



Georgia Department of Education

Curriculum & Instruction Updates

Educating Georgia's Future

November 2017

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

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

Standards Approved for World Language - Level 3 Course

On November 9, 2017, the State Board of Education approved a Level 3 World Language course (66.03000). This course will be the third course in a sequence and will provide students with another option for completing a World Language Pathway.

Survey for the Review of Physical Education Georgia Performance Standards

The Georgia Department of Education welcomes your feedback and comments regarding a survey opportunity for the review of the Physical Education Georgia Performance Standards (GPS). This survey feedback will be used to inform the development of Physical Education Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). The survey will be posted for 60 days beginning on November 14, 2017, and will close on January 12, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

- [Access the PE Standards and Survey](#)

If you have questions regarding the survey or standards, please contact Therese McGuire or Mike Tenoschok, Physical Education Program Specialists at tmcguire@doe.k12.ga.us or mtenoschok@doe.k12.ga.us.

L4GA Grant Application Information Sessions Scheduled

The *Literacy for Learning, Living and Leading in Georgia* (L4GA) initiative has been strengthened by a competitive grant of \$61.5M awarded to Georgia from the U.S. Department of Education. Ninety-five percent of these funds will be sub-granted to district-community partnerships working with feeder systems to engage community leaders, P-20 partners, and RESAs as they improve literacy outcomes.

L4GA Grant Dates for upcoming information sessions:

November 27

9:30 a.m. at CSRA RESA (register at the RESA site)

November 27

1:30 p.m. at Oconee RESA (register at the RESA site)

November 28

10:00 a.m. at the Georgia Department of Education, 10th Floor West, Tower Training Room D [Registration Link](#)

December 4

11:00 a.m. at Heart of Georgia RESA (note: new address - register at the RESA site) 717 Smith Street, Dublin, Ga 31021

December 5

9:30 a.m. First District RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 6

9:00 a.m., Okefenokee RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 6

1:00 a.m., Okefenokee RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 7

9:00 a.m., Chattahoochee-Flint RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 7

2:00 p.m., Coastal Plains RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 11

1:00 p.m., North Georgia RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 12

9:00 a.m. Northwest Georgia RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 13

10:00 a.m. West Georgia RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 14

9:00 a.m. Southwest Georgia RESA (register at the RESA site)

December 15

10:00 a.m. Pioneer Georgia RESA (register at the RESA site)



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CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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New Location for the GACIS Winter Conference

Please register for the Georgia Association of Curriculum and Instructional Supervisors (GACIS) Winter Conference, scheduled for **December 5-6** at the Legacy Lodge, Lanier Island.

The conference program includes the following keynote speakers:

- Dr. Eric Thomas, Georgia's new Chief Turnaround Officer (invited)
- Dr. Melissa Fincher, Assessment & Accountability Best Practices (2 hours)
- Eric Sheninger, Digital Pioneer, Author, Educator
- Dr. Jimmy Casas, Award Winning High School Principal with a Passion for Teaching
- Dr. Kate Kinsella, Co-Author of Read 180 and English Language Development Teacher

Best Practice Session Topics include:

- Beyond the Red Pencil - Toombs County and Laurens County Schools
- CCRPI Redesigned - Dr. Allison Timberlake, Director of Accountability, GaDOE
- Developing the Literate Mind - Forsyth County School
- ELA & Social Studies: I now pronounce you...INTEGRATED! - Clayton County Schools
- Get Better Faster - Bibb County Schools
- Improving Lexile Scores - Coweta County School System
- SLDS - State Longitudinal Data Systems (tentative) - Bob Swiggum, GaDOE
- Transformational Teaching Through Project Based Learning - Rome City Schools
- [Please Register](#)

FINE ARTS

Jessica Booth, jbooth@doe.k12.ga.us

Dance and Music Standards Being Revised

Dance and Music Standards are being revised.

