

North Country Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Meetings

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CIA) is a subgroup of the NH School Administrators Association dedicated to curriculum, instructional and assessment issues. There are five regional groups that meet on a monthly basis during the school year. Current members of NHSAA are invited to participate.

Discussion topics for this group may include:

- High School Course Competencies
- Performance Tracker
- Online high school classes VHS/VLACS
- Opportunities/resource sharing
- AP and SAT Prep Courses
- Sharing of NWEA status/experience
- Engineering by Design
- NH preK-16 Literacy Action Plan for the 21st Century

Lori Langlois coordinates the North Country CIA subgroup and can be contacted for more information at lori@ncedservices.org.

North Country CAGS Cohort

Seventeen students are enrolled in PSU's Planning in Education course being offered at NCES this fall. The next core course in the CAGS program to be offered at NCES is *Legal Issues in Policy Making* (begins in January). For details, visit the Graduate Studies section at www.plymouth.edu.



Media Center Update

I still love to make the leaves "crunch" beneath my feet when walking in the yard, then listen to the rustle of them as they blow across the driveway. Piles of golden, red, and orange leaves call to the child in me, begging to be run through or thrown by handfuls into the air. I want to gather their colors and bring them inside, preserving them for later in the fall when they've all been gathered, blown away, turned brown and left the trees for winter.

This autumn's show has been filled with reds and golds, so crisp in the sunlight on the mountains and hills. The changing seasons – the constant ebb of time – holiday observances – all compel us to repeat tasks as well as celebrations each year – connecting us to our past.

To further explore our past, plan a trip to a museum, if you haven't done so already. Our state has many historical museums to be explored. In the Media Center we also have an extensive collection of kits, books and videos to supplement a visit, or, to provide a "simulated" trip. Our NH Heritage Collection offers materials specific to North Country History, including a video of a trip up Mt. Washington. Here's a

brief listing of some field trip ideas: Robert Frost's Farm in Derry (an extensive collection of videos on poets and poetry, including Frost, are available from us). NH Telephone Museum in Warner (be sure to watch one of our videos on Alexander Graham Bell), NH Aviation Historical Society Museum in Concord (view "The Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk"), Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth ("Strawberry Banke Museum" video), Snowmobile Museum in Allentown, Northern Forest Heritage Park in Berlin, Gorham Historical Society Museum and Railroad Car. Looking towards the clouds? Consider the Mt. Washington Observatory Weather Discovery Center in North Conway – and, it's free! – there are weather related kits, books, and videos to be borrowed from here – most of it free! The Christa McAuliffe Planetarium in Concord only charges \$5 for students – I met a real, live astronaut there! – find out all about astronomy, the stars and planets with materials from the Media Center – Stephen Hawking's "Universe" and Carl Sagan's "Cosmos". The seasonal colors can inspire the artistic side – visit the Hood Museum in Dartmouth, or the Currier Museum in Concord, both offer student tours. Or, take a tour of a museum or visit an artist's studio through our video lending library. If you can manage a trip to Boston, the Boston Museum of Science has several exciting exhibits: the Butterfly Garden, Catching the Wind, Human Evolution, and, my favorite, CSI: The Experience; visit their website at www.mos.org.

Visit the Media Center website at www.ncedservices.org – but don't go anywhere until you finish raking the leaves – and after, jump for joy into the crunchy, colorful heap!

Vicky McGillicuddy
Media Center Coordinator
library@ncedservices.org

School-Wide Rubrics

Teams will develop a common language for deciding what work meets ICT literacy and content standards. Teams will review samples of school-wide rubrics and work towards a consensus to develop common rubrics while examining how schools can use data to revise rubrics over time.

Facilitator: Dr. David Niguidula

Date: November 7, 2007

Time: 8:30 refreshments, 9:00 to 3:30

Location: NCES in Gorham

Cost: \$130/person (space is limited)

Register: Contact Becky Ring at NCES to register at 466-5437 or becky@ncedservices.org.

Differentiated Instruction: Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners

Teachers will explore ways to provide multiple pathways to learning so that both advanced and struggling learners are challenged yet not frustrated and ways to scaffold instruction for struggling learners, divergent learners, and second language learners. Learn how to: Use pre-assessment and task analysis to plan differentiated instruction; Gather and use on-going assessment data; Scaffold instruction; Build in student choice; and Teach students to self-assess and self-adjust.

