

Around the Agency

- In partnership with Acentra Health, the provider of the Georgia Department of Education's Employee Assistance Program, all Georgia school employees are being provided access to a series of support webinars beginning on Monday, September 9, 2024, and continuing through Friday, September 13, 2024. Georgia school employees will have access to a series of 30-minute online meetings to provide emotional support, guidance, and resources to help navigate this difficult time.

Please see the Zoom links below for the online support sessions being offered:

Monday, September 9, 2024: 4 p.m. – [Click to join](#)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024: 4p.m. – [Click to join](#)

Wednesday, September 11, 2024: 4 p.m. – [Click to join](#)

Thursday, September 12, 2024: 4 p.m. – [Click to join](#)

Friday, September 13: 4 p.m. – [Click to join](#)

- **Georgia School Climate Surveys** – In 2024-2025, the **Georgia School Climate Surveys (GSCS)** for students, teachers, staff, and families will replace the *Georgia Student Health Survey (GSHS)*, the *Georgia Parent School Climate Survey (GPSCS)*, and the *Georgia School Personnel Survey (GSPS)*. Details about the topics covered in each survey can be found in the [Georgia School Climate Surveys guidance document](#).

Links to the new Georgia School Climate Surveys:

- [Teacher Survey](#)
- [Staff Survey](#)
- [Student Survey \(Grades 3-5\)](#)
- [Student Survey \(Grades 6-12\)](#)
- [Family Survey](#)

Important Dates:

September 11, 2024: The Office of Whole Child will host a live webinar to review the upcoming Georgia School Climate Surveys for 2024-2025. [Link to register.](#)

- **Public School Health Immunization Audits Temporarily Paused.** [Please see the letter](#) from Georgia Department of Public Health Commissioner and State Health Officer Dr. Kathleen Toomey regarding Form 3231 – Georgia Department of Public Health Certificate of Immunization.
- **U.S. Presidential Scholars Application Window.** The 2025 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program nomination window is open until November 1, 2024, at 5 p.m. Any high school senior may complete the application, provided they meet all program qualifications outlined by the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The nomination form, program criteria, and informational brochures are found on the [GaDOE Presidential Scholars Webpage](#). Contact: Arlecia Brooks, recognitions@doe.k12.ga.us.

- **Deadlines and Application/Grant Windows Still Open.** Award programs, grants, and deadlines announced in previous digests for which the application period remains open or the deadline is still approaching -- [Student Advisory Council](#) – Due Sept. 6; Annual Certification of Records, Facility and School Registry – Closes Sept. 24 (see 8/28 digest); [Georgia RISE Award](#) – Due Sept. 30; [U.S. Senate Youth Program](#) – Due Sept. 30; [Intruder Alert Drill](#) – Complete by Oct. 1; [Cybersecurity Awareness Poster Contest](#) – Due Nov. 1
- **District Nominations for the State School Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (PAC)- Due Date Extension.** The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) is seeking school district nominations for parents to serve on the 2024-2026 State School Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (PAC). The Superintendent's PAC will meet three times this school year (twice in person and once virtually). Please keep in mind that the PAC is an advisory group and not a parent leadership training program. Each PAC member selected will serve a two-year term on the PAC. **The nominations due date has been moved to Friday, September 6.**
- **Last IN PERSON Teaching and Learning Summit:** Thursday, September 12th - Details and Registration [HERE](#)
- **GaDOE Curriculum Leaders Conference** Agenda Now Available. [Register for GaDOE Curriculum Leaders Conference](#) (Sept 25th – Dr. Dan Willingham featured speaker) and GACIS (Sept 26-27th) separately.
- **Register for the New Curriculum Directors In-Person Meeting on Sept 24th...**[See more.](#)
- **Next Heads Together Sept 18th 9 a.m.** Hosted by West Georgia RESA - [join colleagues from across the state](#) for curriculum and instruction updates.
- **Unlock Essential Resources for an Enhanced Educational Experience with Upgraded Applications.** [Discover the essential resources](#) to enhance your Back-to-School experience with the upgraded applications you know and love, making every school day a breeze!
- **[OSDI's Inspire Resource Repository](#)** is now ACTIVE! 🧐👥😊 There you will find folders with Process Guides, presentations/recordings and other supporting documents. These resources can be downloaded or linked to share with your school and district leaders. Please take the time to peruse the repository. Contact the PL team if you have any questions.
- **ELA Resources to Support Training & Implementation!** All of the released resources can be located in the [Resource Repository for District & School Leaders in Inspire!](#)
- **2024-2025 ELA Standards Tour for Teachers.**  [Click here for dates and flyers for the 2024-2025 ELA Standards Tour for Teachers](#) Please share with your networks! Registration will be conducted through individual RESAs.

