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End of the Year Stipend and Reimbursement Procedure

In order to receive a stipend or reimbursement for your professional development training, a stipend or reimbursement must be requested through the Ohio ABLE PD System by

June 15, 2011!!

For self-directed (alternative delivery): Please have the library materials, reflective paper, math charts, feedback sheets and evaluation form returned well in advance of June 15, 2011 so your professional development can be approved through the Ohio ABLE PD System allowing you to request a stipend.

If you have any questions, please contact the Northeast ABLE Resource Center at 800-361-7076 or info@neable.org.

Contact Us

dottie@neable.org

info@neable.org

Upcoming Events

May 25, 2011	2011 Spring Directors Meeting	Online Computer Library Center – Dublin, OH
May 27, 2011	Technology PD: Graphic Organizers & Smart Art	Alternative Delivery
June 1, 2011	Accessible Tech: Choosing the Appropriate Technology	Alternative Delivery
June 2, 2011	Technology PD: Office 2007 – Templates & Wizards	Alternative Delivery
June 7, 2011	Technology PD: Office 2007 – Excel Basics	Alternative Delivery
June 7, 2011	Speaking Student-to-Student, An Online Student Panel on Transitions to Post-Secondary and Self-Advocacy	Alternative Delivery
June 10, 2011	Advanced ABLELink Training	Norwalk High School
June 15, 2011	Technology PD: Open Forum	Alternative Delivery
June 22, 2011	Accessible Tech: Scientifically Speaking	Alternative Delivery

IMPORTANT GED TEST NEWS!!

Coming in 2014! The current 2002 series is scheduled to end in early 2014.

The Ohio Department of Education's GED Office and Ohio Board of Regents State ABLE team wants to ensure that ABLE program administrators and teachers understand that the current GED 2002 test series is scheduled to end in early 2014.

If students have not passed one or more parts of the 2002 series, they will have until early 2014 to pass. They may only take the test up to three times during a calendar year. Once the new 2014 series is released, they will need to take the entire test to receive their GED. Prior scores from the previous GED test will not be counted. The cost of the 2014 series will increase and that cost has not yet been determined. To learn more about the new 21st Century GED Assessment System, please go to: <http://www.GEDtestingservice.com>



Parma ESOL Class Advocacy Initiative Event FY2011

Local Officials Join Parma's Adult ESOL and GED Classes

In 2010, the National Coalition for Literacy awarded Parma Adult Education Services a \$5,000 Dollar General Advocacy Grant to help promote adult education and literacy. The Coalition for the Advocacy of the Life-long Learner (C.A.L.L.) project is a collaboration between adult students, the community and area legislators.

The project provides an opportunity for the students to promote the valuable educational opportunities available, for the community to become involved and for the legislators to fully understand and offer support to the program.

The program has been working on phase two of its advocacy initiative and this year it included local government speakers in all classes. Teachers were asked to create civic lessons specific to their community. The emphasis was on making students aware of their local government.

Students were fortunate enough to hear Parma's City Council President Sean Brennan and Parma's Clerk of Council Thomas Mastroianni. Each discussed his role in city government and explained how each student has civic duties and social responsibilities. Eager students came prepared with questions and each speaker took the time to answer them with much detail and thought.

It was important for the students to meet the local officials personally and many commented on how they felt more important after doing so.

Teachers Kelly Cooper and Joann Coffelt were both impressed by the level of involvement and interest by their students. Cooper commented "Mr. Brennan took the time to ask each student which country he/she was from. As a history teacher, he was able to comment on many of the countries as well as the leadership in each of those countries. This was a very positive experience for our students."

Coffelt added "Mr. Mastroianni answered all of the students' questions and that helped them to feel someone was listening to their concerns and comments. They have a better understanding that regardless of where you live, cities share the same difficulties. Students were glad to have this opportunity in the classroom."

Parma Adult Education Services works with two populations: the adult learner wanting to obtain a GED and the adult, foreign-born student wanting to improve English skills and/or

prepare for the US Citizenship Test.

