

July Friday Email Blast

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Friday, July 7, 2017

No Email Blast was sent this week!

Attachment titles that were included with the July 7 Email Blast.

Friday, July 14, 2017

Directors,

As a reminder, the public-comment period on our draft state plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act ends today. Your response is critical to ensure all Georgians provide their feedback on the future direction of our state's K-12 education system. [Here is the survey for public comment.](#)

The Division for Special Education proudly welcomes **Brandy Woolridge** to the DOE PBIS Team. She previously served as an Early Learning Climate Specialist with Metro RESA.

Many of you had the opportunity to work with **Camilla Moss**, Young Children Program Specialist, and benefit from her authentic love for young children. Camilla will be moving on to other opportunities, and we wish her much success. Through her leadership, we have continued to foster collaboration with the Department for Early Care and Learning (DECAL) and Part C Agency (Babies Can't Wait). Perhaps most memorable, Camilla has supported the review of the state's guidance for telepractice. We look forward to working with her in other capacities. Thank you all for supporting Georgia's teachers and students.

Partnering in Student Success, Zelfhine Smith-Dixon

EMAIL BLAST

New Items

[Data Collections](#)

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Old/Updated Items

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Data Collections:

Districts will be able to submit student level data for CEIS next week; the deadline is July 31st. Per quality and assurance data checks, the submitted data will be verified with enrollment data submitted in Student Record. We are finding several districts with mismatched data and working to determine a plan to assist those districts that have errors. It is important to note that the enrollment period for receiving CEIS should not exceed the period of time the student was enrolled in your district. Please stay tuned for more information.

July 31st is the deadline for submitting your Timelines data, Preschool Outcomes data and Postsecondary Outcomes data in the Special Education Dashboard. Several districts have not yet opened the Postsecondary application to view their student names. Please note that this is an important data collection, and we appreciate your attention to accurate reporting.

The Continuation of Services (COS) application is now open for data entry in the Dashboard. COS is required for districts who suspended SWD more than 10 days in a school year and did not provide educational services. If your COS says, "Available for Data Entry" you must provide the appropriate response for each student. If your COS says, "Not Applicable", no action is required. The deadline for submitting COS data is August 31, 2017. Guidance for entering these data can be found in the application by clicking on "Download Continuation of Services Directions". If you have questions, please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us.

Georgia Insights:

Georgia Insights, a data visualization initiative of the Georgia Department of Education, developed a user-friendly dashboard to display the results of the Georgia School Climate Star Rating. Each school receives a 1 to 5-star rating, with five stars representing an excellent school climate, and one star representing a school climate most in need of improvement. The Georgia Insights website allows you to type in your school and search the performance on a number of indicators that are aligned to school climate. An introductory video and calculation guide are also linked. The link: <http://www.gadoe.org/Georgia-Insights/Pages/School-Climate-Star-Rating.aspx>.

Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership:

Three Things to Do Now:

- 1st Tell Anne Ladd (aladd@doe.k12.ga.us) about the new parent mentor.
- 2nd Ask Anne Ladd to add new mentor to the listserv and contact Jane Grillo (jgrillo343@yahoo.com) to be added to the website.
- 3rd Register the mentor for New Parent Mentor Orientation.

[Click Here for New Parent Mentor Orientation](#)

The annual orientation for new parent mentors will be August 16-17, 2017 at the Macon Marriott City Center. To register, simply use the link above. The **hotel reservations will be made by the GaDOE**. Accommodations and meals will be provided. We ask that mileage be covered by the district.

2017 GaPMP Kickoff Conference

- The 2017 GaPMP Kickoff Conference will be held at the Coastal Georgia Center in **Savannah** from **September 27-29**. This years' theme is **HATS off to Family Engagement**.
- Registration will once again be hosted by GCASE and will open in July. The link will be provided in the Friday Email Blast and on the GaPMP website, www.parentmentors.org.
- Room blocks for 2017 GaPMP Kickoff are available.

A link to the **Call for Proposals** is available below. This is a fabulous time to share your good work and learn from other districts.

[GaPMP Kickoff Call for Proposal](#)

Coaching for Success Technical Assistance:

As part of the State Personnel Development Grant, the GaDOE is offering a "Coaching for Success" academy on July 25th and 26th. Primarily designed to build district-level coaching capacity, these two days will include identifying evidence based practices, building a clear understanding of coaching, asking critical questions and creating a solid plan for intervention. Both days will emphasize active engagement of participants to build the skills needed to support the student success process in your district. Intensive districts and GraduateFIRST schools were offered priority registration several weeks ago, but a few extra spaces are available.

The presenter will be Ainsley Rose from Corwin Press. Mr. Rose is a former director of curriculum and instruction for the Western Quebec School Board in Gatineau, Quebec. With 35 years in public education, he is a published author, keynote presenter and facilitator. The sessions will be held at the Macon Marriott City Center, 240 Coliseum Drive, Macon

GA. Registration on July 25th will begin at 8 am. The session will begin promptly at 9 am. Lunch will be provided both days.

