



The RESA Reporter

MARCH-APRIL 2024



Note from the Executive Director

Spring is almost here, and we are excited to launch several new initiatives to provide service to our regional school systems in the South Metro Region. Griffin RESA is pleased to announce:

- Our annual program, called Pre-TAPP, for those individuals who are interested in teaching, but have not yet secured a contracted teaching position. After completing the summer coursework, a list of eligible candidates will be provided to our school systems that may have vacancies for the 2024-25 school year in the participant's field of study. To qualify for this program, participants must meet the eligibility requirements listed on our website at www.griffinresa.net. Once on the website, please click on the 7th burgundy box entitled "**Teacher Recruitment/TAPP**". An information session on this program is going to be held on February 29th at 6:00pm. To register for this event, please email TAPP@griffinresa.net.
- Several of our Regional Student Competitions are underway. Results from recent competitions are included in this newsletter and we'll have more results in the next newsletter.
- The application window for our next APEL (*Alternative Preparation Program for Educational Leadership*) is going on until June 1st for those seeking leadership certification in our 2024-2025 cohort for both Tier I and Tier II Ed Leader Certification. Additional details are inside this newsletter and on our website in the 2nd burgundy box on the left entitled "**Leadership Development/APEL**".
- We are in the process of offering over 400 professional development classes each school year serving over 10,000 participants annually. Upcoming classes for March and April are in this newsletter and on our website at www.griffinresa.net under the 2nd burgundy box on the left, entitled "**Professional Learning**" and the 3rd burgundy box on the left entitled "Endorsements". We encourage you to check them out as all of our classes are hybrid so you can attend either "Face-to-Face" or "Virtually".

Take a peek inside the newsletter for information about all of the above services and MUCH MORE!

Dr. Stephanie Gordy
Executive Director

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2024 South Metro Summer Leadership Conference



Congratulations to Griffin RESA's 2024 Regional Literacy Days Competition Winners

*Regional (Grades 3-5)
Literacy Days
Competition Winners*



*Regional (Grades 6-8)
Literacy Days
Competition Winners*



The 2024 Griffin RESA *Literacy Days Festival* is a regional competition among elementary and middle schools in the Griffin RESA region, which consists of the following school systems: **Butts, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Newton, Pike, Griffin-Spalding and Thomaston-Upson.**

Congratulations to Griffin RESA's 2024 Regional Academic Bowl Winners



*Regional Middle School &
High School Academic
Bowl Winners*



The Griffin RESA *High School Academic Bowl* season is a regional competition among middle and high schools in the Griffin RESA region, which consists of the following school systems: **Butts, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Newton, Pike, Griffin-Spalding and Thomaston-Upson.**

Good luck to the teams as they represent our Griffin Region at the State Competition in the Georgia Regional Academic Bowl (GRAB) which will be held in March. Those Varsity and Junior Varsity teams which finished in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place are eligible to represent our region.



Congratulations to Griffin RESA's 2024 Regional Math Competition Winners

***Regional Middle School
Math Competition
Winners***



***Regional High School
Math Competition
Winners***



The Griffin RESA Middle and High School Math Competitions are regional competitions among middle and high schools in the Griffin RESA region, which consists of the following school systems: ***Butts, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Newton, Pike, Griffin-Spalding and Thomaston-Upson.***

Congratulations to Griffin RESA's 2024 Regional Science & Engineering Fair Winners



***Regional Science
& Engineering Fair
Winners***



The ***2024 Griffin RESA Science & Engineering Fair*** is a regional competition among middle and high schools in the Griffin RESA region.

The ***1st place projects*** in the fair will compete at the Georgia Science & Engineering Fair (GSEF), in Athens, Georgia, which will be held April 11-13, 2024. The top three projects in the ***Senior Division*** will participate in the ***Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF)***, which will be held in Los Angeles, California, May 11-17, 2024.

We wish this year's winners well as they represent our region at the State Competition and the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (IEF) in the spring!



Griffin RESA

Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (TAPP)

What is GaTAPP?

The Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (GaTAPP) is a classroom-based teacher preparation option for individuals who have the basic qualifications to teach elementary, middle-grades, secondary or P-12 education but have not completed a teacher preparation program. The program is intended to replace regular college teacher education programs. It is, instead, an alternative option for individuals who hold a bachelor's degree or higher but did not complete teacher education requirements as part of their degree programs. Georgia TAPP equips teacher candidates with the skills to ensure a reasonable expectation of initial success in their classrooms and puts in place a supervised induction program that will help them move toward subsequent mastery of teaching.

What are the requirements?

- Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university
- Passing score on GACE II Content Area tests prior to entry into the area you will be teaching
- Pass the Georgia Educator Ethics Assessment (#360)
- Have a job offer as a beginning teacher in a Griffin RESA-member system (Butts, Fayette, Griffin-Spalding, Henry, Lamar, Newton, Pike, Thomaston-Upson)

Teaching Fields Offered

Elementary Education

Middle Grades Education (Grades 4-8)

Secondary Education Fields (Grades 6-12)

- English
- Mathematics
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth/Space, Physics)
- Social Studies (Economics, Geography, History, Political Science)
- Art, Music, P.E., Health, Business Technology Education, Family Consumer Science

Foreign Language - Grades (P-12)

- Spanish
- French
- German

ESOL (Grades P-12)

Special Education

- General and Adaptive
- Curriculum

Deaf/Hard of Hearing

For more information, click here

or email

TAPP@griffinresa.net

**PRE-TAPP
PRE-TEACHER ACADEMY FOR
PREPARATION AND PEDAGOGY
PROGRAM**

Griffin RESA is pleased to announce our annual program for individuals interested in teaching but have not yet secured a contracted teaching position.



Program Requirements to be eligible for the 2024/2025 Pre-TAPP list.

- ✓ College Transcripts - 4 yr degree w/2.5 GPA
- ✓ GACE II - Content Assessment
- ✓ GACE Educator Ethics Assessment #360
- ✓ Take the "Essentials of Effective Teaching" course. Register below.

The tuition for the Essentials of Effective Teaching Pre-TAPP session is \$600, which includes all books and supplies. If participants secure a contracted teaching position in our region, the \$600 fee will be applied to the first year's TAPP tuition. We will advertise eligible candidates on our Pre-TAPP List for the 2024/2025 school year.

You only need one session.

Session #1 June 3 - June 14, 2024.

Deadline May 27, 2024.


Session #2 June 17 - June 28, 2024

Deadline June 10, 2024.

Session #3 July 8 - July 19, 2024


Deadline July 1, 2024.

Contact Griffin RESA:

 770-229-3247

 TAPP@griffinresa.net

 www.griffinresa.net

 440 Tilney Ave
Griffin, GA 30224

Georgia Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership (APEL)



APEL PROGRAM STANDARDS

Standard 1: Develop, advocate, and enact a shared mission, vision, and core values of high-quality education and academic success and well-being of each student.

Standard 2: Act ethically and according to professional norms to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 3: Strive for equity of educational opportunity and culturally responsive practices to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 4: Develop and support intellectually rigorous and coherent systems of curriculum, instruction, and assessment to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 5: Cultivate an inclusive, caring, and supportive school community that promotes the academic success and well-being of each student.

Standard 6: Develop the professional capacity and practice of school personnel to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 7: Foster a professional community of teachers and other professional staff to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 8: Engage families and the community in meaningful, reciprocal, and mutually beneficial ways to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 9: Manage school operations and resources to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

Standard 10: Act as agents of continuous improvement to promote each student's academic success and well-being.

SERVING SOUTH METRO COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS SINCE 1966

BUTTS - FAYETTE - HENRY - LAMAR - NEWTON - PIKE - SPALDING - UPSON

GOAL

The goal is to develop Educational Leaders who...



- Demonstrate the ability to lead, facilitate, and make school/system leadership decisions
- Create a continuous improvement culture within their school and community built on a mutual commitment for student success, respect for diverse populations, and staff well-being



- Use school/system data from multiple sources to inform and develop decisions
- Manage school operations efficiently and effectively



- Establish a safe learning environment
- Engage families and stakeholders in school and system communities



- Immerse technology into the planning, teaching, and assessment of the curriculum
- Build professional capacity through recruitment and retention of positive personnel



APEL Tier I and Tier II Virtual Programs



GEORGIA ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP



SUPPORTING EDUCATORS SEEKING ALTERNATIVE LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION

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Please email questions to APEL@griffinresa.net



APEL

Tier I and Tier II

Virtual Programs

OVERVIEW

Griffin RESA's Georgia Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership (APEL) program is a one-year job-embedded pathway for candidates seeking Tier I or Tier II Leadership certification.

This program is for educators, in system or school leadership positions, with a master's degree or higher who are looking for leadership certification only (non-degree).

