

**Message from the Humanities Department:** We strive to provide timely resources and content-specific tools to instructional leaders and teachers. The Social Studies 3D newsletter includes information on current and approaching events, initiatives, and competitions. If you have questions or concerns about any content shared in this newsletter, please contact Crystal Flowers at [flowersc1@fultonschools.org](mailto:flowersc1@fultonschools.org).

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### New Resources for Standards Mastery Framework

Standards Mastery Framework (SMF) began in 2015 when Marzano Research Laboratory and district leaders assisted learning architects in identifying prioritized standards for each core content area. Today, SMF includes learning maps with proficiency scales and evidence blueprints, focus lessons for state-tested courses, assessment items in Illuminate, and planners used to assist Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

In June 2019, each FCS school sent a team of teachers (a functioning PLC) to the *SMF Framework to Practice* three-day workshop at either Alpharetta or Westlake High. During this workshop, district leaders assisted teachers with unit planning using SMF resources. Now, each school throughout FCS has participated in *SMF Framework to Practice*, which ensures every teacher has a colleague in the building who: unpacked prioritized standards, built assessments in Illuminate, and developed a learning plan.

SMF summer workshop attendees received an SMF Planner (a spiral-bound notebook with printed curriculum and learning maps, planning pages, and post unit debrief reflection sheets). [SMF Planners](#) are downloadable and available for purchase in the Standards Mastery Framework app. If you'd like to know which PLC attended the summer workshop from your school, please email [flowersc1@fultonschools.org](mailto:flowersc1@fultonschools.org).

ClassLink offers an app for Standards Mastery Framework (pictured below) that includes all materials and resources associated with SMF including: (1) learning maps for each content area, (2) learning modules that were used to acquaint teachers to SMF during Release Days, faculty meetings, and PLCs, (3) downloadable planners for teachers to use during PLCs to record instructional decisions, and (4) communication tools like student-friendly maps that are more conducive for student use.



#### Quick Links:

- [Steps for Locating the SMF Student-friendly Learning Maps](#)
- [SMF Parent-friendly Learning Map Guide](#)

### Fulton's 2020 Social Studies Fair

The Humanities Department is pleased to host the annual district-wide Social Studies Fair, where students showcase their investigative skills. Please review the information below that may be helpful to teachers, students, and parents.

#### Q1: What are the logistics for the 2020 Social Studies Fair?

**Date:** Wednesday, February 5

**Time:** 8:30am - 2:00pm

**Location:** Teaching Museum South  
659 North Avenue, Hapeville, GA 30354

#### Q2: Who can participate?

All schools are encouraged to participate but are not required. This is an optional competition for students in grades 5-12. Parents cannot independently enter students into the fair. Students are entered into the district fair by an appointed staff member at the school who submits up to ten projects to the district office on the [GCSS Social Studies Fair Entry Form](#). The deadline to submit entries is January 17.

#### Q3: How many students can contribute to a project?

Individuals or groups of students of 2 or 3, who are in grades 5-12

#### Q4: What are the components of a project?

The Georgia Council for the Social Studies (GCSS) requires four project components: (1) [research summary paper](#) - approximately 4 double-spaced pages, (2) [visual/display](#) - traditionally a tri-fold board that meets specific size limitations, (3) [oral interview](#) - no more than five minutes, and (4) [abstract](#) - written on an index card that provides a short description of the project. GCSS offers supplemental details on the [GCSS Project Components](#) on their website.

#### Q5: What happens after the district fair?

Students advancing from the district fair participate in the West Metro Regional Fair, typically held in Clayton County on a Saturday morning in March. Following the regional fair is the state fair. The state fair is traditionally held in April and includes winners from all regional fairs. Specific dates for the regional and state fairs were not released at the time of this newsletter (updates can be found on the [GCSS website](#)).

#### Q6: How are projects judged?

At the district, regional, and state fairs, a minimum of two people evaluate each project using the [Social Studies Fair Scoring Sheet](#).

#### Q7: Are school-based Social Studies fairs required?

Local fairs (also known as school-based fairs) are not required; however, all students should be made aware that this opportunity is available. Some schools, particularly secondary schools, have clubs or classes whose students participate (i.e. Social Studies Scholars, AVID Elective, Geography Club, National Social Studies Honor Society).

