Question: Why aren't there any schools listed on the eligibility list?

Answer: Eligibility rests at the LEA level; therefore, if the LEA is eligible, all schools located in that LEA are also eligible. Responsibility for submitting an application rests with the LEA, not with any individual school in the LEA.

Question: Can all eligible schools in an LEA apply for this grant?

Answer: No, a school will not individually submit an application. The LEA will submit one application for this grant, and all elementary and middle schools in the LEA (grades K – 8) will participate in the grant.

Question: What is the duration of this grant?

Answer: The grant period consists of the 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014 school years, however it is expected that the implementation of the scope and sequence for integrating the NETS-S into the K-8 curriculum will continue beyond the grant period.   During the grant implementation period, the teachers at the elementary and middle schools will collaborate with each other and the technology integration coaches to implement the K-8 scope and sequence for integrating the NETS-S into the GPS and CCGPS. They will also review and revise the existing NETS-S integrated GPS/CCGPS aligned tasks and resources, as well as create new NETS-S tasks, resources, and formative assessments that can be used by all elementary and middle schools statewide. Additionally, during the grant period, the technology integration coaches at the elementary and middle schools will redeliver technology integration training to the teachers at those schools.

Question: What role do the LEA high schools play in this grant?

Answer: One of the primary goals of the grant is to "Implement the K-8 scope and sequence for integrating the NETS-S into the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and the Common Core GPS (CCGPS). This integration should include **vertical articulation with high school teachers to prepare college and career ready students**." In order to do this, the elementary and middle schools in will need to consult with and collaborate with the high schools in the LEA.

Question: What is meant by "*vertical articulation with LEA high schools*"?

Answer: Elementary and middle schools will collaborate with high schools to determine what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level to create a logical and consistent order for teaching the content in a subject area from one grade level to the next.

Question: Are all teachers in the elementary and middle schools required to participate in the grant?

Answer: The purpose of this grant is for an elementary school and a middle school to fully embrace the NETS-S and to integrate technology into the curriculum. We would expect that at a minimum all core content and CTAE teachers in grant schools participate, with the intended outcome of implementing the NETS-S district-wide by the 2012-13 school year.

Question: Who is required to participate in the mandatory professional learning during the summers of 2011 and 2012?

Answer: The summer professional development must include the technology integration coach for each elementary and middle school, and the training must be redelivered to all other teachers

during the summer and/or during the course of the school year. The LEA/school should also send grade-level/subject-area lead teachers to the summer training if space and funding permits.

Question: Does the system administrator that implements the grant have to participate in the Professional Development? Does the IT coordinator have to participate in the professional development?

Answer: System administration personnel as well as administrators from the elementary and middle schools involved in the development phase should be involved in professional development related specifically to technology integration to ensure buy-in at the leadership level.

Question: Do all of the teachers in the schools need to receive professional development?

Answer: Yes, the summer training should be redelivered to all teachers via a combination face-to-face and online approach during the summer and/or during the school year.

Question: Can the school use an ETC/RESA or outside vendor to deliver professional development and pay him/her with the professional development funds?

Answer: The professional development budget is designed to provide teachers with the training and best practices they need to meet the goals of the grants. If the school wishes to contract with an ETC/RESA or other vendor to provide the training, that is acceptable use of the professional development funds. The schools must document that in the description of the professional development plan and in the explanation of how the funds were used. The guidance of the grants is designed to build a sustainable plan that can continue after the grant funding is gone.

Question: What is the role of the technology integration coach?

Answer: The technology integration coach will assist teachers in successfully integrating the NETS-S into the the K-8 Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) by facilitating school-based professional development as well as working with teachers (in teams or individually) to refine their knowledge and skills. This person should also advise the schools on how to best distribute and utilize the netbooks and other equipment for optimal use. Additionally, the technology integration coach will be responsible for the re-delivery of the summer professional development to all participating teachers.

Question: Who can serve as a technology integration coach?

Answer: Current literacy, math or technology coaches/leaders or other master teachers with an instructional technology background in the school may serve as technology integration coaches. The objective is to have someone who is familiar with or is open to learning how to use technology as a teaching and learning tool and who will be prepared to redeliver training to and support other teachers at the school. A strong content background is a plus. Certified personnel who has experience as an innovative classroom teacher (or special area teacher) that successfully integrated the use of instructional technology to enhance student learning would also be appropriate for this role. Ideally, this person will also have experience in adult learning theory, coaching/mentoring scenarios, or at minimum, having led school level workshops.

