



Joining Your Grade Level/Course Professional Learning Community and Connecting with your Virtual Specialist

What is the Virtual Specialist?

The Virtual Specialist is an instructional mentor, specific to a grade level or course. The Specialist will hold a monthly webinar on content and instructional topics based on requests from educators, and specific topics highlighted by the GaDOE. Each webinar is recorded, and posted in the online learning platform (edWeb) for educators that could not attend.

Instructions for Joining a Grade Level/Course PLC:

Each group is designed as a Professional Learning Community for educators in each grade level and course. The goal of the Virtual Specialist is to provide a place for Georgia Educators to network with each other, share resources, successes and troubleshoot obstacles. To join the Professional Learning Community specific to your needs, follow the steps below.

1. Join edWeb, at a free online community for educators **USING YOUR SCHOOL/DISTRICT/RESA/DOE EMAIL ADDRESS edweb.net**
2. Once you are a member, use the “Find Communities” function to search GaDOE



3. Choose the grade level or course Professional Learning Community specific to your needs (e.g., GaDOE 2nd Grade PLC, GaDOE 8th Grade PLC, GaDOE Economics PLC)
4. Click the link to Join the Community



The screenshot shows the edWeb.net website interface. At the top left is the logo 'edWeb.net' with the tagline 'A professional learning and social network'. Below the logo is a dark blue navigation bar with links: 'My Home Page', 'My Colleagues', 'My Communities', 'Browse Communities', 'Find Members', and 'Logout'. The main content area features a community card for 'GaDOE US History PLC'. On the left of the card is a small image of Uncle Sam with the text 'I WANT YOU'. To the right of the image, the text reads 'GaDOE US History PLC', 'Sponsored by Georgia Department of Education', and 'This group is designed as a Professional Learning Community for Georgia'. A yellow-bordered box on the right side of the card contains the text 'JOIN THE COMMUNITY to access all of the resources' and a red 'Click Here to Join' link.

5. When requesting permission to join the PLC, **include your name and school/district/RESA/DOE email address in the section for a personal message**

Your Virtual Specialist will approve your request and you will be connected to a network of Georgia Educators!