

Abstract

The Georgia Department of Education will ReStart schools in the fall of 2020 with a promise to refresh our commitment to equity, service, and support. This initiative will improve student learning and well-being across all subgroups through the promotion of personalized learning. Georgia will meet this promise by improving human, organizational, and technical infrastructures supporting student learning across the state. This three-year initiative will invite participation from all of 216 Georgia's local education agencies based on need and readiness. The state education agency will (a) improve leadership and educator professional learning to support engagement and personalized learning; and (b) improve the infrastructure of Georgia Virtual School to ensure statewide access and improve interoperability so students can earn Comprehensive Learner Records. Georgia's teachers will be equipped with the skills needed to create vibrant personalized learning experiences, while school leaders make the organizational and cultural shifts needed so that students are not merely accessing school digitally, but are engaged in cultures of thinking and learning that can be sustained well beyond the grant period. Additionally, Georgia will improve student connectivity across the state and improve the technical infrastructure of Georgia's Virtual School, which currently serves over 30,000 of the 1.8 million Georgia students, with interoperable learning technologies. Ultimately, Georgia will improve educational equity during a time in which the state has significant burden due to the COVID-19 crisis. After this crisis, Georgia will emerge stronger as educators throughout the state have access to an interoperable course delivery system and systems have the human and organizational capacity for personalized learning. Outcomes of the GRE4T Initiative will demonstrate improvement student attendance rates in face-to-face and online learning opportunities, student and parent satisfaction with personalized learning approaches, and student learning across racial and ethnic subgroups as well as in economically disadvantaged communities.