Instructor: Louise Thompson

Dates/time: March 11, April 1, May 8 & 28, 2008 from 8:00 - 3:00

Location: NCES PD Center

Cost: Members \$460, Associate Members \$510, Others \$560 (includes textbook and meal)

Credits: Two graduate credits at PSU: additional \$135 total (in-state)

Environmental Pathways in the Classroom

This workshop will introduce formal and non-formal educators to the award-winning curriculum materials of Project Learning Tree (PLT), Project WET, and Project WILD. These programs are designed to take forests, wildlife, and water and make them real for students. Activities are easily infused into everyday school subjects and busy classrooms. Each is aligned with national and state curriculum frameworks.

At the workshop, you will receive the following:

- PLT's *PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide*
- Project WET's *K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide*
- Project WILD's *K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide*
- Supplemental materials specific to the natural resources of New Hampshire, to support each of the guides
- Staff development credit for in-service educators
- Great posters and much more

Date/Time: Saturday, November 3, 2007 from 9:00 to 5:00

Please wear comfortable clothing, be ready for the possibility of going outdoors, and bring a bag lunch. In case of inclement weather, please call (603) 226-0160 for a recorded message.

Location: Coos County Cooperative Extension, Lancaster, NH

Cost: \$75 per person

Graduate credit: Graduate credit is available from Plymouth State University upon request.

Registration: Contact Erin Walsh at NH Project Learning Tree at 603-226-0160 or email info@nhplt.org. For more information, visit www.nhplt.org, www.des.nh.gov/wet, or www.wildlife.state.nh.us.

Workshops for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants

Green Mountain Speech and Hearing Services, Inc. has developed a series of workshops for the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (S-LPA). These are designed to provide the basic vocabulary and concepts to work more effectively under the supervision of the S-LP. They are not designed to train the S-LPA in specific diagnostic or therapeutic techniques.

Key Concepts in Anatomy & Physiology for the Speech - Language Pathology Assistant

-structures that support speech, language, and hearing functions

Date: Nov. 2, 2007 from 9:00 to 3:00

Key Concepts in Language & Literacy for the Speech -Language Pathology Assistant

-role of the S-LPA and the S-LP in supporting literacy and to present the key vocabulary that they use in common

Date: Jan. 25, 2008 from 9:00 to 3:00

Key Concepts in Voice for the Speech -Language Pathology Assistant

-how voice is produced and described to help when doing observations for an S-LP

Date: May 2, 2008 from 9:00 to 3:00

Cost: \$115/session

Registration: To register for these workshops, contact Green Mountain Speech and Hearing Services at (802) 223-6119.

TLC: Writing Across the Curriculum

TeachingLearningConnections (TLC) in Writing Across the Curriculum provides an overview of writing processes and implementation practices in specific content areas. TLC Writing is a comprehensive professional development activity utilizing writing as: 1) a teaching tool, 2) a learning strategy, and 3) an assessment measure. All tools, practices, and techniques emphasize process over product as well as measurement of progress over time rather than a one time testing strategy. Concentrating on the learner-writer as opposed to the master-writer, writing in content specific disciplines emphasizes the role of the coaching-teacher in contrast to the teaching-sage.

Geared to practical classroom practices, TLC Writing minimizes teacher correcting time as well as engages students in the correction/evaluation process. Not simply an add-on to an already overloaded teaching agenda, TLC Writing actually provides the time necessary for a teacher to monitor 'students at work.' Major topics include: the writing/reading connection, teacher correcting and peer editing, Collins types of writing, open response strategies, graphic organizers, rubrics, and portfolios.

Instructor: David A. Yacavace

Dates/time: November 7 & 8, December 6, January 16 & 17, February 6 & 7 from 4:00 to 8:00 and 9:00 to 3:00 for the last class on March 31, 2008.

Location: NCES PD Center, Gorham

Cost: \$400 Members, \$450 Associates and \$500 for Non-Members

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

Credit option: Three credits available through Plymouth State University for an additional \$400.

PSU Graduate Course in Whitefield

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY

ED5000.WT CRN: 20062

Instructor: Michael Allen

Location: White Mountains Regional HS, Whitefield, NH

Class Meeting Dates: Tuesday 6:00 to 9:00 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 2/5/2008. This course has an online component using Blackboard (WebCT). Class meets online December 19 to 23, 2007 and January 2 to February 5, 2008.

This course seeks to examine the manner in which the behavior, feelings or thoughts of one individual are influenced by the behavior and/or characteristics of others. Topics to be considered include social perception, attitudes, gender, social cognition, conflict, social influence, intercultural awareness, prejudice, discrimination, aggression and group behavior.

Registration information:

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

PSU CAGS Course at NCES in Gorham

LEGAL ISSUES IN POLICY MAKING

EP7060.NF CRN: 20042

Instructor: Theodore Comstock

Location: NCES, Gorham, NH

Dates/Time: Thursdays 5:00 to 9:00 on 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28/2008.

