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**December 5, 2011**

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| Welcome & Introductions *Sally Creel, GSSA President**Sally.creel@cobbk12.org* | **Members in Attendance:*** Elayne Whitten
* Barbara King
* Miriam Jordan
* Melinda Roberson
* Terri George
* Sally Creel
* Tawni Taylor
* Pam Walker
* Don White
* Debbie Stuckey
* Carol Mickus
* Kelly Price
* Sharon Boyer
* Lisa Alexander
* Juan Carlos
* Owen Ogletree
* Ann Williams-Brown
* Vincent Tolbert
* Dawn Hudson
* Kelly Barrow
* Jo-ne Bourassa
* Misha Bogle
* Karol Stephens
* Dale Lyles
* Monek McCrary
* Trimona Lomax
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| Fernbank Science Museum *Chris Bean, VP of Education @ Fernbank* *Chris.Bean@fernbankmuseum.org* | 20th anniversary in 2012; private museum self-funded for K-12 education. 10,000 students visit Science Museum each year; there is funding available for field trips for Title I schools ($7); programs taught by educators and these activities are related to GPS; online resources include field trip guide and specific lesson plans related to each exhibits; scavenger hunts-educator nights Tuesday and Thursday from 2-5pm; IMAX: *Greatest Places, Wild Things, Life Rescue* |
| ETA /Cuisenaire *Carolyn Cutts, Consultant* *ccutts@etacuisenaire.com* | *Thank you for Breakfast!*Door prizes givenZoom Magnifier on display $59.95 |
| DOE Report*Juan Carlos Agular, GA DOE**jagular@doe.k12.ga.us* | 1. **Science & AYP – Update**

No new updates; waiting on federal approval for state waiver1. **Next Generation Science Standards Update**
* Achieve is working on the standards
* Frameworks released in July by the National Academy of Science
* Learning Progression was discussed as it explains why some concepts are not addressed in certain grade-band standards.
* Framework uses “engineering practices” instead of “scientific inquiry”.
* Soft skills, literacy, college readiness, STEM will force us to revisit the way literacy standards are written in CCGPS.
* Align high stakes assessments- very expensive work that needs to be developed- this work includes virtual labs and simulations into the assessment process- multiple choice tool is the only available format that is the least effective.
* NC, IL, DE, MT are some of the six additional states that have since been added to this initiative.
* Public draft will be released February 12, 2012; DOE will work with the RESA’s to organize meetings around the state to organize feedback from teachers.

**Timeline:** * December 2012 completion of NGSS standards
* 2013-2014 Professional Development throughout the state
* 2014-2015 First Year Implementation
* 2015-2016 New Assessments
1. Information Management System
2. **HB 186 – Implications for Science**
* Career/College Readiness-aligned with national pathways (17 cluster including energy); thought being that remediation takes place at the high school level, not at the college level.
* Standards will be embedded in CTAE courses- 3 courses will receive academic credit/ student passes EOCT –credit is awarded for science courses and CTAE courses.
* Teachers teaching these courses has not been fleshed out yet; may include co-teaching, science teachers teaching CTAE courses, etc. – teacher certification has not been addressed.
* 2012-2013 selected pathways required.
* All pathways must have end pathway assessments; some assessments will be industry certifications.
* Competency test for “testing out” option needs to be developed; EOCT will not change.
* 3 credits can be earned via this option; this role out will begin next year- counselors play a critical role in the advisement process. Students will still be required to take a “P” science, Biology/ Chemistry, etc.
* Unanswered questions include will students be given numerical grades or a pass/fail option
* District will create and approve competency tests.
* Juan Carlos has provided a PowerPoint with additional information
1. **Dual Enrollment**

Ga. Finance Commission really wants to give money to either college or high school not both; currently there have been some issues related to HS Biology courses being taken and then a dual enrollment student taking Biology I at the college level-student is not getting credit for the high school course. Karol mentioned that one concern is many of our students take Biology in 9th grade and don’t express interest in dual enrollment until their 11th grade year. Also, many colleges are requiring high school biology, chemistry, etc as a prerequisite. State is aware of the issue and they are working on this issue; Juan encouraged us to check with our counselors to be sure they are referencing the Accel document found on the DOE page, and GA411 webpage. |
| Governors Honors Program*Dale Lyles, Director* *GA DOE* *DLyles@doe.k12.ga.us* | * The interview process was changed to accurately reflect the GHP experience
* Interviewers are looking for creativity and a students’ ability to draw conclusions, question the data, generate questions, etc.
* “What question would I ask to initiate research in this field?”
* “*Look fors*”….. students doing reading outside of class (go to website, read science blogs- this information will be used to create data simulations for the January 28th state interviews.
* There are no correct answers- looking for scientific curiosity not knowledge; problem solving process; good grades in science and well spoken.
* Interview at the state level will engage students more in their thought process- state rubric will be different
* Group suggested 20 minutes of notes not 2 paragraphs in 20 minutes.
* Dale is looking for a Physics teacher for summer GHP. Send names directly to Dale Lyles at dlyles@doe.k12.ga.us
* Handbook for selection process is being revised
* Sample data and research items can be found online at <http://snipurl.com/ghp_doe>
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| GSTA Conference*Kelly Price, GSTA President* *KPrice@forsyth.k12.ga.us*Dates Feb. 16-18, 2012 in Atlanta @ The Hyatt downtown | 1. GSTA Registration – Completely done online

Participants can buy fieldtrip/award ceremony tickets separately if district is not paying for this expense$110 check must be received by January 13 for early registration discount Exhibit hall is closed on Friday night/ opens on Thursday night 1. BYOP - Bring Your Own Principal – Principals who send teachers to GSTA may attend for FREE on Friday of GSTA
2. GSSA Strand

There is one slot available 12:00- 12:30 if interested in presenting email Sally Creel at Sally.Creel@cobbk12.org 1. Conference Program Draft
2. Awards Keynote Speaker – Dr. Stephen Pruitt @ GA Aquarium
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| NSTA Regional Conference*Karol Stephens, Local Arrangements Chair**StephensK3@fulton.k12.ga.us*Proposal Deadline is January 15, 2012 <http://ecommerce.nsta.org/sessions/proposal_submission.asp> | 1. NSTA Regional – Dates November 1-3, 2012 @ Atlanta GWC
2. Local Arrangements Committees – Karol needs some volunteers!
3. Other
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| Student Learning Objectives*Susan White, GA DOE**ttaylor@doe.k12.ga.us* | See PowerPoint posted on GSSA website |
| Petra, Inc. *Petra Griffin, NSTA Sales Rep**petragriffin@earthlink.net* | *Thank You for Lunch!* |
| Science & Common Core*Tom Brown, Cobb County* *Thomas.brown@cobbk12.org* | See PowerPoint on GSSA website |
| Open Agenda Items |  |
| **Next Meeting*****Pre-GSTA Conference******February 15, 2011 @ GA Aquarium******1:00- 4:00 PM*** |