The program integrates life, work and computer skills into the curriculum. In addition, it also provides employment and post-secondary transition services to students.

For more information on services offered or how to become a student, log on to www.parmacityschools.org/able or call 440-885-8797.

Call for Proposals for the Ohio TESOL Conference in Conjunction with the Lau Center Ohio Department of Education

Conference Theme: Bridging Divides: From the Classroom to the Real World

November 11 and 12, 2011

Hyatt Regency, Columbus Ohio

Ohio TESOL welcomes proposals for sessions at its 2011 conference. Proposals are accepted in two categories – non-commercial sessions and commercial sessions. Please read this entire page before submitting a proposal.

I. General Presentations: This Call for Proposal form is for submissions that are non-commercial in nature. You may submit your general proposal electronically at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C57FB28> or go to <http://www.ohiotesol.org/>. Proposals are due **June 15, 2011**.

Proposals are accepted for the following types of sessions –

Papers:

50-minute sessions. These are mainly of a presentation format (40 minutes) followed by 10 minutes of questions and answers and discussion.

Demonstrations:

50-minute sessions with substantial audience participation. Demonstrations involve the actual doing of a task, or series of tasks. For example, the presenter could explain the steps in the actual performance of a language learning simulation by having the audience participate in one. Demonstrations of computer or technology activities in the computer lab are welcome. "Make it and Take it" activities are also encouraged.

Panel Discussion:

50-minute sessions, with 3 or 4 panel members, leading to substantial audience discussion; one specific topic should be pursued by all speakers, while the coordinator introduces speakers, summarizes their approach to the topic, and leads the discussion. Submissions should include a clear description of the thematic focus, the proposed contents of the discussion, and a list of the active participants. Topics can include research or practice. For example, with respect to research, a panel could offer several points of view on a controversial subject such as the pedagogical value of explicit grammar instruction. On the other hand, the coordinator of a non-academic topic provides the initiative for the session. She/he will approach colleagues and invite them to participate and coordinate their efforts.

Poster Presentations:

Posters will be on display during a set time to be announced later. Presenters will be expected to remain at the presentation site (a bulletin board) for approximately half an hour in order to discuss their topics with attendees. Poster presentations are designed to depict a topic by means of pictures and brief notes. Many possible topics suitable for posters can be pursued, from research notes to a detailed lesson plan. For example, a language learning field trip for intensive English students could be depicted with pictures, maps and samples of materials.

Graduate Research:

Graduate students are invited to discuss their research projects with conference attendees. Three students with similar topics will be scheduled for one concurrent session; each presenter will talk for approximately 15 minutes. Proposals may be from individual students or a group interested in working together.

Proposal Format:

- Title of Presentation (15 words or less)
- Brief Description (30-40 words)-This information will be included in the conference program.
- Abstract (200 word maximum)

Please note: Due to time constraints, double sessions are rarely scheduled.

Proposals on all topics of relevance to teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages are encouraged. Feedback from the 2010 conference showed that the following topics are of interest:

- Topics on teaching ESL to grades K-5 and 6 – 8
- Preparing students for tests (OTELA, OAA, BEST, TOEFL)
- How to get parents involved
- Challenges of traveling ESL teachers in a district
- How to make grammar fun
- Practical ideas for the classroom
- Ideas for parent or community nights
- Collaboration between classroom teachers and the ESL teacher
- Materials for teaching highly educated adult ESOL students
- How ESL teachers can train classroom teachers to help ELLs
- Successful strategies for working with ELLs
- Cultural information on ethnic groups in Ohio
- How to develop curriculum
- Ways to integrate technology easily into the classroom
- Inclusion – Does it work? How to make it work
- Teaching reading to newcomers
- Panel to discuss teaching ESL in general
- Teaching low level adult students
- Sessions for general education teachers

II. Commercial Presentations: This Call for Proposal form is for exhibitors, publishers and anyone promoting a service, product or institution. If you are not one of these, please use the general call form below. You may submit your commercial proposal electronically at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C57FB28> or go to <http://www.ohiotesol.org/>.

