

KNOX COUNTY REGIONAL
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
121 S. PRAIRIE ST
www.roe33.net

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PLEASE POST FOR ALL TO SEE

From the Superintendent:

This newsletter has a few professional development opportunities for educators. We can't do much about the weather, but we can do much about our lives. I truly believe in having a positive relationship between schools and parents. I found this quote by Patricia Gandara at the illinoisparents.org website. "There is no better place to create a community of caring than in our schools-the heart of our future."

Have a great rest of the year! Remember we are here to serve you.

P.S. The Inaugural was great!

NBPTS Candidate Support Group

The group meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4:00 to 6:00pm at the Galesburg Technology Center located at Sandburg Mall in Galesburg.

These support meetings are for National Board Certified Teachers to give potential candidates helpful information and guidance in completing portfolio entries. It is an open door policy for anyone wishing to attend. You do not need to attend EVERY support meeting.

Please contact Carole Allert, NBCT at:

callert@galesburg205.org for additional information

Geography Bowl – 2009 (John Delawder)

The 2009 edition of the Knox County Geography Bowl was held on Saturday, February 7th at Knoxville Jr. High School. The Elementary Division featured 7 schools, including; Cooke, Costa, Gale, King, Nielson, Silas and Steele, The Secondary Division included; Abingdon, Churchill, Costa, Knoxville and Lombard.

It was a beautiful Saturday with temperatures in the 60's. A great crowd of; parents, friends, current and past teachers as well as administrators were on hand to support the students in their academic competition.

This year, as last, each team competed against every team in their division in a preliminary round robin style. The initial rounds determined the seating for the Championship Round.

In the Elementary Division Championship Round, Gale School came out on top. Silas was second, Cooke in third and fourth place to King. In the Secondary Championship Round, Churchill took first, Abingdon was second, third went to Costa and fourth to Knoxville.

An Awards Assembly followed the competition and Certificates were presented to all team members. Classroom plaques were given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in each division. The Champions in each division also received a Geography Bowl medal.

The Regional Office of Education wishes to thank all Quizmasters, Score Keepers and Timers for their help facilitating the bowl. A special thank you goes out to all the coaches for the many hours that they spent preparing their teams for the 2009 Geography Bowl.

Quizmasters included; Doug Simmons, Pat Callahan, Dave Schoenwetter, Rhonda Brady, and Laurie Muelder. Timers were; Bill Griffin, Carroll Wilson, Mary Scanlon, Dawnelle Glass, and Diane Eager. Score Keepers included; Erin Brown, Hank Hamann, Debbie Jo Metsker, Tina Gummerson, Owen Muelder, Janette Ferguson, Louise Wolf, Greg Jennings, Mary Adolphson.

Coaches included; Gina Simpson, Kathy Disbennett, Jason Brown, Huong Hua, Peter Schwartzman, Carla Markwart, Kaarina Stanley, Kyle James, Jennifer Robinson, Kay Tracy, Renee Clevenger, Shelly Golden, Katie Ruehmer, Malinda Ullrich, Deb Cratty, Stephanie Chapin, Khristi Kramer, and Nathan Sibley.

ROE Questions and Answers

Last spring ISBE asked ROEs to submit common questions. The following are answers given by the Educator Certification staff.

Is the signature of the regional superintendent required on the face of the issued certificate?

No. A certificate issued by the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board does not require the signature of the regional superintendent. The letter that accompanies certificates with the subject line, "Instructions for Completing the Certification Process" was modified and no longer advises educators that this signature must be on the face of the certificate.

Linda Jamali
Educator Certification

To register for TEACHING STRATEGIES AND CLASSROOM GRADING FOR ELL SUCCESS contact Lynne Gray: lgray@roe33.net Phone: 309-345-3828 at the Regional Office of Education #33, 121 S. Prairie Street, Galesburg, IL 61401

There is no cost for this training for educators in Area III ROEs

There will be a \$50 fee for participants attending from outside of the cooperating ROE area.

PART 1 THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD 4:30 – 7:30

PART 2 THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH 4:30 – 7:30

Pre-service Teachers, Paraprofessionals, General Education Teachers

Questions? Contact Lynne Gray 309-345-3828, lgray@roe33.net

TEACHING STRATEGIES AND CLASSROOM GRADING FOR ELL SUCCESS!

Presented by Debra Cole, Regional Coordinator for ELLs, Sponsored by Area III ROE

PART 1: Differentiating Mainstream Classroom Assessment for Grading for ELL success

Presentation Goals

- Provide an overview of English Language Proficiency Standards and the World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Consortium.
- Discuss the standards based instruction and assessment of ELLs, focusing on using language proficiency assessment data to plan and inform instruction.
- Describe the WIDA “CAN DO” descriptors, Speaking and Writing rubrics, and discuss their use of adapting and designing appropriate formative and summative assessments of ELLs in the classroom.
- Provide a framework for grading ELLs that is both fair and challenging – focused on helping ELLs meet or exceed grade level standards in content area classes.