This course has an online component using Blackboard (WebCT).

This course presents a discussion of ways institutions and their communities must deal with the legal and political environment in which they exist. Topics include current legal issues and how the stakeholders in society can use the law as a tool for social change. Institutions must advocate for positive change through the development of thoughtful legal policies and practices.

Registration information:

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

Performance Tracker Series

Performance Pathways is the NH Department of Education online data system and interface that was implemented Summer 2007 and will be the primary source of NE-CAP and state Alternate Assessment result data. Performance Tracker is the application for school districts to use to track performance and meet No Child Left Behind requirements. Assessment data is correlated to state standards. Performance Tracker gives you a single point of reference for anywhere, anytime access to information you need to make data-driven decisions that will enhance instruction and increase student achievement. Performance Tracker displays information in web-based charts, graphs and reports and allows drill-down to the student level.

For: This training series is for administrators and building or district level staff. There will be a Performance Tracker overview with hands-on training on filtering, creating detailed reports and analyzing reports for school specific details to district-wide trends.

Series: Wednesdays, December 5, 12 & 19, 2007 from 9:00 to 12:00

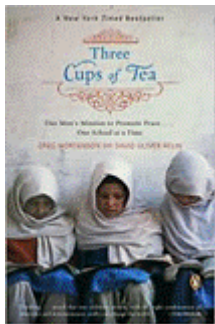
Cost: The cost for the series is \$105/person.

Registration: Contact Becky at NCES to register at becky@ncedservices.org.

Attention High School Language Arts and Social Studies Teachers

The Oristano Family Foundation is making a limited number of 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 to integrate into the curriculum. 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."

Synopsis of *Three Cups of Tea*



Anyone who despairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson, a homeless mountaineer who, following a 1993 failed attempt to climb Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. As it chronicles Mortenson's quest, which has brought him into conflict with both enraged Islamists and uncomprehending Americans, *Three Cups of Tea* combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit.

How to Get the Books

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.

NH Folklife: A Workshop for Teachers

Educators are invited to explore, discuss and participate in hands-on activities centered on the New Hampshire Folklife website, an engaging online resource designed for teachers and students to learn about and explore our state's living heritage. The workshop will introduce various features of the website, and will include a session on "Sketching & Heritage Arts" led by book illustrator Karen Busch Holman. She will demonstrate sketching techniques and provide an understanding of the ways sketching can enhance student learning across the curriculum. The workshop – for classroom, social studies, technology and arts educators and all teachers interested in NH history and heritage – is presented by the Traditional Arts Program of the NH State Council on the Arts in cooperation with the Arts Alliance.

Date/Time: November 6, 2007
from 8:30 to 2:30

Location: Campton Elementary School, Campton, NH

Cost: Cost is \$20 (lunch included).

Graduate credit may be arranged through Plymouth State University.

Registration: Download the registration form at www.aannh.org, call 323-7302, or email info@aannh.org for additional information.



Abenaki Workshops

Author, Ecologist, Musician and Storyteller Michael Caduto is presenting day-long workshops at three North Country locations. Caduto, author of the *Keepers of the Earth*® series, has taught at numerous nature centers, museums, schools, colleges and universities. His books include *A Time Before New Hampshire: The Story of a Land and Native Peoples*; and *Native American Gardening: Stories, Projects and Recipes for Families*.

Teaching about the Abenaki

"Teaching about the Abenaki," in Groveton and Lisbon, presents a picture of Abenaki Indian culture in New Hampshire, past and present, using stories; artifacts; an imaginary visit to an Abenaki village; and discussion of Abenaki culture, beliefs, and seasonal life cycle. The workshop introduces ways to use stories, songs, chants and dances to explore other cultures.

Locations: St. Francis Hall, Groveton, November 9 and Lisbon Regional School, November 15, 2007.

Nature and the Abenaki People

In Gorham, Michael will present "Nature and the Abenaki People," a workshop that uses stories from the Abenaki peoples of New Hampshire as springboards for activities that introduce the study of nature and the environment. Michael will share traditional Abenaki storytelling techniques, music, and dance as well as other tools and teaching methods for connecting the humanities and science through the study of Native Americans.

Location: Edward Fenn Elementary, Gorham, November 16, 2007.

In both workshops, a demonstration class will be offered, several different curricula will be available for review and participants will receive an annotated bibliography of resources for teaching about Native Americans in northern New England and beyond. The workshops are presented by the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire and funded in part by the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Cost: Cost for each day is \$25. Call the Arts Alliance at 323-7302, email info@aannh.org, or visit www.aannh.org for additional information or to register.