

FISCAL YEAR 2018

INNOVATION IN TEACHING COMPETITION WINNERS

<i>Teacher Name</i>	Chandra Brandel
<i>School District</i>	Gwinnett County Public Schools
<i>School</i>	Coleman Middle School
<i>Priority Area</i>	Applied Learning with a Focus on STEAM Education
<i>Description of Unit</i>	In this hands-on, English Language Arts and STEAM unit, students apply their measurement knowledge to develop a product for a fictional client. In the first half of the unit, students learn how to determine, write, and apply ratios to convert measurements. Throughout the unit, students have multiple opportunities to apply their ratio knowledge to design and build a prototype of a tower and a hardware store end cap.

<i>Teacher Name</i>	Tara Perryman
<i>School District</i>	Henry County Schools
<i>School</i>	New Hope Elementary School
<i>Priority Area</i>	Blended and Personalized Learning
<i>Description of Unit</i>	In this integrated, blended learning unit, students navigate through English Language Arts and Social Studies standards that focus on the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution. Simultaneously, the students experience a fictional hardship analogous to the hardships experienced by the British during the Revolution. Throughout the unit, students use learning maps to determine the pace and path of their content mastery. The unit ends with students presenting essays which address the driving question, "How can we as students have more voice and power like the colonists during the American Revolution?"

<i>Teacher Name</i>	Erica Louise Richards
<i>School District</i>	Atlanta Public Schools
<i>School</i>	The Kindezi School at Old Fourth Ward
<i>Priority Area</i>	Blended and Personalized Learning
<i>Description of Project</i>	In this personalized, computer science unit, students learn to code using Python or JavaScript via the programming software, CodeCombat. Using a series of unique strategies, including music and call and response, this unit seamlessly pairs culturally-responsive pedagogy with content standards to engage all students as they learn to code. Throughout the unit, the class transforms into an internet café, where students choose the place and pace of their learning to complete coding tasks.

<i>Teacher Name</i>	Angela Sisk
<i>School District</i>	Cobb County School District
<i>School</i>	Kennesaw Elementary School
<i>Priority Area</i>	Birth through Age Eight Language and Literacy
<i>Description of Unit</i>	In this unit plan, students assume the role of fairy tale characters to master English Language Arts standards. The unit begins with students selecting a fairy tale character to analyze. After conducting an analysis, students communicate the character's unique point of view by writing an opinion essay as if they were the character. Using a variety of language and literacy techniques, like hot seat and acting, students acquire skills in character analysis, persuasive writing, and communication.

<i>Teacher Name</i>	Beth White
<i>School District</i>	Atlanta Public Schools
<i>School</i>	Charles R. Drew Charter School Senior Academy
<i>Priority Area</i>	Applied Learning with a Focus on STEAM Education
<i>Description of Project</i>	This integrated STEAM unit challenges students to apply their knowledge of kinetic energy to create wind power. Students collaborate to master art, engineering, geometry, and physics standards by designing and building wind turbines capable of lighting light-emitting diodes (LEDs). During the project, the class is divided into groups, where each is responsible for designing a specific part of a kinetic sculpture. The unit culminates with the class presenting their final design to a real-world client.