

Presenters Wanted

North Country Professional Development Day

Do you have an innovative practice or teaching strategy to share with your colleagues? Proposals to present at the October 10, 2008 conference are being accepted. Please submit proposals by mid-June. You may download the Call for Proposals form from www.ncedservices.org/ncpdd.htm. Team presentations are welcome. Topics and suggestions are also welcome.

Contact lori@ncedservices.org for more information.



Bring science into your literacy and math programs!

Introduce your K-4 students to Earth System Science through storybooks and learning activities appropriate for them. These five books, designed for elementary readers, and their activities, are based around the topics of weather, hydrology, seasons, and soils but also include skills such as writing math sentences, measuring and estimating, writing results of observations, using media and the library, storytelling, and even acting out a play.

Elementary GLOBE materials also include extensive teacher's notes and have been correlated to the NH Science Curriculum Frameworks. The activities include the use of technology and inquiry. Each participant will receive a set of storybooks and activities, along with a CD of all the materials for reproduction purposes (\$40 value).

In the workshop, participants will become their students for the day and be guided in the exploration of several of these fun and engaging activities. The workshop facilitators are Jen Bourgeault, NCES GLOBE Coordinator and Carolyn Hemingway, a GLOBE-trained fourth grade teacher from Belmont Elementary School who has been collecting GLOBE weather data and using the Elementary GLOBE materials.

The GLOBE Program is a science and education program where students, teachers and scientists work together to collect environmental data and use it to carry out research at the school, local, regional, state, national and/or international level. See www.globe.gov and www.globe.gov/elementaryglobe for more information.

Date/Time: Tuesday, August 12, 2008 from 9:00 to 3:00 at NCES

Cost: \$ 25.00 (includes materials and lunch)

Registration: Becky Ring at 466-5437 or becky@ncedservices.org by August 5th.

Michael Mezzocchi Memorial Garden Dedication



The dedication of the Dr. Michael Mezzocchi Memorial Garden at North Country Education Services will be held in September. The garden area, with three granite benches for visitors to enjoy a break or lunch with a spectacular view of Mt Adams, was created to honor the memory of this extraordinary man who touched the lives of so many teachers and students. Mike was known to many as the "legendary behavior guru." He was a veteran educator for 39 years, serving in many educational capacities throughout his career, including superintendent, director of special services, principal, teacher and college professor. Mike worked extensively with North Country Education Services beginning in the 1980's to train behavior management teams in several school districts. Anyone interested in attending the dedication ceremony should contact Lori Langlois for details at lori@ncedservices.org.

Neurodevelopmental Approach to Teaching

Center for School Success to Offer Course at NCES in the Fall 2008

The Center for School Success (CSS) is a non-profit organization that helps struggling students achieve measurable success in school and in life. Located in West Lebanon, NH, CSS is the only community-based, educational resource of its type in New Hampshire and Vermont.

CSS bases its services on the work of Dr. Mel Levine, internationally-renowned developmental pediatrician and co-founder of the non-profit *All Kinds of Minds Institute* in North Carolina. Dr. Levine's work is founded on 30 years of research in cognitive neurosciences. CSS integrates this research with the current theories and best practices of multiple disciplines, including education, health and psychology.

All CSS services are designed to help students, teachers and parents use brain-based research findings to understand specific breakdowns in learning, while shifting focus from what individual students can't do to what they can do. CSS believes that students need to know how they learn best, teachers need to know how to address the unique strengths and needs of all their students, and parents need to know how to support their children's learning strengths and challenges. CSS services include learning assessments, teacher training and community outreach.

Plymouth State University's College of Graduate Studies recently partnered with the Center for School Success to create graduate programs focusing in the Neurodevelopmental Approach to Teaching - the only programs of their kind in the country. Students may complete a graduate certificate; a Master of Education in K-12 Education, Self-designed; or the Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) in Educational Leadership.

To learn more about the Center for School Success visit: centerforschoolsuccess.org. For more information about Neurodevelopmental Approach to Teaching options, contact Plymouth State University's College of Graduate Studies at (800) FOR-GRAD, forgrad@plymouth.edu or visit plymouth.edu/graduate.

