



**May 2009**

## **Professional Development in Hands-On Mathematics Instruction**

On April 30, NCES held a planning meeting with Tom Scherstan on ways schools in this region could collaborate on multi-day onsite professional development in hands-on math. It looks like we will be able to group about 3 schools per cohort and will divide by the spans pre-K to 2, grades 3-5 and 6-8 (which could include high school teachers of general math, algebra and geometry). Each grade span will engage in three days of professional development with Tom which will include demonstration lessons with students. More details will be sent out to principals soon.

We are excited about this opportunity. The planning meeting followed two days of workshops with Tom. Feedback from those days included:

*The best workshop I've even been to in 11 years.*  
~ White Mountains Regional High School Teacher

*Wow! I have been to many "hands-on" math workshops before. This one is by far THE BEST!*  
~ Stark Village School Teacher

100% of participants of both workshops thought Tom's command of the subject and presentation style was excellent.

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## Executive Director Opening

North Country Education Services is accepting applications for the position of Executive Director. This is an exciting opportunity to sustain the growth of this vital, non-profit, educational agency which provides services to the 11 School Administrative Units of northern New Hampshire.

Qualifications should include experience in educational leadership. Candidates should have an interest in educational services, including professional development, and possess strong interpersonal skills, administrative and financial management experience, and grant writing skills. Marketing and promotional experience will be regarded favorably. C.A.G.S. or Ph.D. preferred.

NCES is offering a competitive salary and benefits package. Candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and three letters of recommendation to: Executive Director Search Committee, North Country Education Services, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH 03581.

Deadline for applications in June 3, 2009.

NCES is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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## NCPDD Call for Proposals

NCES is accepting proposals for North Country Professional Development Day. The conference will be held on Friday, October 9, 2009. Interested presenters should submit a title and brief description of their proposal to Lori Langlois by email at [lori@ncedservices.org](mailto:lori@ncedservices.org).

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## Upcoming Professional Development

### Digital Tools in the Classroom

This course exposes participants to various technology tools such as Google docs, sound recording, animation, moviemaking and photo editing software. Some time will be spent with specific skills development: participants will learn to create animations, sound recordings and movies with readily available, free software. Using these skills, participants will connect the use of technology to curriculum objectives and understand how to incorporate the ISTE ICT standards into

### Intro to GPS in the Classroom



Twenty people participated in the *Intro to GPS in the Classroom* workshop. Kristin Alvarez, a geology professor from Keene State College, taught the class.

### Archaeology Summer Field School: Jefferson & Randolph

The Potter Site was discovered in 2003 on the upper reaches of the Moose River in Randolph, NH. Annual SCRAP investigations have documented a site two acres in size with woodworking, hide working and fluted point manufacturing areas. More information about participating in this local archaeology program is available here: [www.nh.gov/nhdhr/scrap09.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/scrap09.htm)

student activities. The final projects will demonstrate the participant's ability to create student activities that foster critical thinking, meet curriculum objectives and use engaging software. Through this course, students will also discover how to assess technology based activities and learn how to incorporate the use of web 2.0 tools for collaboration and delivery of their projects.

This will be a three credit course through Plymouth State University.

**Dates:** May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2009

**Time:** 5:00 to 9:00 PM

**Location:** GSC Location, Conway, NH

**Cost:** \$1285 In-State, \$1375 Out-of-State

**Instructor:** Paula Churchill, NCES Technology Instructor

**Registration:** Contact Becky Ring at 466-5437 or [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org) by May 18th. Purchase orders should be faxed to 603-466-2907 or checks mailed to NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH 03581. MC/Visa accepted.

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## What School Leaders Need to Know About Literacy Planning and Reading Instruction

### For Administrators and Literacy Planning Teams Grades 4-12

Literacy planning for grades 4 and up presents unique challenges. Effective, school-wide literacy instructions should include a plan for providing reading and writing instruction to good readers (close to grade level or above) that is delivered in regular content classrooms, and a plan for providing interventions to weak and struggling readers. Literacy planning should involve all teachers and be actively supported by committed leadership.

**Date:** Wednesday, May 27, 2009

**Time:** 8:45 to 3:30

**Presenter:** Joan Sedita, M.Ed.

**Cost:** NCES Member School Staff \$60, Associate Member Staff \$75, All others \$90

**Location:** NCES, Gorham, NH

**Registration:** Please register by May 6 by emailing Becky Ring at [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org) or calling NCES at 800-268-5437 or 603-466-5437. Purchase orders should be faxed to 603-466-2907 or checks mailed to NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH 03581. MC/Visa accepted.

## **i4See End of Year (EOY) Training**

This training will cover EOY enrollment, EOY academic, course submissions, and the NEW Single Sign-On for security.

