

Message from the Humanities Department: Welcome to the 2019-2020 academic year. If you have questions or concerns about any content shared in this newsletter, please contact Crystal Flowers at flowersc1@fultonschools.org.

Contents of this Newsletter:

- Middle School Contacts & High School Department Chairs Meetings for 2019-2020
- District-wide FCS Social Studies Fair 2020
- Humanities Portal via ClassLink
- Governors Honors Program
- United States Senate Youth Program
- Beyond the School / Field Trip Experiences
- New Social Studies Resources
- Junior Achievement

2019-2020 Contacts and Chairs Meetings

Middle school contacts and high school department chairs for Social Studies will have four face-to-face meetings during the instructional day. Meetings will be held from 9am-3pm and will highlight key district information, events, and upcoming professional opportunities. A comprehensive list of all dates and meetings from 2019-2020 was shared with principals (<http://bit.ly/AllChairsMtgs2019>).

Dates and locations are as follows:

Wednesday, September 18	Banneker High (SLC/AZ)
Wednesday, November 20	Independence High (NWLC)
Wednesday, January 15	Riverwood High (CLC)
Wednesday, March 25	Holcomb Bridge Middle (NELC)

FCS Social Studies Fair 2020

The district-wide FCS Social Studies Fair will be held on **Wednesday, February 5** at Teaching Museum South (located at 659 North Avenue, Hapeville, GA 30354). Students in grades 5-12 are eligible to participate. On the day of the fair, students are asked to:

- arrive between 8:00-8:30am to check-in and set-up projects,
- be prepared to remain at Teaching Museum South until 2pm to participate in the presentation of awards,
- bring lunch/snacks since food is not provided, and
- bring all parts of their Social Studies project, including the abstract note card and research paper.

The Humanities Department does not provide transportation to the fair; a parent/guardian or school staff is encouraged to bring student(s) to the event. The district invites all interested teachers to serve as judges for the Social Studies Fair. Please sign-up using the FCS [SS Fair Judges](#) link. For additional information, please visit the Humanities Portal of the district website.

Quick Links: [Social Studies Entry Form](#)

[Sample Social Studies Fair letter for parents](#)

Humanities Portal on ClassLink

All teachers and students in Fulton County Schools have access to ClassLink (formerly known as Launchpad), which is accessible from the Fulton County Schools website or directly from the link: <https://launchpad.classlink.com/fcs>. ClassLink provides single sign-on for programs, apps, and district web pages. Please add the grade-band specific Social Studies app to your ClassLink desktop. From this app, teachers will have access to prioritized standards, learning maps, curriculum maps, Teacher Notes, and Focus Lessons.



ES Social Studies_



MS Social Studies_



HS Social Studies_

Governor's Honors Program Details

Sophomores and juniors in Fulton County Schools consistently participate in the Governor's Honors Program (GHP), a residential summer program for gifted and talented high school students. To participate, students must be rising juniors (current 10th graders) and rising seniors (current juniors).

The 2020 Coordinator Handbook, timeline, and quota will be released by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) in early September. Once information is released, department chairs will be notified about nomination guidelines and quotas. Below is information that schools should know prior to receiving information from GOSA.



Important Information to know:

Applications due to Advanced Studies: Wednesday, October 9

System-level Interviews: Centennial High on Monday, November 4

Volunteers: The Humanities Department asks that teachers sign-up to serve as GHP volunteers who will assist with interviews and simulations. Please encourage your school team to sign-up by completing the [GHP Volunteer Form](#) available on the Humanities Portal (FCS credentials required). Teachers are paid \$28/hour.

Teacher/Student Ratio: Our expectation is that one teacher volunteers for every five students nominated by their school in the area of Social Studies.

Content-specific Interview: The Social Studies content area interview replicates the state's interview process.

United States Senate Youth Program

The **United States Senate Youth Program** (USSYP), a national nonpartisan initiative for high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service, will be held in Washington, D.C. on March 7-14, 2020. Students selected for the week-long education program will receive a \$10,000 scholarship and participate in meetings with a U.S. Supreme Court justice and leaders of federal agencies.

The Humanities Department invites each high school to **nominate one student to interview** for the distinction of the 2019-2020 FCS District Senate Youth Program nominee by sending the [completed USSYP Student Nomination Form](#) to the Humanities Department via interoffice mail (attention Crystal Flowers) by Thursday, September 19. Interviews will occur on Wednesday, September 25 between 9am and 12:30pm. Specific times for each school will be provided after we receive each school's application.

The 2020 official brochure can be found [here](#). Please adhere to the following guidelines when selecting the nominee from your school because the student must:

- have a serious desire to pursue a career in public service (includes government, politics, and military),
- hold an ongoing year-round leadership position (see brochure),
- agree to arrive in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, March 7 and stay until Saturday, March 14, and
- be able to confirm their proof of citizenship or legal permanent resident status.

Nominees from each FCS high school will be required to:

- complete the 2019-2020 USSYP GaDOE application,
- take the Hearst Foundations assessment,
- have completed applications and scored exams sent to the Humanities Department by Thursday, September 19, and
- interview at the FCS Administrative Center on Wednesday, September 25.

After the interview, nominees will be given three (3) essay questions and asked to respond to one of them. The student selected to represent Fulton County Schools will be judged based on their test score, interview, and essay response.

Teachers may access the 2020 exam on the Humanities Portal (FCS log-in credentials are required) under [Special Events & Highlights](#).

Important Details:

After students complete the application on a computer, print the application and secure handwritten signatures.

Send the completed application and scored exam to the Humanities office by Thursday, September 19.

