

ROE NEWSLETTER
VOL. 4, No. 1 – September 2006

Message from the Regional Superintendent

Welcome Back!

Bonnie Harris
Regional Supt.

Veteran teachers and new teachers welcome to the 2006/2007 school year. We at the Regional Office of Education are certainly glad to see all of you. We are here to serve all of the citizens of Knox County. I asked at the end of last year what did you read? I read: Pre-Civil War Quilts by Dr. Clarice Boswell (Dr. Boswell came to Galesburg last fall. I bought her book) Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neal Thurston and Through Ebony Eyes by Gail Thompson.

John Delawder
Asst.
Superintendent

Kathy Dennis
Administrative
Assistant

Thanks to everyone for helping with the Teachers' Institute. It is coming along nicely. We hope to have the booklet in your hands no later than the first week in October. We will be asking you to share in the third session. Sharing, can be verbally or bringing hand-outs.

Paula Tate
Accountant

Our Institute Speaker is Steve Van De Walle. Mr. Van De Walle will bring a videographer with him to tape the Keynote Speech. If you would NOT like to be in the taping, please make sure you sit to the back of the auditorium.

Lorenzo Pugh
Truancy
Director

Congratulations to the winners of the Art Contest. 1st place goes to Mikayla Stokes. 2nd place to Samantha Josephson and 3rd place to Emily Sellers. All these students are from Williamsfield. A special thank you to Williamsfield Art Teacher, Kathryn Ren. Thanks also to all the Art Teachers.

Jeff De Vena
Truancy
Caseworker

I attended Mr. Joel Zaiser's parent orientation night for new drivers at ROWVA on August 15th. It was a very informative meeting. Thanks Mr. Zaiser for the opportunity to attend.

Joni Mc Garry
Parent/Homeless
Coordinator

All Teachers should get on ECS (Educational Central System) after September 5th and look at the system. If you are teaching in a core content area, you need to put in your status concerning Highly Qualified. **There will be an audit.** Even if you have a paper copy of your HQ status, You will still have to do an electronic report. All Educators must monitor their ECS Account.

Congratulations to Cooke Elementary School for making AYP.
Keep up the great work!!

Congratulations to Lombard Middle School for winning the School Academic Improvement Award for the 2005 ISAT Test Scores.

If you would like to have your name/address removed from the Directory,
Please notify the ROE in writing by September 15th.

WELCOME TO Joni Mc Garry who is the new part-time Parent/Homeless Liaison and Stuart Schaafsma and Justin Rakestraw – teachers at the KCA.

HOMELESS LIASIONS FOR THE COUNTY

Abingdon # 217 - Dianna Pratt
Galesburg # 205 - Diane Copeland
Knoxville # 202 - Jean Peterson
ROWVA # 208 - Michelle Erickson and Stacy Johnson
Williamsfield #210 - Wendy Doubet
KCA - Joni Mc Garry

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE ROE???

Kindergarten Day is September 12th and 13th

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

September 15th – October 15th

Visit History.com/classroom for 2006 Photo Collage Contest

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

October 2nd and 3rd for all 5th Graders in Knox County

TRS

Once again for all who are thinking about retirement. Kim Griffin will be at the Galesburg High School on October 4th at 4:30 p.m. .Lecture Room B

GED TESTING DATES

September 15 & 16
October 13 & 14
November 17 & 18
December 15 & 16
January 19 & 20
February 16 & 17

March 9 & 10
March 30 & 31
April 20 & 21
May 18 & 19
June 15 & 16
August 17 & 18

Cost of the GED Test is \$35.00. Register for the test at the ROE at least 1 week before the test

American Education Week --- November 12-18

Don't Forget to Thank a Teacher

Stone-Hayes will be offering classes and teachers can receive cpdu's.

- ✓ 12/5 - Transition from school to work
- ✓ 2/6 - IEP's -- Planning & Participation
- ✓ 4/7 - Solving the Employment Puzzle for Youth with Disabilities

If you, or a parent you know, would be interested in attending a session at Stone-Hayes, please call 344-1306 to reserve a seat!!!

Educational Opportunities

Family Matters (parents and teacher) workshops. All workshops are at the KCA from 5-8 p.m. Please call the ROE at 345-3828 to reserve a seat.

