THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS AND INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

The Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support
exists to maximize student achievement by enhancing student
capacity to learn and teacher capacity to individualize learning.

Social Studies

The Gilder Lehrman National History Teacher of the Year Award

The National History Teacher of the Year Award recognizes outstanding K–12 American history teachers across the country. The National History Teacher of the Year is chosen from finalists in each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense School and U.S. Territories. Each state winner receives a $1,000 prize, and the National History Teacher of the Year will receive a $10,000 prize and a trip to the awards ceremony in New York City. Middle and high school teachers will be considered for the 2016 award. For eligibility information and to nominate a teacher, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/nhtoy. The deadline to nominate a teacher is February 15, 2016.

James Madison Graduate Fellowship

The James Madison Fellowship is a federal program that offers government and history teachers at the secondary level up to $24,000 to complete a master's degree in fields related to the U.S. Constitution. Details about the fellowship and the application can be found at the foundation's website at www.jamesmadison.gov. Applications are due March 1, 2016.

CPALMS

Professional Development Self-Paced Training Courses

CPALMS offers self-paced professional development modules on a variety of topics. Self-paced instruction provides a way for learners to interact with the content at their own pace—very beneficial, especially for those of us with busy schedules! The self-paced training modules have many advantages, including the ability to review content multiple times, and may be accessed from any computer at any time. Teachers, administrators and district personnel can participate in modules to learn more about access points, content complexity, the Florida Standards, instructional strategies, specific courses and benchmarks and much more. Many of the modules contain multiple lessons which provide thorough information on the chosen topic. Please visit http://www.cpalms.org/Public/search/ProfessionalDevelopment for more information.

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
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Health

Child Human Trafficking

Florida has been identified as the third largest hub for human trafficking in the United States.

What is Human Trafficking?

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of <u>force</u>, <u>fraud</u> or <u>coercion</u> for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, slavery or a commercial sex act.

The [FDOE human trafficking webpage](#) was unveiled on November 6, 2015. Please visit regularly for current statistics, information and future training opportunities. The Healthy Schools [Child Human Trafficking document](#) is another free resource for schools, parents and communities for anti-trafficking awareness efforts.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Start planning activities now.

"I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves." - Harriet Tubman

Library Media

Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA)

The Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA) is a reading program for students in grades 3-8 that promotes reading for pleasure. It is co-sponsored by Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and the Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME). SSYRA voting is open to ALL Florida schools. School librarians are encouraged to take part in the program and submit their students' votes. SSYRA resources will also be available to anyone who wants them. These resources include annotated lists of the SSYRA books, book club discussion topics, companion titles, additional resources, charm suggestions, voting cards and bookmarks and other promotional materials. More information on SSYRA and SSYRA voting is posted on the FAME website, http://www.floridamedia.org/.

Instructional Materials

Reviews are currently under way for the 2015-16 Instructional Materials Adoption, which includes course bids in Health, World Languages, Visual and Performing Arts and Career and Technical Education.

The adoption for 2016-17 will be in Social Studies, and the announcement for interested publishers is posted on the FDOE website at http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials, along with the courses called for. Updated course descriptions may be found online at www.cpalms.org. The course categories included in the adoption are Social Studies K-5, M/J U.S. History, M/J Civics, M/J World History, U.S. History, Economics with Financial Literacy, U.S. Government, Psychology, Sociology and World History.

Literacy

What is "Authentic Text"?

(–and why should I use it in my classroom?)

Many terms swirl around the efforts to improve student performance and prepare them for college and career. One such term is "authentic text."

Authentic text may be thought of as any text that was written and published for the public. Journal articles, blog posts and novels are just a few examples.

Authentic texts are written for "real world" purposes and audiences: to entertain, inform, explain, guide, document or convince. In fact, authentic texts need not even be written words. Audio files, virtual tours, speeches, blueprints, photos, video clips and other non-written items that can be read or interpreted are also considered to be text.