APEL is designed to instruct, guide, and support employed leaders to help them build the confidence, skills, and presence needed to lead.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- College Transcripts showing a Master's Degree or higher with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Professional Resume including:
 - Universities/Colleges attended, degrees earned, GPA
 - Educator work experience including organization, position, location, supervisor, dates
 - Leadership experience or leadership training including organization or program, position, location, supervisor, dates
- Three signed professional reference letters.
- Alternative Preparation for Educational Leadership (APEL) Nomination Form completed by direct supervisor with an overall rating of 3.0 or higher
- APEL System Assurance Form
- APEL Authorization for Payment Form
- APEL Program Memorandum of Understanding
- A copy of the following,
 - your last Proficient Annual Evaluation
 - your GaPSC Certificate.
 - completed Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment- GACE 380
- No ethics violations or reprimands are allowed.
- Submitted Writing Sample

ELIGIBILITY

TIER I

Candidate must

- Hold an entry-level P-12 school leadership positions below the principal and system level positions that does not supervise principals.
- Be recommended for admission by a local Unit of Administration (LUA) or employer that will verify employment and provide an assurance that the candidate will be available one-half day or more each day to work in a leadership position

TIER II

Candidate must

- Hold an advanced level P-12 school leadership position as principal or the equivalent, superintendents or other LUA staff who supervise principals.
- Hold a level 5 or higher Standard Professional Educational Leadership Tier I certificate or a Standard Prof. L-certificate in Educational Leadership Tier II.
- Be recommended for admission by a Local Unit of Administration (LUA) or employer that will verify employment and provide an assurance that the candidate will be available one-1/2 day or more each day to work in a leadership position.

***SCHOOL SYSTEM AGREES TO APPLY FOR THE N3L TIER I OR TIER II CERTIFICATION BEFORE FULL ACCEPTANCE**

TUITION

Member Systems - \$5550 (payroll deduction available at \$462.50/month)

Out of Area Systems - \$6000

For each 1-year program.

COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Passing score on GACE II Educational Leadership

Demonstrated proficiency on APEL Leadership Capstone Project

Attend a minimum of 8 Seminars

Complete 100 hours of Clinical Practice

Attend Pre-Residency Essentials Week

Identification of the Exceptional Child course (if needed)

Proficiency of all Program Standards

TKES and LKES Evaluation Training

Understanding and Supporting the Dyslexic Learner (All candidates)

LEADERSHIP MENTOR & LEADERSHIP COACH

Each candidate is assigned a system or school Leadership Mentor and a Griffin RESA Leadership Coach. The leadership mentor assists the candidate throughout the APEL process. The leadership coach assists in meeting program standards for certification.

SAMPLE TOPICS OF CONCENTRATION

- Continuous Improvement Plans & Teams
- Analyzing and Utilizing School Data
- Budget and Finance
- Building Management & Safety
- Ethics & Professionalism
- Instructional Best Practices
- School Law
- Positive School Climates Leadership Styles
- Leading Cultural Diversity in Schools
- SEL for Adults
- Retention and Recruitment
- Special Education Compliance & Consideration
- Building Communities with Parents & Staff



Please email questions to APEL@griffinresa.net



NATIONAL READ ACROSS AMERICA MARCH 2024



National Education Association (NEA) created *Read Across America* in 1998.

Read Across America is celebrated on March 2nd. Many individuals incorporate reading into their daily lives, and not just on this special day.

Children and teens participate in various events that motivate reading. Everyone can be involved in motivating children to read, not only at school but at home and in the community as well.

Incorporating various activities to make reading more exciting is one suggestion. Getting children excited about reading at an early age encourages them to make reading a part of their daily lives.

Teacher Led Small Group Instruction Upper Grades

Do you desire to be more efficient and effective during your small group time? Flexible grouping using data is a powerful instructional method to group students. Based on where they are, you can choose instruction using phonics, strategy groups, guided reading, or guided writing. When done well, it enables you to meet the individual and diverse needs of your students and instills a strong foundation for reading success.

Date: March 14, 2024
Time: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Location: Griffin RESA
Cost: \$35 in area, \$50 out of area
(REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: 5th-8th Grade Teachers
Registration Deadline: March 7, 2024

Reading Strategy Groups Making the Invisible Visible

The course will be a collaborative setting for K-5 teachers to analyze where readers fall on the learning progressions within a reading goal to determine the next instructional steps. This targeted instruction will support the achievement of every reader as the invisible work becomes actionable, visible, and replicable.

Date: March 21, 2024
Time: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Location: Griffin RESA
Cost: \$35 in area, \$50 out of area
(REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: K-5th Grade Teachers
Registration Deadline: March 14, 2024

Turning Reading Assessment Data into Targeted Instruction

You have the assessment, now what? This course is about providing a structure comprised of tools and thinking, to make true assessment-driven instruction a reality. You will not only gain confidence and clarity on how to properly collect, analyze and interpret data, but will also know how to create goals and action plans to meet the individual needs of the student.

