



440 Tilney Avenue  
Griffin, GA 30224  
Phone: 770-229-3247  
FAX: 770-228-7316  
www.griffinresa.net

GRIFFIN REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

Serving South Metro County School Systems since 1966  
BUTTS - FAYETTE - HENRY - LAMAR - NEWTON - PIK  
E - SPALDING - UPSON  
Dr. Stephanie L. Gordy, Executive Director



**May  
2022**

**Come Learn with Us! In Person or Online.  
Hybrid Options Available!**

**Click on each link below for registration information!**

**[Formative Assessment: Establishing and  
Maintaining a Routine of Checking for  
Understanding](#)**

**May 2, thru May 30, 2022: Online**

Our learning targets for this class are:

- What are some quick formative feedback methods I can incorporate in daily instruction?
- How can I organize and use information gained by formative assessments to determine next steps for students?
- What tech tools do I need to keep handy and utilize in my regular practice to assess student learning?

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- How has virtual learning both helped and hurt my assessment practices? What can I do to plan for a changing educational landscape?

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## **Using Real World Math to Teach Problem-Solving**

**Date: May 3, 2022: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Participants will use real-world data and contextual problem-solving to develop conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills for all students, utilizing rich performance tasks through the CRA (concrete, representational, abstract) instructional model with appropriate manipulatives and technology they can model in their classrooms.

This course will demonstrate how to encourage students to reason mathematically, engage in productive struggle and meaningful discourse, evaluate mathematical arguments, communicate ideas using mathematical terminology, and make connections among mathematical topics and other disciplines, according to Van de Walle and other experts on teaching math. TKES Standards: 2,3,6,8.

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## **Preschool Special Needs Consortium**

**May 3, 2022: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

The Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Section 619 is intended to help states ensure that all preschool-aged children (3 through 5 years of age) with disabilities receive special education and related services.

The Preschool Special Needs Consortium will serve as a collaborative network of regional educators and leaders that discuss, develop, and engage in best practices that support our young learners. Consortium members will follow state priorities and establish regional priorities to guide the focus of each session.

**This professional development opportunity is provided by a grant for our regional school systems. Therefore, it is *open only to educators in the Griffin RESA region: (Butts, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Pike, Newton, Griffin-Spalding, and Thomaston-Upson School Systems).***

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## **Reading Endorsement: Reading Foundations**

**May 3, 2022 thru December 6, 2022**

The Griffin RESA Reading Endorsement utilizes current research and research-based practices that enable teachers to engage students in 'breaking the code of reading,' and the interactive process of constructing meaning from text. Candidates begin their journey with creating the literate environment, transition to implementation of instructional approaches with balanced assessment measures to remediate and extend learning and utilize digital and visual literacy to engage students and facilitate professional learning.

The first course, *Reading Foundations*, consists of 50 hours of instruction. This course not only focuses on reading theories, methods, and approaches to effectively teach the 5 pillars of reading to all learners but moves teaching forward by equipping teachers to form a 21<sup>st</sup> Century lens of reading instruction and establishing a strong environment for success. Successful completion of the first course is followed by the second 50-hour course, *Reading Best Practices*, a study rich in assessment driven instruction such as Close Reading, Guided Reading, and Conferencing. The third 50-hour course, *Leading Literacy*, inspires and better equips teachers to become leaders of literacy in the institutions they serve. Each course empowers teachers to integrate literacy with technology and helps ensure the diverse needs of students are met by providing a quality 21<sup>st</sup> Century reading instruction experience.

All three courses have embedded clinical experiences and are delivered in a blended online format of face-to-face meetings and online tasks in between sessions.

\*\*\* *Texts are available on Amazon: Participants must provide their own texts for this course.*

*Literacy Assessment and Intervention for Classroom Teachers. 5<sup>th</sup> edition by Beverly A. DeVries ISBN-13: 978-0815363859*

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## **Using Games to Teach Mathematics: K-12 Math Teachers**

**May 4, 2022: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Learn to use games in math class to build conceptual understanding and to practice skills in number and operations, geometry, algebra, and statistics. Instructor will share strategies and resources to implement in the school setting, ensuring a job-embedded professional learning experience that will positively impact teacher practice and student achievement.

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## **Restore & Inspire for School Leaders: School Climate Temperature Check**

**May 4, thru May 11, 2022: Online**

K-12 Teacher Leaders, Counselors, and Administrators set the tone for a school's culture by daily interactions with students, teachers, and families. School climate work: social-emotional learning, positive behavior supports, youth voice, leadership programs, and restorative practices are a part of making a school feel safe and welcoming.