Learning-Focused Mentor Training

Consulting, Collaborating & Coaching for Professional Excellence

Dates/Time: June 24, 25 & 26, 2008 from 8:00 to 4:00

Trainer: Deborah Roody

Cost: \$100 (includes text and meals)

Location: NCES, Gorham, NH

This is a three-day training for mentors, peer coaches and other professionals with interest in expanding and refining their knowledge and skills for promoting adult learning and growth. The institute offers practical tools, focused templates and technical tips for educators who support others in improving their instructional practice.

Participants will develop skills for applying a set of templates to structure purposeful planning, reflecting and problem-solving conversations. They will also develop a toolkit for effective communication, including non-verbal subtleties and verbal complexities.

Skillful Mentoring with the Continuum of Interaction

Consulting:

Sharing expertise & providing technical assistance

Collaboration:

Shared planning and problem-solving

Coaching:

Non-judgmental interaction which supports reflection and develops professional capacities

This training is based on the work of Bruce Wellman and Laura Lipton. The text used is *Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focus Relationships*.

First Steps in Mathematics Coming This Summer

The First Steps in Mathematics course will be offered at NCES this summer. The course is focused on helping teachers to identify and correct students' misconceptions about mathematics. Based on cutting-edge research, First Steps in Mathematics develops and expands teachers' understanding of mathematics and how children learn mathematics. First Steps in Mathematics enables teachers to successfully diagnose, plan, implement, and evaluate their students' learning experiences in four strands - Number, Measurement, Space, and Chance and Data. Diagnostic Tasks and Diagnostic Maps within each strand help teachers to identify students' misconceptions about mathematics. Sample lessons and learning activities provide teachers with practical and simple ideas to support students' development. Dates and the course description will be available soon. Contact matt@ncedservices.org for more information or check www.ncedservices.org for updates.

Upper Valley Teacher Institute Principal Residency Network

Considering becoming a Principal, Assistant Principal or Special Education Administrator?

The PRN Model is an entirely "Competency-Based" approach to developing school leaders with a passion to support excellent teaching and learning. As an "Aspiring Leader" you learn the skills and strategies of leadership by working in the office of a mentor. Every month, you and your mentor meet in a cohort with six other pairs and two facilitators for intensive discussion, case studies, shared readings, and skills training.

The program takes about a year and leads to licensure. You can also earn your Master's degree or a C.A.G.S. as you achieve the 26 competencies that demonstrate your ability to help teachers, students, parents and other stakeholders work together to create safe environments where children excel and where all members of the learning community are empowered.

PRN is organized in Vermont and New Hampshire under the auspices of the Upper Valley Teacher Institute. New cohorts in NH and VT are being developed for the 2008/2009 academic year. Visit the PRN@UVTI website at www.uvti.org or contact Shirley Richardson shirley0525@verizon.net to RSVP or for more information.

Distinguished Math Educator Series

A series of math workshops led by NH Distinguished Math Educators will be held this summer at NCES. The anticipated topics for the series are:

Algebra Across the Grades

Mathematical Tools & Strategies for
Integrating the Process Strands

Proportionality:
More Than Two Equal Ratios

Opening Up:
Solving Open-Ended Problems

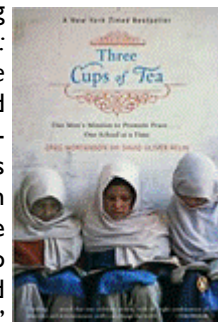
Analyze This!:
Probability, Statistics & Data Analysis

Graduate credit through Plymouth State University will be available for the course. Check www.ncedservices.org for updates on course dates and topic details or contact Matt Treamer for more information at matt@ncedservices.org.

Three Cups of Tea

More books available

The Oristano Family Foundation is making additional copies of the *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin available to New Hampshire high schools. Twenty-seven schools received books through this foundation earlier this year. Their hope is that the book will be used as a teaching tool to help spread the awareness of other cultures and what one person can do to "build bridges."



