



Working together for the children
of Western North Carolina

Update

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May 2007

K-12 Literacy Institute with Stephanie Harvey, Debbie Miller and Cris Tovani

August 7-9, 2007 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$150

Registration Deadline: June 8, 2007

Registration fee is non-refundable

A three-day K-12 Literacy Institute will be held with three of the top consultants in the country. This is a unique opportunity for the teachers and administrators in western North Carolina. We are fortunate to have all three of them scheduled for the Asheville area on the above dates. All are accomplished writers and developers of videos and other materials which assist teachers across the country.

Debbie Miller taught and learned from children in the Denver Public Schools for 30 years. She is the author of *Reading with Meaning: Teaching Comprehension in the Primary Grades*. Debbie was with us in December of 2006. Teachers were extremely pleased with the information they received from her.

Stephanie Harvey has worked with us also. Stephanie has spent her career teaching and learning about reading and writing. The author of two books, *Nonfiction Matters* and *Strategies That Work*, Stephanie works with educators, schools and districts to implement progressive literacy practices.

Cris Tovani taught elementary school for ten years before becoming a high school reading specialist and English teacher. A nationally known consultant, she chooses to continue teaching high school students full-time. Her book, *I Read It, But I Don't Get It*, and her new video series has helped thousands of teachers nationwide improve their instruction in reading comprehension.

All participants will start each day in the auditorium of Enka High School. Registration will be each morning from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. A schedule that includes times and locations is below. Please register early!! Registration will be limited. A certificate of credit will be issued at the end of the institute. *Materials written and developed will be available for purchase at the institute.* If you have questions, please contact Richard Greene, 828.418.0011, ext. 14, rgreene@wresa.org or Kathy Carver, ext. 18, kcarver@wresa.org.

Dates	Times and Location	Sessions
August 7-9, 2007	8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
	9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Enka High School - Auditorium 475 Enka Lake Road Candler, NC	Keynotes and Interactive Session •August 7 – Stephanie Harvey •August 8 – Debbie Miller •August 9 – Cris Tovani
	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch On Your Own
	1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Debbie Miller WRESA on A-B Tech/Enka Campus Large Conference Room, 2 nd Floor Stephanie Harvey WRESA on A-B Tech/Enka Campus Small Conference Room, 2 nd Floor Cris Tovani Enka High School Media Center	Breakout sessions with Debbie, Stephanie, & Cris <i>Debbie will work with primary teachers. Stephanie will work with upper elementary and middle school teachers. Cris will work with high school teachers.</i>

Register online at www.wresa.org



SPECIAL EVENTS

Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Carol Bennett at 828.418.0011, ext. 17, cbennett@wresa.org. A certificate of credit for 5 contact hours will be issued after each session.

Ralph Fletcher

Boy Writers: Reclaiming Their Voices

September 12, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$100

Registration fee is non-refundable.

them as writers. The book also looks at how *handwriting can hamstring boy writers, and how drawing may help; welcoming boy-friendly writing genres in our classrooms; ways to improve our conferring with boys and more.* Each participant will receive Ralph's book, *Boy Writers*. Contact Hours: 5; Registration Deadline: August 31, 2007

Ralph Fletcher is a nationally known educational consultant and speaker. His talks are humorous, anecdotal and practical. His work with teachers has its roots in his classroom experience as well as his own writing. He has the utmost respect for the difficult, important job teachers have in helping students find their voices for the writing that will shape their lives. Writing test scores indicate that boys have fallen far behind girls across the grades. In general, boys don't enjoy writing as much as girls. What's wrong? How can we do a better job of creating "boy-friendly" classrooms so their voices can be heard? In Boy Writers: Reclaiming Their Voices, Ralph Fletcher draws upon his years of experience as staff developer, children's book author, and father of four boys. He also taps the insights from dozens of writing teachers around the US and abroad. Topic choice emerges as a crucial issue. Ralph argues that we must "widen the circle" and give boys more choice if we want to engage

Ag in the Classroom: An Avalanche of Great Reading Strategies

June 14-15, 2007

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (June 14)

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (June 15)

Registration Fee: \$35

(Lunch and refreshments provided)

Registration fee is non-refundable.