Interviews will be held at the Fulton County Schools Administration Center in Room 145, located at 6201 Powers Ferry Road NW Atlanta, Georgia 30339 on Wednesday, September 25.

Please review your student's application to make sure it is complete along with signatures of the principal and counselor before you return it to the Humanities Office.

Beyond the School / Field Trip Experiences



The popular musical about the life of American Founding father Alexander Hamilton is returning to the Fabulous Fox Theatre in spring 2020, and our students have a unique opportunity to attend.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History has partnered with the producers of *Hamilton* to offer the Hamilton Education Program to Title I Eligible High Schools. The program is available to students in grades 6-12 who complete a performance project based on an aspect of The Founding Era. Upon completion of the project and a signed consent form, students will be offered a \$10 ticket to see the play. If your school is interested, please visit the [Gilder Lehrman website](#) for additional information.



The Atlanta History Center invites educators to an Open House on Saturday, September 14 from 9am – Noon.

Educators can explore all nine of the history travel trunks; preview a new Characters in the Classroom presentation; get a sneak peek at the new Battle of Atlanta Cyclorama school tour; plus much more. Receive a 20% discount in the Museum Shop. Free admission for each educator and one guest. Pre-registration is required and be sure to bring your current school identification. For more information contact Emily Cobb at ecobb@atlantahistorycenter.com.



The Teaching Museum provides *authentic experiences* that support student critical thinking and learning. Some of these experiences include

theatrical performances, historical walking tours, encounters with primary sources, hands-on experiments, and traveling trunks. All of aforementioned curriculum-based, multidisciplinary programs and activities are designed to enhance student learning and offered during regular school hours and are *free* to students.

Since funds and program availability are limited, we process requests on a first-come, first-served basis. Each school is allowed one program per grade level during the open booking period which ends on Friday, Sept. 20. Once this period ends, multiple programs can be requested and confirmed based on available funds and programming dates.

To see which programs and activities are available to specific grade levels, please click on the hyperlinks available in this newsletter or visit the Teaching Museum page on the Employee Portal.

Teaching Museum Programs available by grade level:		
Pre-K	Kindergarten	1st Grade
2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade
5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade
8th Grade	Seasonal and Special Themed Programs	



The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site offers two opportunities for students to discuss the global work and philanthropy of the nation's 39th president. If you're interested in a distance learning or in-classroom experience, please contact Marle Usry at marle.usry@doe.k12.ga.us.

Social Studies Adopted Resources

The Humanities Department is delighted to provide newly adopted Social Studies resources to teachers for grades K-8 and the following high school courses: American Government/Civics, Economics, United States History, World History, and Sociology.

Two vendors --**Gallopade International** (providing resources for grades K-8) and **Houghton Mifflin Harcourt** (providing resources for American Government/Civics, Economics, United States History, World History, and Sociology) were selected.

More about Gallopade International Training opportunities were extended to teachers throughout the summer and during Pre-Planning for Gallopade resources. Live webinars were offered during the week of August 26-30 for grades K-8.

In case teachers were unable to attend a face-to-face training or need a refresher on navigating the Gallopade resources, recorded webinars are available on the Humanities Portal or by accessing either the QR codes or bitl.ly links below.

Grades K-2 Webinar

<http://bit.ly/K2Gallop>



Grades 3-8 Webinar

<http://bit.ly/Gallop3-8>



The Instructional Technology Department has compiled a Social Studies Training Resources webpage that is available on the Instructional Resources page of the Employee Portal. Teachers can access the training resources at <http://bit.ly/trainingSSmaterials>.

More about Houghton Mifflin Harcourt HMH offers technical support and easy-to-follow video tutorials on their website <https://backtoschool.hmhco.com/>. Teachers and parents also have access to an educational padlet that provides an array of supports, samplers, standards alignment documents, and product overview. The padlet is accessible at <https://padlet.com/hmhco/ss612>

HMH Padlet



If you have any questions about the newly adopted resources for Social Studies, please contact the Humanities Department.

Junior Achievement



Fulton County Schools is proud to partner with Junior Achievement of Georgia (JA), an organization committed to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. Through this partnership, both FCS and JA strive to provide unmatched experiences for middle grades students by providing curriculum that supports the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE).

Junior Achievement provides financial literacy curriculum with interactive lessons that teachers can embed in daily instruction. These lessons culminate with a unique simulation of today's society where students make real-life financial decisions in real-time. The experience at JA Chick-fil-A Discovery Center – whether JA Biztown (for 6th graders) or JA Finance Park (for 7th graders) - includes a multitude of personal finance decisions including housing, banking, insurance, childcare, and education.



JA Lead Teacher

Each FCS middle school has a designee(s) who serves as the JA Lead Teacher. Although the title, JA Lead Teacher, connotes the designee is a 6th or 7th grade teacher, any staff member at the school (including the department chair, administrative assistant, or counselor) can be the JA Lead Teacher. This person is responsible for:

- ensuring all students have returned parent consent forms for the JA Biztown or JA Finance Park experience,
- securing buses through the Humanities portal, and
- completing the [JA Lead Teacher Information Sheet](#).

The JA Lead Teacher Information Sheet is due to Nicole Plummer, Senior Program Associate with the JA Discovery Center, 10 days before the visit date.

Transportation

The Humanities Department expenses bus transportation for each middle school's JA experience; however, JA Lead Teacher(s) must request buses using the [Request a Bus Form](#) located on the Humanities portal.

The 2019-2020 schedule for Junior Achievement is posted on the Humanities Portal and can also be accessed [here](#).