pleased to announce the launch of its new website for educators. The website includes links for multimedia, field trip information, and curriculum. Information and curriculum resources will be updated frequently so please visit our site often!

- [www.jimmycartereducation.com](http://www.jimmycartereducation.com)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## FINE ARTS

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

### Dramatic Writing Course Approved

The State Board of Education has approved a new course in Dramatic Writing (Film, Television, and Theatre I) for Georgia students, which will equip students for careers in Georgia's growing film and entertainment industry. The Dramatic Writing course was submitted by Fayette County Schools in partnership with the Georgia Film Academy. The University System of Georgia has approved this Dramatic Writing course as a fourth English unit of credit for post-secondary admission purposes.

The Georgia Film Academy is providing teacher training for the Dramatic Writing course beginning summer of 2018.

- [See Training Dates](#)
- [Sign-Up for Georgia Film Academy \(GFA\) Teacher Training for Dramatic Writing Course](#)

### Fine Arts Standards Approved

The State Board also approved revised course standards for music, dance, and media arts for the performing arts based on a formal review and revision process that took place in the fall and winter of 2017. The Georgia Council for the Arts, the Alliance Theatre, and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra endorsed the standards.

- [Access the New Georgia Standards of Excellence in Fine Arts](#)

## GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

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

### Insight from Current Students

What are students saying about why they chose Georgia Virtual School and the benefits they have gained?

**Zane:** I chose Georgia Virtual because it gave me flexibility to work at my own pace relative to my busy schedule. Time management and the balance between work and play are among many of the different concepts that can be taken away from Georgia Virtual.

**Rommi:** Georgia Virtual has helped me take on a higher rigor level and be successful in the courses through convenient access to the helpful resources and teachers. A course with GAVS demands that a student must learn every aspect of the subject at hand vs. whatever the teacher deems important for that day in a traditional school day.

**Adam:** With the many resources GAVS is equipped with, learning became exciting for me, especially in the fields of sciences. The program is equipped with many resources that are designed to help aid students during the classes. Georgia Virtual is ahead of its time since it excels in preparing its students for college. One nature of the program is that it allows students to have the flexibility to create their own schedule, yet institute discipline into executing the agenda.

- [Sign up now for GaVS Summer Courses](#)
- [Summer Course Catalog](#)



# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## CTAE

Paula Poulicek, [ppoulicek@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:ppoulicek@doe.k12.ga.us)

### Career and Technical Instruction (CTI) State Leadership Conference

“Together We Stand” was the theme of the 37th Annual CTI State Leadership Conference held April 11-13, 2018 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton. The State Officer team presided over the conference with approximately 750 CTI students and CTI Coordinators from across Georgia in attendance.

CTI students competed in 31 career-related contests showcasing their skills and abilities learned in Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) classes. Judges selected first, second, and third place winners based on scores earned in various skills and presentation categories. Scholarships were also awarded to outstanding CTI students.

CTI students elected new state officers and participated in a talent contest, arts and crafts, and leadership sessions at the conference. They also enjoyed activities such as canoeing, swimming, hiking, field day and a cookout.

Career and Technical Instruction (CTI) is a specialized intervention service designed to support high school students with disabilities enrolled in Career, Technical and Agricultural Education classes. The primary goal of the program is to provide students with appropriate supports in CTAE classes that result in the attainment of entry level job skills. The CTI program also assists students in gaining self-advocacy skills and provides appropriate transition services.



### New Middle School Computer Science Courses

Please give input on three proposed computer science courses for middle school. These proposed courses were developed by business and industry partners, middle and high school teachers, and post-secondary partners. The proposed courses have been published for public review for 30 days. Please share this survey with local advisory committees, educators, parents, and other community stakeholders.

- [Review Proposed Courses and Complete the Survey](#)

For more information please contact Delda Hagin at [dhagin@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dhagin@doe.k12.ga.us).