Tentative Timeline for Revision:

- Early October 2017 - K-12 Working Committees utilized survey results to make recommendations for revisions.
- Late October 2017 - Advisory Review Committees reviewed recommended changes for comment.
- December 2017 - Academic Review Committees will review recommended changes for comment.
- January 2018 - Recommendations for revisions will be presented to the State Board of Education (SBOE) for approval to post for 30 days of public review and comment.
- February or March 2018 - Draft K-12 Dance and Music Georgia Standards of Excellence will be presented to the SBOE for approval.
- 2018-2019 - Initial communication, resource development, and professional learning will begin.
- 2019-2020 school year - K-12 Dance and Music Georgia Standards of Excellence will be implemented for the first time. Communication, resource development, and professional learning will be ongoing.

Georgia Standards of Excellence for dance and music will be implemented for the first time. Communication, resource development, and professional learning will be ongoing.

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WORLD LANGUAGES & GLOBAL WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

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

October World Language Educator of the Month



Congratulations to Mrs. Luz Vargas, Spanish teacher at Sequoyah High School in Cherokee County, for being recognized as October's World Language Educator of the Month! Mrs. Vargas has taught all levels of Spanish including AP Spanish Language and Culture and AP Spanish Literature and Culture to students in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades. She holds a Master's Degree in Spanish Language and Culture from Universidad de Salamanca in Spain and a BA from Universidad Pedagógica Nacional in Bogotá, Colombia. This is the 19th year teaching at Sequoyah High School for Mrs. Vargas and her 21st year teaching in Georgia.

School Application Deadline for the International Skills Diploma Seal

This is a reminder that the deadline for school applications to offer the International Skills Diploma Seal is December 15th, 2017. Schools that have already been approved do not need to apply again. More information on the International Skills Diploma Seal and the application process can be found by visiting the [following webpage](#).

“Dual Language In A Day” Workshop Announced for January!

In order to meet the growing need to provide quality professional development for Georgia's expanding Dual Language Immersion programs, the Georgia Department of Education is pleased to announce the establishment of a mid-year professional development workshop for DLI teachers, English partner teachers and administrators at the Globe Academy from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday, January 27th. There is no fee for the workshops and the event is open as well to all who are interested in learning more about the Dual Language Immersion Model. More information on the event, including registration and a link to submit workshop proposals, can be found by visiting the [GaDOE website on the Dual Language Immersion Initiative](#).

School Application Deadline for the International Skills Diploma Seal

In collaboration with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, we are pleased to provide a new Guidance at a Glance document for prospective world language teachers in Georgia. The document provides a user-friendly format with links to the appropriate (PSC) Professional Standards Commission pages for further information.

- [Download the Document](#)

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

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

Georgia Language Arts Supervisors (GLAS)

The purpose of the Georgia Language Arts Supervisors (GLAS) organization is to provide support and collaborative opportunities for those that lead English Language Arts curriculum across the state. GLAS will host a job-alike meeting on Monday, December 11, 2017 at the Houston County Board of Education in Perry, Georgia. Please contact Dr. Amy Fouse (amy.fouse@hcbe.net) by December 1, 2017 for meeting details and to RSVP.

Welcome Martha Smith

Martha Smith is GaDOE's new secondary ELA Program Specialist. Martha comes from Fulton County Schools where she taught grades 9-12 English as well as AP Literature and Composition for 11 years. Prior to teaching, she worked in publishing and advertising. We are glad to have her join our ELA/Literacy team.

International Literacy Association Invites Applications for Teacher Recognition Grant

The ILA is accepting applications for the 2018 Regie Routman Teacher Recognition grant of \$2,500 to K-6 teacher.

- [Learn More](#)

ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sandy Greene, Ed.D, sgreene@doe.k12.ga.us

A Look at the New GAA Extended Content Standards

Since the implementation of the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) in 2006-2007, the Assessment Division has provided teachers with a variety of training and support opportunities related to the state's content standards

and the instruction and assessment of students with significant cognitive disabilities. With the release of the Extended Content Standards: A Support Resource for the Georgia Alternate Assessment, teachers now have access to a document outlining skills aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies for use during the 2017-2018 school year.

The purpose of this support resource is to provide guidance to educators in identifying examples of student skills that align to the state's content standards and their related indicators.

Students with significant disabilities are expected to receive instruction and gain knowledge and skills as defined by the content standards. However, given their unique needs, students may need to learn these skills differently, in smaller segments, with fewer identified components, at a slower pace, and/or learn skills that would allow access and eventually meet the standard. Aligned skills allow students to show learning of concepts and constructs within a grade-level standard, even though that learning is not at the level of their general education peers.