**Date:** Thursday, May 21, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 to 11:00

**Location:** NCES, Gorham - via video conference from the NHDOE

**Registration:** Please register through email [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org) or by calling Becky Ring or 466-5437.

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## **Comprehension Strategies for Paraprofessionals**

### **Supporting Reading and Writing for Understanding**

The workshop is for paraprofessionals who support students, in grades 4-12, in reading as well as content areas, in classrooms and in special education or other services such as Title I.

Appropriate for parents and special educators as well.

**NEW Date:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 from 8:45 to 3:00

**Presenters:** Pauline Raiche

**Cost:** Member School Staff \$55, Associate Member School Staff \$60, Non-Members \$75

**Location:** NCES, Gorham, NH

**Registration:** Please register by May 15 by emailing Becky Ring at [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org) or calling NCES at 800-268-5437 or 603-466-5437. Purchase orders should be faxed to 603-466-2907 or checks mailed to NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH 03581. MC/Visa accepted.

## Formative Assessment and Diagnostic Probes Follow-Up

This session is for K-12 mathematics educators and is a follow-up to the *Formative Assessment & Diagnostic Probes* sessions done on November 10<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup> with Christine Downing. In this follow-up session, participants will utilize curriculum topic studies in a more in-depth approach to design their own diagnostic probes. In addition, a protocol will be presented which helps to streamline the analysis of student work based on completion of diagnostic probes. Finally, activities will be presented to engage participants in aligning probes to the GLEs and GSEs and how to utilize NECAP support materials to create probes. Throughout the session, additional formative assessment classroom techniques (FACTs) will be shared by the presenter. Participants are encouraged to bring the following resources to the session:

1. Uncovering Student Thinking in Mathematics (text received through prior sessions or may be purchased from NCES).
2. Current mathematics program (teacher edition only) being utilized in school
3. Copies of NH GLEs/GSEs

If you did not attend a prior session, you are still welcome to attend this session.

**Presenter:** Christine Downing, Mathematics Content Specialist, NHDOE

**Location:** NCES Conference Room

**Dates:** Friday, May 15, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 – 3:00

**Cost:** NCES Member School Staff \$20, Associate Member Staff \$25, All others \$30

**Registration:** Contact Becky Ring at 466-5437 or [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org)

**Questions:** Contact Matt Treamer @ 466-5437 or [matt@ncedservices.org](mailto:matt@ncedservices.org)

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## Literacy 2009

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act, the new IDEA special education legislation, and the sanctions imposed for Schools in Need of Improvement, among other educational initiatives, are having a dramatic impact on literacy instruction practices in elementary schools across the country. Consistent with many of these reform efforts, is the call for using reading instruction practices that are based on scientific reading research. This research base provides a wealth of information regarding reading development, reading difficulties, and reading instruction, including the essential areas of reading: phonemic awareness; phonics, decoding, spelling, and word study; oral language development; vocabulary, reading fluency; comprehension; and writing. Instead of asking teachers to completely abandon past practices, the reality of this current emphasis on using scientifically based reading research to inform our instruction, instead, further enhances many of the best literacy practices we have learned over the years. This workshop provides teachers with the opportunity to critically reflect on the scientific research-base, to grow in their understanding of this knowledge base, and reaffirm best literacy practices of the past and present.

**Date:** Call to be notified of rescheduled date.

**Presenter:** Dr. Melissa Keenan

**Cost:** \$25 (includes lunch)

**Location:** NCES, Gorham, NH

**Registration:** Please register by emailing Becky Ring at [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org) or calling NCES at 800-268-5437 or 603-466-5437. Purchase orders should be faxed to 603-466-2907 or checks mailed to NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH 03581. MC/Visa accepted.

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## Project SUCCESS

Project SUCCESS (Schools Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students) is designed to prevent and reduce substance use among students 12 to 18 years of age. The program was originally developed for students attending alternative high schools who are at high risk for substance use and abuse due to poor academic performance, truancy, discipline problems, negative attitudes toward school, and parental substance abuse. In recent years, Project SUCCESS has been used in regular middle and high schools for a broader range of high-risk students.

This training will be offered at NCES in September 2009 with

## Contact Info

For more information, contact  
Becky Ring at  
[becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org)  
800-268-5437  
603-466-5437  
[www.ncedservices.org](http://www.ncedservices.org)

limited availability. More details to follow in the June newsletter.

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## Performance Pathways Users Group

These video conferenced sessions are to provide a context for users to ask questions of each other and to share experiences including tips, tricks and best practices regarding the development and support of Performance Tracker.

**Dates:** Friday June 12 from 9:00 to 11:30. Contact Becky Ring to register for the NCES location at 466-5437 or [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org)

North Country Education Services • 300 Gorham Hill Road • Gorham • NH • 03581

