



# Educator Preparation Newsletter

Georgia Professional Standards Commission – May 2019

## PEEM 2019 Ratings to be Shared in June

The PEEM calculation for the 2018-2019 academic year is scheduled to be completed and published to education program providers in June. This calculation aggregates data from the 2017-18, 2016-17, and 2015-16 academic years. EPPs will be able to access their provider and available program ratings through the PEEM dashboard on [GaPSC.org](http://GaPSC.org); they will also be able to preview the simpler version of the dashboard that will be made available to the public at least one month later. GaPSC will notify EPPs when their 2019 ratings are available, and we strongly encourage you to look closely at your PEEMs at that time and [send us](#) any questions you may have.

Ratings will be shared with the public no earlier than late July through a new public dashboard on GaPSC.com. GaPSC will provide materials to you closer to that time to assist you with questions or media inquiries you may receive. In the meantime, please remember that several resources are already available that explain the purpose and calculation of the PEEMs: an introductory webinar, FAQs, and a detailed technical specifications document, all available as links at the top of the PEEM dashboard that you currently see on GaPSC.org.

## Teacher Leadership Gains Momentum

Teacher Leadership is gaining momentum across Georgia. Since the 2018 Task Force convened and collaboratively facilitated by the GaPSC, GaDOE, and GLISI established a Georgia belief statement for teacher leadership and developed the first set of Teacher Leadership Tool Kits (available June 2019 on the [GaPSC Ed Prep](http://GaPSC Ed Prep) website), efforts have continued toward increasing awareness and understanding of this powerful lever for school improvement and teacher retention. The January 2019 Teacher Leader Summit, hosted by Dalton State College, was attended by a diverse group of teachers, school and district administrators, RESA, and college/university representatives. Participants engaged in a full slate of professional learning focused on communication

[\(read more\)](#)



## Calendar

October 24, 2019

**SAVE THE DATE:** GaPSC Annual Certification and Program Officials “Drive-In” Conference in Macon

December 3-4, 2019

**SAVE THE DATE:** Winter Summit for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), location TBD

## New GaPSC Staff

Meet **Mrs. Flavia Gordon-Gunter**, our newest Program Approval Education Specialist. Prior to joining the GaPSC, Flavia



served Atlanta Public Schools as a district administrator who worked with induction-phase educators. Flavia taught elementary students for 26 years before she became an administrator. Welcome, Flavia!

## Staff Role Change

GaPSC Education Specialist **Enjolia Farrington** has moved from Program Approval to Non-traditional Preparation. Enjolia, in her 12th year with GaPSC, now works with program providers at RESAs, school systems, and other organizations that offer endorsement programs, GaTAPP, and Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership programs.

## Coming Soon: New Dyslexia Endorsement

Due to the passage of [Senate Bill 48](#), the GaPSC assembled a task force for responding to requirements set forth in the legislation, including the development of a Dyslexia Endorsement educator preparation rule. Dyslexia is defined as a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin and characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and poor spelling and decoding abilities. The GaPSC educator preparation rule for this endorsement will establish standards (based on the standards of the International Dyslexia Association) and requirements for programs that will train educators to do the following: understand and recognize dyslexia and signs indicating problems with language-skill development; implement instruction that is systematic, explicit, and evidence-based to meet the educational needs of students with dyslexia; and train and advise other

[\(read more\)](#)



### Promoting the Profession and Your Programs

In conjunction with the summer 2019 launch of the PPEM public dashboard, we encourage you to promote positive stories about your programs and completers of your programs who are making a difference in the lives of students.

We are happy to shine a light on one such example from Middle Georgia State University. The [Inspire magazine](#) tells the story of Monroe County 2018-19 Teacher of the Year, Tamarkis Taylor, a graduate of MGSU's School of Education and Behavioral Sciences (swipe or scroll to page 19). You certainly have similar *GOOD NEWS* stories to tell about your graduates!

At GaPSC, we are working to

provide you with a set of resources you can use to promote your programs after the PPEM public dashboard opens in July. Included will be a press release template, sample talking points, suggested responses to anticipated media questions, and brainstorming prompts to help you develop your unique story.

As you consider options, we encourage you to proactively engage in conversations about PPEMs with your candidates, faculty, administrators, communications staff, P-12 partners, and your local media contacts. Watch for more information from us in June!

*E-mail your success stories to  
[penney.mcroy@gapsc.com](mailto:penney.mcroy@gapsc.com)*

## Early Childhood Education is Changing to Elementary Education

Based on input from P-12 practitioners and program providers, GaPSC is changing the name of the P-5 field from Early Childhood Education to Elementary Education. Preparation and certification rules impacted by this change were adopted by the Commission at the May 9, 2019, meeting and will become effective July 1, 2019.

## New P-5 Agriculture Education Endorsement

Legislative action in 2018 ([SB 330](#)) created the need to prepare educators to teach Agriculture Education in grades P-5. A GaPSC task force comprised of P-20 educators with expertise in this field recommended the creation a new endorsement program to prepare individuals certified in Secondary (6-12) Agriculture Education to teach the content to students in grades P-5. The Commission adopted the new educator preparation rule at the May 9, 2019, meeting. You will find Rule 505-3-.111, *P-5 Agriculture Education Endorsement* [here](#) after the June 15, 2019, effective date.



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## Teacher Leadership ([continued from p.1](#))

and advocacy for teacher leadership, and they visited Stone Creek Elementary, in Walker County, to observe teacher leadership in action. After the Summit, Stone Creek Elementary Principal Brandon Mosgrove, Stone Creek Teacher Leader Susanne Honeycutt, and Walker County Instructional Coach Kelli Campbell presented at Winter GAEL with GaPSC representatives Paquita Morgan and Penney McRoy, and GaDOE Associate Superintendent Cindy Saxon.

The next phase of work involves the inaugural convening of the state's Teacher Leadership Advisory Council (TLAC). Supported jointly by the GaPSC and GaDOE, the purpose of the TLAC is to increase the use of teacher leadership in Georgia schools. Comprised of teachers, school and district administrators, and RESA and Teacher Leadership program provider representatives from across Georgia, members will serve as advocates by sharing information and research with peers to promote awareness of teacher leadership, and by helping local schools and districts build capacity to leverage teacher leadership for school improvement. If you are not offering a Teacher Leadership preparation program, please consider adding one to help support this important work in your region.

## Dyslexia Endorsement ([continued from p.3](#))

teachers on the signs of dyslexia and language-skill deficits and how to work with affected students.

The new Dyslexia Endorsement preparation rule will be proposed to the Professional Standards Commission for initiation late this summer or early fall and if adopted, will be effective by January 2020.