

KNOX COUNTY REGIONAL  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
NEWSLETTER

September 2009

[www.roe33.net](http://www.roe33.net)

Volume 7 Number 1

From the Superintendent's Desk:

Welcome! The summer goes so very fast. I hope everyone had a relaxing summer. Now we are ready to take on the task of learning with the young people of Knox County.

On June 30, 2009, my assistant John Delawder retired from the ROE after many years in education. We gave him a retirement party and wished him only the best. On July 1, Richard Qualls was appointed to the position until December 31<sup>st</sup>. On January 1, 2010, Sheila Roehlk will assume the position until June 30<sup>th</sup>. Both have been in education for over 50 years holding a variety of positions from teacher to administrator. We welcome both of them to the ROE.

The teacher's directory should be out by the end of October. We will not delete or in any way change the information that is sent to us from the districts. I would like your reaction to the quality of the directory. Please feel free to e-mail me at [bharris@roe33.net](mailto:bharris@roe33.net) with any constructive criticism. I certainly appreciate your input.

Due to the possible outbreak of the flu and H1N1, we are going to make copies of this newsletter for every teacher in Knox County. Additional copies can be made from the website at [www.roe33.net](http://www.roe33.net). The last page has very good information about preventive care.

On Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> I would like to read the book [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) to as many pre-k and kindergarten classes as I can. I would appreciate an invitation to read to your class or classes. Please call 345-3832 and set up a time. If you would like to be involved in this program go to [www.readfortherecord.org](http://www.readfortherecord.org). You can find toolkits available for teachers.

Although our funding was cut in most of the programs, we are still trying to provide the best service we can to Knox County. I would also like to again thank all of the people who have complimented the staff for their service and professionalism. We try hard and I am glad it is showing.

You have received some information about the new Gifted Education Seminar (GES). We think that it will not be available until after November. Some people have already signed up for this seminar. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to call the office and sign up.

I was delighted to attend the opening ceremonies at the new Alternative School. This school is another option for high school students in Galesburg.

The KCA (Knox County Academy) serves a different population. The students come from all over Knox County. Students attending the KCA night program are working toward a high school diploma. We are very fortunate to be able to have a graduation ceremony for the students who complete their work. The students attending the day program are referred to the school and return to their district school.

We have another option for students 17-21 who have dropped out of school. They must meet certain requirements. This is an opportunity for them to get their lives back on track. They are offered varied ways to move forward with their education. Mr. Sharif Sidi is the director of this program. If you know of anyone who might be able to take advantage of this education opportunity please call the office and ask for Mr. Sidi.

Let's make it a great year.

### **KCA – Knox County Academy 345-0101**

The KCA, a Regional Safe School has relocated to 850 Mulberry Street. We are currently serving students in grades 7-12. This is a county school and we serve all county students. Mr. Randy Meneweather is the director. We welcome him and the two new teachers, Ms. Friedley and Mr. Kamona. Their hours are 7:40AM to 1:40PM daily.

### **Knox County Academy Night School 345-1022**

The evening diploma program is also located at 850 Mulberry Street. Their hours are Noon to 5:00PM daily.

Mr. Joel Ward is the teacher/director and Ms. Susie Warner is his assistant.

This program is serving students who have officially dropped out (withdrawn) from their district school and re-enrolled at the KCA.

The KCA is a very valuable educational service the state is providing for Knox County.

### **TAEOP/ADEPT – Truancy Program**

Project ADEPT has added a new caseworker/truant officer to the staff. Her name is Cecilee Farris. Ms Farris will be working with Lombard, Churchill, Silas and Nielson Schools. Mr. Greg Jennings will continue to work in ROWVA, Abingdon, Williamsfield and Knoxville Schools. Mr. Lorenzo Pugh is still the director of this program. If you have need of any of their services, please call the office.

### **Homeless Program**

Our area, as well as the nation, continues to experience increased homelessness. Although as a nation, we have always had homeless, the recent economic downturn has caused the situation to escalate. National legislation requires local school districts to provide homeless students such services as: free lunches, immediate enrollment (regardless of school or health records) and other services. Homeless students are not just those students living in shelters or on the street but also include families doubled up (two families living together due to financial reasons), and families living with relatives. If you have questions about homeless students, how to recognize homelessness or other services available, please contact your district homeless Liaison or the Homeless Liaison at the Regional Office of Education: Mary Scanlon at 345-3828.

