

North Country Professional Development Day

Proposals to present at the October 10, 2008 conference are being accepted now. Topics and suggestions are also welcome.

Contact lori@ncedservices.org

Director's Notes

On Wednesday, March 19, the Stark Village School served as the North Country host to formally release to the public exciting information about the initiation of The Louise Tillotson Teaching Fellowship to recognize and honor outstanding teachers from grades K – 12. With a preference to those teachers employed in the public schools of Coos County, this fellowship focuses in retaining good teachers in North Country schools and in raising public awareness about the value of excellence in education. The program intends to identify and celebrate one to three teachers per year with fellowship awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000 apiece.

Applicants will be judged by the following evaluation criteria:

- Commitment to Public Education
- Breadth of Experience
- Innovation in Education
- Creativity in Solving Problems
- Communication Skills
- Inspiration

Applications to The Louise Tillotson Teaching Fellowship are currently available online at www.nhcf.org, are due by May 1 and will be reviewed by New

Hampshire Charitable Foundation Staff and a volunteer selection committee. A small, select number of finalists will be invited to participate in a personal interview with the selection committee during the month of May with final award decisions being made public in June.

The Louise Tillotson Fellowship Trust Funds for this prestigious award are supervised and administered by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation in a perpetual trust. Brochures have been sent to all Coos County Schools, and will be sent this week or next to other North Country schools in sufficient numbers for all teachers.

Planning Committee members who met several times over the year included Chairman Peter Benson (NHCF); Executive Councilor Raymond Burton; Kathleen Eneguess, President, White Mountains Community College; Gail Payne, former State Board of Education member; Robert Mills, Superintendent of Schools – SAU 7; Irene Mosedale of Plymouth State University; and North Country Education Services staffers Lori Langlois, Matthew Treamer, and yours truly.

Charles F. Thibodeau, Jr.

Executive Director

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Two New Courses

*H.O.T. Literacy
&
Teaching for Mastery
Learning*

See inside for details.

Lines from Lori

It has been a year filled with exceptional opportunities to tap the expertise of the leaders in the education field. Among those who we have had the chance to engage with over the past year were, Bruce Wellman and Laura Lipton, Judy Elliot, Louise Thompson, Bena Kallick and Alan November. The opportunities for professional development in NH with outstanding speakers continues this spring and summer. The Dufours will be in the state later this month. There are also three events that you should be aware of that are now accepting registration.

Understanding Our Schools through Collaborative Inquiry

Tools for Data Teams

with Bruce Wellman

July 29 and 30, 2008 at the Grand Summit Resort, Bartlett, NH with follow-up session on September 26, 2008. Sponsored by NH's Local Education Support Center Network. Info at www.lescn.org

Everyone Learns

NHSDC 4th Annual Conference

with featured speakers

Jay Westover, Rick Gordon and

Marianne True

May 1 & 2, 2008 in Bedford, NH. More details at www.nsdcmh.org

Data Camps I & II

with Victoria Bernhardt

Sponsored by the Lake Region School Administrators Association in August 2008 at Plymouth State University.

It is great to be in a state with so many organizations working to bring in top notch education consultants.

Lori Langlois

Associate Executive Director

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H.O.T. Literacy

Higher Order Thinking through Hands-On Teaching & Learning

H.O.T. Literacy promotes personal and independent as well as interactive learning in all subject areas. Learn how to implement student-centered teaching strategies as well as student-applied learning techniques specific to all subject areas. Help students actively learn how to learn to: read, take notes, master content, and study on their own. Focus the achievement of learning standards on the student-learner rather than the teaching-sage.

Specific T'nT strategies (a TLC* coined term for Tactile 'nteraction with Texts), shifts the burden and the responsibility for learning outcomes from teacher to student. H.O.T. Literacy not only teaches students how to learn but also how to gain a sense of personal control by using texts strategically. In the TLC literacy-based classroom, there are always three people present: the teacher, the student, and the author (of the text) who come together in an interactive dynamic. (What teacher wouldn't want the help of "another pair of hands" or better yet, "another mind"?)

In this course, everything you ever heard about brain-based learning, learning styles, higher order thinking, and standards-based education, not only makes sense, but also reaps results. If you want to dramatically reduce the numbers of students who now claim: "I read it but I don't understand it" or "I paid attention but I don't get it," go to www.TLcdifference.com. Click on "TLC in Literacy-Based Schools" and the various other presentations for a preview sampling of topics to be included in this all-inclusive course offering.

Presenter: David Yacavace

Date/Time: Sunday, April 20 through Wednesday, April 23, 2008 from 9:00 to 4:00.

Cost: Member School Staff \$100, Associate Members \$125 and Nonmembers \$150. SAU 36 Staff - no charge, but please still register with NCES.

Lunch: Refreshments and lunch provided.