In contrast, most of what students read in school is written for the purpose of student instruction at the student's grade level, and is intended to provide content in a clear and accessible manner. Thus, most are heavily structured through headings, subheadings and bullets, often starting with an overview and ending with review questions. Use of graphic devices such as photos, diagrams, white space and bold or italic font help to draw the student's attention to important points. Vocabulary and sentence structure are controlled to support comprehension.

The problem is that students who have been exposed only to instructional text are unprepared for the kinds of materials they must confront beyond school, such as academic journals, contracts, tax forms and instructions, technical manuals, student loan applications, consumer reviews or news reporting and analysis. In order to ensure our students are prepared to graduate ready to face the challenges before them, they must have the skills and strategies to independently grapple with a variety of formats and purposes as well as a range of kinds of prose structure and vocabulary.

For more information, please contact Julia Somers-Arthur at julia.somers-arthur@fldoe.org.

Next Month: How to Select and Use Authentic Text to Deepen Student Engagement and Learning

Gifted

Procedures for K-12 Gifted Education Referral, Evaluation and Services

In Florida, school districts evaluate students for gifted services and provide gifted support services from kindergarten through grade 12. Students may be referred for testing starting in kindergarten. Anyone may refer a student including parents, guardians, educators or other community members. Referrals are submitted to the school district, and the district will share the procedural safeguards and district procedures to ensure parent or guardian participation in the process.

A student is eligible for gifted services if he or she meets the state eligibility requirements including exhibiting an I.Q. score of 130 or higher, a need for gifted services and gifted characteristics. Some districts have alternate plans for determining eligibility for students.

Districts determine the format for serving gifted students starting in kindergarten based on the district's program policies and procedures and the student's individual needs. The student's plan for gifted services is documented in the student's education plan (EP). Education plans are created to highlight the gifted student's strengths and set goals for continued support. EPs are renewed at least every three years and during transitions to new school sites (beginning middle school and high school or moving from one school to another). If a student is gifted and has a disability, the student is considered twice exceptional (2e) and the gifted plans will be a part of the individual education plan (IEP); the IEP procedural safeguards apply.

The FDOE provides a Florida K-12 Gifted Education Plan and Resource Guide regarding requirements and resources for implementing gifted programs in Florida. It can be found on the FDOE website on the gifted education page at http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/gifted-edu.stml.

If parents or teachers have questions about the referral or eligibility process in their district, or questions about program formats and service models, they may contact their gifted education coordinator for their county's school district. For general gifted education information, contact Kathleen Casper in the Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support at Kathleen.Casper@fldoe.org
For information on compliance, please contact Patricia Howell in the Bureau of Exceptional Education Student Services at Patricia.Howell@fldoe.org.

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1. Rule 6A-6.0331, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), establishes requirements with regard to the identification, location, evaluation and provision of a free appropriate public education for students both with disabilities and who are gifted. The requirements apply K-12 with regard to the gifted population.
2. Rule 6A-6.03313, F.A.C., sets forth procedural safeguards for students who are gifted.
3. Rule 6A-6.03019, F.A.C., establishes minimum eligibility requirements for gifted support services in Florida.
4. Rule 6A-6.030191, F.A.C., describes the development of educational plans for exceptional students who are gifted.
5. Rule 6A-6.03311, F.A.C., Procedural Safeguards and Due Process Procedures for Parents and Students with Disabilities.

Technology

Mind Mapping Tools

Teachers have been using graphic organizers in the classroom to engage students in deeper levels of thinking for years/decades. The benefits of using them are well documented. Now these tools are available for use by teachers and students in an interactive format to increase student engagement and knowledge retention.

There are many excellent, interactive mind mapping tools available such as Webspiration Classroom, Popplet and Bubbl.us. Some tools such as Popplet provide limited free access with the option to subscribe to get more advanced features. Other more sophisticated tools such as Webspiration Classroom are designed to be used as a platform for collaboration and assessment of critical thinking. Teachers and administrators should investigate these tools to determine appropriate uses in the classroom. Some considerations to be made include the age of the students, the cost of the product and interoperability across various platforms.

Below are some suggestions for using interactive mind mapping tools across content areas.

