



NEW TEACHER CELEBRATION

**TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026 &
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026**



DAY 1

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

Agenda

8:00–8:30	Registration, Breakfast, Vendor Visits
8:30–8:40	Welcome from Dr. Looney
8:40–9:40	Keynote
9:40–9:55	Welcome from Dr. La Cava
10:05–10:20	Break
10:20–11:20	Code of Ethics
11:20–11:30	Greetings from Academics
11:30–11:45	Transition
11:45–12:45	Lunch A (Green) or Academics Session #1
12:45–1:00	Transition
1:00–2:00	Lunch B (Gold) or Academics Session #2
2:00–2:15	Transition
2:12–3:15	Academics Session #3

If you teach CTAE, ESOL, PE, or Pre-K, please be sure to attend your required session listed on page 7.

All other teachers, please select the session you would like to attend during each scheduled time.

Sessions and descriptions for Day 1 are on pages 3–4.

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

Agenda

8:00–8:30	Registration, Breakfast, Vendor Visits
8:30–9:00	Information Technology
9:00–9:30	Instructional Technology
9:30–9:45	GO TIP
9:45–10:00	Break
10:00–11:00	Academics Session #4
11:00–11:15	Transition
11:15–12:15	Lunch A (Green) or Academics Session #5
12:15–12:30	Transition
12:30–1:30	Lunch B (Gold) or Academics Session #6
1:30–1:45	Transition
1:45–2:45	Academics Session #7

If you teach Art, Music, Pre-K, or Preschool and Kindergarten Special Education, please be sure to attend your required session listed on page 7.

All other teachers, please select the session you would like to attend during each scheduled time.

Sessions and descriptions for Day 2 are on pages 5–6.

DAY 1

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

Select the session that you would like to attend during each scheduled time.

Lunch: Your lanyard designates your lunch time. Lunch A (Green) is 11:45–12:45. Lunch B (Gold) is 1:00–2:00.

Time	Salon I/II	Salon III	Salon IV	Salon V/VI	Conference B
Session #1 11:45–12:45 Lunch A (Green)		The Ball Pit Experience: Supporting Students with Disabilities, Emotional Needs, and Behavioral Challenges	Teaching Smarter with AI in FCS	Secondary Math: Engage, Explore, Apply, Reflect	
Session #2 1:00–2:00 Lunch B (Gold)	K:12 Science: Connecting Our District's Resources Across Grades	THRIVE: The Engine Behind Student Wellbeing	Getting Started with FCS Instructional Technology		
Session #3 2:15–3:15	K:12 Science: Connecting Our District's Resources Across Grades	THRIVE: The Engine Behind Student Wellbeing	Teaching Smarter with AI in FCS	Secondary Math: Engage, Explore, Apply, Reflect	The Ball Pit Experience: Supporting Students with Disabilities, Emotional Needs, and Behavioral Challenges

DAY 1

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

Session Descriptions

Getting Started with FCS Instructional Technology

Discover more about available FCS resources for using technology to engage all students in innovative, joyful, and rigorous learning experiences. (Session repeats on Day 2.)

K:12 Science: Connecting Our District's Resources Across Grades

Join us for an engaging introduction to science instruction throughout our district. In this session, you'll explore how science learning develops from elementary to high school, focusing on vertical alignment and creating coherent, student-centered learning experiences. You'll be introduced to key district resources, such as textbooks, unit plans, and instructional supports, to help you confidently plan and teach from day one. Whether you're new to teaching or new to our district, this session will give you a broad overview and help you understand your role in fostering meaningful, student-centered science learning. (Session is only offered on Day 1.)

Secondary Math: Engage, Explore, Apply, Reflect

This session will introduce teachers to the GADOE Mathematics Instructional Framework that is implemented here in Fulton. We will facilitate a lesson using the framework so participants can understand the power, importance, and expectations of a student-centered classroom. (Session is only offered on Day 1.)

Teaching Smarter with AI in FCS

Explore Fulton County Schools' approach to AI in education, including our guiding beliefs, required learning, and the AI syllabus statement. Discover the approved AI tools available to you. Whether you're AI-curious or ready to dive in, this session will equip you to teach smarter with safe, supported AI practices from day one. (Session is only offered on Day 1.)

The Ball Pit Experience: Supporting Students with Disabilities, Emotional Needs, and Behavioral Challenges

This session is designed to help both general education and special education teachers better understand the experiences of students who may struggle academically, socially, emotionally, behaviorally, or sensory-wise. Using the analogy of a ball pit, participants will explore how environments that appear fun, simple, or manageable to some students can feel overwhelming, unpredictable, and emotionally exhausting to others. The session will focus on understanding behavior as communication, recognizing signs of emotional overload, and developing practical strategies that create safety, connection, regulation, and success for all students.

