



# The RESA Reporter

## Griffin RESA Newsletter

NOV - DEC 2022



### Note from the Executive Director

I want to take an opportunity to let you know how much we appreciate the support we have received as we have gotten off to a record-breaking start in 2022-2023 in so many areas:

- ✓ Over 200 TAPP Teacher Interns working in our regional schools
- ✓ Over 80 APEL Educational Leader Interns from across Georgia who are earning Educational Leadership Certification.
- ✓ Hundreds of endorsement scholarships have been awarded to educators via a GaDOE Grant that will provide close to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in endorsement scholarships over the next two years covering the full cost of endorsements including tuition and books. Contact [professionalllearning@griffinresa.net](mailto:professionalllearning@griffinresa.net) for more information.
- ✓ Griffin RESA's website has over 400+ professional and leadership development opportunities available for teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators in 2022-2023. Most are offered with your choice of Virtual or In-person. You can access them by going to [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net) and clicking on "Professional Learning" and then "Schedule of Classes".

As the holiday season approaches, I want to thank each of you for the work that you do. Your contributions are immeasurable and invaluable, and the people you serve are fortunate. I hope this holiday season turns out to be the best ever for you and your families, and I hope that you are blessed and enriched in every experience you have over the holidays. Above all, I'm wishing for you a holiday break that is filled with reminiscences, revelry and reflection. To connect a little more with our online Professional Learning Network of great educators, we encourage you to follow us on Twitter at: @Griffin\_RESA and @Stephanie\_Gordy.

Happy Holidays and Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve,

Dr. Stephanie Gordy  
Executive Director

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# Best Practices in Teaching Virtual Conference

At this virtual conference, educators will explore best practices in ELA/Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies/History for grades K-12. Presenters, through prerecorded breakout sessions, will share practices that result in improved outcomes for students, as teachers and leaders continue to strive to provide multi-tiered support for their diverse learners. Participants can work at their own pace over a week to access all the breakout sessions and download materials.

## Session Strands

- \* ELA/Reading Strategies for Struggling Students
- \* Math Interventions to Increase Student Success
- \* Science Instruction that Engages Learners
- \* Social Studies/History for K-12 Classrooms



\$35



Register at:  
[www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)



February. 1-9, 2023



Platform  
Opens at  
9:00 AM

[professionallearning@griffinresa.net](mailto:professionallearning@griffinresa.net)

770- 229-3247



Join us for our 6th Annual

# Paraprofessional Conference



Griffin RESA



November 2, 2022  
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM



Register Online at:  
[www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)

## For more details:



Send us an email at:  
[professionallearning@griffinresa.net](mailto:professionallearning@griffinresa.net)



Call us at  
770-229-3247

## Behind Every Great Teacher is a Great Paraprofessional

The role of the paraprofessional is vital to support the needs of struggling learners and provide a positive learning environment in the classroom and throughout the school. Registrants will return to their schools with skills and knowledge on positive behavior interventions, strategies to support exceptional learners, high-engagement lessons and activities that can be adapted to all grade levels, and effective support strategies to improve the instruction and learning environment for students at all grade levels.

### Topics include:

- Supporting Struggling Learners
- Low Profile Behavior Interventions
- Engagement Strategies
- Strategies for Supporting the Classroom Teacher

Cost: \$40



# GaPSC Ethics Training for Paraprofessionals

To ensure the paraprofessionals know, understand, and can effectively apply Georgia's Code of Ethics for Educators to their daily practice, the Paraprofessional Ethics Modules were developed by Georgia's RESAs in collaboration with the GaPSC.

The enhanced learning gained by paraprofessionals who participate in the training will help protect them, their colleagues, schools, systems, community, and most importantly their students, by increasing professional and ethical practices and school safety.

**Cost:** \$0      **Hours:** 10 (1PLU)      **Target Audience:** K-12 Paraprofessionals

*The GaPSC Ethics Training for Paraprofessionals is a self-directed online module. Participants will have two weeks to complete.*

## REGISTRATION LINKS TO TRAINING DATES

[November 8, 2022 - November 22, 2022](#)

Or

[February 7, 2023 - February 21, 2023](#)

Or

[May 9, 2023 - May 23, 2023](#)



Please register with the links above or at

[www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)

Questions to [professionallearning@griffinresa.net](mailto:professionallearning@griffinresa.net)