Date: March 28, 2024
Time: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Location: Griffin RESA
Cost: \$35 in area, \$50 out of area
(REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: K-12th Grade Teachers
Registration Deadline: March 21, 2024

Closing in on Close Reading 6-12

Through close reading strategies and experiences, students are empowered to deepen their thinking while observing and analyzing text for both craft and content. In this course (via videos, examples, discussion and practice) participants will gain confidence and clarity in knowing what quality close reading really is and how to teach these strategies to the diverse learners in the classroom

Date: June 4, 2024
Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm
Location: Griffin RESA
Cost: \$35 in area, \$50 out of area
(REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: 6th-12th Grade Teachers
Registration Deadline: May 28, 2024

Register online at www.griffinresa.net



AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2024



April is **Autism Awareness Month**. **World Autism Awareness Day** is celebrated April 2nd. During this month, awareness is raised about autism and acceptance. December 2007, the United Nations General Assembly declared April 2nd as **World Autism Awareness Day**. The intention was to “improve the quality of life for those with autism”.



Special Education Leadership Academy

Leaders in special education experience unique and often challenging situations. The Special Education Leadership Academy will offer resource and tools that support proactive and reactive leadership. How can leaders in special education be powerful visionaries, lead improvement efforts of passionate divisions, and address the unique challenges of a special education division - all in a day’s work?

The 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.

Date: March 14, 2024
Time: 8:30am - 11:30am
Location: Griffin RESA
Cost: \$0 (REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: Special Education Leaders
Registration Deadline: March 7, 2024

Resume Writing & Interview Tips for Educators (Teacher Positions)

Cover letter and resume writing support tips, plus what to expect, and how to prepare for a teacher position interview.

Date: April 17, 2024
Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Location: Virtual
Cost: \$20 (REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: K - 12th Grade Teachers

Registration Deadline: April 10, 2024

Resume Writing & Interview Tips for Educators (Leadership Positions)

Cover letter and resume writing support tips, plus what to expect, and how to prepare for a leadership position interview.

Date: April 18, 2024
Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Location: Virtual
Cost: \$20 (REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)
Target Audience: K - 12th Grade Teachers
Pursuing Leadership Positions

Registration Deadline: April 11, 2024

Register online at www.griffinresa.net



Griffin RESA Classes



April 2024

Foundational Literacy Skills: Where Theory & Practice Intersect (K-3)	4/16
Resume Writing & Interview Tips for Educators Teacher Positions - <i>Virtual</i>	4/18
Transition Consortium	4/18
Resume Writing & Interview Tips for Educators Leadership Positions - <i>Virtual</i>	4/18
Assistive Technology Consortia	4/19
“Plot Twist: Writing Can Be Engaging, Accessible, and Standards Based!”	4/25
Collaborative Community Meeting for Special Education Directors	4/26

May 2024

Formative Assessment: Establishing and Maintaining a Routine of Checking for Understanding	5/1-6/5
Leading Literacy: Collaborative Conversations (End of the Year Roundup)	5/2
Preschool Special Needs Constorium	5/2
SLP Collaborative	5/3
GA PSC Ethics for Paraprofessionals	5/7
Classroom Management for 6-12 Teachers	5/16
Job Alike for Instructional Coaches K-5	5/15
Making Student Authors with Purposefully Constructed Text	5/16
Math Coordinator and Supervisor Consortium	5/16
Collaborative Community Meeting for Special Education Directors	5/16



Regional Certified Educator Job Fair

**Saturday, April 27, 2024
10:00am - 12:00pm
Luella High School
603 Walker Dr.
Locust Grove, GA 30248**

Representatives from the Griffin RESA TAPP (Teacher Alternative Preparation Program) will also be on hand to answer questions for eligible participants. To check eligibility requirements, please visit www.griffinresa.net click on "TAPP/Teacher Recruitment" and then click on "GA TAPP Program Info".

*8 South Metro Suburban School systems
representing 125+ schools*

Pre-registration is required

REGISTER HERE





15TH ANNUAL

2024 SOUTH METRO SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

June 3 - 4, 2024



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 3rd: 9:00 AM - 5:40 PM
6:00 PM Dinner (All Meals Included)

Tuesday, June 4th: 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
(Breakfast and Lunch Included)

CONFERENCE STRANDS

- Instructional Leadership
- School Climate
- Planning & Assessment
- Organizational Management
- HR Management
- Teacher/Staff Evaluation
- Professionalism

REGISTER TODAY!

**Early Bird Registration Deadline:
March 21, 2024**

Full Registration:

Includes one night's lodging

Day Registration:

Does not include lodging

Space is limited. Register early!

LODGING

CROWNE PLAZA ATLANTA
SW - PEACHTREE CITY
HOTEL AND CONFERENCE
CENTER

- See the [2024 South Metro Summer Leadership Conference brochure](#) for more information.



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