For additional information, please visit the Special Events & Highlights section of the Humanities Portal.

## National Geography Bee

Approximately 12 FCS schools (both elementary and middle) annually participate in the National Geographic GeoBee, an annual competition designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world.



Like the Scripps National Spelling Bee, in which schools must register prior to receiving materials to conduct school-level bees, each school interested in participating in the GeoBee must register with National Geographic before students participate at the state level. Registration for the 2020 National Geographic GeoBee is \$120; however schools needing financial support can complete a [Registration Discount Request](#). The last day for registration is January 24. Schools new to the GeoBee can use code BEE10 for a 10% discount prior to October 31.

There is **not** a district-level GeoBee. The journey to the national championship is school, state, then nation. Students are entered in the state-level GeoBee directly from the school. Participation is limited to students in grades 4-8. For additional information, please visit [GeoBee FAQs](#) on the National Geographic website.

## Governor's Honors Program

Governor's Honors Program (GHP) is a residential summer program for students completing their sophomore and junior years. The Humanities Department works with Advanced Studies to bring this opportunity to students. Please review information below for additional details regarding the 2020 GHP state nomination process, quota, and simulation topics.



### GHP Process in Fulton County Schools

Sherry Wiedman, Coordinator of Advanced Studies for FCS, organizes GHP for the district. Information (including timeline and student nomination form) was sent to GHP school coordinators on Wednesday, September 11. Over the span of two months, students: are nominated for GHP, complete the application process, attend a local interview, and are notified if they will advance to the semi-finalist phase where they will compete at the state-level.

### Quota

Our district's quota for Social Studies is **15**. Therefore, each school can send up to 15 candidates for Social Studies. **Please note** that Fulton Virtual teachers are given the opportunity to nominate a student for GHP 2020, which may impact nominations because the nomination is attached to the high school which the nominated student is registered.

**Deadline:** The deadline to submit all applications and the master list to Advanced Studies is **Wednesday, October 9**.



## Governor's Honors Program

**New state-level selection process:** The state has changed their selection process for 2020. No longer will students have a traditional interview; instead, there will be a simulation and document-based discussion with other candidates.

**District-level selection process:** The district will not replicate the state's new selection process on November 4. Like past years, students will encounter a five-question interview and simulation.

**Simulation logistics and topics:** Two concurrent simulations will be conducted to select the district's GHP candidates. Students will encounter ONE of two topics during the selection process but are asked to prepare for both topics as students will not know which topic they will receive before arriving in the simulation room.

Students may conduct research on topics; however, materials will NOT be allowed during the simulation. The simulation will be set in the United Nations (UN) Security Council. At the beginning of the simulation, each student will be randomly assigned a current member of the UN Security Council and will represent the selected country during the simulation.

The current members of the Security Council are the United Kingdom, Russia, China, France, the USA, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, and South Africa. Students assigned to one of the ten rotating members should keep in mind that they represent their own countries and other countries in their region.

**Topics:** *Red Sea Security and Frictions between India and Pakistan*

### Volunteer Sign-Up

Volunteer judges are essential to the GHP Process. The Humanities Department would like as many teachers as possible to volunteer and extend the offer to all Social Studies teachers. Please sign up using the GHP Volunteer Sign-up Form on the Humanities Portal (FCS log-in credentials are required).

#### To access GHP Volunteer Sign-up Form:

- Log into CLasslink
- Click on the Social Studies app
- Click on Humanities (left side of page)
- Click on GHP Volunteer Sign-up (left side of page)

### Expectations and Compensation for Volunteers

Judges are expected to report to Centennial High by 4:00pm. Centennial is located at 9310 Scott Rd., Roswell, GA 30076. The Humanities Department will host a short informational meeting prior to beginning interviews. Volunteers will be provided a boxed dinner and paid \$28/hour for up to four hours.

**Preparing Students for GHP** Students may experience angst or anxiety when preparing for the GHP interview. The information embedded in the hyperlinks may assist students and their parents.

[GOSA's GHP General Information](#)  
[GHP Frequently Asked Questions](#)

## Fulton County School's 2020 nominee for the United States Senate Youth Program

Congratulations to Alpharetta High School senior, Suchetas Bokil, for being selected as the 2020 Fulton County Schools nominee for the United States Senate Youth Program. Suchetas serves as Student Body Vice President, National Social Studies Honors Society President, and Captain of the Debate Team. As the Fulton County Schools nominee, he will compete against students from across the state to be selected as a Georgia representative for the United States Senate Youth Program.

