

### **Skill Building Opportunities & Resources for Highly Qualified Teacher Legislation**

- **Administrators' Retreat, Tuesday, July 18, 2006:** School district administrators are invited to a one-day retreat where they will have the opportunity to engage in problem-solving sessions on meeting the highly qualified teacher legislation through co-teaching. The retreat will be led by national co-teaching expert Marilyn Friend and will focus on such areas as staff development needs, scheduling issues, planning time, and other related administrative issues. Registration materials will be disseminated in June. The retreat will be held at Graham Center, Central College, Pella, IA, and will be limited to the first 300 registrations.
- **HQT State Conference, Thursday and Friday, November 16 and 17, 2006:** *Skill Building for Iowa's Collaborative Service Model for Teachers: Meeting Highly Qualified Teacher Legislation.* A state conference open to teachers, administrators, AEA staff, and higher education faculty will provide introductory skill building in Iowa's consultative and co-teaching models. The conference will build on the skills that were introduced to AEA staff in train-the-trainer spring workshops. Registration will be limited to teams of general educators and special educators. Administrators are encouraged to attend with their district, AEA, or college faculty teams. The first day of the conference will focus on skill-building for Iowa's consultative model, and the second day will feature skill building opportunities in co-teaching led by national co-teaching expert Marilyn Friend. Registration materials will be disseminated in August.
- **Iowa Collaborative Conversations DVD Available:** *Collaborative Conversations with Iowa Administrators and Teachers*, a DVD produced this spring to assist schools new to collaborative teaching, is now available through AEAs or the Iowa Department of Education. The DVD features administrators and teachers from seven Iowa school districts that have been implementing collaborative and/or consultative teaching among general and special teachers for several years. Schools featured include urban, rural, high school, middle school, and a 7-12 facility. The 80-minute DVD focuses on administrative and implementation issues and is organized around such topics as descriptions of collaborative models, student benefits, scheduling, planning time, and other related issues. For a copy of the DVD, contact your AEA or Norma Lynch, Iowa Department of Education, [Norma.Lynch@iowa.gov](mailto:Norma.Lynch@iowa.gov).
- **FAQ:** To obtain a document that provides answers to frequently asked questions about NCLB and IDEA 2004 highly qualified teacher legislation, please contact Norma Lynch at 515-281-6038 or at [Norma.Lynch@iowa.gov](mailto:Norma.Lynch@iowa.gov).
- **Additional Opportunity:** Featured speakers at the Learning Disabilities Association of Iowa 2006 conference include Marilyn Friend, presenting on co-teaching and collaboration, and Judy Wood, presenting on classroom accommodations and differentiated instruction. The conference entitled "Together We Can" will take place in Des Moines on October 22, 23, and 24. Registration information will be available in late August 2006. Additional information is available at [www.lda-ia.org](http://www.lda-ia.org).