

Georgia Department of Education

2022 Fall Curriculum Leaders' Conference

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Classic Center – Athens, Georgia

Partnerships to Achieve Success

7:30 am – 8:30 am Atrium	Conference Check-in and Continental Breakfast
8:30 am – 9:00 am Theatre	Welcome State School Superintendent, Richard Woods Chief of Staff, Matt Jones Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and School Climate, GaDOE, Justin Hill Executive Director, GACIS, Dr. Claire Buck
9:00 am – 9:30 am Theatre	The Importance of Partnerships to Achieve Success: Overview of Recent Efforts, including a Dyslexia Update by Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning, GaDOE, Dr. Caitlin Dooley Abstract: With all the responsibilities teachers have, it's essential that we consider ways to lighten the load. This session will focus on how districts are establishing partnerships that support students, their families, and their teachers so the learning that happens in the classroom can “stick”.
9:30 am – 10:00 am Theatre	Understanding Teacher Burnout in Georgia: Program Manager, Teacher and Leader Support and Development, GaDOE, Shauntice Wheeler Abstract: will share Shauntice Wheeler will share results from the Teacher Burnout Task Force and selected attrition data from the Educator Pipeline Dashboard. The session will include application to the local context and strategies to address burnout.

10:00 am – 10:20 am
Atrium

Break

10:20 am – 11:00 am
Theatre

Information Technology and their Partnership with Curriculum and Instruction to Positively Impact the Classroom: Introducing Georgia Connects, Deputy Superintendent for Information Technology, GaDOE, Dr. Keith Osburn

Abstract: Dr. Osburn will provide an overview for an innovative project called **Georgia Connects** to achieve Superintendent Woods' mission to "**inventory, align, and reduce redundancy**" in the resources and professional learning made available to Georgia's teachers.

11:10 am – 12:10 pm
Grand Hall 8

Lunch

12:20 pm – 1:10 pm

Break-Out Sessions A – G

1:15 pm – 2:05 pm

Repeat Break-Out Sessions A – G

2:05 pm – 2:15 pm
Athena Hallway

Break

2:20 pm – 3:10 pm

Break-Out Sessions H – M

3:10 pm – 4:00 pm

Repeat Break-Out Sessions H – M

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BREAK-OUT SESSIONS A – G

12:20 pm – 1:10 pm

Break-Out Sessions A – G

1:15 pm – 2:05 pm

Repeat Break-Out Sessions A – G

Session A:
Athena A

Information Technology: A Step-by-Step Walk into the New GaConnects Platform

Director of Knowledge and Resource Management, Office of
Technology Services, GaDOE, Joyce Bearden
Program Manager, Knowledge and Interoperability, GaDOE, Angela
Baker Manager
Program Manager, Knowledge Development and Training, GaDOE,
Celeste Martin

Abstract: This presentation will introduce you to the Georgia Department of Education's newest application, GaConnects. Join the Technology Services Knowledge and Resource management team as we tour the site and discover how GaDOE plans to better connect educators to learning resources, standards, data and professional learning opportunities.

Session B:
Athena B

We Need YOU! Social Studies Cheerleaders & Champions and Science Bridge Partnership

Program Manager, Social Studies, GaDOE, Joy Hatcher
Program Manager, Science, GaDOE, Keith Crandall,
Associate Executive Director, Heart of Georgia RESA, Connie
Howell

Abstract: We want YOU to be involved in this GaDOE-RESA-District partnership! Join the GaDOE Social Studies & Science teams as we debut our statewide plans to support Georgia educators. Learn how you can help build local capacity to support best practices in Social Studies & Science education by laying the groundwork for efficient communication and the cultivation of teacher leaders. Social Studies & Science Educators Need YOU!...to come to this session.