Graduate Credit (optional): Three (3) Plymouth State University credits are \$125/each plus \$25 registration fee (\$400 total for in-state).

Registration: Becky Ring at 466-5437 or email becky@ncedservices.org.

Registration deadline: April 11, 2008.

Teaching for Mastery Learning

Meet the adequate yearly progress (AYP) requirements of state and federally mandated testing. Increase student active time on learning through standards-based educational practices. In addition, engage students themselves in the evaluation and monitoring of their own learning.

Satisfy the communication skills demands of the twenty-first century workplace. Help students to be competitive in a world economy by developing the thinking skills of Bloom's Taxonomy: knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Assist students in becoming proficient in both presentation and writing skills necessary for job security and promotion.

Take the challenge set by the National Commission on Writing (The CollegeBoard) to double the amount of student writing in all subject areas. Help students learn content-specific subject matter through activities that utilize writing as: 1) a teaching tool, 2) a learning strategy, and 3) an assessment measure. Learn how to increase student writing time without necessarily increasing teacher correcting time.

In this course, the theory behind standards-based education is translated into manageable, realistic and proven teaching strategies and classroom practices. If you want to reconcile the challenges of general or universal standards with the realities of individual student differences, go to www.TLcdifference.com for an overview of the practical strategies and techniques covered in this course. Click on the various presentations for a preview sampling of the topics to be included in this all-in-one course offering.

Presenter: David Yacavace

Date/Time: Thursday and Friday evenings, May 8, 9, 29 & 30 from 5:00 to 9:00 and Saturdays May 10 & 31, 2008 from 9:00 to 4:00.

Cost: Member School Staff \$100, Associate Members \$125 and Nonmembers \$150. SAU 36 Staff - no charge, but please still register with NCES.

Lunch: Refreshments and lunch provided.

Graduate Credit (optional): Three (3) Plymouth State University credits are \$125/each plus \$25 registration fee (\$400 total for in-state).

Registration: Becky Ring at 466-5437 or email becky@ncedservices.org

Registration deadline: April 25, 2008.

* TLC: TeachingLearning Connections is a professional development company that offers a new dynamic for education. The ultimate goal of TLC's active learning strategies is to enable good, even excellent teachers to become better learners so that their own students will become our nation's best workers. Visit www.TLcdifference.com for more information.

Concerns-Based Adoption Model Promoting School Improvement Initiatives

You have done the research, chosen the model that you think has the most chance for success, begun the process of gathering resources for a project that has potential for improving student outcomes. Now how do you lead your staff through implementation of the initiative? How can you measure success in launching a project that has the potential to make a difference to staff, students and parents, and understand what to do when the process is not going well?

You are invited to join us for a day of orientation, information and discussion about the CBAM model. You will leave with an understanding of people's concerns when adopting something new, and information about measuring both personal and organizational progress toward implementation of a new program or practice.

Presenter: Deborah Roody, CAGS

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 9:00 to 3:00, 8:30 registration and refreshments at NCES, Gorham, NH

Cost: \$100

Registration: Becky Ring 466-5437 or becky@ncedservices.org

Brain Research & Effective Reading Instruction: Matching Students' Neurodevelopmental Needs with Literacy Interventions That Work

This workshop explores the neuropsychological bases of decoding, fluency, and comprehension. The cerebral dysfunctions underlying dyslexia are also examined with emphasis given to research-validated remedial interventions applicable across the grade span.

Presenter: Christopher Kaufman, PHD

Date/Time: Thursday May 1, 2008 from 4:00 to 7:00

Location: Littleton High School Cafeteria

Sponsored by: North Country Reading Council

For more information and to register: Contact Heather Stocks at hstocks@littletonschools.org.

Title I Conference: Strategies that Make a Difference

Rebecca Rule is the keynote speaker for the 8th Annual Title I conference. The conference will take place on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at the White Mountains Regional High School. Contact your Title I Coordinator for details.

Collecting Stories, Connecting Communities

Who: All teachers in Grades 8 – 12 in North Country schools. Institute participants will receive two free books, *Literature and the Land* by Emma Rous and *The Bones of the Earth* by Howard Mansfield and a \$300.00 stipend.

What: Residential Institute: Documenting the Past, Imagining the Future

Where: The White Mountain School, Bethlehem, NH

When: Sunday afternoon, June 22 through Thursday, June 26

Why: To deepen teachers' understanding of processes involved in developing project-based curriculum and to discover ways in which community heritage-based learning can contribute to the development of sustainable communities through intergenerational and school-community partnerships.

