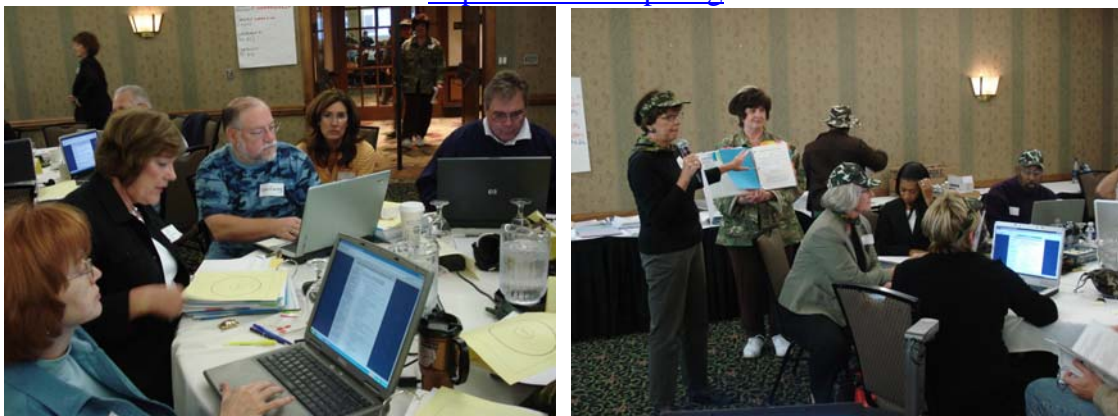


Michigan Association of State and Federal Program Specialists
Winter 2008
“E-NEWS”

<http://www.masfps.org>



MAS/FPS Boot Camps provide rigorous training on Title I and NCLB.

From the Editor:

Working unknown hours for the greater good. Educators. People who make a difference. Celebrate the souls of those who contribute. MAS/FPS is an organization ready and willing to support educators across the State by providing services, updates, and a voice to our legislators. Amazing minds always thinking of ways to help—Boot Camp, Index Organizers, teaming up with MDE... Consider joining this vibrant group of leaders who make a difference in Michigan education.

Take a moment and enjoy this issue of E News. Highlighted areas include: **HOT TOPICS** are blazing--excellent Title I information from the MDE, the Science and Social Studies GLCES, and much more. **IN THE FIELD** shares a glimpse of life in Congressional Districts 2, 4, and 6. **THE BOOKROOM** contains informational reading in a variety of subjects--science, critical literacy, team building and more. Interesting websites have surfaced in **WEBSITES TO VISIT**. Debbie Kitson's **Note from the President** and a brainstorming technique for group work in the **PLC Corner**.

Don't forget to register for the MAS/FPS Winter Institute. If you have questions, suggestions or comments, e-mail Terry.Pawl@juno.com.

Quotes of the Day:

Once one has understood well a particular play, a particular war, a particular physical or biological or managerial concept, the appetite has been whetted for additional and deeper understanding, and for clear-cut performances in which one's understanding can be demonstrated to others and to oneself.

Howard Gardner

A little-recognized value of listening and inquiring relates to the realization that in human relationships, it is frequently not what the facts are, but what people think the

facts are, which is truly important. There is benefit in learning what someone else's concept of the reality of the situation is, no matter how wrong it might be.

Bryan Bell

The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards.

Anatole France



A Note from the President:

The 38th Annual Fall Director's Institute in Traverse City was a huge success measured by your evaluations and comments. My sincere thank you to the co-chairs, Dr. Paula Daniels and Marie Miller and their conference committee for providing such high quality keynote speakers and concurrent sessions. Leigh Manaseveit of Brustein & Manaseveit, Dr. Gary Gordon, Gallup Education and Bruce Hunter, AASA provided information on current issues and legislation. I would also like to thank Roberta Stanley, Mike Radke, Margaret Madigan and team members of the Michigan Department of Education who collaborated with MAS/FPS on this venture.

During the course of the 2007 -2008 program year, MAS/FPS will provide suggestions for professional development based on the book, "Building Engaged Schools" by Dr. Gary Gordon and published by Gallup Press. Please note that other suggestions can be found on the web site, www.buildingengagedschools.com. Resources include surveys and questions that will encourage discussion among staff and parents in your building, district or agency.

Mark your calendars--the 2008 Winter Institute will be held on March 11, 2008 at the Sheraton in Lansing on Creyts Road. The theme is "Improving Behavior and Academic Performance" and features Horacio Sanchez. There will be 14 concurrent sessions which include promising practices. Registration is available on the website. State legislators will be invited to our informal, continental breakfast. Please join us for this exciting, one day conference!