Session C:
Athena C

Rural Education and Innovation Partnerships to Achieve Success
Instructional Specialist, Office of Rural Education and Innovation,
GaDOE, Dr. April Aldridge

Abstract: Dr. April Aldridge will share the story of how this newly created division at the Georgia Department of Education has focused on supporting the unique instructional needs of rural Georgia. The REI story as told by curriculum leaders has focused on the three Cs: Communication, Connection, and Collaboration. The Office of REI is committed to bringing the expertise, insight, and experience needed to address the unique needs of rural Georgia. Our efforts are committed to helping districts prosper, connect, and thrive. The work is being

completed together with school and district leaders, utilizing the belief that putting our "Heads Together" will create opportunities for voice, will be a catalyst for innovation, and will assist educators and leaders in identifying barriers that directly impact academic outcomes and opportunities for rural Georgia students.

Session D:
Athena D

Improving Classroom Climate: Don't move to Tier 2 if you have not considered Instruction, Curriculum, Environment, Learner

Program Specialist, School Climate, GaDOE, Shannon Weist
District Coordinator for School Climate, Walker County, Angie Walker

Abstract: We know that when our data shows an area of need regarding academics, we should be looking at four things: Instruction, Curriculum, Environment, and lastly the Learner. This session will focus on Environment and the importance of creating an environment that is safe, predictable, and positive. It is well documented that when we get climate right, academic scores increase, attendance improves, and discipline decreases. Providing a positive classroom climate takes more than simply being kind to students, it takes intentionality, planning, and data-based decision making. In this session, we will hear from a District Coordinator from Northwest Georgia who will share how her district decided to be more intentional about classroom environment post-Covid and following a recent Cognia visit. Last, we will discuss how GaDOE can assist in setting your system up for success to ensure that you have measurable ways to determine if evidence-based climate practices are occurring in all classrooms in your district.

Session E:
Athena E

GaDOE School and District Effectiveness and their Internal/External Partnerships to Improve Mathematics Outcomes

Director, School and District Effectiveness, GaDOE, Amy Alderman
Program Manager, Mathematics, GaDOE, Dr. Lya Snell
Superintendent, Randolph County School System, Dr. Tangela Madge
Principal, Randolph Clay Middle School, Elizabeth Knighton
Mathematics Content Specialist, Chattahoochee Flint RESA, Angie
Brunson
School Improvement Specialist, Chattahoochee Flint RESA, Jimmy
Kennedy
School Improvement Specialist, Chattahoochee Flint RESA, Dr. Shonda
Green

Abstract: This session will provide an overview of the partnership between GaDOE, Randolph County Schools, and Chattahoochee-Flint RESA that highlights the efforts to provide intentional support addressing identified needs in mathematics instruction. A panel of leaders representing the partnering organizations will provide an insight into Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement Cycle used to support a small rural district. The discussion will include how needs were identified, details on the supports provided, and information on how this work is resulting in increased content knowledge and teacher pedagogy in mathematics. This collaborative effort supports the GaDOE goals of elevating district leaders, school leaders, instructional support personnel, and classroom teachers through high quality, tiered and tailored service and support and expanding educational opportunities to maximize student engagement, meet student needs/interests, and ensure the relevance of learning. In addition, this effort supports the goal of increasing the percentage of high school students who graduate ready for enrollment, employment, or enlistment.

Session F:
Athena F

Standards Revision, Resources, and Efforts to Support ELA Teachers

Abstract: Join the GaDOE ELA team for updates on standards revision and to discuss how leaders can support ELA teachers. We will explore current resources and how districts are successfully using them. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with the GaDOE ELA team about their districts' resource and professional learning needs. ELA Program Manager, GaDOE, Dr. Breanne Huston

Session G:
Athena G

Telling Teacher Success Stories Through the Use of Podcasts

Director of Education, Georgia Public Broadcasting, Laura Evans and Program Manager, Digital Resources, GaDOE, Dr. Meghan Welch

Abstract: This session will explore how districts and communities can use podcasts to communicate current issues impacting local classrooms while elevating teacher voice. GaDOE Curriculum, Instruction, and Climate partnered with GPB Education to produce Classroom Conversations. The new podcast focuses on current classroom topics and features voices of current Georgia teachers. Classroom Conversations strives to elevate teacher voices and impart practical tips for academic content and positive climate. We will use

production examples from this successful podcast and podcasts from local districts to lead our discussion.