## Liaisons:

Donna Pratt <a href="mailto:dpratt@abingdon.k12.il.us">dpratt@abingdon.k12.il.us</a>	Abingdon CUSD #217	1-309-462-2301	Fax 1-309-462-3870
Guy Cahill <a href="mailto:gcahill@galesburg205.org">gcahill@galesburg205.org</a>	Galesburg CUSD #205	1-309-343-1151	Fax 1-309-343-1319
Jean Peterson <a href="mailto:jpeterson@bluebullets.org">jpeterson@bluebullets.org</a>	Knoxville CUSD #202	1-309-289-2324	Fax 1-309-289-9466
Stacy Johnson <a href="mailto:sjohnson@rowva.k12.il.us">sjohnson@rowva.k12.il.us</a>	ROWVA CUSD #208	1-309-483-6376	Fax 1-309-483-6378
Laura Woodside <a href="mailto:lwoodside@rowva.k12.il.us">lwoodside@rowva.k12.il.us</a>	ROWVA CUSD #208	1-309-483-6376	Fax 1-309-483-6378
Wendy Doubet <a href="mailto:doubetw@billtown.org">doubetw@billtown.org</a>	Williamsfield CUSD #210	1-309-639-2216	Fax 1-309-639-2338
Mary Scanlon <a href="mailto:mscanlon@roe33.net">mscanlon@roe33.net</a>	ROE #33	1-309-345-3828	Fax 1-309-345-6735

## Website:

1) Sell your unwanted teacher stuff to other teachers. Post an ad at <http://www.HootOfLoot.com>

A new website that is directed to parent questions. [www.illinoisparents@uiuc.edu](http://www.illinoisparents@uiuc.edu).

A newly revised website – Helping Children Succeed in School.  
<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/succeed/>

## Professional Development Opportunities:

**1) Twelve Effective Approaches to Building Vocabulary Skills, Grades 4 – 6.**

**Presenter- Dea Conrad-Curry**

Think about this...the average kindergarten student arrives day one at school with a 10,000 oral word vocabulary but needs to have a 50,000 to 60,000 word reading vocabulary by high school graduation (Graves, 2006). However, the research of Hart and Risely (*Meaningful Differences*, 1995) shows a socio-economic gap indicating that children from low income homes may have as much as a 50% gap in the vocabulary they bring to school. How can we build a foundation for vocabulary learning that will scaffold all students to the kind of vocabulary growth they need to be successful in school? This workshop will provide cross content, grade-level appropriate materials and ideas for building both academic and real-world vocabulary at the intermediate grades.

Date: September 29, 2009 from 3:30PM to 7:30PM at the Galesburg Public Library. The cost is \$20.00 and there will be 3 CPDU's offered. Registration deadline Sept. 24, 2009.

## 2) A Little Hearing Loss Is a Big Thing & Reading/Writing for Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

**Date: October 15, 2009 Training times 5:00 – 7:30**

**Location: Knox County Annex, 220 E. Simmons St. Galesburg**

**Please call Lynne at 309-345-3828 to register by Oct. 8, 2009.**

**THIS IS A FREE WORKSHOP THAT OFFERS 2 CPDU'S**

**3) 15-Methods to Differentiate Instruction In Your Classroom 6 – 12.** Differentiation is not just today's buzz word; differentiation is a tangible teaching style that brings engaged learning and achievement to everyone in your classroom. Creating a rhythm between whole-class instruction and small group exploration, student share learning opportunities shaped to meet their instructional needs. This workshop will provide practice and extend ideas for differentiating through content, process and product using activities such as Open and Closed Word sorts, Admit & Exit Slips, Productive Thinking, and Generative Mental models. Even if you have attended a differentiated workshop before, this one is sure to offer new and fun, but challenging and educational teaching tools.

Date: October 22, 2009 from 8:30AM to 4:00PM at the Knox County Annex. The cost is \$100.00 and there will be 6 CPDU's offered. Registration Deadline October 15, 2009.

### **APPLY FOR A PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD!**

If you've made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year, you could win \$1,000 and a fabulous trip to Washington, D.C., next May – by applying for a Prudential Spirit of Community Award! Even more importantly, you could win recognition that might inspire other young people to follow your example. These prestigious awards, sponsored by Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, have honored nearly 90,000 middle level and high school students over the past 14 years solely for their volunteer work.

It's easy to apply! Just visit <http://spirit.prudential.com> or [www.principals.org/prudential](http://www.principals.org/prudential), click on the "How to Apply" link, and follow the onscreen instructions. When asked for the access key, type the word **spirit**. (If you need a paper application form, call 877-525-8491 toll-free). All state-level honorees will be announced in February. The top middle level and high school applicant in each state and the District of Columbia, called State Honorees, will receive an unrestricted award of \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent to Washington, D.C., next May 1-4.

### **48<sup>th</sup> Annual U.S. Senate Youth Program**

Superintendent Koch is inviting you to help identify student candidates for the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual United States Senate Youth Program sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. A student must be a junior or senior high school student currently serving in an elected or selected capacity in student government or a related organization, and plan to take government courses in college. A student must be a permanent resident of the United States, currently be enrolled in a public or private secondary school in Illinois, and have at least one parent or guardian who is a legal resident of Illinois.

### **\*\*\*ADMINISTRATOR'S ACADEMY**

#### **"Illinois Health Life Safety Overview and Update"**

When: October 22, 2009

Time: 8:30AM to 3:30PM

Contact :Two Rivers on the web at

[www.tworiverspdc.net](http://www.tworiverspdc.net)

Cost \$175.00

Presenter Bev Letcher

Our Office Hours are:

8:30AM to 4:30PM M.T.TH.F.

8:30AM TO 6:00PM W.