

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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March Dates:

Thursday, March 4, 2010

9:30 RESA BOC Meeting

10:00 SW GA SSA Meeting

Speaker: Mr. Stuart Bennett
GAEL Executive Director

Thursday, March 11, 2010

State Board of Education Meeting

Sunday, March 14, 2010

Daylight Saving Time Begins

2010 TEXTBOOK FAIR

Again this year, Thomas County School System provided the location for the 2010 Textbook Fair. Thank you, everyone for your help on this rainy day workshop. The location and endless support is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately this was not one of our better attended projects. The topics for adoption were K-12 Foreign Language/ESOL; 9-12 English/Language Arts and K-12 Health and Physical Education. Next year's adoption cycle includes: K-12 Fine Arts; K-12 Social Studies; K-12 Health and PE and 9-12 Advanced Mathematical Decision Making Course.



Quality Teaching in a Culture of Coaching/Stephen Barkley

Stephen Barkley brings over thirty years of experience in education to his seminars. Mr. Barkley will return to south Georgia on **March 1, 2010**, to provide additional assistance for instructional coaches and principals. "Quality Teaching in a Culture of Coaching" is *DAY 2* of this workshop, but anyone can attend. Registration is limited so download the registration form from our website (www.swresa.org) and send it in as soon as possible. The session will begin at **8:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:45 p.m.** at the **Teacher Academy at the Isabella Complex on 300 Cason Street, Albany.** Breakfast and lunch will be provided. This workshop is sponsored by Chattahoochee-Flint RESA, Southwest Georgia RESA and PAGE.

READING FIRST TRAINING

March 2nd, marks the final day for the Reading First Training sessions. Amanda Beaty, GaDOE, will return to provide instruction in **Comprehension**. This workshop begins at **8:30 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m.** in **Room 708 at Southwest Georgia RESA in Camilla.**



MATH COACHES ACADEMY

The final day for the **Math Coaches Academy** will be held on **March 2**, at **SW GA RESA, Room 704, Camilla** from **9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.** This session will focus on an implementation plan of what to do before and after the CRCT. Participants attending all sessions will earn 2 PLUs.

REGION 4 SCIENCE NEWS

AND THE WINNERS ARE....Ben Crowdis, Calhoun County Middle School and Jennifer Hand, Cairo High School.

Mr. Crowdis is the proud winner of the Georgia Science Teachers Association Teacher of Promise Award. This award is presented to a beginning science teacher who shows exceptional promise and Ben inspires and motivates the middle school students of Calhoun County. As the only science teacher in the middle school, he works incessantly to find unique and exciting ways to challenge his students. One project that thoroughly captivated the attention of the children was the trip to Providence Canyon State Park to study soil. Students spent the day collecting soil samples and conducting a variety of scientific tests on those samples. Congratulations, Mr. Crowdis!

Ms. Jennifer Hand will receive the National Science Teachers Association BioRad Biotechnology Explorer Award at the upcoming NSTA Conference that will be held in mid-March. This award is presented to a high school teacher nationwide who has made biotechnology learning accessible to the classroom. Jennifer will receive expenses for the trip to Philadelphia, PA to attend the awards ceremony and she will also receive \$500 in BioRad products. Congratulations, Ms. Hand!

MARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Georgia Virtual School Registration Open for 2010-2011 School Year

February 2, 2010 -- The Georgia Department of Education announced that registration for the Georgia Virtual School (GAVS) 2010-2011 school year is now open to public school students.

"The Georgia Virtual School is a great way for students to take courses that may not currently be offered in their school," said State Superintendent of Schools Kathy Cox. "I encourage parents and students to look into all of the courses available and enroll today."

Georgia Virtual School offers a complete high school curriculum with Advanced Placement and college prep level courses. The courses also offer a perfect solution for students who are hospital/home bound or working in an alternative school environment. GAVS gives public school students access to challenging courses and the opportunity to make up credits through the Georgia Credit Recovery Program so they can graduate on schedule. All GAVS courses are fully accredited and taught by certified teachers.

During Fall 2009, over 3,000 students successfully completed courses, including the Advanced Placement courses the Georgia Virtual Schools offers. This program gives all Georgia students options and opportunities often not available at their local school.

The most popular course offerings are six world languages including: Latin, Spanish, French, German, Japanese and Chinese. The program continues to offer Quality Core Curriculum Math courses including: Algebra I, II, III, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry. The program also offers a limited middle school curriculum on a tuition basis.

High School Career, Technical & Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses (Marketing, Engineering and Technology, Public Safety, Agriculture, and Health Care Science) and Math II and Math III courses are currently in development.

State funding is available for a one unit course or two half unit courses per student per semester for high school level courses. Students may also pay tuition of \$300 per half unit class. All courses must be approved by the student's local school.

Private and home schooled students may begin registration for 2010-2011 GAVS courses on May 1, 2010.

Nine week mini-semester courses are also still available for spring 2010. These courses begin in March. Parents and students may contact the guidance counselor at their school for registration information.

For more information about Georgia Virtual School, visit the website at www.gavirtualschool.org or call 404-657-0574.

Copied from the GaDOE Website.

NEED HELP PASSING THE GHSGT IN SCIENCE & SOCIAL STUDIES?

The Georgia Department of Education is offering a **FREE** two-week summer program that provides tutorial support for high school students in preparation for the Science and Social Studies Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT). Colquitt County High (Moultrie), Monroe High (Albany) and Bainbridge High Schools are three of our area schools across the state where students can participate in this summer program. ExPreSS (Exam Preparation for Science & Social Studies) is the name of the tutorial service. Students must have parental permission to register. Registration and questions can be directed to your school's counselor or graduation coach. Additional information can be located on the following website:

<<https://www/georgia-standards.org/Resources/Pages/Tools/ExPreSS.aspx>>.

MARCH PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES

March 1	8:00-2:45	Quality Teaching in a Culture of Coaching	Teacher Academy/Isabella Complex, Albany
March 2	9:00-3:00	Math Coaches Academy	SW GA RESA, Room 704, Camilla
March 2	8:30-3:30	Best Practices in Reading/Comprehension	SW GA RESA, Room 708, Camilla
March 8/9	9:00-3:00	Math 3-Geometry/William Kipp	Frank McCoy, Jr. Educational Center, Pelham
March 10	9:00-3:00	Gifted Consortium/Bonnie Marshall	SW GA RESA, Room 702, Camilla
March 16	9:00-3:00	Science Academic Planning Session	SW GA RESA, Room 706, Camilla
March 17	10:00-12:00	Transportation Directors (Tech Exam)	SW GA RESA, Room 702, Camilla
March 18	10:00	Transportation Directors Meeting	SW GA RESA, Room 702, Camilla
March 23/24	9:00-3:00	CPI Training	Frank McCoy, Jr. Educational Center, Pelham
March 24/25	9:00-3:00	Math 3-Geometry/Linda Meyer	SW GA RESA, Room 704, Camilla