Question: Can ETC/RESA personnel serve as technology integration coaches?

Answer: Yes. The LEA may contract with an ETC/RESA to serve in this role. The requirement for the technology integration coach to participate in required summer PD would also apply to ETC/RESA personnel.

Question: Do we need to name a different technology integration coach for each school, or can one coach service multiple schools?

Answer: One coach may serve multiple schools, as long as that person is able to redeliver the required training and provide on-going support to the teachers in all of the schools to which they are assigned.

Question: Can grant funds be spent to pay extended day pay for teachers to collaborate with each other?

Answer: The grant money cannot be used to pay any part of a teacher's salary during contracted hours. If the teachers are involved in PD that includes collaboration and planning directly related to the grant before or after contract hours, then the PD funds may be used for stipends and/or substitutes.

Question: What equipment purchases are required by this grant?

Answer: LEAs must purchase student netbooks for use in the elementary and/or middle schools. The netbooks do not have to be distributed in a one-to-one model, although this is an acceptable model for netbook implementation if funding permits. It is recommended that a 21st century classroom contain a teacher laptop, student netbooks, LCD projector, interactive whiteboard, Student Response System, slate, and productivity and multimedia software (see Appendix A for recommended hardware/software/infrastructure). However, it is ultimately the responsibility of the LEA to determine what is needed in a school to effectively implement a NETS-S integrated curriculum. The LEA's Technology Director or Chief Technology Officer should be heavily involved in the development of the grant application to ensure that all technology purchases can be supported by the LEA's Technology Department.

Question: Who will be installing and maintaining the equipment?

Answers: Installing and maintaining equipment is the responsibility of the vendor and/or your district's technical staff.

Question: If a school has an Active Slate/Projector/Screen set up that works like the Interactive Whiteboard, do they need to purchase IWBs? Could they spend the money on additional student laptops or other equipment instead?

Answer: The guidance for the grant provides recommendations for the equipment, however equipment purchases are ultimately the responsibility of the LEA. If the LEA finds that the students can be equally interactive with the technology by using the slates/tablets as they would with an IWB, then that would be acceptable.

Question: How do we include the qualifications of all of our teachers in a 25 page narrative?

Answer: You should include a faculty list and identify how many of the teachers have Masters, Specialists, PhDs, etc. instead of a detailed description of each teacher. This can be done in table form and be placed in the application under Optional Appendices.

Question: Will school systems decide which content areas they will implement for this grant?

Answer: This grant involves all areas of the K-8 curriculum, however the schools may decide on the timeline for implementation in each subject area.

Question: Under Part G: Evaluation Plan the wording states: "*A description of the specific criteria used to measure the impact of the project on student achievement.*" What other measures can be provided besides CRCT and Technology Literacy data?

Answer: It is highly recommended that schools include multiple forms of assessing student learning e.g., performance-based projects like digital storytelling, benchmark tests, writing assessments, etc.

Question: Once the Title II-D money is gone, will the schools be able to use Title I money, or would that be considered supplanting since the program had been previously paid for with Title IID?

Answer: From the Title Program Director, *One of the questions to overcome supplanting to ask is "Did the money that was originally paying for the item go away AND would this item not be purchased because of this money going away?" If the LEA has the supporting documentation to prove this and if this is an allowable Title I cost item, then the LEA could possibly use Title I monies to pay for the item.*

Therefore, it seems that as long as it can be proved that the product being purchased by the Title IID grant cannot be purchased the following year because the Title IID funds are gone **AND** it is an allowable purchase with Title I funds, then it should be okay. The important thing to remember is that you cannot purchase the same product with both grants in the same fiscal year, nor can you change funding to Title I if you are still receiving Title IID funds.

Question: Will the ETC/RESA provide direction or guidance for the grant?

Answer: The LEA is welcome to contact and contract with ETCs/RESAs to assist in developing their application and/or with grant implementation.

Question: Is the 21st Century Skills Assessment (pre and post) for teachers the same as the assessment that will be administered to the students? I think from what I have read it is, but would like confirmation.

Answer: We are looking at a couple of different options for teachers. We have not yet finalized that piece.

Question: Will the summer 2011 and 2012 professional development be provided by DOE or RESA/ETCs? The reference to "additional professional development may be fulfilled through and ETC/RESA or other qualified provider with job-embedded professional learning and support from the grant outcomes" is what has me wondering.

