

Jan./Feb./Mar., 2014

education

The Connection

Regional Staff Development Day, Oct. 25th

On October 25, 2013, over 700 teachers and support staff from each district in the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES region attended 15 professional development offerings. This year all of the sessions were aligned to the Regents Reform Agenda. Sessions offered included *Apple: Reaching All Learners*, *Exploring Project Based Learning to Address STEM Content*, *Integrating the Common Core for Special Area Teachers*, *Upgrading Your Curriculum*, *Compassion in Education*, and *Ways in Which to Communicate & Collaborate with Families to Enhance Student Success*.

We were very excited, through collaboration with The Wild Center, ACT, AdkAction.org and Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, to offer a session with Alan November, an international leader in education technology. He presented on a variety of topics and tools that will empower rural educators

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Bruce Bonney, Jack Drury, Exploring Project Based Learning to Address STEM.

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Common Core Math Modules

The Common Core aligned Math Modules posted on EngageNY continue to be released and are now nearly complete. The Modules, provided by the State Education Department and fully aligned to the CCLS, serve as tools and resources to help districts and teachers in their implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards. The Modules provide the focus, coherence, and rigor demanded by the ELA and Math Shifts.



With the implementation of the Modules have come challenges. Parents have been challenged with the task of helping their children with homework that has a new way of thinking. Students have been challenged with the task of learning new fluencies, digging deeper into math concepts, and learning to explain

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engage^{ny}
Our Students. Their Moment.

Professional Learning Communities

Applications are now being received for the creation of Professional Learning Communities. Educators may be provided with structured time for reflection on classroom practice advancing the study of Common Core Standards, exploration of EngageNY materials, or analyzing effective teaching and determining the rigor of teacher made materials. Contact Debbie Stout or your ATC Policy Board Member for an application form.



Professional Development Opportunities

Aligning IEP Development with the CCLS and CDOS

The CCLS and CDOS Learning Standards apply to all students. There are multiple pathways for students with a wide range of abilities to participate meaningfully, learn effectively, and work towards attaining these standards. Developing IEPs that support student learning within the framework of these Learning Standards is essential. Training is designed for instructional staff and administrators, CSE Committee Members, Transition Coordinators, and School Counselors.

Dates: January 13, 2014;

Location: Northern NY Library Network, Potsdam, NY

**For more information, contact
Kelly Wight, RSE-TASC (891-1330)
kwight@mail.fehb.org**

Progress Monitoring of IEP Goals: Moving from Subjective to Objective Data

Regulations require that each IEP goal includes a plan for monitoring student progress toward achieving the goal. Establishing clear IEP progress-monitoring procedures provide the CSE/CPSE committee with specific data to assess the effectiveness of instruction. During the session, participants will explore regulations, research, and best practices for monitoring student progress. There will also be the opportunity to review some available programs and to use and score some progress monitoring tools.

Date: February 10, 2014

Location: Adirondack Educational Center, Saranac Lake

OR

Date: March 21, 2014

Location: CVES, Plattsburgh, NY

**For more information, contact
Kelly Wight, RSE-TASC (891-1330)
kwight@mail.fehb.org**

CDOS Commencement Credential

The CDOS Commencement Credential, effective July 1, 2013, is a new exiting credential that provides students with disabilities opportunities to develop entry level work readiness skills. Participants will learn about the requirements of the CDOS credential, resources for teachers to address the CDOS Learning Standards, and work-based learning programs.

Date: January 21, 2014

Location: Northern NY Library Network, Potsdam, NY

OR

Date: February 11, 2014

Location: North Franklin Educational Center, Malone, NY

**For more information, contact
Kelly Wight, RSE-TASC (891-1330)
kwight@mail.fehb.org**

Registration for these sessions is through
MyLearning Plan

For assistance with registering, contact

**Kelly Wight, RSE-TASC (891-1330)
kwight@mail.fehb.org**

Note: Please verify inservice credit approval at your district office. etc... is not responsible for credit approval, but will prepare reports of completion as requested.