For those individuals who need lodging, the Marriott City Center has reserved a block of rooms available at the group rate of \$91.00 per night plus tax. Reservations can be made by calling 800-228-9290 or 478-621-5300, or by using the lodging link below. Payment for lodging will be responsibility of the individual. GLRS directors, area student success coaches, regional success coaches and district liaisons have been invited as well. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Holland at lholland@doe.k12.ga.us.

Here is the registration link: [COACHING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS - JULY 25 -26, 2017](#)

Here is the link to reserve lodging: [Book your group rate for Georgia Department of Education](#)

Attachment titles that were included with the July 14 Email Blast.

 Accommodations Listings.2017 kickoff 7.14.docx (46 KB)

 Friday, July 14th Email Blast.pdf (349 KB)

Friday, July 21, 2017

Directors,

The Division for Special Education proudly welcomes the following new personnel to the Results Driven Accountability Unit.

- **Annette Murphy** who served in leadership with Carrollton City,
- **Laurie Ponsell** who comes with special education expertise from Ware County, and
- **Scott Dorsey** who has served as Director of Special Programs for Georgia Cyber Academy.

Recently, Felicia Gilley (Budget Program Specialist) resigned from the Department to pursue other options. We will certainly miss Felicia because she has been a valuable member of the budget unit. During her tenure, she assisted with the development of new procedures and was instrumental in streamlining the monitoring process. We wish Felicia and her family the very best.

On next week, I plan to record a quick-watch video that can be used for messaging with local teachers. I believe Pierce County J gave me an August 1st deadline, and we thought it would be helpful to share the video with other districts, as well. Thank you for what you do and enjoy your weekend.

ESSA All About Improving Schools:



“Refueling for the Work Ahead”

Zelphine Smith-Dixon

EMAIL BLAST

New Items

[The 2017 TASH Conference](#)

[Data Collections](#)

[Budget Updates](#)

[GIMC Updates](#)

Old/Updated Items

[2017 Georgia Education Leadership Institute](#)

THE 2017 TASH CONFERENCE (December 13-15, 2017):

This year’s conference theme, “*Still We Rise for Equity, Opportunity, and Inclusion,*” shows the resilience of individuals with disabilities and their families across the lifespan. Conference attendees will celebrate their passion for disability rights, civil rights, and human rights while exploring inclusive communities, schools, and workplaces that support people with disabilities, including those with complex support needs.

The conference will be held at the [Atlanta Marriott Marquis](#) (265 Peachtree Center Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30303). A block of rooms has been reserved for December 11 - 15, 2017. The

special room rate will be available until November 22, 2017. [Reserve your room online](#) or by calling (888) 789-3090. Be sure to mention the TASH Conference when booking rooms over the phone.

Register at www.tash.org/conference2017

Early-Bird Deadline: September 5, 2017



Data Collections:

CEIS FY17 Student Event: GaDOE has launched a new CEIS portal for data entry and collection. The new application allows the state to audit data entered by districts to ensure accurate reporting. When testing the audit, the team found numerous data entry errors across districts. These errors must be corrected prior to submission. Understanding that this process may take time, the **deadline for submitting CEIS Student Event Data in the CEIS application has been extended to August 31, 2017.** Attached to this Friday Email Blast is a guidance document to assist districts as they work to correct these data. The CEIS portal is now open for data verification, correction, and submission.

CEIS FY18 Target Plan: Districts required to participate in CEIS in FY18 must submit their target plan in the CEIS application. **The deadline for submitting the FY18 CEIS Target Plan in the CEIS application has been extended to August 31, 2017.** Submission guidance is attached to the Friday Email Blast. The FY18 portal is now open for FY18 Target Plan submission. If you have questions regarding CEIS data or plan submission, please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us

Special Education Dashboard: Please make sure the Superintendent's name and contact information AND the Special Education Director's name and contact information are correct in the Special Education Dashboard. If your district has a new Superintendent or new Director, please update this information by clicking on the link "[Update Contact Information for the District](#)" in the Dashboard. GaDOE uses this information to send important correspondence. Please contact Carol Seay if you have questions at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us

Child Find and Early Childhood Transition -Timelines: The Special Education Division has been asked for clarification regarding the responsibilities of districts regarding timely evaluation of students referred to special education. As you are aware, these data are due on July 31, 2017 and are submitted in the Special Education Portal. Please refer to the guidance document that is posted on the Special Education Webpage and also included as an attachment to this Friday Email Blast. Please especially note the information in Appendix A of this document. A session will be presented at the Data Conference. Contact Carol if you have immediate questions regarding your data submission that are not addressed in the guidance document.

Budget Updates:

The FY18 Capacity Building Grants were approved by the State Board of Education at the June board meeting. The Grant Award Notifications (GANs) were mailed to superintendents. The

State Board of Education also approved the IDEA 611, IDEA 619, GLRS, and GNETS allocations. Those GANs will be sent in the next few days. The funding for all of these grants has not yet been entered into GAORS or loaded into the Consolidated Application; however you may review the allocations posted [here](#) on our website. Grants Accounting is working on this task, and it may take a few days. Please contact Amber McCollum for questions about allocations.

