

## Director's Notes

Dr. Mary Ford of Granite State College met with Special Education Directors at NCES to inform them about a North Country GSC program to assist special education teachers to earn additional certifications such as LD, EH, and IDD to expand their professional resume. If any teachers are interested in this opportunity, please email me about your interest at [charlie@ncedservices.org](mailto:charlie@ncedservices.org). If a cohort of ten to twelve, or more could be established, then classes could be scheduled at sites in Gorham, Conway and Littleton.

NCES is still in need of either an Occupational Therapist – Registered or a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant to serve throughout SAU 58 (Groveton, Stark, and Stratford).

A Teacher of the Deaf, preferably with elementary school experience in teaching, will be needed by January to work with an elementary school youngster in SAU 7 (West Stewartstown). Please share this information with anyone qualified to provide such support to our students.

On November 25 the landscape at NCES changed dramatically as Mother Nature's wintry weather provided us with at least ten inches of snow. Our elevation of over 1,800 feet on Gorham/Randolph Hill provides us with some unique conditions during the winter. At [www.ncedservices.org](http://www.ncedservices.org) you can access a live web cam that films from our front, south-facing windows out to Route 2 if you'd ever like to see what we see. Another interesting feature is the webpage with meteorological information provided by small weather

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## Teaching Geometry Inductively

Students will deepen their understanding of geometry and how to teach it inductively. The course will be driven by activities and experiences that use inductive reasoning to help students better understand geometry. Students will leave with ready to use activities for their classrooms and practice finding and writing such activities. The course will span most traditional geometric topics including basic principles found in the middle school through more challenging concepts found in upper level high school geometry courses.

**Instructor:** Greg Superchi

**Dates:** Thursdays, January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5 & 12, 2009.

**Time:** 4:00 to 8:00

**Cost:** Regular Plymouth State University rates for two credits.

**Register:** Download registration form at [www.plymouth.edu/graduate](http://www.plymouth.edu/graduate) and use course registration number (CRN): 20076.

## NC High School Students Attend Leadership Retreat at Camp Merrowvista

High school students from Berlin High, Littleton High, Stratford High, Lin-Wood High and White Mountains Regional High School participated in a three-day healthy choices and leadership retreat at Camp Merrowvista in Center Tuftonboro, NH. The program was part of a six school partnership for the North Country High School Coalition for Alcohol Abuse Prevention project. This is a three-year project funded through the US Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools.



Camp counselors welcomed students from the five North Country high schools. Merrowvista's programs are designed to enhance not only a participant's skills, but their confidence in themselves and their future. Through experiential education and activities, students discover who they are and what they are capable of achieving. Merrowvista's programs encourage students to take on challenges and real responsibility as they live, play and learn together while practicing the motto, "My own self, at my very best, all the time."

## LabQuests Professional Development Series



There is a new product from Vernier, the LabQuest. This breakthrough technology for science education (with plenty of mathematics applications too) puts power into a rugged interface designed for simplicity. LabQuests are splash proof and powered with a rechargeable lithium battery - making them ideal for outdoor or out-of-the-classroom activities. With a color touch screen to display and graph data immediately, this digital tool can be used as a

stand-alone. That's right; you no longer need to hook up a LabPro interface to a computer. The "computer" is right in the hands of students with the LabQuest. Simply attach the necessary sensors and probes and you're ready to begin collecting data. They come with 50 science labs embedded into the LabQuest, but the sky is the limit for creating your own activities.

Join us for this three-session hands-on experience with the LabQuest. You'll participate in hands-on activities to learn how easy it is to incorporate this tool into your teaching.

Participating teachers\* will have access to borrowing a classroom set of 10 LabQuests and various probes and sensors.

**Intended For:** K-12 Educators (limited to 20 participants)

**Project leaders:** William Church, Physics Teacher, Littleton High School; Steve Roberts, Science Teacher, Interlakes Jr High School; and Paul Williams, Science Consultant

**Dates:** Wednesdays December 3, 2008, January 7, 2009 and February 4, 2009

**Time:** 4:00 to 8:00 (Meal provided)

**Cost for the series:** Full member school staff \$30 ; Associate member staff \$50; Others: \$75

**Location:** NCES

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

\*To borrow equipment you must be teaching in a NH public school in Coos, Grafton or Carroll county. Subject to availability. You will be responsible for picking up and returning equipment.

## Mathematics Formative Assessment Probes, Gr. 6-12

Mathematics Formative Assessment Probes are designed to uncover student understanding and misunderstanding of conceptual and procedural knowledge of mathematics to assist teachers in planning classroom lessons.



Each person attending the workshop will receive a copy of *Uncovering Student Thinking in Mathematics: 30 Formative Assessment Probes for Secondary Classrooms*. The authors provide 30 formative assessment probes—brief, easily administered activities targeting specific mathematics ideas—to reveal common understandings and misunderstandings in student thinking. Field-tested with teachers and students at various grade levels, these powerful diagnostic tools help teachers modify their teaching and identify areas that require more instruction.