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Franklin-Essex-Hamilton
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(891-1330)

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NYS Teacher Center On-Line Academy

February 5–March 26, 2014

All classes are 15 hours in length. OLA Course Fee: \$150 per course
Register using MyLearningPlan* at <http://www.rockteach.org>
If you already have a MyLearningPlan account ID, register at <http://mylearningplan.com>

Please check the Online Academy website: <http://eeznt3.nyiteez.org/olacatalog>
for course details, requirements and expectations — BEFORE registering!

Close Reading, One Sentence at a Time **Instructor: George Lohmann** **Grade level: 5-12**
By focusing on the microcosm of a single exceptionally written sentence (or pair of sentences), i.e., the adage, students can explore the vast majority of rhetorical tools used by most writers of the English language. This course will provide strategies to be used in ALL content areas that will aid your students in understanding the use of rhetorical strategies that aid the writers in conveying meaning. You will create two ten to twenty minute lessons using this strategy.

Language and Literacy in the Early Education Classroom **Instructor: Lisa Pizzuti Rutkowski** **Grade level PreK-2**
Language and literacy are the foundation for all other learning. This course will provide early education teachers the necessary tools to facilitate a language and literacy rich approach to teaching. By incorporating these strategies throughout all aspects of the classroom, students will gain insight and understanding of knowledge they will need for future success in their elementary years.

Using Digital Resources to Enhance Reading Comprehension **Instructor: Denise Lewis** **Grade level: 3 -12**
Have you ever read a book... a short story... a poem and been able to see the characters, know the place, or empathize with the protagonist? Many students haven't had such a memorable reading moment. They'd much rather surf the web, text friends, and search for themselves on YouTube. To motivate students to read, teachers can connect reading with the digital resources students use every day. There is a wealth of Web 2.0 resources to connect kids with books. *Using Digital Resources to Enhance Reading Comprehension* will provide teachers with the knowledge and skills to connect kids with reading through digital media and easy to use Web tools.

Volcano Hunt—The Common Core Way **Instructor: Jim McAndrew** **Grade level: 5-12**
As you make your way from one volcano to the next using longitude and latitude coordinates, you will participate in creative journaling of your experiences. You will create several exciting SMARTBoard projects that involve language arts and science. After completing this course, you will be able to modify these projects for use in your own classroom at any grade level or subject area. You will become more familiar with the Data Driven Instruction process as you analyze student work, identify needs, and design an action plan to improve learning. You will explore the EngageNY website and use it to better understand the NYS Reform Initiative. Every assignment is aligned with the NYS Core Curriculum.

Look for another series of On-Line Courses beginning July 8-August 26, 2014.

All courses require internet access and a comfort level with email, Microsoft Word, and uploading documents. Some require knowledge of other technologies or programs. Participants are expected to log in and work with the class site *at least* 3 times each week. No refunds will be issued after the start of the OLA course

*NYSTC Online Academy is a program of the NYS Teacher Resource and Computer Training Centers
with the support of New York Institute of Technology.*

Office of Instructional Support Services Welcomes Michelle Law



The Office of Instructional Support Services welcomes Michelle Law as the department's newest staff member. Mrs. Law is a graduate of SUNY, Plattsburgh with a B.S. in Elementary Education, Master of Science in K-12 Literacy Specialization, and CAS, Educational Leadership. Michelle brings fifteen years' experience as an educator including, Elementary Teacher (UPK-6th), Science (Department Coordinator), and Elementary Principal. She is a member of the FEH BOCES Network Team, and assists with Health and Safety, working closely with component Districts. Michelle is available to assist districts with Professional Development, as well as Health and Safety needs. She can be reached at mlaw@mail.fehb.org or by calling the Office of Instructional Support Services, at: (518) 483-5230.