or call us at 770-229-3247

# **TAPP INFO SESSION**

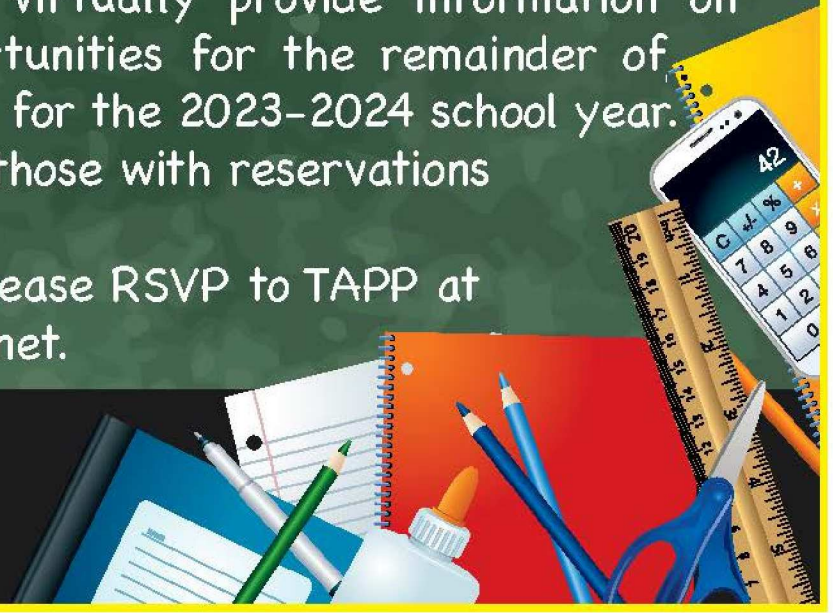
## **November 29, 2022**

### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TEACHER?**

On Tuesday, November 29th, at 6:00 p.m. the Griffin Regional Educational Service Agency will conduct the South Metro Atlanta GaTAPP (*Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy*) Information Session hosted by Griffin RESA virtually via Zoom. The GaTAPP program is designed to attract highly motivated professionals outside the teaching profession who hold a Bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college/university and are interested in pursuing a teaching career. Human Resources Directors from Butts, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Newton, Pike, Griffin-Spalding and Thomaston-Upson School Systems will be in attendance at this event to virtually provide information on prospective employment opportunities for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year and for the 2023-2024 school year. Space will be limited, and only those with reservations will be admitted.

To reserve your space, please RSVP to TAPP at [TAPP@griffinresa.net](mailto:TAPP@griffinresa.net).

*To register, please send an  
email to  
[TAPP@griffinresa.net](mailto:TAPP@griffinresa.net)*



# Model Schools

## 2023 Drive-In Conference

**March 1, 2023**

From 8:30am to 3:30pm

Cost is \$75

(includes continental breakfast & lunch)

Model Schools strive to provide a safe and trusting environment where a love for learning and community is fostered. These schools support adults and students in shifting the culture to one of high expectations for all.

At this face-to-face conference, educators will learn about the effecting positive change in their schools from presenters across our region.

### Session Strands:

- Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships
- Innovative Learning Environments to Meet the Needs of All Students
- Data Driven Decision Making
- Social and Emotional Well-Being in Schools
- Community and Connections

*Lodging information can be found on the registration page located at [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)*



## **December 2022 Class List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Classroom Management for 6-12 Teachers</b>	<b>12/1</b>
<b>Enhancing Vocabulary Using Brain-Based Instruction</b>	<b>12/1</b>
<b>Intro to SEL</b>	<b>12/1</b>
<b>Hearing &amp; Vision Screening Training</b>	<b>12/5</b>
<b>Recognizing and Managing Secondary Trauma Stress</b>	<b>12/5</b>
<b>Digital Tools for Administrators</b>	<b>12/6</b>
<b>Turning Reading Assessment Data into Targeted Instruction</b>	<b>12/6</b>
<b>Beyond Talk: Engaging SEL</b>	<b>12/6</b>
<b>Assistive Technology for the New Special Education Teacher</b>	<b>12/6 - 12/15</b>
<b>Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Training</b>	<b>12/7</b>
<b>Mental Control and Self-Regulation Executive Functions</b>	<b>12/7</b>
<b>The Georgia Mathematics Content Standards for Advanced Algebra: Concepts &amp; Connections</b>	<b>12/7</b>
<b>DIY Science, K-5</b>	<b>12/8</b>
<b>The Georgia Mathematics Content Standards for 5th Grade</b>	<b>12/8</b>
<b>Assistive Technology Consortia</b>	<b>12/8</b>
<b>Disciplinary Literacy: Reading and Writing in Social Studies</b>	<b>12/13</b>

Registration available at [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)





The Survivor's Toolkit:  
Managing and Addressing  
Behavior Challenges for  
Students with Disabilities  
January 24, 2023

Strategies for Teaching  
Low Incidence  
Disabilities  
January 26, 2023

**The Survivor's Toolkit: Managing and Addressing Behavior Challenges for Students with Disabilities**

Let's not just survive...let's flourish in a proactive design! Students with disabilities often display behaviors that act as barriers to social and academic development. This class will help you better manage the classroom by addressing Behavioral Concerns. Responsive special educators are better able to prevent and respond to challenging behaviors with strategies that are evidence-based and mindful of students' rights and behavior needs. In this class you will learn how to collect and use academic and behavioral data for individual students and learn three behavioral strategies that have shown support for promoting student engagement, increasing student compliance, and enhancing social success.

**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).**

Date:	January 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
Time:	8:30am – 3:30pm
Location:	Griffin RESA
Cost:	\$0 (Registration is required)
Target Audience:	K-12 <sup>th</sup> Special Education Teachers

Register online at [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)  
Registration Deadline: January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Strategies for Teaching Low Incidence Disabilities**

According to the definition in IDEA, a low incidence disability means a visual or hearing impairment, or simultaneous visual and hearing impairments, a significant cognitive impairment, or any impairment for which a small number of personnel with highly specialized skills and knowledge are needed in order for children with that impairment to receive early intervention services or a free appropriate public education (IDEA).

