



Update

Working together for the children
of Western North Carolina

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January 2007

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Register Online!!! Go to www.wresa.org

Since online registration has been very successful, we have not included a registration form in this Update. Please register for all classes online at www.wresa.org. Once you have registered you will be emailed a confirmation letter which can also be used as your invoice to request payment from your LEA. By going to our website you can also see if a session is full, if additional sessions have been added, or if possibly a session has been cancelled.

No access to the internet or email? Just call 828.418.0011 and we will fax you a registration form.



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

Upcoming Events for 2007 Mark Your Calendars Today!!

*Reading Comprehension/Reading in
Content Area Institute*

**Stephanie Harvey, Debbie Miller,
Cris Tovani**
August 7-9, 2007

Boy Writers: Reclaiming Their Voices

Ralph Fletcher
September 12, 2007

Session descriptions and registration information for these two sessions will be included in the April 2007 WRESA Update. Registrations will not be taken until the information has been distributed.

Western Region Curriculum Council Meeting Schedule

January 18 WRESA 10:00 a.m.

*New Math Scores and Other Math Issues
with DPI Representative, Donna Thomas &
Elementary Mathematics Section Chief,
Dr. Linda James*

February 15 WRESA 10:00 a.m.

*Technology Provocative Issues with
Dr. John LeBaron from WCU*

March 15 WRESA 10:00 a.m.

*Professional Development/Education Leadership
Strategies and Best Practices with
Dr. Gayle Moller from WCU*



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

WRESA will be announcing cancellations due to bad weather on the WLOS-TV 13 School Closings. The information will also be available on our phone system as part of the answering attendant's message.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Richard Greene at 828.418.0011, ext. 114 or email rgreene@wresa.org. A certificate of credit will be issued after each session.

Rick Spurling

Schools Working Together To Build a Community From Within

March 13, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
(Lunch Provided)

Registration Fee: \$50

Registration fee is non-refundable.

One of the problems that continues to plague our classrooms and schools is the issue of bullying. Reports surface after a major incident of school violence telling us that many times the person involved in a violent act was bullied in school. ***Dr. Rick Spurling, Assistant Superintendent, Mitchell County Schools, has done extensive research on bullying and has made presentations across the state.*** Dr. Spurling will provide a one-day training program on creating a school where everyone works together and bullying is not tolerated. This session is **appropriate for all school personnel including administrators, teachers, and classified staff.** For more information on Dr. Spurling and this program, visit his website at www.bullyfreezone.info.
Registration Deadline: March 1, 2007

Carleen Osher

Senior Project (Graduation Project) Training

March 19, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35
(Lunch Provided)

Registration fee is non-refundable.

Additional training on the NC Graduation Initiative will be facilitated by Carleen Osher. The consulting company Carleen represents recently completed contract negotiations with the Department of Public Instruction. Both **Phase 1 and Phase 2 training will be available to participants.** ***Phase 1*** training will provide additional information to ***teams from schools with no prior experience with Graduation Projects.*** This training will be useful to those schools that attended Phase 1 training on October 30th. Schools with no experience that did not attend the October training are strongly encouraged to register for this session. ***Phase 2*** training will be available to schools ***looking to improve their current Graduation Project.*** It is important that schools be represented in the training by teams of teachers and administrators. Four people would be an ideal number from schools participating. *Registration Deadline: March 5, 2007*

Pauline Johnson

History Alive!

March 1, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$50

Registration fee is non-refundable.

Pauline Johnson, TAH Project Director, will facilitate this session for K-12 educators. Bring ***History Alive!*** through this introduction to innovative, practical alternatives to the traditional social studies classroom. These exciting interactive teaching strategies are research-based, address multiple intelligence learning styles, and are guaranteed to engage students. The components of ***History Alive!*** are easily adapted to various K-12 classroom circumstances and are adaptable in other disciplines besides social studies. The strategies are teacher friendly. Presenters are experienced educators whose training as ***History Alive!*** coaches through Teacher's Curriculum Institute has transformed their teaching. More importantly, the use of the ***History Alive!*** approach ***energizes students to understand and retain knowledge of history through critical thinking and writing.*** *Registration Deadline: February 16, 2007*

Mark Your
Calendars

Summer Leadership Conference 2007 & NCASA Superintendents' Retreat
June 24-27, 2007
Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS



Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Kathy Carver, 828.418.0011, ext. 118 or email kcarver@wresa.org or contact Carol Bennett, ext. 130 or email cbennett@wresa.org. A certificate of credit will be issued after each session.