Participants will leave with tools they can immediately use in classrooms and school settings to support students with identified and unidentified disabilities, strengthen relationships, reduce escalation, and build more inclusive learning environments where every student feels seen, supported, and valued. (Session is only offered on Day 1.)

THRIVE: The Engine Behind Student Wellbeing

Behind every student is a powerful support system. In this interactive session, you will meet the people, programs, and partnerships that power student wellbeing in Fulton County Schools. Through audience challenges and real-world scenarios, new teachers will learn how to identify student needs, access available supports, and confidently partner with school-based teams to foster a culture where every student can thrive. (Session is only offered on Day 1.)

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Select the session that you would like to attend during each scheduled time.
Lunch: Your lanyard designates your lunch time. Lunch A (Green) is 11:15–12:15. Lunch B (Gold) is 12:30–1:30.

Time	Salon I/II	Salon III	Salon IV	Salon V/VI	Conference B	Conference C
Session #3 10:00–11:00	Your Social Studies Toolkit: Curriculum, Resources & Support	Fair, Firm & Frequent: The Foundations of Classroom Management	Canvas Fundamentals I	What Are Students Trying to Tell Us?	Overview of Assessment - Elementary	Welcome to AVID: What Every Teacher in an AVID School Should Know
Session #4 11:15–12:15 Lunch A (Green)		Fair, Firm & Frequent: The Foundations of Classroom Management	Canvas Fundamentals I	SEC Overview	Overview of Assessment - Elementary	Welcome to AVID: What Every Teacher in an AVID School Should Know
Session #5 12:30–1:30 Lunch B (Gold)	Your Social Studies Toolkit: Curriculum, Resources & Support	From Hello to High-Five: Cultivating Strong Family Partnerships	Getting Started with FCS Instructional Technology	What Are Students Trying to Tell Us?	Overview of Assessment - Secondary	
Session #6 1:45–2:45	IB 101: What Every New IB Teacher Needs to Know	From Hello to High-Five: Cultivating Strong Family Partnerships	Getting Started with FCS Instructional Technology	SEC Overview	Overview of Assessment - Secondary	

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

Session Descriptions

Canvas Fundamentals I

Canvas Fundamentals I is the first course in a three-part series designed to support new teachers in learning how to effectively use the Canvas Learning Management System. Canvas is a required instructional tool for all middle and high school teachers.

Fair, Firm & Frequent: The Foundations of Classroom Management

Participants will learn how to create a structured, positive classroom environment by applying the principles of fairness, firmness, and frequency. This session will help educators understand how to set clear expectations, respond to behavior consistently, and use ongoing positive feedback to increase student engagement and reduce disruptions. By the end, participants will walk away with practical strategies they can immediately use to strengthen classroom management and support a more respectful, accountable learning culture.

From Hello to High-Five: Cultivating Strong Family Partnerships

Participants will learn about the value and importance of Parent and Family Engagement. The session will provide resources and tools for new teachers to develop relationships and how to work with parents as equal partners in their classrooms.

Getting Started with FCS Instructional Technology

Discover more about available FCS resources for using technology to engage all students in innovative, joyful, and rigorous learning experiences.

IB 101: What Every New IB Teacher Needs to Know

This session will provide an introduction to the IB framework for teachers new to an IB school: Heard's Ferry ES, High Point ES, Lake Forest ES, Randolph ES, Stonewall Tell ES, Ridgeview MS, Sandtown MS, Alpharetta HS, Centennial HS, Riverwood HS, or Westlake HS. Participants will gain a foundational understanding of how their role supports the IB learner experience by exploring the IB philosophy, key terminology, and instructional practices.

Overview of Assessment - Elementary

Participants will explore assessments used in Fulton County elementary schools, including their purpose as well as related board policies. The session will also highlight key platforms, review the assessment calendar, and share strategies for using data to guide instruction.

Overview of Assessment - Secondary (Middle & High)

Participants will explore assessments used in Fulton County middle and high schools, including their purpose as well as related board policies. The session will also highlight key platforms, review the assessment calendar, and share strategies for using data to guide instruction.

SEC Overview

This session provides new SEC teachers with an overview of the Services for Exceptional Children (SEC) department and the supports available to them. Participants engage in an interactive icebreaker to build connections, followed by learning about the GO TIP induction program and how it supports educators with varying levels of experience. Attendees will explore the SEC Hub through a guided overview and scavenger hunt to familiarize themselves with essential tools and materials.

Welcome to AVID: What Every Teacher in an AVID School Should Know

This session offers a foundational introduction to the AVID College and Career Readiness System for teachers new to an AVID school. Participants will explore AVID's mission, instructional strategies, and how their role supports a schoolwide culture of high expectations and student success.