### The Georgia Agricultural Education Act

#### Defining the Program and Expanding to Elementary Schools

Governor Nathan Deal recently signed the Georgia Agricultural Education Act which will have a profound impact on agricultural education programs across the state. This legislation originated as a proposed idea from two northwest Georgia students and FFA members at Gordon Lee High School, Dalton Green and Emily Potter. The bill was championed by Senator John K. Wilkinson from Toccoa. During the 2018 session of the Georgia General Assembly, Senate Bill 330 unanimously passed both the house and the senate. Governor Nathan Deal signed Senate Bill 330 on stage in front of more than 5,000 students and teachers at the 90th Georgia FFA Convention in Macon on April 27.

- [Read More About Senate Bill 330](#)

Applications for piloting elementary Ag Ed will be made available prior to June 1 with an expected deadline for LEA completion by June 30th, 2018.

- [Senate Bill 330 Timeline and Application Information](#)
- [View Signing of Senate Bill 330 with Governor Deal](#)

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## COMPUTER SCIENCE (CS)

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

### Standards, Courses, and Grants

GaDOE is building the academic structure for Computer Science (CS) to become a K-12 content area. In today's digital society, CS is part of every person's life and work. Therefore, CS is essential to all students' education.

Georgia has introduced new high school and [has drafted middle school courses](#) that expose students to CS concepts and align with high school Information Technology (IT) Pathways. Standards for these courses are also aligned to the drafted K-8 CS standards (which will go before the Board at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year). This "backward design" of courses and standards is an attempt to quickly fill CS course gaps while also creating a more sustainable foundation through the development of CS as a K-12 content area.

Ultimately, all alignments between approved K-12 standards and extant courses will be determined by the State Board, University System, and Technical College System of Georgia. The Department is working diligently to improve access and participation K-12 CS for every student in the state.

### CS Grant for Middle Schools

As part of a larger collective impact effort across the state (CS4GA), a new competitive grant promoting middle school computer science is available for districts.

Awarded districts can use the funds flexibly to purchase equipment, curriculum resources, or professional learning for teachers. Districts can also use the funds to send teachers to a PSC-approved endorsement program offered at several institutions around the state. The only requirement for grant awards is that the funds be used to promote CS education in middle schools. Applications are due May 18, 2018.

- [Download Application](#)

## CS High School Educator Certification Information

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC), per request from the GaDOE, will continue to consider educators certified in Business, Math, and Science as being in-field (per GaPSC in-field requirements) to teach certain computer science courses until June 30, 2019, and CAPS has been updated to reflect this extension. This means anyone teaching programming courses must hold certification in CS or the CS Endorsement by 6/30/19 in order to continue teaching courses requiring that certification field or endorsement. Note: This does not mean that the GaPSC will extend the end of the validity period of the certificate for the affected educators. Educators with professional certificates expiring June 30, 2018 must still meet standard professional learning requirements for renewal.

### CS Reminders:

1. Computational thinking is an essential skill set for everyone in our society and thus an essential aspect of K-12 education.
2. Nine high school computer science courses count as a 4th math or 4th science course option for high school graduation purposes.
3. The 4th science course option is approved for admission purposes by the University System of Georgia.
4. Two of the nine designated high school computer science courses will satisfy two years of sequenced foreign language courses required for admissions to the University System of Georgia.
5. GAVS offers four computer science pathways online.
6. Microsoft offers vouchers to every school in Georgia for their End Of Pathway Assessments (EOPA) including the CS EOPAs.



# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## ESOL

Dr. Jacqueline C. Ellis, [jellis@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:jellis@doe.k12.ga.us)

### 2018 Star English Learner and Star ESOL Teachers

2018 WIDA and the Center for Applied Linguistics Bias & Sensitivity Content Review for ACCESS for ELLS 2.0

The GaDOE ESOL Unit would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following Georgia educators for their participation.