Top iPad Apps for 2013

Ask3

Ask3 uses the classroom management strategy of "Ask 3 before Me" in an app to foster student collaboration. Teachers and students are able to post recordings of their actions, annotating on a whiteboard screen, adding images or voice, to the rest of their class.

Loopster

Loopster is a free, easy-to-use HD video editing app which allows you to combine photos, videos, text, transitions, and music into a video presentation. There is the option to add audio using the built-in microphone on the iPad. Any project can be saved to the camera roll to be used in other apps.

Baiboard

Baiboard is a collaborative whiteboard space that multiple users can access, view, and edit. There are a variety of useful tools, including text, drawing, images, and adding documents. Users have the ability to simultaneously annotate on the whiteboard.

Evidence for Learning

Imagine being able to walk around your classroom and take pictures of your student's work, then attach those pictures to a CCLS for customized goal/objective. Evidence for Learning does just that. This is an excellent app for the one iPad classroom.

If you use any of these applications and would like to comment for the newsletter, send an email to Adirondacktc@gmail.com. Other suggestions for useful educational applications can also be submitted for publication.

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Schoology

ELA and Math Networking

A Free, Professional Learning Community

FEH BOCES and Champlain Valley Educational Services have teamed to create online networks for educators through Schoology. Schoology is a FREE, interactive, collaboration-based Professional Learning Community that enhances teacher communication, regionally, enabling a more agile communication network. The FEH BOCES/CVES Educational Discussion Forums include the following; ELA and Math for Grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, and grades 1-8; High School Algebra 1, High School Algebra 2, High School English, and High School Geometry. Teachers may sign up FREE for all groups or just one grade level by accessing: <http://www.schoology.com>.

Through Schoology, users have access to forums, discussions, updates, resources, videos, and an entire regional network of educators. Schoology makes collaboration easier by connecting educators globally, thus enabling sharing of resources and best-practices. Professional experiences can be shared with each interactive group. The Network Teams are updating resources and accessing Schoology regularly to meet School District needs.

Sign up for FREE today, by going to <http://www.schoology.com>. You will be prompted to create a username and password for first time users. Once logged in, users will need to click on the 'search' icon located in the upper left corner of the homepage, search under FEH/CVES and then click each section to join appropriate group(s).

Each district within FEH-BOCES has received instruction manuals via email. If you need additional support, please call the Office of Instructional Support Services at FEH-BOCES, (518) 483-5230 or send an email to: Michelle Law, (mlaw@mail.fehb.org) or Keri Keeler at (kkeeler@mail.fehb.org).

ELA Resources Update

NYS ELA Curriculum for Grades PreK-2

- **New: PreK currently has 3 domains available.**
- The New York State ELA Curriculum for grades Pre-K-2 is made up of three components: the **Listening and Learning Strand**, **Skills Strand** (from the Core Knowledge Language Arts-New York Edition), and **Guided Reading and Accountable Independent Reading**.
- The **Listening and Learning** strand lessons, comprised of teacher read-alouds, class discussion, vocabulary work, and extension activities, build on the research finding that students' listening comprehension outpaces their reading comprehension throughout elementary school. These read-alouds and exercises are organized in 11–12 domains (units) per grade. Each domain is dedicated to a particular topic, and the class stays focused on that topic or theme for 10–15 days of instruction. The domains build on each other within and across grades.
- The **Skills** strand teaches reading and writing. Children practice blending (reading) and segmenting (spelling) using the sound spellings they have learned through a synthetic phonics approach. Handwriting, spelling, and the writing process are also presented in the Skills strand.

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School Library Services and Resources

With the implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards, school library services and resources have become even more important within the academic curriculum. The school librarian and the library program are responsible in providing the necessary resources for students and faculty to find success in reaching these new standards within the curriculum.

How can the school librarian and library assist students as well as teachers?

