



September 2009
Volume 7: Number 7



ND Association for Lifelong Learning Fall Conference September 28-30, 2009

This year's theme is:

Drawing Out People's Potential

Monday evening will be registration, Meet and Greet your State Directors: Valerie Fischer and Dale Patrick. Also included in Monday evening will be tables showing some mini-modules, activities, and ideas to take back to the classroom.

There are many great speakers and sessions. Our main speaker is Bob Upgren. His main presentation is: Lessons From a Storyteller and he will also present at 2 break-out session. His break-out sessions will be Igniting Purpose and Engaging Youth. Bob has been an invaluable resource in informing, challenging, mentoring and inspiring people to become truly great leaders.

Representative Rae Ann Kelsch will be the luncheon speaker on Tuesday, Greg Darnieder from the U.S. Department of Public Instruction will be the breakfast speaker on Wednesday along with having "Listen and Learn" sessions, and Ashley Alderson will be the closing speaker. She is living proof that something good will come out of every bad situation and will leave everyone thinking about the Power of a Positive Attitude!

Other break-out sessions will include:

Study skills and active learning, Official GED practice tests, Work keys, GED Keys to Success, Workplace Literacy, Math Whiz game, ESL/BEST test, Technology Potpourri, TABE tidbits, Got Math for working world, Working World Blizzard, and Career Focus.

The **After- School Sessions** will be:

Tuesday: All Day sessions with Heather Martindill from McRel. This day-long interactive workshop will provide participants with ideas for embedding literacy into their afterschool program. This workshop will provide guidance in the use of exciting, research-based approaches – including games and other activities – to reinforce students' literacy skills. We will be exploring building students' academic vocabulary, read-aloud, writing, and literature dramatization in afterschool settings. Suggestions for tailoring activities for English Language Learners will also be provided.

Wednesday: Sharon Query, Linda Hauge, Carla Monson, and Maxine Nordick will present Tools of the Trade II. Tool up on the latest research and cutting edge activities to incorporate science, engineering, and Technology (SET) content into afterschool programming. Through this interactive workshop, attendees will experience a 15 hour after school staff training curriculum. Come fill your toolbox with *hands-on...minds-on* methods to inspire young minds and to help them learn the SET abilities they need for the 21st century!! Information on how to purchase the curriculum will be shared.

Math Whiz, Career Focus, Listen and Learn Tour will also be available for both the Adult Education and the After School attendees.

Save the Dates!!

Motel Information



2611 Old Red Trl
Mandan, ND 58554-1448
(701) 663-7401

Silent Auction

Please bring items for the silent auction!

Registration

To register for NDALL Fall Conference go to:

<http://www.ndlifelonglearningresourcecenter.com/conference.htm>

Click on “Register Now” You will register once for the Membership Directory and again for the Conference.

Please register by September 21st. If you have difficulty registering please contact Laurel Kaae at ndall2007@gmail.com

BEST Plus Training in North Dakota

Mary Schaefer

Accountability is a high stakes issue for Adult Learning Centers. Accurate evaluation is essential in reflecting the student progress we see each day. This year, programs serving ESL Adult Learners will be adjusting their assessment procedures to comply with new NRS reporting requirements. The Best Plus is replacing the former Oral Best as an accepted assessment for adult ESL students. The BEST Literacy also remains an option for those students appropriate for a written assessment.

The Best Plus was developed by Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) in response to the emerging assessment and accountability needs from the advent of the NRS. It is designed to assess the oral language proficiency of adult nonnative speakers of English. This assessment is administered by trained staff in a face to face interview. The BEST Plus provides a means to assess student progress and provides multiple forms for pretesting and post testing. The assessment comes in two versions, a computer-adaptive on a CD-ROM and a semi-adaptive print version.

To administer the BEST Plus, staff must complete a six hour training offered by a trainer certified by the Center of Applied Linguistics. Mary Schaefer of the Fargo Adult Learning Center has recently completed the necessary procedures to become the BEST Plus North Dakota State trainer. On June 22, BEST Plus Administrator training was conducted by Mary Schaefer with Michelle Ueland of the Center from Applied Linguistics serving as mentor trainer. Adult education staff from Bismarck, Fargo and Minot completed training to administer the BEST Plus on that date. On August 27th, staff from Dickinson, Grand Forks, Jamestown, West Fargo and Fargo will complete BEST Plus Administrator training held from 9:00-4:30 at the Fargo Adult Learning Center.

More information on the BEST Plus will be available in a breakout session presented by Mary

Schaefer at NDALL Fall Conference held in Mandan, ND this September.

TABE Test Training

Laurel Kaae/Wendy Lunski

This session will be an introduction to the TABE test for new instructors and a review for those currently giving the TABE test. Topics will include administration, scoring, reporting procedures, and how to use the results for placement and instruction. A mini professional development session will include how to administer the TABE test.

Senator Kennedy Children's Book Author

Did you know that Senator Kennedy read every Tuesday to elementary school children in Washington, D.C. and he also wrote a book "*My Senator and Me*"?

For more information about Senator Kennedy and his book:

<http://www.examiner.com/x-7597-Childrens-Books-Examiner~y2009m8d27-Ted-Kennedy-made-a-big-splash-as-a-childrens-author>

Colorin Colorado

ELL

A bilingual site for families and educators of English Language Learners.

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/>

From A to Z

This page has hundreds of recommended links for ELL.

http://www.colorincolorado.org/web_resources/a_to_z_all_links

Adolescent Literacy A Resource for Parents and Educators of Kids in Grades 4-12

<http://www.adlit.org/>

New Technology Tool Live Scribe Pulse Pen Never Miss A Word

Laurel Kaae

I first heard about the Live Scribe Pulse Pen from Susan Barton from the Barton Reading System. Her website is: <http://www.brightsolutions.us/>

This is what she says: At Stanford University, incoming freshmen who have dyslexia or other learning disabilities that make taking notes during lecture classes difficult are encouraged to get and use a Pulse SmartPen.

It is very easy to figure out and use. It is the first practical, affordable -- and really cool -- solution to taking notes -- whether you're in a classroom, a lecture hall, a business meeting, an interview, or even an IEP eligibility session.

From About.com:

<http://homeworktips.about.com/od/schoolsupplies/fr/pulse.htm>

To watch short video clips of this amazing new tool, go to:

www.livescribe.com

The pulse pen records what is said and links audio to handwritten notes, has a calculator, notes can be saved to your computer, and it can also be uploaded to a website to share with others.

http://www.pcworld.com/article/157252/livescribe_digital_pen_talks_back.html

Uses in the classroom and with different groups:

<http://www.livescribe.com/blog/2009/05/29/using-the-pulse-smartpen-in-the-classroom-steven-silverman-high-school-teacher/>

For ELL:

<http://discoverarchive.vanderbilt.edu/handle/1803/2910>

Pulse Smart Pen at Conference:

If you are interested in trying out the pen to see how it works I will have one on Monday evening at the Mini-Module/Activities table. This is a great technology tool!!

Cat Earns High School Diploma Online

Beware of diploma mills.

Oreo the Cat was able to get a high school diploma online.

For the full story go to:

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/32420644/ns/tech_and_science-tech_and_gadgets/

**See you at
conference!!**