Proposals are due June 15, 2011.

Ohio TESOL
605 North High Street, PMB 172

The NAASLN Webinar Series Presents:

Transparent Assistive Technology: Turn Tech “Toys” into Tools for Students with Special Learning Needs

Tuesday – May 31, 2011 - 4:00 – 5:00pm

By integrating “transparent” assistive technologies into their classrooms, curricula or resource collections, educators can teach students to use devices they are already familiar with as tools that will help them succeed in their studies. “Transparent” assistive technology can permit any student to turn their reading assignments into .mp3s or transform lecture into text without standing out from the crowd. When students see their .mp3 players or cell phones as more than just toys but rather tools, they are better able to access information and take ownership of their education.

Session participants will be able to return to their classrooms, libraries or labs with knowledge of how to transform a variety of inputs (e.g., text, speech) into an output (e.g., text, audio file) that is accessible and meets the needs of their students.

The information presented in “Transparent” Assistive Technology is relevant, practical and timely. Educators will not only find new ways to incorporate the principles of Universal Design into their instructional repertoire, but they will also be able to use the content to their benefit as they continue their own education and professional development.

There is a fee associated with this webinar. Please click on the following link <http://www.naasln.org/webinars.htm> for more information on NAASLN and to register for this online event.



The Resource Room

New in the Library

The Well-Balanced Teacher: How to Work Smarter and Stay Sane by Mike Anderson
The author describes ways teachers can take care of themselves - in order to care for their students.

Stephen King on Writing : A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King

Part memoir, part instruction, this volume is a revealing and practical view of the immensely popular author’s writing craft. His advice on how to write is grounded in childhood memories through his emergence as a professional writer, as well as his near-fatal accident in 1999. The book is friendly and inviting; it will empower and entertain readers (and writers). Many ABLE students are Stephen King fans; even if they have not read his books, they have probably seen

movie versions of his work. Try selecting a few passages from the book to read aloud in class; some interesting discussions may ensue!

Top 100 Careers for College Graduates: Guidebook to Major Jobs in Many Fields by Michael Farr Explore 100 careers for people with four-year and higher degrees, assess which ones match your skills, and get the job you want quickly.

No Limits: Post Secondary Transition Strategies for Adult Learners by Robbie James No Limits combines extensive information and resources with personal interviews of actual ABLE graduates who have successfully transitioned into post-secondary education, and who offer their experiences and insights as a means of illuminating what can be as commonly perceived as an intimidating and confusing venture. The content of *No Limits* is organized into four, easy to understand modules that guide the viewer through the process of finding, applying to, paying for and succeeding in college or technical school. Furthermore, this DVD is accompanied by an extensive guidebook that provides users with websites, contact information, and resources to aid them in their transition.

Matt's Tech Tips



Reminder!!!

The Ohio ABLE Local Technology Final Report for FY2011 is due May 27, 2011 to the Board of Regents and Regional Resource Center. The FY2011 Final Report template can be downloaded here <http://www.neable.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/FY11-Local-Tech-Final-Report-Template.doc>. If you have any questions about the final report, contact Matt@neable.org.

Tip of the week:

Spring Cleaning

It's spring (at least the calendar says so, if not the weather) and it is time to do a little computer cleaning. Computers can get pretty dirty with use, so it is not a bad idea to take a few minutes to wipe them down and get the dust out on a regular basis.

First, get the dust and debris out of the keyboard with compressed air in a can or an air compressor. If you don't have access to compressed air, flip the keyboard over a trash can and gently tap the back to knock debris loose. If the cooling fan on your computer is getting noisy, you can also blast some air to clean out the dust that builds up on the blades.

Second, wipe down your keyboard and mouse with a mild cleanser. Stores sell wipes for this purpose, but if you don't want to spend the money, you can use a damp cloth with a little dish soap. If needed, you can use cotton swabs to get between the keys, just remember, water and electronics don't mix. If you over do it with the water, allow the keyboard to dry completely overnight before plugging it back in.