Workshop Dates are:

- ✓ 11/14 – Supports at school for students with ADHD
- ✓ 1/16 - Section 504 and the Education of Students with Disabilities
- ✓ 3/6 - Behavior and Discipline for students receiving special education
- ✓ 5/01 NCLB – No Child Left Behind and Students with Disabilities

Teacher Training on Holocaust at The Buchanan Center in Monmouth

A free, one-day teacher training course on the Holocaust will be offered at the Buchanan Center for the Arts from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 16.

CPDU's will be offered

This training is aimed at high school instructors but is adaptable to middle school teachers if there is enough interest from that grade group. The workshop is free and limited to 50 teachers.

To reserve a space, call the center at 734-3033.

WORKSHOPS

Scaffolding Student Reading and Learning: Guided, Facilitated, Independent
Presenter: Dea Conrad-Curry

Intended Audience: Teachers & Administrators 9-12

Program Description:

Responsible, life-long learners are those who consider their own thinking and how it relates to current information. For many, this “light bulb” moment often comes too late to be of help in high school years. However, this type of cognition can be taught in sequential steps using content materials: modeling our own “executive thinking; guiding students to consider their own brains at work; facilitating dialogues among students; and finally, allowing independent and reflective practice time.

Date: September 28 from 5-8pm at the Knox County Academy – 850 Mulberry St – Galesburg – 3cpdu's
Cost: \$45.00 limit 25 – minimum of 10

Knowing the Brain: Connecting Classroom Practice and Neuroscience

Presenter: Dea Conrad-Curry

Intended Audience: Teachers & Administrator 9 -12

Program Description: Every teacher's goal is to guide students in the process of learning and thinking. Over the years, methods for scaffolding these processes have evolved as researchers and practitioners joined forces, honing the teaching/learning relationship. Today, neuroscience joins forces with brain imaging techniques that reinforce the features of effective classrooms and reveal thinking processes: strategic curriculum; engaged thinking and discourse; meaning making in a social context; individualized connections; and generative learning. Discuss and discover how contemporary science and professional experience can build student achievement in your classrooms.

Date: October 21 at the Knox County Academy from 9am to Noon – 3 cpdu's
Cost is \$45.00 Limit is 25 – minimum of 10

SHOPA Foundation --- Kids in Need Teacher Grants

Application Deadline is September 30th of each year

Description: The purpose of these grants is to provide funds for classroom teachers who have innovative, meritorious ideas but lack the budget to bring them to life. Projects may qualify for funding if they make creative use of common teaching aids, approach the curriculum from an imaginative angle, or tie non-traditional concepts together for the purpose of illustrating commonalities.

Funding Amount: Awards range from \$100 to \$500 each, and are used to finance creative classroom projects. Typically, 200-300 grants are awarded each year.

Who may apply: All certified K-12 teachers in the U.S. are eligible.

For more information, go to:

http://shopa.org/shopa_foundation/teacher_programs.php

http://dmo.channing-bete.com/r.emt?h=shopa.org/shopa_foundation/teacher_programs.php&t=LvW1EA&e=DZfGzqX9Ppk>

Applications:

http://shopa.org/shopa_foundation/2006_teacher_grants/

http://dmo.channing-bete.com/r.emt?h=shopa.org/shopa_foundation/2006_teacher_grants/&t=LvW1EA&e=DZfGzqX9Ppk>

TEACHER TIPS

By John Burgett

1. Eat lunch in the school cafeteria. Eat with kids at least once a week.
2. Never complain about school lunches. You try to feed hundred of kids for that price!
3. Never smile before Christmas! Bah. Hum Bug!
Smile immediately and don't stop. Discipline is built on respect, not fear.
4. Faith is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead. Never lose faith in a student.
5. Display a copy of your diplomas. Be proud of them.
6. Have a lot of green plants in your classroom.
7. Don't wear one of those plastic pen holders/protectors in your shirt pocket.
8. If you see something you like about a person, an assignment, a colleague, etc. share it. Don't waste a compliment.
9. If you are a smoker, quit.
10. Tell your students you love them..... No matter what their age.
11. Never tell a student a lie. They are living lie detectors.
12. Be careful about blood and other bodily secretions. Be careful, not schizophrenic.

Websites: A list of steps educator can take to be prepared for emergencies:

1. www.ciconline.org/beprepared
2. www.ready.gov
3. www.leaderinlearningawards.org