PART 2: Classroom Instruction that WORKS for ELLs

Essential Nine – With Adaptations for ELLs and Low literacy Students

- Researchers at Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL) have identified nine instructional strategies that are most likely to improve student achievement across all content areas and across all grade levels. These strategies are explained in the book *Classroom Instruction That Works* by Robert Marzano, Debra Pickering, and Jane Pollock.
- Sample lesson activities for teaching Summary Writing with Templates
 - Window Pane: Draw what I draw – Say what I say – Do what I do
 - Supplemental Writing Packet – Explanation of the Activities

Homelessness in Knox County (Mary Scanlon)

The number of homeless students in Knox County is up over last year probably affected by the overall state of the nation's as well as local economic conditions. Be on the look out in March for "new" Homeless multi-colored flip-charts in your teacher's lounges, some have already been distributed. These recently compiled charts provide quick information for all school related staff on homelessness.

Important information to know: If a homeless student in your district moves to another school, that homeless student has the right to remain in attendance at that school. This is especially true when the child remains in the district but transfers to another district school. **WHY?** This ensures the already homeless student maintains some consistency in their education in an otherwise chaotic and transitory life.

Homeless children and youth:

(A) Means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and...

(B) Includes:

- (i) children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; are living in motels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care.
- (ii) children and youth who have a primary residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for humans.
- (iii) children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- (iv) Migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

Project Adept (Lorenzo Pugh)

Project A.D.E.P.T. has been busy and productive. We have currently served over two hundred kids this year regarding truancy. We would like to officially offer our hand in any additional services your school may need such as mentoring and/or any special events. Please don't hesitate to contact the Regional Office. Ask for Lorenzo, Krystal or Greg. We appreciate your time and cooperation.

Social Emotional Workshop
March 11th at the Galesburg Public Library
4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
3 CPDUs Offered

SEL promotes students' Academic Success: A New Brief from the National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention of SAMHSA.

Presented by Ancilla Parducci, this is a free workshop.

Please call the Regional Office at 345-3828 to reserve your spot by **March 6, 2009**.

Professional Development Opportunities

Mark your calendar for:

Cyber Camp 2009 for K-12 Teachers at Carl Sandburg College, on Thursday and Friday, June 18th & 19th, 2009. Theme of this year's Cyber Camp is "Preparing Students to Complete in the Global Economy".

For more information, contact Lindsey Chase at lchase@sandburg.edu or 309-342-5286 or logon to www.sandburg.net.

Credit: 1 Semester Hour of Vocational Training Credit = 15 CPDUs.

The ROE will pay for First time certified Knox County Teachers.

The 58th Annual Western IL University Mathematics Teachers Conference will be held at the WIU campus on Friday, May 27, 2009. The theme for this year's conference is:

Teaching and Learning Mathematics K-14:
Reflecting on the Past and Preparing for the Future

Please RSVP your attendance for the conference with Sharon Setser at 309-298-2275 or SL-Setser@wiu.edu by Friday, March 6, 2009.

Pamphlets are available at the Regional Office.

Illinois Employment & Training Association

The George Mangiaracina Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1977 by the Illinois Employment and Training Association Executive Board on behalf of all Illinois Employment and Training members. The Illinois Employment and Training Association will award three \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors from the class of 2009. The applicant must demonstrate a need for financial assistance and be in the top 50% of their class. The applicants must reside in the State of Illinois and plan on attending a community college or four year institution within the State of Illinois and major in Accounting or Business. The deadline for applications is April 15, 2009. The scholarship winner(s) will be announced in July of 2009 and the check(s) will be distributed directly to the students in August. **Completed applications should be sent to: workNet DuPage Career Center, c/o Chuck Sutcliff, 2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302, Lisle, Illinois 60532. Applications can be obtained from guidance counselors at your school.**

Spotlight on Educators

Congratulations to Allyson Vaynerman, a King Elementary School reading recovery teacher for receiving the 2009 Illinois Reading Educator of the year in the reading specialist category by the Illinois Reading Council.

Congratulations to Galesburg High School Assistant Principal Steve Eiseman as the recipient of the Illinois Assistant Principal of the year from the Illinois Principals Association.

Dr. Tom Chiles, Wes Olson, Jake Miller and Mary Gehring made an outstanding presentation at the Illinois RESPRO Networking meeting in Springfield, IL, describing their journey towards improving student achievement.

Knox County Academy-Regional Safe School Program

The students at the KCA participated in the BIG Read by doing a BIG WRITE. Their teacher, Ms. Lane, included all students in this program. The High School winners were:

Short Stories 1st Place – Tessa W.

Poetry 1st Place – Dylan J.

Poetry 2nd Place – Shelby L.

The Middle School winners were:

Poetry 1st Place – Brandon C.

Poetry 2nd Place – Wesley G.

Poetry 3rd Place – Anthony A.

They are all reading The Adventures of Tom Sawyer.

Mini-Grant 2009

Please remember the deadline for the application for the 2009 Mini-grant is due to the Regional Office by April 24, 2009. Please contact our office at 345-3828 if you need a copy of the application.

Certification information will be coming out soon.