State School Superintendent Cox Resigns
Georgia’s school superintendent announced that she is resigning from her post to take a job leading a national education nonprofit organization, setting the stage for an interesting election to decide who will hold the state’s top education post. Governor Perdue will appoint someone to serve as Interim Superintendent to fill the role until January.

Three Democrats two Republicans and a Libertarian are seeking election. The Republicans include education administrator John Barge from Floyd County. He is currently the Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction for the Floyd County School System. Barge is a former State Director of the CTAE (Career Technical and Agricultural Education) program for the Department of Education. The other Republican candidate is Richard Woods, an Irwin County schools administrator who resides in Tifton.

The Democrats include Joe Martin, who is the former Atlanta Board of Education president. The other Democratic candidates include former teacher and GSU College of Education administrator, Beth Farokhi of Marietta; and Brian Westlake, a Social Studies teacher from Decatur. The Libertarian candidate is Kira Willis. Willis is a teacher from Roswell.

As with any election, learn as much as you can about the candidates. Our organization and our state need a knowledgeable and well qualified individual to lead our educational system.

Past DeskTopicKs/SCHOOL MATTERS are archived on the County Operations page on our intranet at http://www.caes.uga.edu/intranet/coextopr/. Just follow the path to Strategic Initiatives.

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