AVID ES: Esther Jackson, KIPP South Fulton, Liberty Point, Northwood, Renaissance

AVID MS: Bear Creek, Camp Creek, Crabapple, Elkins Pointe, Haynes Bridge, Holcomb Bridge, McNair, Paul D. West, Renaissance, Ridgeview, Sandy Springs, Woodland

AVID HS: Banneker, Centennial, Creekside, Hapeville Charter, Langston Hughes, North Springs, Riverwood, Roswell, PCI, Tri-Cities

What Are Students Trying to Tell Us?

This training supports teachers in recognizing behavior as a form of communication and provides practical strategies to respond appropriately. Learn how to identify the function behind behaviors, implement proactive supports, and foster positive, supportive learning environments for all students.

Your Social Studies Toolkit: Curriculum, Resources & Support

Get to know what's included in Fulton County's Social Studies toolkit! In this interactive session, teachers will explore curriculum resources, preview instructional materials, and participate in fun, engaging activities along the way. This session blends practical guidance with interactivity—two key elements we hope to see in your classrooms.

SPECIAL AREAS

TEACHERS WITH A SPECIAL AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Day 1 - Tuesday, June 21

New ESOL Teacher Orientation: Essentials for Success

New ESOL teachers will be introduced to the ESOL team and gain an overview of the program's structure, key curricular resources, and English Learner (EL)-specific assessments. Participants will also explore the ESOL Hub to become familiar with essential tools and materials. The session will conclude with an opportunity for questions and open discussion. Please attend Lunch A (Green) from 11:45-12:45 and then the ESOL session is from 1:00-3:15 in Conference C.

Health & Physical Education: The Daily Burn - How we "flex" in FCS

Health & Physical Education teachers will meet with the Coordinator of Health & PE. Topics include HPE specific resources, curriculum, best practices, policies and procedures. Attendees will have the opportunity to warm up, strength train, and stretch their HPE muscles while preparing for the upcoming year. Please attend Lunch A (Green) from 11:45-12:45 and then the Health & PE session is from 1:00-3:15 in the Gold Room.

Pre-K Lead and Inclusion Teachers

Pre-K Lead and Inclusion teachers will participate in training focused on the Pre-K instructional model, evidence-based practices, and provide clear guidance on key policies and procedures. Participants will gain practical classroom management strategies to foster positive learning environments, support student development, and build effective daily routines. Please attend Lunch A (Green) from 11:45-12:45 and then the Pre-K session is from 1:00-3:15 in the White Room.

CTAE New Teacher Welcome and Essentials

Join Fulton County Schools CTAE district leaders for an interactive welcome session designed specifically for new CTAE teachers. This session will provide an opportunity to connect with district staff and fellow educators while gaining an overview of key CTAE processes, expectations, resources, and support systems. Participants will learn important dates, compliance requirements, and critical information needed before the school year begins to ensure a successful start. The session will also provide time for questions, networking, and guidance on navigating your first year as a CTAE educator in Fulton County Schools. The session is from 11:45-12:45 in Conference C.

Day 2 - Wednesday, June 22

Visual Art Curriculum, Processes and Procedures

Art, dance, and theatre teachers will meet with the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts for an overview of Fine Arts in Fulton County Schools. Topics will include Standards Mastery Framework, districtwide resources & support, with opportunities for small-group conversations within the room by content and grade band. You will also meet and connect with Fine Arts Support Teachers for art, and performing arts. The sessions is from 10:00-12:15 in the Gold Room.

Instructional Building Blocks of Early Childhood Special Education

Preschool Special Education and Kindergarten Special Education teachers will be introduced to the Instructional Building Blocks of Early Childhood Instruction (Instructional Tools, Routines and Relationships, Standards Based Instruction, and Specially Designed Instruction). Teachers will leave with a high level understanding of each program and what the instructional expectations are for each. Please attend Lunch A (Green) from 11:15-12:15 and then the session is from 12:30-2:45 in Conference C.

Music Curriculum, Processes, and Procedures

Music, Band, Chorus, and Orchestra teachers will meet with the Coordinator of Performing Arts. Topics will include Standards Mastery Framework, Instructional Technology, and districtwide resources & support. You will also meet and connect with Fine Arts Support Teachers for music. Please attend Lunch A (Green) from 11:15-12:15 and then the session is from 12:30-2:45 in the Gold Room.

Pre-K Lead and Inclusion Teachers

Pre-K Lead and Inclusion teachers will participate in training focused on the Pre-K instructional model, evidence-based practices, and provide clear guidance on key policies and procedures. Participants will gain practical classroom management strategies to foster positive learning environments, support student development, and build effective daily routines. The session is from 10:00-2:45 in the White Room. Lunch will be from 11:15-12:15.