Of identified students with disabilities, low incidence comprises less than 20%, so those specialized skills are necessary to meet the unique learning needs of this population. This class will provide participants with strategies and resources to effectively serve and support students of low incidence with a focus on significant cognitive impairments.

**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).**

Date:	January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
Time:	8:30am – 3:30pm
Location:	Griffin RESA
Cost:	\$0 (Registration is required)
Target Audience:	K-12 <sup>th</sup> Special Education Teachers

Register online at [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)  
Registration Deadline: January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023





# January 2023 Class List

Title	Date
Gifted Endorsement Course 1 - Characteristics of the Gifted Student	1/9
Reading Endorsement Course 1: Reading Foundations	1/10
Preparing for the Math Milestones in Grades 3rd-9th	1/11
Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) Training for New Administrators	1/11
How to Understand a Psychoeducational Evaluation	1/12
Integrating Science in Other Content Areas (K-5th)	1/12
Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) Training for New Administrators	1/12
The F.I.P. Side of Georgia Milestones Writing Grades 3rd-5th	1/12
School Psychologists Job Alike	1/12
LKES Training	1/17
SDI Math for the New Special Education Teacher	1/17 - 2/1
Great Guided Reading: Making it Fabulous! K-2nd	1/18
LKES Training	1/18
Use Mathematical Tools Strategically in the K-5th Classroom	1/18
Counseling Job Alike	1/18
Best Practices: Standards-Based Instruction: Session 3	1/19
Classroom Management for PK-5th	1/19
MTSS 101: The Nuts & Bolts	1/19
Closing in on Close Reading K-5th	1/24
Leading by Example: What Should an Admin Observe During the SpED Walk-Through?	1/24
The Survivor's Toolkit: Managing and Addressing Behavior Challenges for Students with Disabilities	1/24
Coaching Endorsement Course 1 - Skills of Effective Coaching	1/24 - 3/21
Respecting the Diversity in Your School Community with Intent	1/25
Plot Twist: Writing Can be Engaging, Accessible, and Standards Based!	1/25
MTSS/SST Facilitator Endorsement Course 1 - A Problem Solving Framework	1/25 - 5/26
Teacher Leader Endorsement Course 1: The Why and What of Teacher Leadership	1/31 - 4/18
Strategies for Teaching Low Incidence Disabilities	1/26
The F.I.P. Side of Georgia Milestones Writing Grades 6th-8th	1/26
IEP's That Support Independence: Writing Compliant, Engaging, Meaningful IEPs that Increase Student Independence	1/31
SDI Reading Series: Strategies for Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Recognition	1/31
STEM Endorsement Course 1: Structuring Your STEM Journey	1/31 - 5/16
Teacher Leader Endorsement Course 1: The Why and What of Teacher Leadership	1/31 - 4/18

Registration available at [www.griffinresa.net](http://www.griffinresa.net)



# Exceptional Celebrations in the Month of November

## Early Childhood Mental Awareness Month

### *Children's Mental Health Matters*



**...WELCOME ALL FEELINGS  
& THOUGHTS  
WITH EQUAL REGARD**



Social and emotional development for children includes learning to express and regulate their emotions. The term "mental health" for young children can seem questionable to some, as it is associated closely to mental illness. The two are quite different from one another as mental illness refers to a problem (illness) and mental health focuses on something positive (health). When referring to early childhood mental health we are focusing our attention to the positive results of early intervention for children who are experiencing challenges socially and emotionally so that they can be successful learners in the future before problems become more serious. Healthy social emotional development for children includes learning to express and regulate their emotions, forming close and secure relationships and learning to explore their environment.

*Source... Lifespan*

**1 in 5 children suffer from a mental health or learning disorder.**

**80% of chronic mental health disorders begin in childhood.**

**Anxiety disorders can make students 2x as likely to drop out or fail a grade.**

**Mental health problems in children ages 6 to 17 continue to rise.**

*Sources...  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Children's Mental Health Network  
Mental Health America*



**Mental Health  
MATTERS**



## Exceptional Celebrations in the Month of December

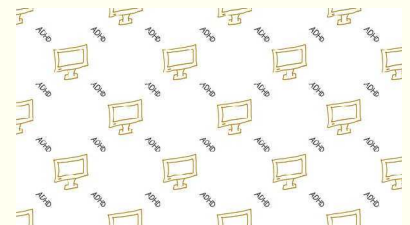
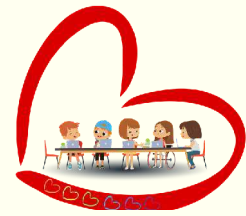
### International Day of Persons with Disabilities December 3, 2022



The annual observance of the International Day of Disabled persons was proclaimed in 1992, by the United Nations General Assembly. The day is about promoting the rights and well being of persons with disabilities at every level of society and development, and to raise awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life.

**Source... United Nations**

SIGN  
LANGUAGE



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS!**



**Thank you for allowing Griffin RESA to serve you!**