Educationally yours,
Deborah Kitson, President
MAS/FPS



In the Field: Congressional District 2, 4, 6 and 10

District #2: *Connecting Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction* by Melanie Schroder Muskegon Area Intermediate School District in Region 2 sponsored a workshop in August on connecting curriculum, assessment, and instruction. The presenter was Dr.

Deb Wahlstrom of Successline, Inc. Dr. Wahlstrom led the group through a series of exercises to identify the levels of thinking required by the Grade Level Content Expectations, discussed ways to assess them, and then strategies to use for instruction that targets these GLCEs. Click on

District #4: *Gayla Mann's Resources* by Michele B. Videtich (Burley). At our last CATC meeting, Gayla Mann, Office of Field Services told the group of some helpful resources to help school improvement teams and state/federal program directors. A great thing about our collaboration with MDE, is that we learn about some things that perhaps have been tried successfully in other districts across our state. Click on

District #4: *Thinking Maps Training* by Rick Heitmeyer. Five Central Montcalm teachers were trained in the use of Thinking Maps during five intense sessions to become certified trainers. These teachers trained colleagues in Thinking Maps during the professional development days prior to school beginning in late August. Thinking Maps provide a common visual language to information structure, often employed when students take notes or work on projects. Click on

District #6: *Can Meetings Kill?* by Karon E. Yeager
“Oh, no, not another three-hour long, boring meeting.”
“We never seem to accomplish anything, no matter how long we meet.”
“What did we just meet about?”
“Tell me, again. Why was this meeting called?”
“What did we decide at the meeting? Who is supposed to do what?” Click on

District #10: *Port Huron Area School District Title I Elementary Schools Embrace “RtI”* by Robyn Mosher. Cleveland, Garfield, Harrison, Sparlingville and Woodrow Wilson Elementary Schools are actively involved in the Response to Intervention process. Last spring, building teams participated in two-day district designed RtI training. The district’s curriculum and special education department staff jointly developed and presented the workshop. The Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education publication, Response to Intervention: Enhancing the Learning of All Children was used as the basis for the training. Team members studied the RtI process through a series of classroom vignettes, role-playing Tier I, Tier II and Tier III level interventions. Team members took the lessons learned back to their buildings. In the fall, the entire staff of each school spent a half-day working with education consultant Ilene MacDonald further developing their understanding of RtI. Click on



MAS/FPS and NAFEPA:

MAS/FPS Photo Album Take a peek at Boot Camp activities. Click on

The Good, the Bad, and The Ugly--Reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act: Getting It Right this Time. A powerpoint presented by Mary Kusler, AASA, on November 29, 2007.



The USDE and MDE:

Reauthorization of ESEA

The USDE is accepting comments on the reauthorization of ESEA, including the No Child Left behind sections of the laws governing the Title I-IV. This is your chance to make your opinion known or to lobby for changes! This important law is being discussed and revised. Our input is important based on our everyday work with students. Make your voice heard!

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/reauth/index.html> for information on bills

Key congressional reps on this important committee are: Michael Enzi, Edward Kennedy, Howard McKeon, and George Miller. Email these key congressmen with your opinion at www.congress.org. Each has their own page, click on that page, look under “contact information” for the link to their email.

Report from MDE....

School selection -

The MDE has resurrected its “committee of practitioners” as an advisory group on the Federal programs. One of the issues being discussed is: Title I High Schools not making AYP vs. elementary funding of Title I in the same district. Mike Radke commented that schools with this situation are obligated to service their High School first, since they are not making AYP.

Carryover-

After the DS4044 is submitted carryover will automatically transfer to the new year’s allocation. It will transfer into the accounting system as “additional allocation”. Make sure to apply for this money.



Hot Topics:

MDE Title I Powerpoints of Interest:

Schoolwide Programs Click on

LEA Planning Cycle Click on

Managing Your Federal Programs Click on

The Value of Planning Click on

Parent Involvement and NCLB Click on

Private Nonprofits Click on

New **Science Grade Level Expectations** (GLCEs) are here. Click on http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Complete_Science_GLCE_12-12-07_218314_7.pdf

The **Social Studies Grade Level Expectations** (GLCEs) are approved. Click on http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SSGLCE_218368_7.pdf

National Assessment of Title I Final Report: Summary of Key Findings (October 2007). The National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE) conducts unbiased large-scale evaluations of education programs and practices supported by federal funds, such as Reading First and Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee>.