4th Grade Writing Training Phases I, II, III, IV and V

Online
Course
January 18 thru
March 15

Registration Fee & Materials: \$50

Registration fee **MUST** be received
by January 18, 2007

This online class is a condensed version of the writing training provided by the NCDPI for certified writing trainers. **Participants will meet on January 22, 2007, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at WRESA** to receive all the notebook materials, from which they will be assigned specific tasks that will require them to study and apply the strategies described in the notebook materials. **This online course will be directed to new teachers or teachers who are new to 4th grade and have not had the writing phases training.** Carol Bennett, NC Certified Writing Trainer, will be available to assist with participants' understanding and synthesizing of the information. **Participants must have access to the internet and email. Additionally, participants will need to have PowerPoint. Upon completion of all course assignments (no later than March 15, 2007) participants will receive a certificate for 20 contact hours (equivalent to 2 CEUs).** Registration Deadline: January 18, 2007

Engaging Reluctant Readers and Creating a Context for Assessment

Online
Course
April - May

Registration Fee: \$40

Registration fee **MUST** be received
by March 19, 2007

In this **ten-hour online course**, you will learn to put reading conferences at the center of your teaching. You will learn how to assess student reading abilities more accurately and how to plan effectively for reading improvement. You will learn how to manage your students' reading records and guide them in selecting "just right" books. You will learn to create instructional environments that foster life-long reading. You will explore strategies for getting students to choose to and engage in reading across the curriculum. You will discover what readily makes the most difference for helping struggling readers. **Participants must have access to the internet and e-mail. Additionally, participants will need to have PowerPoint and Adobe Reader. Participants will be contacted by the instructor by April 2. Upon completion of all course assignments, no later than June 1, 2007, participants will receive a certificate for 10 contact hours (equivalent to 1 CEU in reading).** Registration Deadline: March 19, 2007

Professional Development on The Balanced Curriculum for Middle Grades

February 5, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Registration Fee: \$50

This session is specifically directed for **middle grade teachers and administrators** who are interested in understanding and using the recent document, *The Balanced Curriculum for Middle Grades*, published by NCDPI. The document focuses on **educating the whole child and building bridges to life-long learning.** This training will be especially beneficial to grade-level teams. **Participants will receive *The Balanced Curriculum for Middle Grades* notebook and training materials.** The presenter will be Carol Bennett, Elementary and Middle Grades Curriculum Coordinator. Registration Deadline: January 22, 2007

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Register online at www.wresa.org for the sessions below. For questions contact Kathy Carver, 828.418.0011, ext. 118 or Carol Bennett, ext. 130 or email kcarver@wresa.org or cbennett@wresa.org.

Putting Geography on the Map: Geography's Place in the Curriculum

March 14, 2007 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$35

This workshop will focus on *geography in the social studies curriculum*. Topics include **geography frameworks such as the Five Themes of Geography and strategies for using geography to get at higher order thinking skills in the curriculum**. Classroom activities, such as climate graphs and mapping activities, will be designed so they will be applicable to the social studies content area of grades 5-7. Resources for teaching geography will also be shared. Presenter will be the North Carolina Geographic Alliance Coordinator, Steve Pierce. *Registration Deadline: March 1, 2007*

NCDPI K-2 Assessment Training

March 7, 2007 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$35

Tara Almeida, K-5 English Language Arts Consultant, NCDPI, will be conducting this session targeting **new K-2 teachers who need training in administering literacy assessments with their students**. The DPI consultants will be giving an **overview of the current NC K-2 Literacy Assessment and providing directions for administration of each component**. *Registration Deadline: February 19, 2007*

Reading Fluently

March 12, 2007 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$40

Reading comprehension depends on several interrelated skills: understanding oral language, decoding the printed word, and using strategies to increase comprehension. The ability to read fluently is tied to reading with understanding, thereby increasing comprehension skills. This session will highlight **hands-on strategies for helping K-6 students read with fluency**. Carol Bennett, Elementary and Middle Grades Curriculum Coordinator, will be the presenter. *Registration Deadline: February 19, 2007*

Winter 2007 Computer Training

Microsoft Office Lab – Lab/Online Combination Courses

February 20 & 22 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Limited to 15 Participants

We now offer a more flexible way to get your computer training with a combination of Hands-On Instructor led training and Online follow-up practice.

You Choose the Course! Choose from the available courses listed below.

You Choose Your Schedule! You may choose to attend either one or two days training in our lab. If you wish, you may finish at your leisure at home or at your school.

① Choose your course(s) from the following:

- Integrating Technology and the Curriculum
- Introduction to Word
- Introduction to Excel
- Introduction to PowerPoint
- Intermediate Word
- Intermediate Excel
- Intermediate PowerPoint
- Internet For Educators

② Register online at www.wresa.org

Online Courses:

If you prefer, you may take your course entirely Online!
Online Courses Available Through June 15!