With the uncertainties of Covid-19 and conversations and protests of racial inequality, including an added challenge of educating children in the remote and hybrid classroom environments, school climate is more critical than ever.

This course will deliver engagement strategies for leaders to take a temperature check of their students, faculty & staff, school, surrounding community, and families to foster essential connections with the goal of delivering quality instruction and education through unprecedented and challenging times.

**LKES Performance Standard #2 - SCHOOL CLIMATE**

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## **Your Writing Recipe: Finding Your Secret Sauce**

**May 5, 2022: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Do you identify with the thousands of teachers across the country who feel they were never really taught *how* to teach kids how to write? Does it seem like no matter how many writing resources you pull together it's still not enough to get the job done? Just like cooking, it's the "secret sauce" that separates a good recipe for writing instruction from a great one. This *writing workshop* inspired course is designed to simplify and clarify writing instruction and then help you devise your own "secret sauce" for success. Reaching the diverse learning needs in your classroom, we will explore the power and practice of establishing a mentorship environment, maximizing the "mighty mini-lesson", and holding writing conferences with confidence. You will leave the course with the practical knowledge and resources that will not only empower your writing instruction but have your teacher friends and administrators asking you for your secret recipe for writing instruction success.

The instructor will share strategies and resources that will support TKES Standards 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, and 8 with practical takeaways that will positively impact teacher practice and student achievement.

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## **Classroom Management for PK-5th**

**May 10, 2022: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Effective classroom management is not simply the absence of discipline problems, but an intentional set of practices and procedures that promote positive relationships and an engaging environment for all students. This course is designed to help PK-5 school personnel organize and manage an effective learning environment in a face to face or virtual setting. The course will provide grade-appropriate ideas, strategies, and materials from “Teaching with Love and Logic” that teachers can implement in their classroom or digital learning environment.

PK-5 Classroom Management is directly aligned to TKES Standard 7: Positive Learning Environment.

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## **Interactive Comprehension Strategies for Pre-K through Grade 2**

**May 11, thru May 18, 2022: Online**

Is your go-to comprehension activity asking questions for students to answer? Do you work hard to maintain student attention? Interactive comprehension strategies are not only evidence-based instruction, but also age-appropriate for young learners.

Educators will explore activities that extend texts through social engagement, vocabulary usage, and writing about learning. The instructor will guide hands-on activities relating to the following topics:

- Refining the teacher’s read-aloud practices
- Understanding how age-appropriate strategies of close listening is fundamental for developing close reading skills
- Exploring new approaches for questioning and vocabulary activities

Participants will receive activities and resources that are “implementation ready” to support students’ skills development by integrating the reading, writing, and speaking/listening standards (TKES/TAPS 2, 7, and 8).

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## **Writing Conferences with Confidence**

**May 17, 2022: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Does the idea of writing conferencing sound great but seem unrealistic or unattainable? In this course, we will break down writing conferencing to make it viable and successful

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for you and your students. Writing conferences are the heart and soul of writing instruction. If done well, this one-on-one time enables teachers to truly individualize instruction and move all students forward-especially your most struggling writers. As a result of this course you will be able to distinguish between what a quality writing conference is and isn't, learn a 5-7-minute conference cycle that streamlines the process, discover the power of a conferencing kit, be exposed to resources to help you know what to teach, learn how to maximize success through goal setting and progress monitoring, and be able to use these conferencing techniques as a foundation for small group writing instruction. You will leave this course with not only knowledge and inspiration, but a starter kit to begin holding writing conferences with confidence.

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## **Resume Writing & Interview Tips for Educators (Teacher Positions)**

**May 19, 2022: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Resume writing support tips plus what to expect and how to prepare for a Teacher Position Interview.

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## **Great Guided Reading: Making it Fabulous!**

**May 19, thru May 26, 2022: Online**

Do you desire to be more efficient and effective during your small group time? Guided reading is a powerful teaching method, especially in K-2. When done well, it enables you to meet the individual and diverse needs of your students and instill a strong foundation for reading success.

In this course, you will gain confidence and clarity on how to empower even your most struggling readers to succeed through guided reading best practices. Rooted in the research of Gay Su Pinnell and Irene C. Fountas, you will learn how to group students via assessments and needs, choose appropriate texts, be provided with lesson plan templates that walk you through the key components and teaching steps, know how to determine what to teach and when, understand how to manage student data and resources, and keep the rest of the class in meaningful learning activities.

The instructor will share strategies and resources that will support TKES Standards 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, and 8 with practical takeaways that will positively impact teacher practice and student achievement.

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