

Communicator Highlights

Sept/Oct 2007



Serving the schools in Jackson, Clinton, Cedar, Scott, Muscatine, & Louisa Counties

Your school has elected to have the *Communicator Highlights*, which is a bulleted version of the Mississippi Bend AEA *Communicator*. To find more information about the topics listed, go to www.aea9.k12.ia.us/en/publications/communicator.

Iowa Anti-Bullying Legislation

Iowa has implemented an anti-bullying/harassment legislation, which mandates every public school and accredited non-public school create a policy to make sure bullying and harassment are dealt with promptly and properly. The Mississippi Bend AEA has programs to help teachers prevent bullying behavior. For sample policy and guidance behaviors refer to the Iowa DE website: www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/942/1106. ⚙

Accelerating Student Achievement Pilot (ASAP)

ASAP is beginning its initial phase, and has been created to increase the rate of achievement. It has a two-fold strategy that will 1) maximize Mississippi Bend AEA staff expertise and 2) assist principals to change and align the current student needs. It is starting out in six area schools, and that number will increase each year. To learn more about this program visit our website: www.aea9.k12.ia.us. ⚙

Grow Your Own!

There is a currently shortage of certified library media specialists in 82 Iowa school districts. Instead of hiring outside the school it can be easier to “grow your own,” meaning to use state monies from the Market Factor Pay Incentive/Teacher Quality Fund to assist teachers to go back to school.

For more information about schools that offer the Library Science endorsements visit our website: www.aea9.k12.ia.us and read this entire article. ⚙

Iowa AEA Online Database for 2006-2009

Iowa AEAs are providing eight up-to-date online resources that are designed for the age and interests of children from PK - 12th grade. The resources include magazine, newspapers, videos, photos, software training, clipart and more. They are available online 24/7 at www.iowaaeaonline.org

For more info on how to access this information refer to the full article at www.aea9.k12.ia.us. ⚙

Media Center Production Area

The Mississippi Bend AEA Media Center now has many new items: there are three new laminators, one of which can laminate, index I.D. and business cards. For a complete list refer to the full article online or view our online media page at www.aea9.k12.ia.us/en/programs_and_services/general_education/media_services/media_production. ⚙

The Efficacy of a Systematic Comprehensive Counseling Program:

The Role of the AEA9 Counselor Academy

The Mississippi Bend AEA implemented a counselor academy that has gained the attention of the Iowa Department of Education, and influenced the Iowa DE to support activities planned for counselors across the state. Also, as a result counselors from Clinton applied to the RAMP awards and won! This training will help others realize the importance school counselors make in the lives of students. For more information on the program, the list of upcoming AEA9 Counselor Academy dates, or the RAMP award refer back to this full article online www.aea9.k12.ia.us. ⚙

Mississippi Bend Reading Council:

Get Into the Game of Reading

Sign up now for Mississippi Bend Reading Council! Membership is only \$25 and you will receive a copy of one of two book choices, membership in the Iowa Reading Association, and reduced conference rates. ⚙

Online Classes Grow with Demand

Online classes can be more convenient, by being able to do homework, reading class material, and having class discussions when there is time. The Different Learner series includes four different classes that attract varied learners from consultants to principals. More information and sign up, access it through the Mississippi Bend AEA website or contact Paula Carter at pcarter@aea9.k12.ia.us or (563) 344-6481. ⚙

32 Teachers Participate in Math Training

Cognitive Tutor Training was a three day course offered to all teachers in the mathematics field. The first two days were for new teachers and the third day was a refresher course. For more information contact Sally Rigeman at srigeman@aea9.k12.ia.us or (563) 344-6562. ⚙

Web Sites for Educators

There are many online sites to help educators these days. For a complete list please refer to the Sept/Oct issue of the *Communicator* online. ⚙

21st Century Community Learning Center Grants Awarded to Iowa School Districts

Four school districts and one community organization have been awarded grants that provide academic enrichment opportunities for children and their families when school is not in session. To find out which sites were awarded read the full article in the online version of the *Communicator*. ⚙

Collaborative Teaching Initiative (CTI) Train-the-Trainer I

The first year of CTI is completed, and has been successful. Teachers have learned from one another, which creates a better understanding of student learning. A second session was started in June 2007 and will continue to June 2008. There will be refresher courses provided for those in the first session. To register for classes go to www.solutionwhere.com/mbaea/cw/main.asp or contact Paula Carter at pcarter@aea9.k12.ia.us or 344-6481. ⚙

Coexistence, the Art of Living Together

Coexistence is an art exhibit that is coming to the Quad Cities. With the help of the Mississippi Bend AEA and two grants, students will be able to learn about Coexistence and create their own action plan to promote tolerance, coexistence, and inclusiveness across all high schools. For more information contact Georgie Koenig at gkoenig@aea9.k12.ia.us or (563) 344-6487. ⚙

Staff Development Offerings

View descriptions of all Mississippi Bend AEA Staff Development Offerings for Sept. through Nov. 2007 on the Mississippi Bend AEA at www.aea9.k12.ia.us. ⚙

Staff Development Registration Forms

Follow easy step-by-step instructions to register for Staff Development offerings online. ⚙

Media Center Resources/Professional Library

The Aug/Sept issue of the *Communicator* includes a list of new material available for check out from the Media Center Professional Library. It carries material on a variety of subjects including: Administration, Child Development, Curriculum, Music, Reading, and more. ⚙

Media Center Resources/K-12

View the Media Center's newest K-12 material now available for checkout. ⚙

Sept. 2007 Learning Center Calendar

View a complete listing of classes, conferences, and workshops scheduled in the Agency's Learning Center. Also view it on our homepage at www.aea9.k12.ia.us. ⚙

Conferences &

Workshops . . .

2007 Quad City Early Childhood Conference

Quad City Early Childhood Conference will be held at the Mark of the Quad Cities on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007 from 7:30am - 1:00pm.

For more information Contact Doris Mathews by phone:

563-324-1302 x410 or email:

dmathews@iowatrains.org. ⚙

Facets of Literacy & Learning

- *Get Excited About Teaching Reading!*

Thursday, September 13, 2007

6:30 - 8:30pm

St. Ambrose University - Rogalski Center

- *Strategies to Balanced Vocab Instruction*

Featuring Carol Webb and a

demonstration of Promethean Boards

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Neil Armstrong Elementary School in Bettendorf

- *Effective Practices for Developing Reading Comprehension*

Thursday, February 21, 2008

Details TBA

- *Celebration of Young Authors*

May 15, 2008

Rivermont Collegiate ⚙

MBAEA & Drake

Instructors: Frank Ogden & Candice Benjamin

The Different Learner Series

September 17 - December 3, 2007

- The Myth of Laziness

- Overcoming Dyslexia

- How the Special Needs Brain Learns, 2nd edition

- How the Differentiate in Mixed Ability Classrooms

The Emotional Life of the Child Series

- Engaging Troubling Students: A Constructivist Approach

- Bullying From Both Sides

- Helping Students Overcome

Depression and Anxiety ⚙

For more information view the Sept/Oct "Communicator" online at:

www.aea9.k12.ia.us