- **Let's Talk ELA, GA!** Join us virtually for monthly sessions with educational leaders and ELA specialists across the state as we prepare for the implementation of Georgia's K-12 English Language Arts (ELA) Standards. GaDOE will provide monthly updates, and attendees will be able to ask questions. For more information, please check out the [event flyer](#) and then register for this collaborative opportunity!
- **ELA Assessment Resources For 2025-2026...**[See more.](#)
- **DRC BEACON Early Years** was approved at the August SBOE meeting to be added to the approved list of qualified dyslexia screeners...[See more.](#)
- [Qualified List of Dyslexia Screening Tools](#) has been updated based on action taken at the August SBOE Meeting.
- **UPDATE: Professional Learning Modules for K12 Certified/"Specials" Teachers.** The professional learning modules designed especially for K12 certified and "specials" teachers are in the final review process and should be ready to launch by the end of September. There are four modules that provide professional learning on the science of reading overview, oral language, building vocabulary, and engaging read alouds. The modules include a facilitator guide for use in leading professional learning communities.
- **Georgia Literacy Academy Courses 1 and 2** have been paused for maintenance and updates. The updated courses will be available again on September 23. Thank you for your understanding as we work to give you the best experience possible. Courses 3-10 will remain available for full use.
- **Georgia Literacy Academy: Creating a Bridge to Practice.** The professional learning session on the Georgia Literacy Academy: Creating a Bridge to Practice has been uploaded to GaDOE Inspire. [Check out session recording and slide deck.](#)
- **September Literacy and Dyslexia Technical Assistance Chat.** Our September chat is all about answering YOUR questions regarding the Georgia Early Literacy Act and Georgia's Dyslexia legislation. Drop in for a portion, or come for the entire hour. Our goal will be to respond to your questions. [Register for the Literacy and Dyslexia Technical Assistance Chats here.](#)
- **FINAL Mathematics Achievement Level Descriptors** Final mathematics achievement level descriptors (ALDs) for Georgia Milestones and GAA 2.0 are now available...[See more.](#)
- **Connecting with SuitCASE** For a quick overview of SuitCASE, [watch these brief videos!](#)
- **Professional Learning in YOUR Area!...**[See more.](#)
- **September 11 Resources.** Are you looking for resources for September 11? Visit the Historic Dates and Holidays tab under the [Students Support bubble in Georgia Inspire](#) for lesson ideas, resources, and professional learning to support September 11. **Inspire and Velocity Office Hours.** Join DML

and Technology Services for time to ask questions and work together in Inspire and Inspire's Velocity.
[Next session September 11th 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.](#)