#### Writing

- Grades 1-3, Dr. Cherrilynn Woods Washington, Atlanta Public Schools

#### Speaking and Listening

- Grades 6-8, Larry E. Ninas, Troup County Public Schools
- Grades 9-12, Catherine Wentworth, Colquitt County Public Schools
- Grades 1-3, Ashlynn Williamson, Laurens County Public Schools
- Grades 4-8, Yasuko Kobayashi, Troup County Public Schools

#### Star ESOL Teacher Award Winners

Star English Learners are juniors and seniors on track for graduation whose character, academic grades, and extracurricular activities reflect an exemplary level of achievement. These English Learners are nominated by their school districts. Star ESOL teachers are nominated by the Star English Learner or LEA ESOL or Title III Coordinators for their significant contribution to the ESOL community. Final selections are made by a state level committee. Congratulations to our regional winners!

## 2018 Spring Star English Learner

### Eliyas Sala

Cross Keys High School  
DeKalb County Schools

### Ingrid Gonzalez

B.E. May High School  
Atlanta Public Schools

### Shabnam Sikander

Groves High School  
Savannah Chatham County Schools

## POLICY

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

### 2018 Safety In Our Schools Conference

Registration is open for the 2018 Safety In Our Schools conference from June 26-28. The conference will be held at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center at 801 Front Avenue, Columbus, GA. The conference is presented by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security, Georgia Department of Education, and the United States Attorney's Office – Middle District of Georgia.

Some of the topics at this year's conference include the San Bernardino Elementary School Shooting, Lessons Learned from Hurricane Irma, Terrorism, School Site Assessments, Active Shooter Response, Legislative Update, Stop-the-Bleed, Food Defense, School Attendance/School Safety, Opioid Awareness, Disaster Preparedness and Response, and Haralson County WATCH. This is just a preliminary list; other topics will be added.

The conference registration fee is \$100 which includes parking and lunch the first two days of the conference. Each attendee must register individually. Lodging and travel expenses are the responsibility of the attendee. Conference check-in begins at 8 a.m. on June 26 and the program will begin at 9 a.m. Registration deadline is June 15, 2018.

- [Registration Information](#)

For more information please contact Pam Lightsey at [pam.lightsey@usdoj.gov](mailto:pam.lightsey@usdoj.gov).

# Curriculum & Instruction Updates



## SUMMER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference

The July 11-14, 2018, Orlando, Florida. \$300 per person.

This conference offers more than 300 sessions and provides a platform for high schools, middle grades schools, and elementary schools to take full advantage of innovative professional development and strategies that prepare students with the academic and career and technical education skills and knowledge needed to succeed in college and the 21st-century workplace. The conference introduces educators to proven strategies and tools that unite leaders and teachers across disciplines in providing students rich learning experiences that lead to advanced credentials, postsecondary studies and jobs.

- [More Information and to Register](#)

### SREB's Sixth Annual College-and Career- Readiness Standards Networking Conference for Literacy and Math

July 9-11, 2018, Orlando, Florida. \$225 per person.

What literacy skills will your students need to be successful in college or a career? How are you helping them build those skills? Attend and learn classroom-tested strategies to advance students' grade-level mastery of literacy across all content areas.

Do your students struggle with math, or do some see it as irrelevant? Give them a reason to get excited about learning math. We will share frameworks to help students reach the deep learning necessary to master college- and career-readiness math standards.

- [More Information and to Register](#)

### Curriculum Leaders' August Orientation and September Fall Conference

#### Save the Dates

**August 7, 2018:** New Curriculum Leaders' Orientation  
**September 26, 2018:** Fall GaDOE Curriculum Leaders' Conference

**September 27-28, 2018:** [Fall GACIS Conference](#)

Registration will be available soon from the the [GACIS \(Georgia Association of Curriculum and Instructional Supervisors\) website](#).



### WestEd's National Sessions on Supporting English Learners who are also Students with Disabilities (ELSWD)

June 26-27, 2018, Atlanta; \$589 per person.

Institute participants will develop skills in identifying the differences between learning challenges caused by language acquisition deficits and learning disabilities. They will learn research-based instructional strategies that support this unique group of learners, building on the foundation of Universal Design for Learning and incorporating academic discourse. The sessions will provide tools to increase and structure student interaction. Participants will apply skills through the use of a Backward Lesson Planning tool focused on scaffolding techniques matched to language proficiency levels.

- [More Information and Registration](#)