Extending content standards is one way to illustrate aligned skills. Through extensions, skills that align are derived (or "extended") from the grade level standard. Each extension is an entry point that allows educators to teach standard-based skills that are both appropriate for students with disabilities and allow students to move toward higher levels of learning within the standard.

The Extended Content Standards are available on the [GAA Resources page](#).

This resource is intended to be a support for educators and should be utilized in conjunction with other GAA resources.

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TEACHER & LEADER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

Melinda Moe, mmoe@doe.k12.ga.us

Principals Matter!

In partnership with the Teacher and Leader Support and Development Division, Mark Wilson of the Georgia Principal Support Network developed a series of professional learning modules to support the Leader Keys Effectiveness System (LKES). These modules will establish a foundation for reflection, collaboration, and ongoing job-embedded learning to assist school and district leaders in their professional growth. The modules are available and will be posted on the TLE and SLDS professional development platforms.

- Principals Matter Episode One: Professional Learning and The School Leader
- Principals Matter Episode Two: Planning for Success
- Principals Matter Episode Three: Developing A Culture of Effective Instructional Practices
- Principals Matter Episode Four: Effective Support of Your Teacher
- Principals Matter Episode Five: Overcoming Poverty to Lead Effective Schools
- Principals Matter Episode Six: It's How You Say It: Communication and The School Leader
- Principals Matter Episode Seven: Decision Making, Judgement, Ethics and Professionalism
- Principals Matter Episode Nine: Priorities, Time Management, Stress
- Principals Matter Episode Ten: The Joy of Leading

P-20 Collaboratives Receive Recognition

The Georgia Department of Education, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, and the University System of Georgia have joined together to establish P-20 Collaboratives: systems of support to provide a seamless transition for pre-service candidates as they seek to become professional educators, as well as to provide continued professional learning for practicing educators and leaders. Georgia's P-20 Collaboratives were recently recognized in the Huffington Post.

- [Transforming Teacher Preparation: How States are Leading the Way](#)

Georgia has been divided into nine regions, each region clustered around a group of institutions or agencies that prepares teachers. Each collaborative convenes twice during an academic year. Each collaborative has a strategic planning team that develops the agenda based on identified needs that provide professional learning, resources and networking opportunities. [Additional information and registration links for upcoming meetings](#) may be accessed online.

Learning Walks

The Teacher and Leader Support and Development team has been working with School and District Effectiveness and Curriculum and Instruction on a case study involving three schools in the metro Atlanta area. The learning walks are proving to be a powerful and informative method for giving school administrators and DOE staff the information they need to develop targeted plans for school improvement. The schools chosen for the learning walks due to prior CCRPI scores. The findings from the case study will provide a blueprint that will guide GaDOE in providing appropriate support needed for school improvement.

For the learning walks, members of TLSL, SDE and C&I observe approximately 20 classrooms with the school's administrators and gather evidence related to Teacher Keys Standard 3 (Instructional Strategies), Standard 7 (Positive Learning Environment) and Standard 8 (Academically Challenging Environment). The teams provide feedback to the school leaders based on their overall findings during the observations.

2017 District/School MGPs and Teacher SGP Reports Coming Soon!

The 2017 District and School MGPs (Mean Growth Percentiles) and 2017 Teacher SGP (Student Growth Percentile) Reports will be forwarded to Superintendents through the GaDOE Portal by December 15, 2017. In addition to the aforementioned documents, Superintendents will also receive a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to assist with clarifying questions. Send questions to Cindy Saxon (csaxon@doe.k12.ga.us) or Keisla Tisdell (ktisdell@doe.k12.ga.us).

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SOCIAL STUDIES

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

Shiny New K-12 Resources!

Watch our resource library grow before your very eyes! Visit the [GSE Social Studies webpage on GeorgiaStandards.Org](#) and follow [GaDOE Social Studies on social media](#) as new resources for social studies content and instruction are uploaded. Encourage teachers to visit the [Social Studies Professional Learning webpage](#) to join virtual communities of Georgia educators.