This session is for K-5 teachers who are looking for new and creative ways to increase student performance in reading, address all learning modalities and gain knowledge of western NC's agricultural bounty. This workshop will provide you with an avalanche of effective, innovative, hands-on reading strategies to kick off and use throughout your school year. The session is a blizzard of activities that will capture student interest and motivate learning. Activities will put the freeze on "business as usual" in your classroom. You will receive many ideas to supplement and reinforce student attainment of the accountability standards for North Carolina. The instructors for this workshop are former teachers in the NC public schools. Louise Lamm has a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction and Supervision; Ellen Gould is reading recovery certified and has a master's degree in Elementary Education and Administration. **Participants will receive one (1) reading renewal credit.** Registration Deadline: May 18, 2007

NCDPI Elementary Mathematics & Science Professional Development Sessions

All sessions

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

per person, per session

K-1 Mathematics

K-1 Science

2-3 Mathematics

4-5 Mathematics

2-3 Science

4-5 Science

September 19, 2007

September 20, 2007

September 26, 2007

September 27, 2007

October 10, 2007

October 11, 2007

The Elementary Mathematics and Science Section at NCDPI has developed professional development sessions to fulfill the section's **goal of dedication to the development of highly qualified teachers who utilize 21st Century skills while preparing future-ready students.** The sessions will provide **content knowledge** as well as **inquiry and integrated instruction** in the elementary classroom. The full-day sessions in mathematics will **focus on the content of measurement, algebra, geometry, and data analysis.** The full-day science sessions will focus on the **content of inquiry, earth, life, and physical science.** Limited to 30 participants per session. Register early!! Contact Hours: 5 per day attended; Registration Deadline: September 7, 2007, for all sessions

Mark Your
Calendars

Summer Leadership Conference 2007 & NCASA Superintendents' Retreat
June 24-27, 2007 Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC Register at www.wresa.org



North Carolina Geographic Alliance
2007 Summer Institute
June 18-21, 2007
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Western Region Education Service Alliance (WRESA)
Enka, NC

The North Carolina Geographic Alliance will hold a four day drive-in summer Geography Institute at WRESA June 18 - 21. The institute is ***primarily for teachers of grades 4 - 8***, but it is open to teachers of other grades or disciplines.

Daily sessions will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at WRESA on the A-B Tech - Enka Campus.
The cost for the 4-day institute is \$40.00 per person.

Institute Highlights

- ❖ A great training institute for both new and experienced classroom teachers
- ❖ Geared towards the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study*
- ❖ Receive great materials for classroom use
- ❖ Hands-on activities
- ❖ Receive CEU credit
- ❖ Lesson plan demonstrations demonstrating best practices in geography and social studies
- ❖ Learn more about the North Carolina Geographic Alliance and how you can become a Teacher Consultant in the NCGA

Institute Topics

- ❖ Geography and the North Carolina Curriculum
- ❖ Using Geography Frameworks
- ❖ Population Trends from local to global
- ❖ Teaching Climate using hands-on methods
- ❖ Regional Geography - case studies
- ❖ Physical Geography
- ❖ People and Cultures
- ❖ Mapping strategies and activities
- ❖ Literature connections
- ❖ Integrating Geography and Social Studies with Reading and Math

Register online at <http://www.wresa.org>

Computer Training: Online Courses Available Through December 2007

Visit our web site at www.wresa.org to view courses available in our Online Computer Training program. You may **preview** any of the courses by simply clicking on the active links to the courses. These courses are becoming more and more popular with busy educators who prefer the flexibility of being able to work at home or after school hours. All you need is an internet connection and the course you are taking installed on your computer.