National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition and Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA) This clearinghouse collects, analyzes, synthesizes, and disseminates information about language instruction educational programs for English language learners and related programs. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education OELA, it provides extensive information and links through its Web site. <http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/>



From the Book Room:

Moving Every Child Ahead--From NCLB Hype to Meaningful Educational Opportunity by Michael Rebell and Jessica Wolff with a foreword by Susan Fuhrman, Pub Date: January 2008, 208 pages, Teachers College Press. A timely read.

Why Science? by James Trefil, Pub Date: November 2007, 224 pages, Teachers College Press. Want to be science literate, Trefil uses plain language and practical examples.

Critical Literacy and Writer's Workshop—Bringing Purpose and Passion to Student Writing by Lee Haffernan, International Reading Association 2004. A short read. Good for a book study.

Teacher Teams That Get Results—61 Strategies for Sustaining and Renewing Professional Learning Communities by Gayle Gregory and Lin Kuzmich, Corwin Press (2007). Need to revitalize your professional learning community? These authors have gathered many tools that are ready to use with examples of plans for action.

Designing and Using Rubrics for Reading and Language Arts, K-6 (Second Edition) by Joan F. Groeber, Corwin Press (2007). A valuable resource for authentic assessment which includes sample rubrics, ways to create rubrics, strategies for introducing rubrics to students, etc....

The Team Building Tool Kit—Tips and Tactics for Effective Workplace Teams by Deborah Mackin, AMACOM (2007). Solid, practical ideas for team building.



Websites to Visit:

<http://dww.ed.gov> Doing What Works (DWW) is an exciting new website sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. DWW is dedicated to helping educators identify and make use of effective teaching practices.

<http://www.jackkentcookefoundation.org> A report *The Achievement Trap: How America is Failing Millions of High-Achieving Students from Lower-Income Families* focuses on bright lower socio-economic students who are left behind.

<http://www.thinkfinityorg> Supported by the Verizon Foundation, this website provides free access to educational resources for teachers, parents and community leaders.

<http://www.literacycoachingonline.org> The Literacy Coaching Clearinghouse (LCC) assists districts, schools, and coaches to develop excellent coaching programs based upon findings from research and coaches' collective experiences. NCTE and IRA hope to build a professional learning community of those who are deeply interested in literacy coaching. One brief focuses on working with English Language Learners.

<http://www.sitesforteachers.com/index26.html> Hundreds of websites for teachers rated by popularity. Resources for everything.

<http://www.listening.org> The International Listening Organization's website has many quotations and interesting facts about listening.

<http://www.donorschoose.org> Donors get to choose the classroom project they want to fund. Teachers write a proposal for resources to be listed on the website. One of our teachers just received \$450 worth of resources for her Reader's Workshop.



Conferences, Institutes, Workshops, and Other Resources:

Principals Boot Camps Everything you need to know about NCLB and Title I as they relate to your buildings and programs.

January 19, 2008 @ Lenawee ISD

February 9, 2008 @ Macomb ISD

April 26, 2008 @ Clare-Gladwin RESD

The National Title I Conference is being held January 31-February 3, 2008 in Nashville, TN. More details at www.nationaltitleiconference.com

Michigan ACT State Organization 2008 Annual Conference is February 25-26, 2008 at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel, Lansing, MI. Registrations and conference programs will be mailed in the coming weeks, and the deadline for registration is February 13th! Registration information will also be available on-line at: <http://www.act.org/events>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 847-634-2560.

MAS/FPS Winter Institute is planned for March 11, 2008 at the Sheraton Hotel in Lansing. Look on www.masfps.org for details.

NAFEPA Washington DC Conference “Today’s Challenges, Tomorrow’s Opportunities” is March 11-14, 2008 at the Crystal City Hyatt. Register today—www.nafepa.org

MRA 2008—Bound Together by Literacy will be held at Cobo Center and the Marriott Renaissance Center Hotel in Detroit. Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 15-Monday, March 17, 2008. Registration information at www.michiganreading.org.

MAS/FPS Upper Peninsula Institute is scheduled for April 29-30, 2008.

IRA 2008—Engaging Learners in Literacy will be held in Atlanta, Georgia May 4-8, 2008. Visit www.reading.org for more information.



The PLC Corner:

Solution Breakthrough Writing Resolving conflicts with members of a group can be difficult to maneuver. This idea just may work.