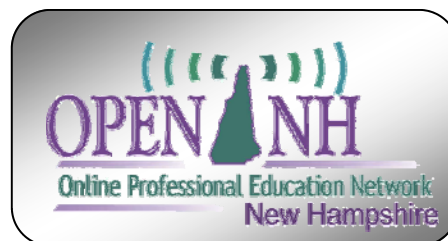
Institute Speakers:

- Howard Mansfield, community cultural historian and author of several books which intertwine people and place
- Emma Rous, master teacher and author of *Literature and the Land: Reading and Writing for Environmental Literacy, 7 – 12*
- Catherine Koning, university professor, environmental scientist with a background in community-based projects
- Melinda Salazar, master teacher and Director of Education, The Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education (NY)

For more information and to register: Contact Kay Morgan at morgan.katherin@comcast.net or 603-868-2485.

NH State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program Field School 2008

Paleo-Indian Survey of Jefferson and Randolph
The field school will take place from June 23 through July 18 and will be conducted in two sessions, each two weeks long, beginning June 23 and July 7. Investigations will be conducted Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00 with occasional evening lectures and workshops. For more information, visit the Upcoming Events area of www.nhscrap.org.



Media Center Update

Snow banks still obliterate our landscape, while inside at the Media Center there are piles and piles of new materials being processed and catalogued. I think my piles of books and videos are now higher than the snow is deep – Hooray! While you wait for spring to be sprung, read through this (partial) list:

Geography & History Videos:

Beirut (2007)
Iran (2007)
Middle East (2007)
Mastering ArcGIS (2006)
The Devil Came on Horseback (2006)
Frontline: The Man Who Knew (2002)
Guns, Germs & Steel (National Geographic) (2005)
Ken Burns: America (2004)
Ken Burns: American Lives (2005)
Sometimes in April (Raoul Peck) (2005)
The War, A Ken Burns Film (2007)

Health & Guidance Videos:

The New Food Pyramid: It's All About You
It's a Girl's World: A Documentary on Social Bullying

Language Arts:

The Charles Dickens Collection (PBS) (incl. *David Copperfield*, *Great Expectations*)
The George Eliot Collection (PBS) (incl. *Adam Bede*, *Middlemarch*, *Silas Marner*)
Mark Twain, Ken Burns (PBS)
Masterpiece Theatre: The Complete Jane Austen Collection

Music:

Jazz, Ken Burns (DVDs, CDs, and more)
The War: Songs Without Words, Ken Burns (CD)

Nonfiction Books:

Everything Bad is Good for You by Steven Johnson
Good to Great by Jim Collins
The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make A Difference by Malcolm Gladwell

Professional Development Books:

Read It Again!: Revisiting Shared Reading by Brenda Parkes
The Best in Children's Nonfiction by National Council of Teachers
Is That a Fact?: Teaching Nonfiction Writing by Tony Stead
Do I Really Have to Teach Reading? by Cris Tovani
Nonfiction in Focus by Rosemary Bamford
The Three-Minute Classroom Walk Through by Carolyn Doney

Science Videos:

Bees: Tales from the Hive (NOVA)
What's Wrong With the Bees? (60 Minutes, 2008)
DNA – The Secret of Life
Exploring Space: The Quest for Life (PBS)
Monster of the Milky Way: Supermassive Black Hole (PBS-2007)
NOVA: DNA – Secret of Photo 51
NOVA: Life's Greatest Miracle

NOVA: Solar Energy: Saved by the Sun
NOVA three-volume series: Einstein's Big Idea,
Einstein Revealed, The Elegant Universe
Planet Earth, (BBC Discovery Channel) (2007)
Return to the Amazon–JM Cousteau: Ocean Adventures (2008)

Science Books:

Science and Sustainability: Teacher's Guide Vol. I & II (2006)
Active Physics Volumes I, II & III (2005)
Physics That Work (2006)
Museum of Science, Boston "Engineering is Elementary" 9-volume series, includes story book, teacher's guide, activities, reproducibles, some include CD-Roms.

Special Education Books:

Born on a Blue Day: A Memoir by Daniel Tammet
Boys Adrift: The Five Factors Driving the Gender Gap
by Leonard Sax
Why Gender Matters: What Parents and Teachers Need to Know
About the Emerging Science of Sex Differences by Leonard Sax
NH Education Laws Annotated (2008)

Special Education Video:

Including Samuel (2007) – This DVD will be shown as part of the Title I Conference at WMRHS on Thursday, April 10.

Technology Books:

Adobe DreamweaverCS3: Introductory Concepts (2008)
Adobe Photoshop CS3: Introductory Concepts (2009)
Flash Animation for Teens (2007)
Empowering Students with Technology by Alan November

I hope to hear from you soon – even before the snow is all melted.

Vicky McGillicuddy

Media Center Coordinator
library@ncedservices.org

PSU Courses at NCES

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND TRANSPORTATION

Instructor: Doug MacDonald

Dates/Time: July 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 from 9:00 to 3:30

QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY & APPLIED RESEARCH

Instructor: Dr. Pamela Clark

Dates/Time: July 22, 23, 24 & 25 from 9:00 to 4:00

Registration info and course descriptions at:

<http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate/>