Visit Our Website at www.wresa.org to view courses available in our Online Computer Training program. You may preview any of the courses by using the password "wresa" (without the quotes). 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.

Registration Fees:

\$35 per Course

\$55 for Non WRESA Members

Registration Required

Limited to 15 participants in lab

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Register online at www.wresa.org. For questions contact Tina Joyner, 828.418.0011, ext. 133 or email tjoyner@wresa.org. A certificate of credit will be issued after each session.

Teaching to Poverty

(Day One)

February 15, 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. *Registration Deadline: February 2, 2007*

Children of Poverty: Now What?

(Day Two)

March 22, 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. *Registration Deadline: March 9, 2007*

One-Day Mentor Refresher

January 30, 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: January 19, 2007*

Mentor Training

April 17, 24, & May 1, 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: April 5, 2007*

Early Planning for Successful Retirement

May 8, 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: April 26, 2007*

All sessions listed in the *WRESA Update* are held at WRESA unless otherwise stated.
Get directions at www.wresa.org

School Resource Officers & School Administrators Roles and Responsibilities

It is imperative that School Resource Officers and school administrators work together. Understanding roles and responsibilities is very important in order to function as a team.

On **March 15, 2007, at 9:00 a.m.** WRESA and Roberts & Stevens law firm will sponsor a one-day training program. Law enforcement leaders will be invited to participate. Since planning is still incomplete, additional information will be distributed to superintendents and principals. The information will also be posted on our website, www.wresa.org. **If you have ideas on topics you would like to discuss related to the above training, contact Richard Greene at 828.418.0011, ext. 114 or email rgreene@wresa.org.**

Aquatic Project Wild

April 17, 2007

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

No Fee Required



The best resource for hunting, fishing and boating information, educational programs, WILD products, and other wildlife services for the citizens and visitors of North Carolina.

Once again, the NC Wildlife Resource Commission and WRESA are teaming up to bring you another workshop in the Project Wild series. This time we bring you Aquatic Project Wild!! This workshop is similar to the basic WILD workshop, but focuses on aquatic life. This training is **open to all educators, but may be of particular interest to math, science, and environmental education teachers.** The workshop will be facilitated by wildlife Regional Education Specialist, Lindsay Green. Topics cover **basic information on aquatic life and introduce participants to the Aquatic Project Wild K-12 Educator Guide, which includes hands-on activities that focus on aquatic wildlife and natural resources.** A certificate of completion for 10 contact hours will be issued after the participant completes the entire training session including an out-of-class assignment. Participants will receive an Aquatic Project Wild Educator Guide and supplemental materials. **If weather**

permits, there will be a trip to a local stream, so please dress accordingly. If you have waders, bring them along. Register online at www.wresa.org. If you have questions, contact Bob Byrd at 828.418.0011, ext. 123. **Registration Deadline: April 6, 2007**

The Amazing Race: Reading & Vocabulary Strategies for Your Reluctant Middle & High School Readers

March 30, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$35

Are you pulling your hair out trying to encourage your reluctant and/or poor readers to become more successful? Before you actually invest in a wig, attend this workshop designed for **middle and high school teachers of all disciplines.** You will be given an assortment of **strategies and activities that you can immediately take into your classroom and use that will engage and enhance the skills of even your most unwilling readers.** Based on the work of Robert Marzano, Sue and Kylene Beers, and Janet Allen, this workshop will include a discussion of ways to implement "The Magnificent Seven" (building background knowledge, making connections, inferencing, visualizing, questioning, determining importance, and synthesizing) as well as the "whys and how tos" of identifying, teaching, and incorporating essential vocabulary into all disciplines. *Presenters will be Martha Geitner, Literacy Coach, Asheville City Schools; Michael Lodico, Executive Director of Secondary Education, Asheville City Schools; Nancy Reid, Adjunct Professor, UNC-A; and April Spencer, Teacher-On-Loan. Registration Deadline: March 16, 2007*

The Center for Diversity Education

The Center for Diversity Education (www.diversityed.org) is now taking reservations for the following programs.

For more information call 828.232.5024.

Good Fortune: The Asian New Year (for your classroom) January 29 – February 16, 2007

Through artifacts and foods, students will learn about the cultural and religious traditions of the New Year in Korea, Vietnam (Tet) and China. Cost: \$2.25 a student/60 student minimum

Brown vs. Brown of Education: Fifty Years Later March 29, 2007, Diane Wortham Theatre

Mike Wiley gives a one-man performance, with audience participation, that overflows the stage! Call 257.4544, ext. 307 to register. Cost: \$6.00 per student

The Many Faces of Asheville Anytime – Bus Tour

Visit houses of worship and historical landmarks to deepen your student's understanding of our diverse mountain home.