- **Computer Science District Implementation Workshop Fall Cohort...**[See more.](#)
- **GaDOE Computer Science Grant Opportunities...**[See more.](#)
- **World Languages and GRE4T Collaborate to Support Novice World Languages Teachers.** GaDOE's GRE4T and World Languages departments collaborated to create a series of engaging professional development opportunities for World Languages educators...[See more.](#)
- **2024-2025 Funding for Advanced Placement (AP) Exams.** For the 2024-2025 school year, the state of Georgia will pay for one AP exam for Georgia public school students enrolled in AP courses in one of two categories: Category 1: Students are public school students enrolled in an AP course who individually qualify for the College Board fee reduction. For these students, the state of Georgia will pay for one AP exam for a student enrolled in any course (except for AP Seminar and AP Research); Category 2: Students are public school students enrolled in an AP STEM course who do not qualify for the College Board fee reduction. For these students, the state of Georgia will pay for one AP STEM exam for student enrolled in an AP STEM course. Courses include AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Precalculus, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based, AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based, AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism; AP Physics C: Mechanics. **Request: Share with your high school principals, testing coordinators, and AP coordinators** Contact: [Mary Jean Banter](#) or [Martha Smith](#)
- **2024-2025 Funding for PSAT/NMSQT Exams.** For the 2024-2025 school year, the state of Georgia will pay for one PSAT/NMSQT exam administered during the school day for the October 2024 PSAT/NMSQT testing window (excluding weekend test administration) for each sophomore (10th grader) enrolled in a Georgia public school. Directions for ordering and bulk registration process will be sent directly to testing coordinators from the College Board. **Request: Share with your high school principals, testing coordinators, and AP coordinators** Contact: [Mary Jean Banter](#) or [Martha Smith](#)
- **Recorded Webinars with College Board and Presentations.** [2024-2025 AP Coordinators Beginning of the Year Webinar](#) and [Presentation](#); [PSAT/NMSQT Overview Webinar](#) and [Presentation](#)
- **Teachers' Personalized Learning Bootcamp.** Join us for a highly interactive, six-session bootcamp for teachers from September 2024 to March 2025 focused on facilitating and planning student-centered practices or personalized learning. Participants will walk away with knowledge of easy-to-use, learner-centered experiences and the ability to apply practices that build capacity for the sustainability of personalized learning. [Register here for teachers' bootcamp!](#)
- **Coaches' Personalized Learning Bootcamp.** Join us for a highly interactive, six-session bootcamp from September 2024 to March 2025 for instructional coaches focused on facilitating and planning student-centered practices or personalized learning. Facilitators will share hands-on and reflection activities designed to engage and empower learners. [Register here for coaches' bootcamp!](#)

- **Time Is Running Out!** The deadline for submitting post cards for the Jimmy Carter National Historic Park annual postcard contest is NEXT WEEK! The deadline for submissions is September 11. Want to know more? [Click Here!](#)
- **GaDOE Professional Learning Events** – GaDOE's professional learning events catalog, housed in GaDOE Community, contains registration information for upcoming virtual and in-person webinars, workshops, and conferences. On-demand, pre-recorded webinars and by-request opportunities are also available to meet educators' professional learning needs. Most by-request offerings are virtual, both synchronous and asynchronous. Professional learning events are updated quarterly, and educational stakeholders are encouraged to visit the site often to review the latest agencywide offerings. View our [professional learning events here](#). Please regularly browse the catalog for PL offerings that might support your work as you support schools and districts. A sampling of upcoming PL events that might be relevant to the work of school improvement includes:
 - **GaMTSS Tier 1 Series: A Journey Toward Excellence** will begin September 10th from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Click [here](#) for series registration information.
 - **Personalized Learning Teacher Bootcamp Series** will begin September 10th from 3 – 4:15 p.m. Click [here](#) for series registration information.
 - **SLDS for Administrators: Data-Driven Leadership Sessions** will be held September 16th from 1 – 1:45 p.m. Click [here](#) for registration information.
 - **Data-Driven Classrooms: SLDS for Teachers** will be held September 16th from 4 – 4:45 p.m. Click [here](#) for registration information.

Professional Learning

- **SDI Improving Outcomes Webinar Series** –The next installment of the Improving Outcomes series, *Alternative Schools Supports*, will be held September 25th from 9 – 10 a.m. In this session, school and district leaders will receive an overview of effective supports for alternative schools. Series registration information can be found here: [Improving Outcomes for Federally Identified Schools Series - GaDOE Community](#). If school or district leaders cannot attend the session, the recording and presentation will be placed in the GaDOE Professional Learning Catalog for their review.

Resources

- **Highlighted Resources from the Professional Learning Department** – This week's optional resources are the GaDOE Literacy Academy supports found in [Inspire \(gadoe.org\)](#). These resources will support school and district leaders to improve literacy outcomes for students.