



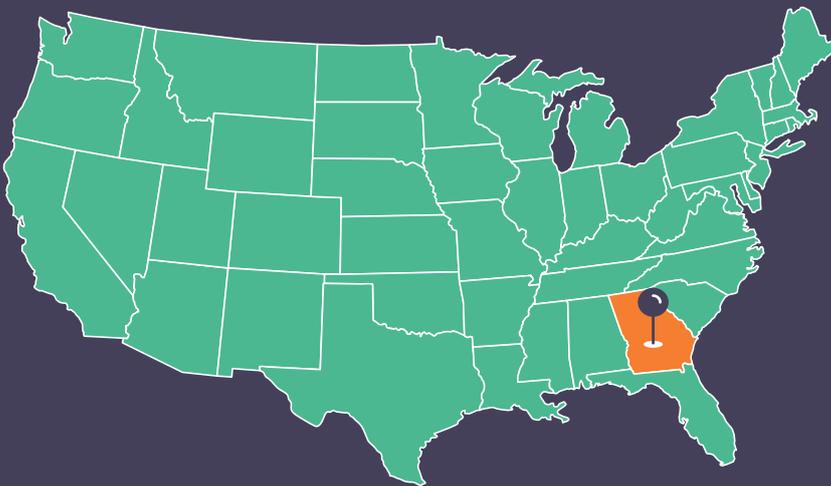
Georgia RESAs

Overview:

Three RESAs are now leveraging an industry-leading cloud-based, comprehensive LMS to help improve the work of educators and advance student achievement.

Customers:

Okefenokee RESA
Griffin RESA
West Georgia RESA



2013-16

Year Implemented itslearning

District Profile:

8 districts are served:

1. Atkinson County Schools
2. Bacon County Schools
3. Brantley County Schools
4. Charlton County Schools
5. Clinch County Schools
6. Coffee County Schools
7. Pierce County Schools
8. Ware County Schools

Note:

The GA RESA also serves the regional library and two colleges.

Georgia Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) Expand Their Use of the itslearning LMS

Focused on leveraging shared services across multiple school systems, Georgia's Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) understand the value of effectively and efficiently pooling resources, collaborating in ways that maximize the impact of statewide initiatives, and using data to improve the work of educators and, ultimately, advance student achievement.

Achieving all of those goals isn't easy, although technology has proven itself to be a capable partner for Georgia's RESAs. In need of a robust, end-to-end learning management system (LMS) that would help it administer and orchestrate its training and endorsement programs, Okefenokee RESA in Waycross, Ga., recently went looking for a solution to replace its existing, free Schoology LMS.

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“Our LMS wasn’t meeting all of our needs,” says Rhonda Robbins, Professional Learning/GaTAPP Coordinator. After meeting with other GaTAPP providers and inquiring about their LMSs, Robbins learned about itslearning from the West Georgia RESA, which was already using the platform.

A performance-based teacher preparation option for individuals who have demonstrated the content knowledge required to teach early childhood, middle-grades, secondary, or P-12 education but have not completed a teacher preparation program, GaTAPP offers an alternative for individuals who hold a bachelor’s degree or higher but who did not complete teacher education requirements as part of their degree program.

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Meeting Strict Program Requirements

As the industry’s only cloud-based, comprehensive learning platform designed by educators specifically for the way today’s students learn and interact, itslearning serves as a single, end-to-end teaching and learning platform for more than 7 million teachers, students, and parents worldwide. By consolidating siloed systems and content resources, itslearning ensures technology becomes an essential educational asset.

To meet program requirements, RESAs must have an assessment system in place that allows them to collect data from candidates. Okefenokee RESA also offers three endorsements for certified teachers looking to specialize in

a certain area (i.e., gifted) The gifted endorsement program typically includes about 25 teachers each year and runs year-round. Using the itslearning grade book function, the association collects course grades, assignments, and other information for analysis across the program, which takes approximately 12 months to complete.

Teaching the Teacher

Okefenokee RESA offers teaching candidates “basic training” on the LMS, which Robbins says is very intuitive and enables easy course navigation for teachers. “It helps teachers conceptualize learning plans that they’ll eventually use when teaching in their own classrooms,” she notes, “and provides a solid organizational structure and grade book feature.”

Michelle Pitts at Griffin RESA is also pleased with her association’s choice of the itslearning LMS. “In searching for an LMS to support the Griffin TAPP, we needed a platform that checked these specific boxes: built-in course creation/authoring tools, custom reporting, detailed tracking, and an easy training interface, to name just a few important features,” Pitts says.

“We got all of that and so much more with itslearning. We have both a solution and a partnership,” she continues, “and what’s really great is that in the not too distant future the teachers will be using it as a classroom teacher after first using itslearning as students.”

As online learning continues to proliferate, Robbins says the RESA is working to move all staff members over to the virtual learning space. “That’s new to us, and this year we’re pushing to get more of our instruction into an online, blended learning environment,” says Robbins, “while also making our online courses and endorsements more interactive.”