- One of the most important aspects is on proper collection development. The trained librarian understands the importance of building a collection that supports the district's curriculum goals combining fiction, non-fiction, and reference sources in conjunction with other mediums of information.
- By providing instructional strategies on how to best implement the use of databases as a resource for students and faculty along with offering knowledge of resource evaluations well as the importance of citing sources used on homework assignments and research reports.
- School libraries and librarians have access to the interlibrary loan service which provides over three million holdings from 305 regional libraries of all types including school, public, academic, and special libraries.
- Maintaining an automated catalog which allows students and faculty to search for resources online from any computer or mobile device.

The school librarian has the opportunity to collaborate with classroom teachers in order to provide another avenue of instructional and assessment strategies. This allows teachers to focus on the aspects within each of their professional content areas which will provide students the opportunity to reach new heights within Common Core Learning Standards.

Stop by and visit your school librarian—you may be surprised at how much your library program has to offer both students and teachers!

ELA Resources Update, cont. from page 5

NYS ELA Curriculum for Grades 9-12

For Grade 9 there are currently two modules that are available on Engage NY. Modules for Grades 10-12 are currently being developed. In Grades 6-12 Odell Education has written curriculum units:

Unit 1: *Reading Closely for Textual Details*

Unit 2: *Making Evidence-Based Claims*

Unit 3: *Researching to Deepen Understanding*

Unit 4: *Building Evidence-Based Arguments* (under development)

The free curriculum is comprised of a series of four 3-4 week units at each grade level that provide direct instruction on a set of literacy proficiencies at the heart of the CCSS. Each unit highlights core literacy proficiency and provides approaches, instructional sequences, handouts, tools and texts for developing independent mastery and creative critical thinking in students.

If you have any questions or would like any training on the Domains, Modules or Units please contact Kerri Keeler at kkeeler@mail.fehb.org or (518) 483-5230.

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From the Front Page

Regional Staff Development Day, cont. from page 1

to focus on the learning needs of their students. The tools presented lead to a wealth of 21st Century Learning benefits such as greater collegiality, stronger relationships, self-directed students, curriculum-aligned technology, authentic work, rigorous and motivating assignments, and the development of a strong learning community.

“Demonstrated lots of strategies to apply.”

Stephen Birchak, aka Dr. Bird, provided *“Tapping Into Your Best When Your Best Is Needed.”*

The session addressed ways to build stronger connections to students and get the students to buy into his or her education. The session introduced various skills that allow effective practitioners to:

“The most valid professional development seminar in years.”

• Practice the Behaviors We Want to See in Others

- Become a Guide Not a Dictator
- Move From Problems to Solutions
- Be a Scientist Not a Victimist
- Make the Most to Be What You Want to Be

The presentation allowed participants to examine strategies that build character and allow us to manage even the most difficult situations.

The Regional Staff Development Day sessions were based on both teacher and staff expressed interest. Following the sessions, participants were asked to complete an evaluation form to provide feedback to the Regional Staff Development Day Planning Committee. Teachers’ commentary included “the most valid professional development seminar in years,” “very enlightening for me, which will definitely carry over to my students,” and “outstanding use of a staff professional development day.”

The Regional Staff Development Day Planning Committee appreciates the individual effort it took to make this day a huge success.

PBS Learning Media Middle School Literacy Resources

Inspiring Middle School Literacy is a newsletter for middle school educators from WGBH. This newsletter highlights topics in middle school education, along with ways to boost literacy using the Middle School Literacy Initiative, funded by the Walmart Foundation, and other resources from PBS Learning Media™.

In the current on-line issue, one section includes Featured Lessons. Look for:

Science	In this lesson on continental drift, students learn how an idea that started with a man looking at a map of continents became a scientific theory.
Mathematics	In this mat lesson on unit conversion, students figure out how much water various activities use, and also learn about water conservation.
Health	Should I eat this? Here, students learn about nutrition values of different foods, and meet two students with diabetes.
Social Studies	In this lesson, students meet four teen immigrants and learn about the challenges they face as they adapt to American culture.