**Presenter:** Christine Downing NECAP Mathematics Content Specialist for the NH DOE.

**Dates/Time:** December 8 from 9:00 – 3:00

**Cost:** NCES Member School Staff \$20, Associate Member School Staff \$25, Others \$30. Refreshments and lunch provided.

**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).

## A Picture Tells a Story

Using a single digital image and simple image editing tools, students can create a movie. After identifying the story elements: characters, setting, plot, students use a cropping tool to create images related to the story elements and sequence the images to tell the story. Soundtracks and narration will finish the project. This project is appropriate for Grades K-4.

**Presenter:** Paula Churchill

**Date:** Tuesday, December 9, 2008 from 3:30 to 6:30

**Cost:** Member School Staff \$10, Associate Member Staff \$15, Others \$20

**Note:** This is a hands-on workshop.

**Location:** Unless otherwise noted, workshops and courses will be held at NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH.

## Technology Integration Series

### **Text to Speech (TTS) & Sound Recording Basics**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, January 6, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Would you like your struggling readers to be able to have a web page or word document read to them for better understanding or struggling writers to record what they want to say and then write it? This session gives you the tools (yes, they are free) to record voice and have text read back. All students will be able to be more independent and self supporting in their literacy after they learn these strategies. This is a valuable tool for classroom teachers, reading specialists and special educators.

### **Digital Image Editing**

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, January 14, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Just the basics---Bring your own camera or use one of ours and learn how to take better pictures and get them off the camera easily. Topics discussed will be resolution, using the flash, photo editing software, and the basics of cropping and enhancing photos.

### **Digital Image Editing Part 2**

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, January 21, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Using your camera to capture video, setting the resolution on the camera, and a few more editing tools to really make your life easy. Knowing how you plan to use the images and setting your camera for that purpose makes using those images much easier.

### **Digital Storytelling: Animation**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, January 27, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Use a simple web cam setup to create innovative and engaging animations that students can use to show what they learned and to teach others.

### **Digital Storytelling: MovieMaker Part 1**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, February 3, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Just the basics for those who are new to movie making. Take what you learned from sound editing and photo editing and put it to work in Movie Maker.

### **Digital Storytelling: MovieMaker Part 2**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, February 10, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Step up your movie making skills. Learn to use various types of imaging sources, video and complex audio in Movie Maker.

### **PowerPoint Unleashed**

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 4, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Learn how to use custom animation, motion paths and triggers in PowerPoint to create animated sequences. Basic knowledge of PowerPoint necessary for this workshop.

### **Newscasts, Podcasts...**

#### **What's all the noise about?**

**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2009 from 3:30 to 6:30

Learn to create an audio only activity incorporating writing, social studies or science. Learn how to create an interview with someone from the past.

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### Session Details

**Presenter:** Paula Churchill

**Cost per workshop:** Member School Staff \$10, Associate Member Staff \$15, Others \$20

**Cost for series:** Member School Staff \$65, Associate Member Staff \$95, Others \$125

**Graduate credit (series participants only):** Three graduate credits are anticipated for this series for \$145/credit through Plymouth State University. Contact NCES for confirmation on cost and details. Additional coursework and online component required.

### Additional information on series participation

Participants who sign up for the entire series will develop technology skills and strategies that will allow them to implement successful activities in their classroom. Topics start with recording and editing sound for story narrations or podcasts, to digital photo editing and animation/storytelling and finish with creating an interview with a famous person. These workshops will make the valuable connection between technology skills sets and engaging learning activities that ask students to think, between just using a program and tying the student product to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Standard and the electronic portfolio.

**Note:** These are all hands-on workshop.



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stations located at NCES, Freedom Elementary School and Haverhill Cooperative Middle School. These three sites form a perfect equilateral triangle with Mount Washington serving as the central point, and it is astonishing to view the differing weather patterns at these sites – a useful tool for math and science teachers and students.

All associated with NCES extend sincere best wishes to you and your families to enjoy a festive holiday season. For all of you skiers and other snow lovers, may you enjoy a winter like we experienced last year.

### Happy Holidays!

Charles F. Thibodeau, Jr.  
Executive Director

## Performance Pathways Users' Support 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 Pathways applications including TechPaths, Assessment Builder and Performance Tracker.

**Dates:** January 9, February 13, April 10 and June 12 from 9:00 to 11:30.

**Register:** Contact Becky Ring for the NCES location at 466-5437 or [becky@ncedservices.org](mailto:becky@ncedservices.org)

Save the Date!

## Educating the 21st Century Learner

April 1, 2009

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### Learn more about the M.Ed. Literacy:

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Saturday, December 13, 2009 | 10:00 am | The Village Book Store | Littleton, NH

### For more information, please contact:

Bruce Labs | 603.787.2113 ext. 18 | [blabs@sau23.org](mailto:blabs@sau23.org)  
Tracy Davis | 866.781.3899 | [tdavis@lesley.edu](mailto:tdavis@lesley.edu)



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