GIMC Updates:

It is important to secure notarized parental consents for all students entering your districts and who will be receiving materials from the GIMC. This is especially important for those students coming in from early intervention providers such as Georgia PINES. Remember that once a student has parental consent, it is valid until the parents resend that permission in writing. Therefore, any current consents you have previously submitted are still valid and will not have to be submitted again. Thank you for your support.

2017 Georgia Education Leadership Institute (Register Now):



The stage is set for the [2017 Georgia Education Leadership Institute!](#) This conference is hosted by the Georgia Department of Education at the beautiful Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in downtown Atlanta on September 17-19, 2017. [Register now](#) and reserve your hotel room!

This is a great and timely event that provides updated information on new policies and initiatives from the GA Department of Education while providing a platform for your peers across the state to share best practices. You will also notice ample time in the schedule to network! Review the [GELI 2017](#) schedule online!

The [Institute](#) begins on Sunday afternoon, September 17 with three highly informative Pre-Institute Sessions featuring Allison Timberlake, Melissa Fincher, Shaun Owen and Arianne Weldon. **The Pre-Institute Sessions are included in the Registration Rate!** The sessions will address important issues/topics facing Georgia leaders – Assessment & Accountability, Consolidating Funding and how CCRPI is impacted by Social, Emotional and Mental Health.

We just received confirmation that Governor Nathan Deal will be delivering an Education Update on Tuesday morning, September 19.

There are five easy ways to register:

- [Online Registration](#)
- Fax in the [Registration Form](#) to 423-899-4547
- Scan/Email the [Registration Form](#) to registrations@ncvi.org
- Phone - (866) 318-6294
- Mail - see [conference website](#) for address

Book your room at the [Sheraton Atlanta Hotel](#). The room block tends to fill quickly, so please reserve a room if you're planning to attend the institute and will need one! You can [click here](#) or follow the link in the "Accommodations" section on the institute webpage ([GELI 2017](#)) to the hotel's reservation system for the institute room block...and the special low rate of just \$140 per night! This is a great opportunity to network with your colleagues from across the state!

Attachment titles that were included with the July 21 Email Blast.

 TIMELINES TIP.DOCX (18 KB)

 Guidance for FY18 CEIS Plan Submission.pdf (466 KB)

 2017 TASH Conference Save the Date flyer.pdf (190 KB)

 FY17 Final Timeline Summary Reporting Directions.pdf (928 KB)

 CEIS-Guidance for Correcting Student Entry Data.pdf (759 KB)

 Friday, July 21st Email Blast.pdf (316 KB)

Friday, July 28, 2017

Directors,

I am excited about sharing a [Back to School Message for Teachers](#) and encourage you to share the link at the local level, as well. I will have the opportunity to discuss the FY18 priorities during the upcoming [Directors' Webinar](#) on **Tuesday, August 8th at 1:00 pm**.

On **Wednesday, August 9th** (10:00 am), we will host a **FY18 Professional Qualifications and In-Field under ESSA for GNETS Webinar**. This webinar will provide Georgia GNETS stakeholders with an overview of Professional Qualification and in-field requirements under ESSA. The webinar will highlight the updated and expanded in-field reporting system and monitoring processes. The registration link is below.

Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7833364323720052226>

As a gentle reminder, the email blast is sent to the K-12 Special Education Directors' listserv as represented in the GaDOE Portal. Local personnel must be delegated the "sped director role" in the GaDOE Portal to populate in this list. As you make local personnel changes, please update those roles in the portal to stay in the loop with the weekly blast.

The email blast is shorter than usual; please note the data collections updates below. Have a great weekend.

Data Collections:

Due Dates Calendar: The FY18 Due Dates Calendar is attached. This document will also be posted on the Special Education webpage under the heading Budgets, Grants, Data Collection and Reporting. Please note that the items listed in red will be used to determine Timely and Accurate Reporting – Indicator 20 of the SPP/APR and one of the items on your district's Compliance Determination. Also, please note that all phases of the Transition Planning Survey and Timelines Data submission will be used to determine Timely and Accurate Reporting. More information regarding the due dates will be shared during the Data Collections Conference in August.

Data Collections Conference: The Data Collections Conference will be held at the Classic Center in Athens, August 30 – September 1, 2017. The conference agenda at a glance is now available on the Data Collections website and attached to this email blast. If you have registered and are unable to attend please un-register by clicking on the link at the bottom of your confirmation email. If you are a new Special Education Director and have not been able to register as the conference is closed, please email Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us to be placed on the waiting list.

Dashboard Data Submission: Monday, July 31, 2017 is the deadline for submitting data for Preschool Exiting, Postsecondary Outcomes and Child Find & Early Childhood Transition Timelines. All of these data are submitted in the Special Education Dashboard. Several districts have yet to submit their data. Please tend to this important task as soon as possible. If you have questions please contact Carol Seay at cseay@doe.k12.ga.us

Attachment titles that were included with the July 28 Email Blast.

 Sessions-at-a-Glance-Final 2017-2018.pdf (325 KB)

 FY18 Due Dates Calendar.pdf (418 KB)