The two students selected by the GaDOE to represent Georgia will join 102 other student delegates from across the nation to: (1) participate in Washington Week, a week-long education program where students meet with the Senate Co-Chairs, a justice of the Supreme Court, officials from the Departments of State and Defense, and other executive agencies and (2) receive a \$10,000 undergraduate scholarship.

## Professional Development Day – November 5

The district is offering two content-specific professional learning opportunities on Tuesday, November 5.

**Social Studies Resources: Middle Grades World Area Studies** is a required training for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies teachers.

**Brief description:** The Humanities Department provides two resources for the two-year World Area Studies course taught in middle schools – Gallopade, the newly adopted Social Studies resource, and Junior Achievement, a financial literacy curriculum. This four-hour session allows teachers to speak directly with a Gallopade representative and have an adults-only interaction with JA Biztown (6<sup>th</sup> grade) and JA Finance Park (7<sup>th</sup> grade). Junior Achievement will provide lunch for all teachers. This session is required; registration is available in Frontline.

**Location:** Junior Achievement Chick-fil-A Discovery Center

**Time:** 10am-2pm

For more information, contact Crystal Flowers.

**Arts-integration and Teaching with Primary Sources** is a required training for pre-selected elementary teachers.

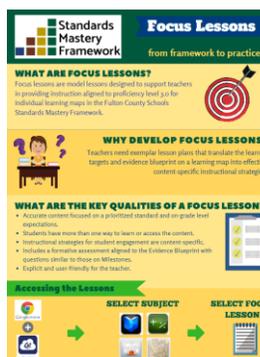
**Brief description:** The Teaching Museum is partnering with the Humanities and Fine Arts Departments to embark on an arts and primary sources initiative. The goal of this initiative is to create five arts-integrated units that incorporate teaching with primary sources. This work focuses on 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies standards and the integration of arts education strategies. This session is required for teachers who were nominated and selected for the initiative.

**Location:** Teaching Museum South

**Time:** 9am-2pm

For more information, contact Jena Sibille.

## Focus Lessons



One component of the FCS Standards Mastery Framework is focus lessons. These lessons include: a short formative assessment, multiple ways for students to access the grade-level content, and instructional strategies for student engagement. All focus lessons can be found on the grade-specific Social Studies app on Launchpad as well as the Standards Mastery Framework app.

### Q1: What are focus lessons?

Focus lessons are model lessons designed to support teachers in providing instruction aligned to proficiency level 3.0 for individual learning maps in the Fulton County Schools Standards Mastery Framework.

### Q2: Which courses and standards have focus lessons?

Focus lessons are available for courses with an end-of-year assessment (either an EOG or EOC) and are available for most of the prioritized standards. For the fall 2019 semester, focus lessons will be available for one standard taught in August, September, October, November, and December. Although grades 6 and 7 do not have an End-of-Grade (EOG), there are focus lessons available for some of the prioritized standards.

### Q3: Why develop focus lessons aligned to learning maps?

Teachers need exemplar lesson plans that translate the learning targets and evidence blueprint on a learning map into effective, content-specific instructional strategies.

## Georgia Council on Economic Education (GCEE) Offerings in Fulton County

GCEE offers workshops that provide teachers economics and personal finance content and creative ways to teach it. There are no registration fees for the following workshops. Lesson materials and lunch are included, and substitute reimbursement is covered!

Date: Monday, **January 13**  
Location: South Learning Center  
Topic: High School Economics  
Facilitator: Chris Cannon

Date: Friday, **January 17**  
Location: North Learning Center  
Topic: Civil Rights & Economics  
Facilitator: Angie Battle

Date: Monday, **February 3**  
Location: North Learning Center  
Topic: Economics in Children's Literature (grades 4 and 5)  
Facilitator: Angie Battle

Date: Wednesday, **March 11**  
Location: South Learning Center  
Topic: Assessing Economics  
Facilitator: Chris Cannon

If you're interested in attending any of the sessions listed above, please get administrative approval and request a substitute. To attend any of the workshops, teachers must register on the GCEE website, [www.gcee.org](http://www.gcee.org).