MATHEMATICS

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

Georgia Math Educator to Serve on NAEP Committee

Dr. Lya Snell, GaDOE Elementary Mathematics Program Specialist, was recently invited to serve on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Standing Committee for the 2017-2019 development cycle. The 10-member committee will provide advisement regarding the development of NAEP assessments and the revision of questions and test forms. NAEP assessments are designed to produce public domain data in student achievement and not to report individual student scores. This is a tribute to Dr. Snell's deep understanding of expectations for students in mathematics and an acknowledgement that Georgia has been a leader in improving the quality of K-12 mathematics education in the U.S.

GCTM Awards Announced

Congratulations to the 2017 Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Award Winners! The award recipients were honored for excellence in Georgia mathematics education and are named to the right.

TEACHER OF PROMISE AWARD

- Michaela Hays, Carver Road Middle School

TEACHER OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- Karen Harrison, Nickajack Elementary School
- Renate Davis, McClure Middle School
- Karen Kline, Kennesaw High School

DWIGHT LOVE AWARD

- Ashley Clody, Cobb County School District and Kennesaw State University

JOHN NEFF AWARD

- Mary Garner, Kennesaw State University and Oglethorpe University

GLADYS M. THOMASON

- Chris Franklin, UGA Senior Lecturer Emeritus and American Statistical Association K-12 Ambassador

MINI-GRANT for Creative Teaching Projects

- Allison Crawford, Carrollton Elementary School, for Math Fluency and Time Interval Hands On
- Melissa Madsen, Britt Elementary School, for Blue-Bot Coding
- Casey Phillips, Tadmore Elementary School, for Magnetic Arrays

SPECIAL PROJECT GRANT for Large Projects

- Chuck Garner, Rockdale Magnet School, for Workshop for HS Math Team Sponsors

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SCIENCE

Amanda Buice, abuice@doe.k12.ga.us

ScienceHow Webcasts

[The Smithsonian's Science How program](#) starts again, offering opportunities to connect real scientists to students in classrooms through video webcasts and online text chats. Connecting students with how science is used in the real world is a big part of instruction for new science standards based on The Framework for K-12 Science Education. This program is designed for middle school students.

Phenomenal Science

Instructional sequences are more coherent when students investigate compelling natural phenomena (in science) or work on meaningful design problems (in engineering) by engaging in the science and engineering practices. So, where does one go to get ideas and resources regarding phenomena to use in the classroom? Check out these sites:

- [The Georgia Science Teachers Association](#)
- [Phenomena Bank Qualities of a Good Phenomenon](#)

Registration Open for NSTA - Atlanta 2018

The Georgia Science Teachers Association (GSTA) is collaborating with the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to host the 2018 National Conference on Science Education in Atlanta, Georgia from March 15–18, 2018. This event will attract science educators from all over the United States and the world, but it will also address the specific needs of Georgia science educators.

- [Registration Information](#)

Gray's Reef Southeast MATE ROV Competition - April 21, 2018

Save the date!

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and the Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center engage students in learning about ocean sciences, technologies, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through regional competitions.

Registration for the Gray's Reef Southeast MATE ROV Competition will open December 2017. Get ready for the most exciting STEM event of the year! For more information, please visit graysreef.marinetech2.org or contact Event Coordinator Jody.Patterson@noaa.gov.

- [Learn More](#)

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The 2017-2018 cycle of nominations for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (including Computer Science) is now open. This year we will review applications from outstanding K-6 teachers whose contracted teaching responsibilities include the teaching of mathematics or science (including computer science) in a public (including charter) or private school.

Teacher nominations can be submitted by principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public by [visiting the PAEMST website](#). Teachers may also self-nominate.

For additional information on this award please contact Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar (jaguilar@doe.k12.ga.us) or Ms. Amanda Buice (abuice@doe.k12.ga.us) for questions related to a science nominee or Mr. Brooke Kline (BKline@doe.k12.ga.us) or Ms. Lyra Snell (LSnell@doe.k12.ga.us) for questions related to a mathematics nominee.

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GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Margaret Thomas, margret.thomas@gavirtualschool.org

Partners with Georgia Virtual School

Georgia Virtual School serves as a partner with schools to provide opportunities for students to take courses not offered at the local school and to offer options when scheduling conflicts may arise. For the Fall 2017 semester, GaVS is partnering with

- a Clayton County middle school to provide Algebra I to 8th graders.
- a Fulton County high school to offer AP Environmental Science.
- Gwinnett's GIVE Center to increase course offerings to its students.
- Effingham County in order to offer courses to its STEM Academy students.

