Phyllis Johnson is the Program Specialist over Healthcare Science, Public Safety, and Cosmetology at the Georgia Department of Education. Phyllis is a Registered Nurse and is a National Board Certified teacher. She taught for sixteen years at Harris County High School in Hamilton, GA prior to coming to the Department of Education. Before becoming an educator, Phyllis worked as a charge nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Columbus, GA and as an industrial nurse for the Bibb Company. She also worked for the Columbus Regional Chartered Council on Child Abuse where she coordinated the First Steps Program for teen mothers and various other volunteer initiatives. Phyllis attended Columbus State University for her undergraduate degree and Troy University for her Masters in Educational Leadership.

Phyllis was named Teacher of the Year for the high school and the Harris County school system in 2003. She has also been named New Teacher and Teacher of the Year for the Healthcare Science Technology Educators Association. Phyllis is a member of Phi Lamda Theta and has been an active member of ACTE, GACTE, and HSTEA (Healthcare Science Technology Educators Association). Phyllis was named the Georgia American Red Cross Health and Safety volunteer of the year after she and her students served on the medical team for the 1996 Olympics. Phyllis is a strong proponent of volunteer service and she and her students have been recognized nationally for their work in the community.

Phyllis is married to Tommy and they have three children, Julie, Matthew and Adam. Julie is married to Danny and they live in Palo Alto, California, where she is a program coordinator for the Division of Vascular Surgery at Stanford University Medical Center. Matthew is a singer-songwriter in Atlanta, and Adam is a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at Georgia Tech, majoring in management.