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS H – M

2:20 pm – 3:10 pm Break-Out Sessions H – M

3:10 pm – 4:00 pm Repeat Break-Out Sessions H – M

Session H:
Athena A **Improving Computer Science/STEM Instruction through Gaming**
Computer Science Teacher, Buford City Schools, Autumn Sutton
STEM Instructional Designer, Forsyth County Schools, Peter Graff

Abstract: Computer science and computational thinking are problem-solving strategies and skills that are fundamental to 21st century learning. For students and teachers new to these skills, play may be a more appealing way to begin the learning. This session will introduce the fundamentals of gamification and using games for learning computer science. We will also introduce some games that are available to share with your students as they engage in this exciting new discipline.

Session I:
Athena B **How Georgia's Assessments Work: Resources for Improving Assessment Literacy**
Director of Assessment Development, GaDOE, Dr. Jan Blose

Abstract: This session will provide an overview of the processes and procedures used to develop, balance, and maintain Georgia's assessment systems, including partnerships with Georgia educators, and introduce recently released resources for building understanding of how Georgia's assessments work.

Session J:
Athena C **Dramatic Writing: Partnering with the Creative Industries**
Program Manager, Fine Arts, GaDOE, Jessica Booth
Program Specialist, Fine Arts, GaDOE, Paul McClain

Abstract: High School Dramatic Writing is a dynamic course that counts toward a student's 4th English credit and toward a theatre Pathway for graduation. The course prepares students to write for television, movies, and theatre and participate in Georgia's \$62 billion creative industry. Learn how to bring this exciting course to

your school by micro credentialing teachers through GaLearns provided free of charge by GaDOE and GaPSC.

Session K:
Athena D

Understanding Georgia's K-12 Mathematics Standards

Program Manager, Mathematics, GaDOE, Dr. Lya Snell
Program Specialist, Mathematics, GaDOE, Mike Wiernicki
Program Specialist, Mathematics, GaDOE, Dr. Karla Cwetna
Program Specialist, Mathematics, GaDOE, Kenneth Golden
Program Specialist, Mathematics, GaDOE, Jenise Sexton

Abstract: In this session, participants will be provided with an overview of the newly adopted Georgia K-12 Mathematics Standards. Curriculum resources and instructional materials for teachers and leaders will be provided to support the implementation of the newly adopted standards. Come and learn more about the exciting changes to mathematics teaching and learning in Georgia!

Session L:
Athena E

Knowledge + Skills = Power

The Georgia Health Education Standards of Excellence

Program Specialist, Health/PE Education, GaDOE, Therese McGuire

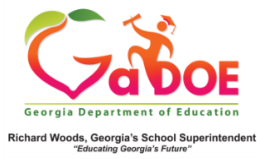
Abstract: This session will introduce Georgia's new Health Standards of Excellence. Participants will explore foundational and skill-based health education standards. Highlights will include examples of content integration available resources.

Session M:
Athena F

The GRE4T Grant: What we are Learning about Personal Learning

Director of Innovative Programs and Research, GaDOE, Dr. Juan-Carlos Aguilar, Director of the GRE4T Initiative, GaDOE, Julie Noland

Abstract: The presentation will provide general information about the Georgia Embrace, Engage, Expand, and Enhance Learning with Technology (GRE4T) project's two main initiatives; a) supporting implementation of Personalized Learning as a vehicle to reimagine K-12 education, and b) working with education systems, schools, and the Georgia Virtual School (GaVS) to enhance student access to courses and resources through PartnerUp.



These two projects support the Georgia Department of Education goals of elevating districts, schools, leaders, and educators through high quality, tiered and tailored service and support and to expand educational opportunities to maximize student engagement, meet student needs/interests, and ensure the relevance of learning.