ELA Students can create an interactive Venn diagram to compare and contrast two characters from a specific novel or genre.

Mathematics Teachers can have students create flowcharts detailing the steps of solving a math problem. Students can present their final products to the class.

Science Students can get into groups and develop cause-effect diagrams to demonstrate the final outcome of classroom science experiments.

Social Studies Teachers can allow students to create timelines or flowcharts explaining the events leading up to key historical events.

Tools to Check Out:

- Webspiration Classroom www.webspirationclassroom.com

- Popplet www.popplet.com

- Bubbl.us http://bubbl.us

STEM

The Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida Mathematics E-library is an excellent resource for students to gain a stronger understanding of foundational mathematics concepts. This resource allows students to explore concepts from whole numbers to advanced algebra and can be found at the following link: http://www.jht.com/icuf/math.html. In addition, the link provides resources to other content areas.

The Advanced Learning Environment: Project Improve Algebra course is another great resource that can be used in and out of the classroom. This resource addresses concepts covered in Algebra I and Algebra II, and can be found at http://www.jht.com/icuf/Algebra/index.htm.

Viewing complicated biological structures and concepts is made easier when using quality animations. A collection of biology animations may be found at Biology Animations: http://biology animations.blogspot.com/. This site presents a list of over 300 animations from acid reflux to wound healing. Many of the animations are narrated and could be used for learning enhancement opportunities.

Florida College and Career Ready Standards APP

By MasteryConnect

Open iTunes to buy and download apps. For android users go to google play store to buy and download.
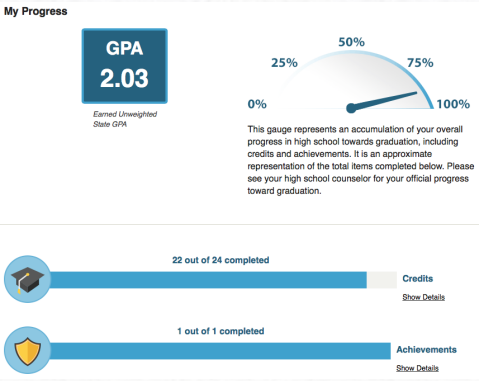
The APP every Florida educator must have. If you have not done so already, search *Florida Standards* in your favorite app store and down load this free app. It is extremely user friendly and convenient when accessing standards quickly.

FloridaShines

The Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) recently rebranded its student-facing online services to better serve K-20 students. The new brand is FloridaShines, which stands for the Florida Student Hub of Innovative Educational Services.

This new brand name more clearly reflects FLVC's role in providing the information and tools to help students achieve their dreams for a brighter future. Visit FloridaShines at FloridaShines.org.

FEATURED SERVICES

High School Academic Progress Evaluation	MyCareerShines A service of FloridaShines
FloridaShines (FloridaShines.org) offers a variety of student tools for academic preparation and success, including the recently-redesigned High School Academic Progress Evaluation. This popular tool, formerly referred to as the "College and Career Readiness Evaluation," measures a high school student's progress toward obtaining credits and achievements in high school. High school counselors and teachers can work with students who are using this tool to help prepare them for college, industry certificates and specific careers. 	Florida now has a new education and career planning system, MyCareerShines, funded by the Florida Legislature and available free to all students and adults statewide. This new tool is a service of FloridaShines. MyCareerShines is powered by Kuder®, a nationally recognized company providing research-based assessments and planning tools for individuals at various stages of their lives. MyCareerShines is being implemented in three phases. Two of those phases have been activated: **Kuder® Navigator™** for middle and high school students (launched in September 2015) **Kuder® Journey™** for postsecondary students and adults (launched in November 2015) **Kuder® Galaxy™** for elementary school students (planned in Fall 2016) MyCareerShines is also accessible to students with disabilities and will be available in Spanish in 2016. Using MyCareerShines, your students will be able to explore careers, identify personal preferences for future employment and learn about the educational requirements for specific professions. To learn more about this exciting new career planning tool, visit *MyCareerShines.org*. For questions, email *mycareer-shinesinfo@uwf.edu*.