Teachers interested in receiving a classroom set of the book should contact Heather Cummings, Curriculum Coordinator, Shaker Regional School District at 267-9223 or hcummings@shaker.k12.nh.us.

Already using this book in your classroom?

Paige Oristano, one of the co-founders of the foundation donating the books, is interested in visiting a classroom to see how students are reacting to the story. Please contact Heather Cummings (see above) if you are interested in having Paige visit with your students.

Planning for Your Incoming Class with Performance Tracker

Get off to a running start in the 08-09 school year with an end of the year "step-up" workshop in Performance Tracker. With the assessment data in Performance Tracker, we will step you through creating reports on the strengths and weaknesses of your incoming fall class. Learn to use the printouts from these reports to identify the strand or strands that needs the most improvement as well as identify those students who just missed or just made the L2-L3 cut. Individual reports of those students will be printed for you to take home over the summer to plan activities and strategies for your students to start the year successfully.

Date/Times: June 2 from 9:00-12:00, repeated 1:00 - 4:00*

Trainer: Paula Churchill

Location: North Country Education Services, Gorham, NH

Cost: \$15 for member school staff, \$20 for associates and \$25 for non-member schools

Register: Contact Becky Ring at becky@ncedservices.org or 466-5437. Indicate morning or afternoon session.

Deadline: Please register by Thursday, May 29.

*Need extra practice? Stay for the repeated afternoon session at no additional cost.

PSU Courses at NCES

School Buildings and Transportation

Instructor: Douglas MacDonald

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

Course Description: The role of school administrator in planning school construction projects, maintaining school facilities and overseeing the transportation of students is the focus of the course. Also emphasizes the relationship of facilities and transportation to the program needs of the students while complying with state and federal regulations.

Qualitative Methodology & Applied Research

Instructor: Dr. Pamela Clark

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

Course Description: This course addresses qualitative research methodologies with a particular emphasis on constructing grounded theory. Candidates will engage in the process, design and critique of qualitative inquiry and research. Organizational and community issues will be explored and discovered through the analysis of patterns of beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors within interpersonal and intercultural contexts. Descriptive analysis of initiating the inquiry, gathering and picturing the data, recording and analyzing data and evaluating the study. (Prerequisite: EP7020, EP7030, and a course in research design).

Transforming the Educational Agenda

Instructor: Michael Morgan

Dates/Time: Fridays 5:00 - 8:30 on 9/5, 10/3, 10/31 and Saturdays from 8:30– 3:30 on 9/6, 10/4, 11/1/2008.

Course Description: This course focuses on the development of a self-renewing capability inherent in professionals and organizations. Students will discuss the notion of transformation in the context of knowledge base, self-reflection and the socio-professional processes in educational change. Students will explore the integration of ecological perspectives within a changing society and the demand for greater tolerance of human behavior in the context of learning.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the need to keep student learning and development as the central core of educational change. Prerequisites: EP 7020 and EP 7040.

Registration Details:

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



Summer 2008 Online Courses

Orientation Date: June 24

Online course dates: June 24 – August 12, 2008

It's time to register for online courses being offered this summer through OpenNH. The summer course offering for 2008 are as follows:

- Using Differentiated Instruction Effectively in the Classroom
- Understanding the Follow the Child Philosophy
- Aligning Curriculum with Grade Level Expectations
- Meeting the New Standards for School Approval
- Strategies and Tools for Teaching the Writing Process
- Supporting Literacy Development in Lower Elementary Classrooms
- Getting Ready for Algebra by Using Virtual Manipulatives
- Designing a Virtual Field Trip in Science
- Cycles and Systems: Understanding Some Basic Principles of Science Literacy
- Understanding the Science of Life: Communities, Ecosystems, and Natural Selection
- Designing a Virtual Field Trip in Social Studies

For details and more information, visit nheon.org for a link to the OpenNH website or contact Stan Freeda at sfreeda@ed.state.nh.us.

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 a follow-up session on September 26, 2008 in Bedford. Sponsored by LESCEN, New Hampshire's Local Education Support Center Network. Space is available for a few more teams. For a brochure or to register, visit www.lescen.org.