Contact GaVS to learn how we can partner with your school!

OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS, FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Dawn Scott, dscott@doe.k12.ga.us

Family Engagement Month

November is Family Engagement Month in Georgia, and districts and schools across the state are highlighting the important role parents play in their children's education. November 16 was National Parent Involvement Day, a time for all schools and parents to reflect on the vital partnership needed for Georgia's students and schools to be successful. The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) invites you to [access the following opportunities to strengthen those partnerships with your students' parents and families.](#)

Thank you for your support as we continue to create meaningful family-school partnerships to impact student academic achievement in Georgia!

COLLEGE READINESS AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Gail Humble, ghumble@doe.k12.ga.us

AP Teacher Training Grant

The Georgia Department of Education's Advanced Placement Teacher Training Grant opportunity for Georgia high school is available through an application process. The AP Teacher Training Grant was created to assist in training teachers at AP Summer Institutes. Consideration will be given to all high schools with emphasis on schools with the fewest number of AP courses. School districts may apply for a grant up to a maximum amount of \$800.00 per teacher for up to 2 teachers to participate in the 2018 AP Summer Institute trainings in any of the specified courses identified in the application. Professional development funds and a grant award may be used to train more than one teacher. The deadline for application is December 14, 2017. Applications with instructions can be found on the [following GaDOE webpage.](#)

GEORGIASTANDARDS.ORG

Tony Vlachakis, tvlachak@doe.k12.ga.us

GeorgiaStandards.Org YouTube Channel

- Watch Time: 504,023 Mins
- Views: 124,980
- Average View Duration: 4 Mins 01 Secs
- Likes: 210
- Shares: 1,946
- Videos in Playlists: 1,244
- Subscribers: 356

(YouTube Analytics 4/26/2013 to 10/31/2017)

- [View Videos on the GSO YouTube Channel](#)

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COMPUTER SCIENCE (CS)

Bryan Cox, bcox@doe.k12.ga.us

Computer Science Reminders

1. **CS available from GaVS** - If you do not have a CS teacher, you can still offer high quality CS instruction by promoting the Georgia Virtual School courses. Three CTAE pathways (also several of the academic CS courses) are offered via GaVS. GaVS is also pioneering a ""Partner Up"" model that will make use of the GaVS teacher as content expert and a local teacher as classroom facilitator.
2. **CS Credentialing** - There are currently two paths to credentialing for CS teachers. The endorsement is an available course of study (15-18 credit hours) that results in a CS credential. Conversely, teachers can take the CS GACE (Georgia Assessment for Certification) to add on CS to their existing certification. Initial certification programs will soon be available from higher education programs as those standards were completed this past summer. The PSC is also in the process of redoing the add-on GACE and will likely have it available by October 2018.
3. **CS Standards** - Standards are available for high school CS courses. The process of creating K-8 standards is underway. Standards for K-8 will be available in 2018-2019 and implemented in 2019-2020. Standards give a guidepost for student success.
4. **CS support** - CS teacher communities are growing on EdWeb.net. Teachers can engage one another to share resources and pedagogical techniques. Please recommend that all teachers invested in CS education engage with the larger community around the state to grow this dynamic new curricular area. Direct questions to: Bryan Cox at bcox@doe.k12.ga.us.

JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Marle C. Usry, Marle.Usry@doe.k12.ga.us

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site Offers New Standards of Excellence Field Trips



Utilizing the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Social Studies, Science, ELA, and Mathematics, Park Rangers will challenge students in Kindergarten-12th grade to make real world connections through hands-on learning experiences as they explore the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in Plains, Georgia is now offering new field trip opportunities for students in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. Park Rangers and education staff guide students through cross-curricular, hands-on activities designed around the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Teachers can expect each activity to cover a grade-specific standard and can even request specific programming to complement classroom instruction. Educational grant funding is also available to defer the costs of bus transportation. Please visit the [Jimmy Carter National Historic Site \(JCNHS\) website](#) for field trip information.