Access the WRESA Update and register online at www.wresa.org

Principals Training for 2007-2008

WRESA will host a year-long training program for principals during the 2007-2008 school year. Plans are currently incomplete. When all sessions are finalized, we will mail a description of the workshops to each principal in our region. Once-a-month meetings will begin in September. Training will address the new license renewal requirement.

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Asheville Office: (828) 251-6642

WRESA NEW Extension Numbers

Ballard, Ronni	16
Bennett, Carol	17
Byrd, Bob	23
Carver, Kathy	18
George, Charles	24
Greene, Richard	14
Joyner, Tina	19
Metcalf, Roger	12
Ray, Shirley	26
Spencer, April	20
Wilson, Vicki	22

New Graduate Opportunity At Asheville Graduate Center

The Asheville Graduate Center is pleased to announce a new graduate opportunity from ASU on our campus. The *Master of Arts in Education Media/Instructional Technology Specialist Computers* program provides the coursework and experiences necessary for acquiring North Carolina 077 "M" teacher licensure and 079 endorsement. Requirements for this degree were designed, and have been approved at the state level, to meet the advanced competencies as mandated in the NC Excellent Schools Act for Master-level teacher education programs. For more information you can email Sandra Krause at ASU, krausesl@appstate.edu or Annis Lytle, amlytle@unca.edu at the Asheville Graduate Center.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS



Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Carol Bennett, Elementary & Middle Grades Curriculum Coordinator, ext. 17, cbennett@wresa.org or Kathy Carver, ext. 18, kcarver@wresa.org. A certificate of credit will be issued after each session.

A Professional Development Opportunity: Effective Planning With A Purpose

June 12, 2007 June 13, 2007

July 23, 2007 July 24, 2007

(Participants may register for any number OR combination of sessions.)

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$10
per person per day

It takes time to manage time effectively!! Teachers will have the opportunity to **spend focused planning time working on a variety of strategies** for instructional success. These may include, but are not limited to, **developing unit and lesson plans, creating pacing guides, infusing technology throughout the curricula, integrating content areas, improving test scores, and generating school improvement plans.** Teachers may come in teams or individually, as needed. WRESA will provide consultants, technical assistance, use of the computer lab, as well as, research-based resources if requested. There are four dates available and participants may register for any number or combination of sessions. This opportunity is open to all K-12 teachers. If you have questions, contact April Spencer at 828.418.0011, ext. 20 or Carol Bennett at ext. 17. *Contact Hours: 5 per day; Registration Deadline: June sessions – June 1, 2007; July sessions – July 6, 2007*

Kid Senses Children's InterACTIVE Museum, K-5 Teacher Field Trip

July 2, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$10

Are you searching for a field trip destination that's educational and lots of fun? We invite you to join the WRESA on a field trip to visit Kid Senses Children's InterACTIVE Museum in Rutherfordton, NC. Their exhibits and special workshops stimulate the imagination and educate the mind by focusing on art, science, math, technology, geography, culture and society. They provide specific workshops linked to the NC SCOS and will specially design workshops to fit your needs as well. We will leave from the WRESA parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and return at 3:00 p.m. *Contact Hours: 5; Registration Deadline: June 15, 2007*

Summer Literacy



A good opportunity to review best practices AND earn TWO (2) reading renewal credits in the comfort of your own home!

Registration Fee: \$40

*This online class will begin June 11th and run through August 10th. Learning modules and assignments will be sent to each registrant upon receipt of registration fee. A certificate for 20 contact hours will be sent when all assignments have been satisfactorily completed. Registrants will need access to a computer with PowerPoint, Microsoft Word and internet connection (email), as well as the following two texts: **Classrooms That Work: They Can Read and Write (4th Edition)** by Patricia M. Cunningham and Richard L. Allington and **Learning Under the Influence of Language and Literature** by Lester L. Laminack and Reba M. Wadsworth, 2006 (books available at <http://www.amazon.com>). *Registration Deadline: May 30, 2007**

Topics this class will explore:

- What really matters for struggling readers?
- Which teaching strategies have the greatest impact on reluctant readers?
- How can we create classroom environments in which students are eager to learn?
- How can we infuse language and literature throughout the curriculum?

