Inside the New ELA Webcast Series

Over the past two months, the ELA team at the DOE has been busy producing engaging new webcasts that feature classroom teachers sharing their experiences with the CCGPS implementation, management techniques, and proven instructional strategies. This month we would like to take you inside the webcasts to show you some of the key modules.

Accessing the Webcasts

https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA.aspx

“Professional Learning Webcasts” is the third heading on the page. From here you can click on the grade level that you are interested in watching. After clicking the grade you will see an embedded video screen that will allow you to activate the presentation and begin viewing. To the right of that screen you will see a list of downloadable documents. These documents will include all student work samples, activity guides, and graphic organizers that are discussed in the webcast.

The webcasts are compiled using “Prezi” presentation software and embedded videos streamed through YouTube. You will advance the presentation by pressing the arrow, allowing you to spend as much or as little time on each document or video as you need. The webcast will begin with an introduction and will proceed through 5-8 videos of the featured instructor walking viewers through an instructional sequence (a unit, lesson, or performance task) while answering questions about implementation, resources, differentiation, Common Core shifts, assessment, and more. Each video discussion is followed by a summary of ideas and illustrative documents.

Interactive technologies allow us to pull a variety of instructional platforms into the webcast, including PowerPoints, real-time whiteboard lessons, and streaming video from the classroom. Finally, the inclusion of authentic student work samples lends an additional level of utility to the material by allowing the viewer to move through the entire instructional process, including outcomes.
Inside the New ELA Webcast Series, continued...

A Sampling of Webcasts Ready for Viewing

GRADE ONE: Informational Writing/Close Reading/Note-Taking/Pre-Planning/Teamwork

GRADE FOUR: Close Reading/Vocabulary Study/Analysis Writing/Rubric Study

GRADE SEVEN: Structuring the Fundamentals/Constructed Response Assessments/Writing Process/Rubric Construction

GRADE EIGHT: Integrating Reading and Writing Block in Middle School/Learning Targets/Pre-Writing/Annotating/Close Reading for Multiple Purposes/Graphic Organizers

GRADE TWELVE: Incorporating Quotes into Analysis Essays/Vocabulary Study/Effective Transitions/Organization

Our ELA Team Has a New Addition!

We welcome a new addition to the ELA team – Gail Humble. Gail is coming to us from the DeKalb County School System with many years of experience and with a wide range of knowledge about ELA. Most recently, Gail was the principal of Kittredge Magnet School, a National Blue Ribbon School and Platinum School of Excellence. Gail also has experience at the system level working with federal and state programs. We look forward to having a new member of our team.
ELA Resource Management Survey: We Need Your Input!

2013-2014 Resource Update

In our ongoing efforts to tailor the production of resources, we are once again asking for your help. The sample Unit Frameworks that were developed in the spring of 2012 to assist educators in developing curriculum for the initial year of CCGPS implementation have been archived to the ELA Wiki sites. As the implementation prepares to enter its second year, additional resources to further and expand upon that introductory material are now in production. The original units will continue to be vetted and upgraded as we receive user suggestions, and resources purchased to align with those units may continue to be used if desired. To access the 2012-2013 instructional materials that have been archived, simply visit the ELA Wiki for your grade band:

- Middle School Wiki: http://georgiaelaccgps6-8.wikispaces.com/
- Elementary School Wiki: http://georgiaelaccgpsk-5.wikispaces.com/

As we enter the planning stages for the next phase of implementation, we would like to get your feedback on a number of important elements in resource design. By visiting the link provided at the end of this article, you can participate in shaping the next generation of resources.

Webinars and Webcasts

We recently introduced a new format for the traditional webinar that includes video segments, interviews with Georgia teachers, instructional materials, and authentic student work samples. As we continue to build the library of these webcasts, we are proactively searching for ways to supplement these offerings with other materials that utilize digital media and allowing educators to access only the information they need and to access it on their own schedule. Among the ideas in development are a library of instructional YouTube videos excerpted from the webcasts by topic, and "screencasts" which walk users through the navigation of a web resource in real time. We would like to know if you find these resources valuable, whether these resources can be altered or updated to be more effective, and what other digital offerings would be most useful to you.

Communication

Finally, we are seeking ways to improve our communication with our colleagues and are seeking to identify comparative usage statistics between the ELA ListServ, ELA Reporter, CIA Newsletter, Twitter, GSO, and Wikis.

The Survey

Your input is essential! To view the survey and provide us with your responses, please visit the following link: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QDZFQFT

Watch for results and the shape of things to come in the March ELA Reporter!

Media Specialist Workshop Update

Our January 17th workshop at the Coastal Plains RESA in Lenox, Georgia and the January 25th session with the Oconee RESA in Tennille, Georgia were both extremely fruitful collaborations. The Media Specialist Workshop series continues to foster important communication and bring together educators who work toward the common goal of literacy and communicative arts. These workshops highlight the absolutely essential nature of the role of the Media Specialist in the effective implementation of the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards and help us to discover new ways for classroom teachers, coaches, and media specialists to work together as we move through this new and exciting time in education. Upcoming workshops are listed below. To inquire about offerings in your area, contact your local RESA.
Media Matters: Copyright and Fair Use Guidelines

The textual requirements of the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards—more complex and rigorous texts, more non-fiction texts, more primary source documents and other contextual resources, etc.—have required educators to become very creative with finding ways to access adequate and appropriate texts. One of the great things about the Common Core is that teachers all over the country can share instructional resources and work collaboratively, exponentially increasing the materials available to all of us. As instructional materials are being shared, posted, and recommended at an unprecedented rate, we thought it might be a good time to review the protocols for copyright and fair use of materials. The chart provided here is concise and easy to understand and may be found at the Hall-Davidson site: http://www.halldavidson.net/copyright_chart.pdf.

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DOE ELA Home Page:
http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ci_services.aspx?
PageReq=CIIServEnglish

GeorgiaStandards.Org ELA Page:
https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA.aspx