

The success of an organization is directly related to the amount of energy its members are willing to invest, and to its ability to harness and direct those energies toward a single burning purpose.

eNews

Michigan Association of State And Federal Program Specialists



October 2008

<http://www.masfps.org>

Facilitating Communication
Among Our Members

Director's Institute slated for Lansing Sheraton Nov. 5-6

Manasevit, Hunter, Wahlstrom highlight Institute as keynote speakers

Attorney **Leigh M. Manasevit**, AASA Associate Executive Director **Bruce Hunter**, and Dr. **Deborah Wahlstrom** will be keynote speakers at the Michigan Association of State and Federal Program Specialists Fall Director's Institute.

Leigh Manasevit has practiced in the field of educational law since 1974 beginning as a trial

attorney in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. During his government service, Manasevit regularly appeared in Federal court representing the United States in civil rights cases involving educational institutions across the nation.

Furthermore, Manasevit has worked extensively on No Child Left Behind (NCLB). He has advised

and trained schools, districts, states, and private providers throughout the nation on implementation of NCLB. He has regularly served as a keynote speaker at national and statewide organizations of Title I professionals. He regularly advises recipients of Title I on implementation issues. Manasevit co-authored a comprehensive manual on NCLB, and

SEE "INSTITUTE" /ON PAGE 3



Leigh Manasevit



Deb Wahlstrom

Content writing verbs

► BY SHARON SPENCER

Do you ever search for verbs to include in your writing?

Here's a comprehensive list of verbs you can use. These come to you from the Blueprints approach to writing.

- explain
- demonstrate
- illustrate
- describe
- identify
- represent
- point out
- compare
- contrast
- justify
- organize
- prove

Five important things to remember for the month of October

► BY MICHELE BURLEY

- Check in MEGS for the Title I Comparability Report. This will need to be completed after the September REP (Registry of Education Personnel) report has been submitted by your district.
- Check with business office for information regarding federal carryover funds from previous year; review programming & staffing data.

SEE "5 THINGS" /ON PAGE 2

Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites —20 Instructional Strategies that Engage the Brain reviewed

▶ BOOK REVIEW BY DR. PAULA DANIELS

- Title: *Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites*
- Author: Marcia L. Tate
- Copyright: 2003
- Publisher: Corwin Press, Inc.

In a day when the need for "fertile" active dendrite filled brains is a necessity if our students are to enjoy academic success, brain cultivation tools are needed. In Marcia Tate's *Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Instructional Strategies that Engage the Brain* she offers a variety of brain based strategies designed to help teachers ignite "dendrite development" in their students. Calling them "Tate's 20" she says, "I have identified strategies that, according to brain research and learning style theory, appear to correlate with the way the brain learns best."

Tate targets teachers as "growers of brain cells" providing practical brain-based approaches to instruction. To accompany the 20 brain compatible strategies she has identified, she supplies rationale based in research as to why these strategies appear to support and take advantage of the way the brain learns best.

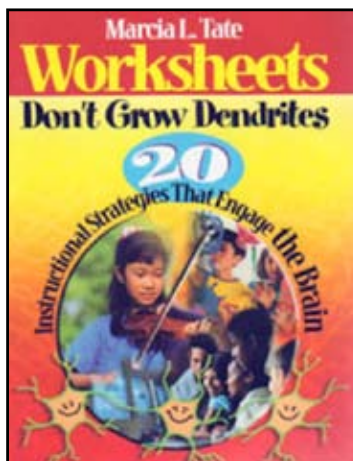
Numerous examples of ways the strategies can be implemented to maximize student learning and increase brain power are included.

As educators review the various strategies included in the book, teachers will find that

new "idea doors" open in their own minds causing their personal dendrites begin to multiply. Tate provides samples of ways to use: drawing and artwork, games, humor, field trips, mnemonic devices, plays, music, rhythm and movement, and visuals along with more established strategies to ensure that students develop skills needed to maximize their opportunities for academic success.



Dr. Marcia Tate's workshops receive rave reviews since she uses brain-compatible strategies to engage her audience. Her books focus on brain research.



Each chapter covers one strategy. The sections also include the recommended instruction level, academic standard, and activity descriptions for each strategy. The "WHY" or the "Research Rationale" is documented for each strategy in each chapter.

Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites provides a practical application of brain-compatible and learning styles research and strategies that will help teachers cultivate classrooms where all students attain success.

Other titles by Tate:

- *Sit & Get Won't Grow Dendrites: Professional Learning Strategies That Engage The Adult Brain*
- *Shouting Won't Grow Dendrites : 20 Techniques for Managing a Brain-Compatible Classrooms.*

Each month, Dr. Daniels will read and review an educational book. If you have an interest in writing a book review, please let us know. The more information we are able to exchange, the better off we all are as professionals!



- Finish any "fix ups" to the consolidated application if modifications were requested by your field service consultant.
- Ensure you have identified your at-risk students based on the 31a criteria, and that the 31a funded programs are documenting program services when they serve those students on an ongoing basis.
- Ensure that your district/school is keeping an inventory of all materials purchased with Title I funds.

FALL INSTITUTE

November 5–6 will be the MAS/FPS Fall Institute at a new location, the Lansing Sheraton. The post-conference day will be November 7.

We will feature a "compliance day" as well as a "practitioner day" at the Institute.

Save the date!!!



eNews

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The E News is a publication of MAS/FPS. The information contained within aims at informing the school and community members about events both past and future within the organization's community.

its predecessor, the Improving America’s Schools Act, and has provided editorial consultation on several revised editions. He has also written several articles on NCLB.



Bruce Hunter

Bruce Hunter

directs the legislative efforts of the American Association of School Administrators in Congress and the U.S. Department of Education.

Hunter came to AASA in 1982 as a Legislative Specialist. He has focused on increasing the impact of school administrators on federal legislation through greater involvement in the legislative process.

Hunter began his career in education as a junior high social studies and English teacher in Shoshoni, Wyoming. He also trained head start teachers in west Texas, taught sociology at Eastern New Mexico University and was a policy analyst and grant administrator for the Education Commission of the States in Denver.

Hunter received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Northern Colorado, a Master of Arts from the University of Texas at El Paso and did graduate work in educational administration at the University of Colorado.

Deb Wahlstrom has served as educational consultant to many school districts, locally and nationally. She is an award-winning trainer, including two awards from the National School Boards Association. Her specialty areas include using data to improve student achievement, curriculum design and analysis, classroom assessment, and high-impact instructional strategies.

Wahlstrom is the author of four books, *Using Data to Improve Student Achievement*, *Designing and Using High-Quality Paper-and-Pencil Tests*, *Teaching and Assessing the Virginia Standards of Learning*, and *Teaching and Assessing Michigan’s GLCEs and HSCEs*.

Additionally, Wahlstrom produces custom data analysis software for districts.

Welcome to our new members and thank you to our current members for your continued support and participation in the Michigan Association of State and Federal Program Specialists (MAS/FPS). Our association is the professional organization serving Michigan educators who administer state and federal programs.

MAS/FPS is governed by an elected Board of Directors and an Executive Committee comprised of elected representatives from each of the 15 U.S. Congressional Districts in Michigan. There are also ex-officio members from the Michigan Department of Education, an invaluable resource to and partner with our organization.

The MAS/FPS Executive Board hosts monthly business meetings where we work to improve communication among our members, develop professional learning opportunities related to education and compliance, and stay informed on current legislation as well as work with our state and federal legislators on various issues that may impact our practice.

Please join us throughout the year as we continue to provide opportunities for professional growth at our Fall, Winter and Upper Peninsula Institutes as well as our various Principal and Director Boot Camps. These opportunities exemplify our commitment to keeping you informed of current issues related to the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind.

The following MAS/FPS Mission Statement was crafted in 1969 and still holds true today.

“The organization was founded to organize, unify and nourish an alliance of individuals and organizations committed to Compensatory Education Programs. The organization was established to:

- Facilitate communication among members in discussing, proposing and taking action on matters of common interest and concern.
- Conduct programs to enhance the professional competence and status of members.
- Participate in the development and enactment of state and federal legislation and regulations affecting education.”

If you have any questions or concerns about our organization or our work, please feel free to contact us at www.masfps.org or contact our Executive Secretary, Sara Shriver, at (989) 620-5899 or masfps@gmail.com.

Thank you once again for your participation as a member of MAS/FPS, and I look forward to seeing you throughout the year at our Institutes and Boot Camps.

Sincerely,



Judith Handley, President