Cultural Adventures



Cleveland Asian Festival

May 21-22, 2011 - 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Asia Town

East 30th and Payne Avenue

Over 10,000 people participated in last year's event - the first of its kind for Cleveland. This year it will be two days and will continue its high quality line up of Asian dancers, singers and performers. Cleveland Scene Magazine rated this Festival The Best of the Ethnic Festivals. This year it is two days and promises to be twice as fun. Free admission.

For more information: <http://2011.clevelandasianfestival.org/>

Dedication of Syrian Cultural Garden

May 29, 2011 - 11:00 am

Syrian Cultural Garden

Martin Luther King Blvd.

Formal Opening Ceremony will be at 11:00 a.m. at the Syrian Cultural Garden Site.

A picnic and Middle Eastern lunch will begin at 12:00 noon at the Syrian Cultural Garden Site and at 2:00 p.m. - Symposium, "Syria: History and Culture" will be held at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Free and open to the public.

For more information: <http://www.syrianculturalgarden.org>

African History Sankofa Parade and Festival

June 4, 2011 - 12:00 noon

Voinovich Park, Cleveland

"African History Month Sankofa" is a new national movement that started in Cleveland by the Carter G. Woodson Committee. This will be a historic event allowing African Americans to get together and celebrate their heritage in the warm summer climate. The Kick-Off Parade will mark one of the first major African American Parades in Cleveland. The Parade "Umoja [Unity] on the Lake" will begin at noon. After the parade there will be a program of celebration with speakers, entertainment, vendors and food.

There will be a full month of workshops and events celebrating African History Month Sankofa including Juneteenth, The Black Ball, Carter G. Woodson Day and more. For more information call 3216-518-9493 or 216-323-6155 or <http://www.360info.biz/>

Speaking of Lesson Plans

Free Mystery Lesson Plans and Units – *The fun way to learn in the classroom*

Free lesson plans, ideas, and online mysteries to teach critical thinking and reading comprehension

<http://www.mysterynet.com/learn/lessonplans/>

Lesson Plans & Worksheets for ESL Teachers

Select from 229 free downloadable PDF lesson plans and handouts, with answers and teachers' notes where needed, for all levels, including exam lessons for ESL/EFL teachers.

[http://www.usingenglish.com/teachers/lesson-plans /](http://www.usingenglish.com/teachers/lesson-plans/)

Websites to Explore

Cuyahoga County inmates can get GED behind bars, instead of just taking classes. WKYC Channel 3's Darrielle Snipes reports.

<http://www.wkyc.com/video/default.aspx?bctid=936422419001#/Cuyahoga+County+inmates+can+get+GED+behind+bars/936422419001>

OVAE Connection is a weekly electronic newsletter published by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education to provide information to state officials involved in adult education, career and technical education (CTE), and community colleges, as well as to practitioners, researchers, education groups and others interested in community colleges, CTE, and adult education. The May 19, 2011 newsletter can be found at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/news/newsletters/ovaconnection/index.html>

Freedom Riders – 50th Anniversary

While laws prohibiting racial segregation - on various forms of interstate public transportation - were on the books, by 1961, those laws were not enforced - including by the federal government. A group of civil-rights activists decided to give the issue a higher national profile. On the 4th of May, 1961, the first group of "Freedom Riders" boarded a bus in Washington, D.C. Intending to reach New Orleans by the 17th of that month, they were non-violent resisters prepared to endure every deprecation which came their way. Many did.

<http://www.awesomestories.com/assets/freedom-riders>

First American in Space

Alan Shepard was the first American to blast into space when he made the fifteen-minute trip on the 5th of May, 1961. With schoolchildren throughout the country watching television in their classrooms, Shepard was shaking so hard inside his capsule that he could hardly read the instrument panel. The following decade, he made a trip to the Moon (where he walked on its surface). This clip, from NASA, incorporates the launch and other historic footage.

<http://www.awesomestories.com/assets/alan-shepard-launch>

Thoughts On Leadership

Thoughts on Leadership is presented as an attachment to the Friday NewsBriefs