Answer: We are planning for a required summer PD with an emphasis on integrating technology into the curriculum. We are also still working out the details on this PD. We hope to have more info

for you in February.   This is just a portion of the PD. Much of the PD will be driven by specific needs of the LEA.

Question: Since DOE will select and will be billed by the external evaluator does that mean DOE, as in the past, will hold the money set aside for this purpose?

Answer: The funds for the external evaluator will be subgranted to LEAs as they were for the AP HH and ARRA grants. The LEAs are invited to review proposals from external evaluators and will use a rubric to determine the common evaluator they wish to use. The GaDOE will not select the evaluator. The external evaluator will invoice the LEA directly under a zero dollar contract to the GaDOE. The evaluation funds include the 21st Century evaluations for students and teachers as well as the external evaluation.

Question: Do you have suggestions other than LoTi that LEAs can use to demonstrate "teacher technology professional development needs?" Would assessments developed and administered by the LEA be adequate?

Answer: LoTi is a great tool. LEAs may also utilize data they currently have from GAPSS, walk-throughs, etc. They may also use their own tool to determine PD needs.

Question: Where can the "K-8 scope and sequence provided by the GaDOE" be found?

Answer: This is being developed and will be ready by the time the grant awards are named.

Question: Should the budget narrative describe how at least 25% of the total budget is to be spent on professional development? If so, why since the requirements have been increased to 35% because of the nature of this grant?

Answer: The narrative should reflect 35% of the budget going to PD. The 25% reference is from a quote from Federal guidance stating the mininmum to be spent on PD. We are opting to require 35% due to the nature of this grant.

Question: Private School Consultation - If the LEA is only targeting 5th thru 8th grade students and the private school is only k and 1st, do they still have to consult with them?

Answer: Yes. The private school has to be told how much they generate in funds. They may choose to use those funds in any way they wish, within Title II D guidelines. They do not have to actually be a part of the grant itself, according to US ED.

Question: Interviews - If the system makes it as far as the interview process - Who would be involved in the interviews? All teachers or can the system pick a few that will be involved in the grant? Will Administrators be involved in the interviews? Will the interviews be conducted face-to-face, online, or by phone?

Answer: We will be asking teachers, administrators, and other personnel named in the grant application to be a part of the interview. Interviews will be conducted either online or by phone.

Question: Salaries - can any of the grant funds be used to supplement salaries for teachers and/or technology personnel?

Answer: Grant funds can be used to pay stipends outside of the regular school day for PD or for providing services as technology coaches. These services must occur outside of regular contracted

hours. If you will be using grant funds to fund a new full-time technology integration coach position, you must ensure that the position is dedicated solely to integration work relating to the FY11 Title II-D competitive grant, and not any other outside duties. Ensure that they are qualified to perform this work, and document that their time is exclusively spent on Title II-D through semi-annual certifications. If you do not have one already, create a job description for these positions, which outlines their job duties. Additionally ensure that their rate of compensation is reasonable, considering their duties. Keep in mind that these FY11 funds would need to be expended by September 30, 2012.

Question: External Evaluation - is this required? If so, can the systems use their RESA?

Answer: An external evaluation is required for all Title II D programs. The GaDOE will send out a solicitation for proposals to intergovernmental agencies. Participating LEAs will use a rubric to score proposals and select a common evaluator for all three LEAs. RESAs can be included in the invitation for proposals.

Question: Travel - this was mentioned during the Elluminate session. Who would be involved in this and how are expenses paid?

Answer: Funds are subgranted to the LEAs. Travel is budgeted and paid through the LEA's fiscal process.

Question: NETS-S information - I noticed the information on GeorgiaStandards.org - Are you planning any future information sessions on this?

Answer: Once the NETS-S are board approved, we will conduct informational sessions. We will share more information on this at a later date.

Question: Do we have to purchase "netbooks" for this grant?

Answer: You may purchase the computing devices that will best assist your district in accomplishing the goals of this grant. That may include netbooks, tablet, laptops, etc.

Question: Can we use grant funds to pay for additional tech support and infrastructure to support our new hardware purchases necessary to support the grant outcomes.

Answer: Yes, however please remember that the FY11 competitive grant funds may only be used to pay for expenses directly related to supporting the FY11 competitive grant.