An important component of these lessons is writing assignments in which students write opinion pieces supported by facts from the video, charts, and lesson text.

To connect with Inspiring Middle School Literacy, check with Mountain Lake PBS or request a copy to be forwarded to you from Adirondacktc@gmail.com

Resources

Available from the Adirondack Teacher Center

Assessment: using Formative Assessment Data to Improve Instruction, Educator's Voice NYSUT Journal of Best Practices in Education, Volume V, Spring 2012. Authors to this issue present a range of approaches to day-to-day assessment of students' progress.

Getting Results with Curriculum Mapping, Heidi Hayes Jacobs and her coauthors offer a wide range of perspectives on how to get the most out of the curriculum mapping process in districts and schools. In addition to detailed examples of maps from schools across the United States authors offer some concrete advice on critical Curriculum Mapping issues.

The Electric Company: Summer Learning Program, PBS Kids Go. This six-week program is designed to build children's math and literacy skills through hands-on experiences, active viewing of engaging videos, interactive computer games, and fun-filled activity sheets. The guide is divided into 24 sessions with four, 90-minute sessions per week.

What Works in Schools, Robert J. Marzano defines the factors affecting student achievement and offers compelling answers

to once-elusive questions. In each chapter, Marzano recommends specific—and attainable—action steps to implement successful strategies culled from the wealth of research data.

Active Learning and Engagement Strategies, Paula Rutherford. This new book presents over 60 ways to ensure that students are focused on and interacting with concepts, processes, and information under study in ways that promote rigor, relevance, and retention.

Classroom Instruction that Works with English Language Learners. Accommodating English language learners is one of the greatest challenges educators face today. Just as different levels of fluency require different approaches, so too do different backgrounds and languages. This practical, research-based book by Jane Hill and Kathleen Flynn gives elementary school teachers the guidance they need to help ELLs of all nationalities thrive alongside their English-dominant peers.

Contact the ATC Office (481-6333) to borrow.

Available from the SETRC Resource Library

Primary Literacy Video Collection - Classroom Management: Managing the Day; Planning for Effective Teaching, Fountas, Irene; Pinnell, Gay

Primary Literacy Video Collection - Word Study: Phonics & Spelling: Buddy Study System, Fountas, Irene; Pinnell, Gay

Reading with Meaning: Teaching comprehension in the Primary Grades. Miller, Debbie

Strategies that Work: Teaching Comprehension to Enhance Understanding, Harvey, Stephanie; Goudvis, Ann

Supporting Struggling Readers and Writers. Strategies for Classroom Intervention, Strickland, Dorothy; Ganske, Kathy; Monroe, Joanne

Teaching for Comprehension & Fluency: Thinking, Talking, & Writing about Reading, K-8 (#1), Fountas, Irene; Pinnell, Gay

Teaching for Comprehension & Fluency: Thinking, Talking, & Writing about Reading, K-8 (#2), Fountas, Irene; Pinnell, Gay

Teaching Reading Essentials: video Demonstrations of Small-Group Interventions, Moats, Louisa; Farrell, Linda

The Comprehension Toolkit: Grades 3-6, Harvey, Stephanie; Goudvis, Anne

The Daily 5 Alive! Strategies for Literacy Independence, Boushey, Gail; Moser, Joan

The Guided Reading Classroom; How to Keep All Students Working Constructively, Witheraell, Nancy

The Literacy Center: Contexts for Reading and Writing, Morrow, Lesley Mandel

The Literacy Coach's Handbook: A Guide to Research-based Practice, Walpole, Sharon; McKenna, Michael

The Truth about Dibels; What It Is and What It Does, Goodman, Kenneth

Where's the Glich: How to Use Running Records with Older Readers, Grades 5-8, Shea, Mary

Contact the SETRC Office (891-1330) to borrow.