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*****NEW*** The DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

The Adult Education Director, Valerie Fischer, and the CCLC Director, Dale Patrick, will add something to the Director's Corner portion of the newsletter. This month Valerie Fischer, Adult Education Director, has written an article for the newsletter!



DIRECTOR'S CORNER:

I had the opportunity to attend my first national Adult Education Director's meeting in Washington DC. I was in awe of my new peer group and impressed with their kindness and extensions of welcome - what an incredible group of dedicated and passionate educators who have succeeded in increasing adult literacy and creating opportunities for our nation! Much of the discussion and information of the meeting focused on the following ...

- ✧ Workforce Investment Act (WIA Title II) is expected to be reauthorized late summer – early fall of this year; not much more is fact at this time about particular segment changes, but the group had the opportunity to share opinions and recommendations with federal legislative policy advisers;
- ✧ Federal appropriations for Adult Education for the 2009-2010 year were released; as anticipated and like most states, ND will see a 10.5% decrease in funding;
- ✧ President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA; aka the 'stimulus package') includes no direct funding for adult education, but other funding sources can be accessed (Carl Perkins, Individuals with Disabilities Act) and more information will be forthcoming within the next few days that is ND specific;
- ✧ The American Community Survey is a new data source from the US Census which will now be used for collecting and reporting census data.

The 2012 GED was also a hot topic of discussion. Staff from the GEDTS reported ...

- ✧ GEDTS is on schedule with field testing and final review for the 2012 version;
- ✧ The 2012 exam will continue to be a paper test;
- ✧ An honors level GED is being explored and is likely for post secondary bound students;
- ✧ Anticipated changes within the individual exams include:
 - o Language Arts/Reading: increased informational text vs. literature, less drama, more compare and contrast, and questions which lead to general higher thinking skills;
 - o Language Arts/Writing: increased focus on organization, an updated essay scoring rubric as well as persuasive and expository writing prompts, less sentence structure and conventions;
 - o Science: increased emphasis on life sciences and applications within thinking processes, increased skill in interpretation of charts and graphs;
 - o Math: there will be one test book with calculator (Casio FX 300ES) and more alternates formats (gridded);
 - o Social Studies: increased higher order thinking skill requirements, less fact and opinion, one practical document to complete (i.e., tax form).

Additional sessions included the topics of transitioning low-skilled adults, ESL learners, transitioning ABE learners to post-secondary, teaching to standards and writing policy.

The stories shared by other states confirms that North Dakota has an excellent program and how fortunate we are to have the resources and partners we do – congratulations to you all for all the work you do – thank you!

My Space Quiz from
Kim Komando's Site

Kids love the social-networking Web site MySpace.com. But far too often, their profiles disclose too much personal information.

See if your child can spot **10 safety problems in the sample MySpace page below**. You may have to scroll down to view all of the safety issues.

Then, follow the links below the profile to see if your child is correct!

<http://www.komando.com/myspace/index.asp>

Social Networking for Tweens

Kim Komando also has some suggestions for "tweens". To find out more go to:

<http://www.komando.com/kids/tip.aspx?id=4421>

Mark your calendar
for Fall Conference



The NDALL Fall Conference is scheduled at Seven Seas in Mandan for September 29th – 30th ! Bob Upgren will be the main speaker and Ashley Alderson will be the closing speaker with many other great presenters. More information coming!

Bob Upgren will be talking on: Lessons from the Storyteller, Igniting Purpose, and Engaging Youth.

Ashley Alderson will share the Power of a Positive Attitude.

To read about their presentation go to:

http://www.ndlifelonglearningresourcecenter.com/NDALL/ConferenceInfo/Conference_index.htm

More information coming!!

States Feeling Impact Of Economic Decline

Thursday's Notes
Office of Vocational & Adult Education

States experiencing budget deficits expect less fiscal support for education. The Education Commission of the States (ECS) has collected [examples of state responses to budget shortfalls](#) reflecting short-term cuts in P-12 funding. Examples include new ways states are trying to fund education. A [state-by-state map](#) of state deficits, and unemployment and foreclosure rates is available from *CNNMoney*. Some 92 percent of the cities surveyed also expect to have trouble meeting their needs during 2009, *CNNMoney* reports.

<http://money.cnn.com/news/storysupplement/economy/gapmap/index.htm>

Casio FX – 300ES
Activities

There will be a new calculator with the new 2012 GED tests. Everyone has time to learn this new calculator!! Here are some websites with activities which will help you and your students learn this calculator:

This website has lessons and activities which range from pre-algebra to absolute value. These are downloadable in a pdf file.
http://www.casioeducation.com/activities/lesson_calc/CC829EF5-B4C1-4D2D-A949-68FAE7E94178

Making Science Fun!

<http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/experiments/>

Mountain Dew Flashlight
Submitted by Sharon Desilets,
Minot ALC

Did you know that with baking soda, hydrogen peroxide, and Mountain Dew you can make a flashlight? Google Mountain Dew Flashlight or go to:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=1555812096383957130&ei=oCi1Sf2OMYGyqALjiPyiAg&q=mountain+dew+flashlight&hl=en>

Quicken Financial Articles

Quicken has some finance articles on their website. Some of the articles deal with Saving Smart, Budgeting Basics, Getting Out of Debt, Investing 101, Marriage and Family, Money and Marriage, and Fun With Finances.

http://quicken.intuit.com/personal-finance-tips/index.jsp?lid=site_banner

Lemonade Stand

Summer is around the corner!! To teach some math skills and some business skills you can have your students play the Lemonade Stand game.