NC K-2 Literacy Assessment Training Follow-Up

August 2-3, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

This session is offered by request of the teachers from the March 7th training. *Those teachers are encouraged to attend along with any new teachers about to embark on their first year of teaching K, 1st, or 2nd grades!* The DPI consultants will use the time to help teachers better understand how to use the assessment tool and to help them organize their materials. *Please bring a copy of the current NC K-2 Literacy Assessment with you. You can locate these materials at www.dpi.state.nc.us/curriculum/languagearts/elementary/k2literacy. Please be sure that you have the NC version of the assessment and not a version that was created by your school or LEA. *Contact Hours: 5; Registration Deadline: July 23, 2007**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Tina Joyner, 828.418.0011, ext. 19, tjoyner@wresa.org. A certificate of credit will be issued after each session.

Teaching To Poverty

(Day One)

June 19, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$60

Using Ruby Payne's *Framework for Understanding Poverty*, this workshop will cover the basics about the culture of poverty. We will **discuss hidden rules and behaviors that impact our classrooms**. This workshop will be the *foundation for other in-depth workshops throughout the year as we delve deeper into how best to help these students*. **Each participant will receive a copy of *Framework for Understanding Poverty***. Presenter will be April Spencer, Teacher-On-Loan and Ruby Payne Certified Trainer. Class limited to 30 participants. *Registration Deadline: June 4, 2007*

Children of Poverty:

Now What

(Day Two)

July 18, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$50

Prerequisite: In order to attend this session, you must have attended "Day One" of the Ruby Payne Training.

Understanding the characteristics of and issues that surround and impact our students living in poverty is the first step in being able to make a difference in their lives. This **Day Two** workshop in Ruby Payne's *Framework for Understanding Poverty* is the next step in working with our students who live in low socio-economic environments. We will first look at the discipline module and strategies for solving some of these issues. We will **focus on the cognitive strategies that are undeveloped or underdeveloped in this population and will look at specific before, during, and after learning strategies that will help them be more successful at all grade levels**. **Each participant will receive a copy of *Understanding Learning and Learning Structures Workbook***. Presenter will be April Spencer, Teacher-On-Loan and Ruby Payne Certified Trainer. Class limited to 30 participants. *Registration Deadline: July 2, 2007*

One-Day Mentor Refresher

August 1, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

This training is for **mentors** who have **already completed the original mentor training** and have not had an update in the past three years. **Contents will include TPAI for Beginning Teachers, INTASC Standards, and IGP preparation**. The presenter will be April Spencer, Teacher-On-Loan. Class limited to 25. *Registration Deadline: July 16, 2007*

Mentor Training

October 30, November 7,

November 14, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$50

Participants must attend all three sessions plus complete the equivalent of one-day out of class work assignment to receive credit. The presenters will be Bob Byrd, School Improvement Coordinator, and April Spencer, Teacher-On-Loan. Class will be limited to 25 participants. *Registration Deadline: October 10, 2007*

TPAI Orientation for Teacher/Peer Observers

September 11, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

This one-day session focuses on teachers who conduct Performance Appraisals of Peers. Training includes Multiple Data Collection, Data Analysis, Feedback, and IGP Planning. The presenter will be Bob Byrd, School Improvement Specialist. **Please bring a copy of your local school system's Performance Appraisal Handbook**. Class limited to 25 participants. *Registration Deadline: August 31, 2007*

Early Planning for Successful Retirement

June 21, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

This one-day session focuses on **teachers who have taught 0 – 20 years** and want assistance with **critical retirement information and decision making early in their career**. This session will review the actuarial implications and repercussions of early mid-career decisions, laws, policies and processes, benefit options and investment plans. A panel of skilled presenters will conduct the training. The session will be facilitated by Bob Byrd and April Spencer. Limited to 25 participants. *Registration Deadline: June 4, 2007*