<http://www.coolmath-games.com/lemonade/>

http://www.classbrain.com/cb_games/cb_gms_bag/lemonade.html

This is an example of how one family started an actual lemonade stand and what their children learned.

<http://www.familycapers.com/Projects/Lemonade/default.html#top>

USA Today Financial Class

Independent 101

USA Today has teamed up with Great American Financial Resources and developed Independent Living 101 with a series of lessons for understanding finances, credit, and planning. There are a series of 14 lessons and teachers can select the lessons depending on the student's needs.

<http://usatodayeducate.com/wordpress/index.php/independent-living-101>



GED Graduation

GED graduations are fast coming! Here are some of the places and dates:

Bismarck GED Graduation	May 21 st at 7 PM at the Belle Mehus Auditorium
Devils Lake GED Graduation	May 12 th at 7:00 pm
Dickinson GED Graduation	May 14 th at 7:30 MT
Grand Forks Graduation	May 13 th at 7:30 pm at the Alerus Center
Minot Graduation	May 14 th at Magic City Campus
Turtle Mountain Community College Graduation	May 16 at 10:00 a.m.
Valley City GED Graduation	May 14 at 7:00 p.m. Sheyenne Valley Career & Technology Center
West Fargo GED Graduation	May 28 th at 7:30 pm at West Fargo High School Theater
Williston GED Graduation	May 16 th at 10:30 a.m. First Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall



Library Spot

A great website for doing research, using reference desks for grammar, spelling, statistics, quotations, yellow pages, white pages, looking up other libraries, and so much more. Go to: <http://www.libraryspot.com/>

Homework Spot

Sister site to Library Spot is the Homework Spot. A lot of valuable material can be found on this site also. Even little tidbits like: **Why do dolphins leap from the water?**

Dolphins don't jump from the water simply to show off their flying skills. They leap to conserve energy since it's actually easier to move through the air than through water.

<http://homeworkspot.com/>

Other related spots:

[GovSpot.com](#)

[HeadlineSpot.com](#)

[LibrarySpot.com](#)

[MuseumSpot.com](#)

Science Fun Websites



Ned Strand from Minot is sharing some science websites which he found in the Report to Parents from the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

www.sciencenewsforkids.org

www.exploratorim.edu

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Games>

www.centreofthecell.org/centre/?page_id-301

www.questacon.edu.au/activities

www.sandiegozoo.org/education/science_experiments.html

Ned also shared the North Dakota State Parent Information Resource Center website. This website has a lending library, information, materials, training information and more.

<http://ndstatepirc.org/>

Cheryl Keenan, Director of Adult Education and Literacy, Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE)

Cheryl L. Keenan, director of OVAE's Division of Adult Education and Literacy, testified Feb. 26 before the House Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness on reauthorization of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA). Keenan emphasized the key role adult education can play in America's economic recovery because it provides basic literacy skills that are critical for gaining employment that provides family-supporting wages.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/ae-testimony-ovae-090224.pdf>

ESL Resource

HOTEL T.E.A.C.H. contains a curriculum to address the needs of immigrant adults employed in hotels.

http://www.laguardia.edu/ciet/workforce_TEACH_curriculum.aspx



Award Nomination Criteria Checklist

Please use the following checklist in writing your nomination narrative. Be sure to address each item in the award criteria for your nominee when composing your narrative. Limit yourself to one page, single or double-spaced. The nominee should not have previously received the award. (A picture of an old school house may be submitted, but is not required, to be used for the award should your nominee be selected. A photo of your school may be submitted instead, if you wish, and is also not required.)

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

- _____ Is a staff member, teacher, administrator or volunteer who is a member of NDALL. Individual must be in adult education, 21st Century or Even Start
- _____ Continues significantly to the field of education
- _____ Models professionalism
- _____ Contributes to upgrade educational skills
- _____ Promotes education locally and statewide

EXEMPLARY ADULT STUDENT AWARD

- _____ Current or recent adult student/graduate
- _____ Demonstrates determination and perseverance
- _____ Sacrifices to achieve his/her educational goals(s)

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP/SERVICE AWARD

- _____ Is an NDALL member who demonstrates exceptional leadership in his/her area of responsibility

LIFELONG LEARNING AWARD

- _____ A business, business person, school administrator, legislator or community group
- _____ Exemplifies and supports the NDALL mission of supporting lifelong learning
- _____ Encourages others

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

_____ NDALL member who has been in your program less than three years

_____ Exhibits enthusiasm and energy

_____ Contributes a great amount in a short time

**Groupings for NDALL Award Nominations
2008-2009**

Four-year rotation groupings for nominations for the 5 awards: Educator of the Year, Exemplary Adult Student, Outstanding Leadership/Service, Lifelong Learning and Newcomer of the Year. The deadline for nominations is May 15, 2009.

Members of each group are responsible to submit nominations for their program awards—Even Start, 21st Century and Adult Education. Nominations from other Centers are welcome and encouraged.

Group 1: 2008-2009	Group 2: 2009-2010	Group 3: 2010-2011	Group 4: 2011-2012
Great NW ED. Coop Bismarck ALC NDSP Adult Ed Program NDYCC Adult Ed Program Mid-Dakota ED. Coop Dickinson ALC	Missouri River Ed Coop Minot ALC North Central Ed. Coop Williston ALC New Town Adult Ed Belcourt ALC	NE Services Coop Grand Forks ALC Mayville Adult Ed Roughrider Ed. Service Program Grafton Adult Ed Devils Lake ALC Fort Totten Adult Ed.	SE Ed. Coop West Fargo Adult Ed Red River Valley Ed. Coop Fargo ALC Jamestown ALC Valley City ALC Wahpeton ALC